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DEC 10 1944

3D ARMY DRIVES NORTH FOR SAAR AFTER JUNCTION OF TWO DIVISIONS; CIRCLE CLOSING AROUND BUDAPEST

DEC 10 1944

MAGINOT LINE CRACKED FOR 2-MILE GAIN

3d Army Slugs Deeper Into Enemy Defenses In Heavy Fighting

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 9 (AP)—United States 3d Army troops slugged deeper into the Siegfried Line fortifications around the Saar Basin today while other Allied armies on the Western front continued their slow progress against desperate opposition.

The stubborn German resistance along the entire front, the Allied supreme command said, cost the enemy the equivalent of seventeen divisions in the first three weeks of the current winter offensive. The German losses up to the end of November were estimated at 152,000, of which 74,000 were captured.

Heavy Fighting All Along Line

There was heavy fighting all along the 3d Army line.

The 26th Division cracked the Maginot Line defenses near Achen, 7 miles southeast of Sarreguemines, and, plowing ahead up to two miles, joined the 35th Division on the east bank of the Saar River for a drive from the south on the rich Saarland, already under attack from the west.

The 5th Division, operating south of Saarlautern, continues its advance and reached the junction of the Saar and Roselle rivers.

Part of the 35th which crossed at Sarreguemines pushed on north into Neunkirsch, less than half a mile from the Saar Basin's frontier in the forefront of a potential enveloping drive against the Saar's capital of Saarbrucken, 8 miles northwest.

Enemy Salient Wiped Out

The 6th Armored Division wiped out an enemy salient 3 miles deep and 2 miles wide located 5 miles southeast of Saarbrucken.

The 90th Division, pressing deeper into the Siegfried Line in the western Saar Basin, seized the Dillingen railroad station 2 miles north of Saarlautern, and beat back enemy counterblows inside Dillingen.

The 26th Division was the first to cross the Saar, breaking across last month some seventeen miles south of Sarreguemines, and since then has been beating up the east bank. It ran into stiff resistance at Achen, where it came up against the old French fortifications for the first time.

Nazi Version Of 3d's Strength

[The German agency Transocean declared the 3d Army on that front was attacking with six to ten tank divisions and four mechanized infantry divisions—far more than the Allies have announced.]

The United States 7th Army kept the Allied winter offensive rolling all the way east to the Rhine with attacks northwest of Haguenau within 4 miles of Germany and was hacking at the approaches to Haguenau itself. The city is the most important enemy base left in northern Alsace.

Snow Blankets North Front

Snow blanketed the northern front, where the United States 9th Army smashed the last two German pockets on the Roer at Julich, and the United States 1st Army edged closer to the river some 18 miles south of Julich, near Bergstein.

The Supreme command, surveying the first three weeks of the offensive ending Nov. 30, claimed destruction of the equivalent of 17 German divisions, a rate of attrition which in theory would destroy the enemy's whole front line army well before the end of Winter.

With the British and Canadians in Holland and the U. S. First and Ninth armies at the edge of the Cologne plain stabilized for the moment by weather and flooded river barriers, action centered on the fronts of the U. S. Third and Ninth and French First armies.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army 35th division pushed about a half mile east in extending to a mile its bridgeheads on the east bank of the Saar river at Sarreguemines and at Dieding and Wittring, three and five miles southeast.

Enemy Attack Repulsed

Northwest of Saarlautern, the 90th division knocked back a strong counterattack at Dillingen and knocked out 12 more pillboxes in a slow gouging into the Siegfried Line, the last big barrier before the Rhine.

The German counterblow was hurled by 600 infantry and 11 tanks and fighting raged from house to house and wall to wall yesterday before the Germans gave and withdrew from the city.

Fighting still was in progress inside Saarlautern, and a German force massing for a counterattack against the Saar bridgehead there was broken up by artillery fire.

Both the 95th division here and the 90th to the north were under heavy fire from the Siegfried Line.

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army, using surprise tactics similar to the Third, fought into Bischwiller four and a half miles from the Rhine north of Strasbourg, jumping off before dawn in a double envelopment attack without artillery preparation.

The surprise enabled infantry to take intact a 100-foot bridge across the Moder river in the northeastern part of the town.

Once Bischwiller is cleared, the defense of Haguenau, four miles northeast, will be impossible. The Seventh holds more than a score of towns immediately south, west and northwest of the city.

Other Seventh army troops nine miles northwest of Haguenau slashed to within four miles of the palatinate border northwest of Niederbronn.

Drive into Eifel Pass

Farther west, the Seventh dug deeper into heavily-wooded Eifel pass, just south of the French fortress town of Bitche, seven miles south of the Saar border.

The French First army, fighting out of Bonhomme pass, were closing on the Alsatian city of Colmar, no more than four miles ahead of them.

Their progress was slowed by desperate German rearguards protecting the German withdrawal across the Rhine east of Colmar, where a temporary bridge at Neuf-Brisach was attacked by Allied warplanes.

The French cleared most of Thann, 10 miles northwest of Mulhouse, but fighting continued in the southwestern part of the town. Other French troops clung to the Lutterbach bridgehead across the Doller River, just west of Mulhouse, but lost the railroad station there in the face of fierce resistance.

On the snow-covered hills and forests at the edge of the Cologne Plain, the 9th Army drove the Germans across the Roer from their long-held positions in the swimming pool and stadium at Julich. Only patrol action was reported elsewhere.

Lt. Courtney H. Hodges' First army infantrymen found the going slow along the ridge-ribbed wooded countryside studded with camouflaged pillboxes southwest of Bergstein.

A front dispatch said the German command had ordered Bergstein recaptured at all cost, and the incessant counterattacks made consolidation and expansion of American positions difficult.

House-To-House Sarreguemines Fighting On

Paris, Dec. 9 (AP)—The United States 3d Army stabbed half a mile to a mile farther beyond the Saar River today.

Meanwhile, at supreme headquarters it was estimated that the Germans lost 152,000 men in the first three weeks of the winter offensive. At present strength, the toll is equal to seventeen enemy divisions—almost one fourth of the 72 divisions that authoritative French sources had estimated earlier this week as the total German strength on the Western front.

84,000 Nazis Captured

Seven German divisions are regarded as utterly destroyed—meaning that they are no longer appearing at the front in any form—and 22 others, four of them armored or armored grenadiers—are "very severely battered."

Of the 152,000 German casualties, 84,000 have been taken prisoner, the rest killed or permanently put out of action.

Some of the divisions wiped out—the 47th, 48th, 91st, 275th and 338th—have been counted as destroyed once before since the invasion, but were reformed from reserves and sent back to action.

Fighting In Sarreguemines

Third Army men were fighting house-to-house in the eastern part of Sarreguemines after one of two new crossings of the Saar.

The United States 7th Army to the southeast drove into Bischwiller, three miles southeast of Haguenau. Infantrymen, supported by tanks, made the thrust.

To the north, rapidly melting snow fell on the United States 9th Army front, where only patrol activity was reported this morning. The Germans began digging deeper behind minefields and rearranging defense forces on the eastern bank of the Roer River.

Fort Crevecour Taken

United States 1st Army troops had slow going in the snow against well-camouflaged German pillboxes in woods near Bergstein, southwest of Duren. The Germans have been ordered to retake Bergstein at all costs, a field dispatch said.

Canadian troops battling a holdout pocket of Germans captured Fort Crevecour, just below the Maas River and due north of 's-Hertogenbosch in Holland, at 3 P.M. today after a fourteen-hour battle. The German defenders, about one company, were wiped out.

Still Shelling Saarbrucken

The 3d Army was beating against eight Saar Valley steel towns smoldering from fighter-bomber attacks, and field guns continued to rip at Saarbrucken.

Americans were within a couple of miles of Saarbrucken, but supreme headquarters had no confirmation of reports that the city's outskirts had been reached.

Above Saarlautern their comrades repulsed a strong German counterattack and then captured twelve more pillboxes in the Siegfried Line.

Nazi Escape Bridge Bombed

Farther south, the Nazis' last Alsatian stand was cracking up, and dive-bombers struck at the Neuf Brisach escape bridge over the Rhine near Colmar.

[The German communiqué indicated that the whole western bank of the Roer River at Julich had been surrendered at last, stating that the bridgehead garrisons there "battled their way back to the eastern bank of the Roer after repulsing grim enemy attacks." The Allied communiqué had reported only two small pockets remaining west of the river near Julich.]

The New Saar Crossings

The new crossings of the Saar were made by the 35th Infantry Division at Dieding and Wittring, three and a half and five miles southeast of Sarreguemines, respectively.

Sarreinsming, on the east bank just southeast of Sarraguemines, was captured.

The 26th Division, edging northward along the east bank of the

Saar, had almost joined the 35th, but was also meeting stiff opposition. It reduced five pillboxes, presumably part of the old Maginot defenses.

Nazi Attack Repulsed

The Germans in Dillingen, three miles northwest of Saarlautern, attacked with 600 infantrymen and 11 tanks, but were knocked back by the 90th Infantry Division. The Nazis quit the town after a close-quarter battle.

The wedge into the Siegfried Line was not appreciably deepened, however, in the face of such stubborn resistance.

Germans forming up for an assault on the 95th Division near Saarlautern were scattered by artillery. German guns from Siegfried positions continued to hammer at the 90th and 95th Divisions.

7th Nearer Reich Border

The United States 7th Army had driven within four and a half miles of the German border, prying loose the last German hold on northeastern Lorraine, and was making progress against stiffening Nazi resistance.

The 7th got deeper into the heavily wooded Eifel Pass just south of Bitche, and closed up to the Rhine above Strasbourg with the capture of Gambsheim.

French 1st Army troops pouring out of Bonhomme Pass reached Beenwihr, widening a wedge driven within four miles of Colmar from the northwest.

Thur Valley Mopped Up

Farther south, French units mopped up all the Thur Valley northwest of Mulhouse except a three-mile stretch between St. Amarin and Thann.

There were no changes reported along the British 2d or American 9th Army fronts in the north.

While the Allied Tactical Air Forces were pounding the German front lines and supply routes on 1,500 sorties yesterday, the Germans struck back with a strong force of planes. The 9th Army lines particularly were bombed and strafed.

26 NAZIS KILLED BY TENN. SOLDIER

WITH THE U. S. SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE, Dec. 9—(AP) Sgt. Charley Coolidge—a straight shooter from Signal Mountain Tenn.—helped stand off a three day enemy attack and when it was over his buddies credited him and his grenades with killing 26 Germans and wounding 60.

Before it all started Coolidge showed his mettle by going with German-speaking Sgt. George Ferguson, Hollis, N. Y., to within ten yards of the German lines and having Ferguson demand they surrender.

The Germans foolishly answered with a machinegun burst.

A sniper's bullet whistled near Coolidge's head and the Tennesseean dropped the sniper with his carbine.

This was the signal for the Germans to attack. The Americans took cover with their own men and poured machinegun fire into the ranks of the Germans, who withdrew after learning what others of their comrades had learned—never try to assault any 36th division position frontally.

The Germans attacked again the next day. Coolidge, who was in charge of the entire area in the absence of an officer, went from rifleman to rifleman, directing fire and offering encouragement.

When the lulls came he was scouting, or obtaining more ammunition.

On the next day the Germans threw two Mark Four tanks into the fight.

Coolidge bounced bullets off their armor with his carbine and directed machinegun fire against them, but still they came on.

He got a bazooka, crawled within 25 yards of the tanks and pulled the trigger. The batteries were dead and the bazooka missed fire.

Enemy infantry moved out to infiltrate under cover of the tank fire. In the new two hours Coolidge threw 70 grenades at the Germans, slowing their advance, but as the tanks closed in Coolidge was forced to order a withdrawal.

The next day the Americans retook the hill and 26 dead Germans were proof that Coolidge has a pretty fair aim.

TROOPS GET REVENGE FOR ANZIO BATTERING

AT A UNITED STATES OBSERVATION POST, in the Vosges Mountains, France, Dec. 9 (AP)—In an 800-year-old Germanic castle a group of American artillery observers—as cozy as eagles in their nest—are getting revenge for what the Germans dished out to them at Anzio in Italy.

Their castle post is on a Vosges peak at the edge of the Alsatian Plain within sight of Colmar and the Rhine, and from it they can and do direct murderously accurate fire on the enemy below.

They are perched so high that clouds often suddenly settle in below them. It is like being on an ocean with only the tops of the snow-capped Vosges peaks sticking out.

"We are getting our revenge now," Pvt. Stanley Schein of 737 Snedicker Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y., said.

"We were at Anzio and there the Germans held high ground like this and we were on the bottom.

"The other day when we took St. Hippolyte we watched our infantry walk in this side of the town, with the Germans going out the other, and did we pour it on those Krauts. I saw all records for the mile broken when we let them have it with the big guns."

"Yeah," chimed in Corporal Conrad Ordal, of Sioux Falls, S.D., "one of them had a horse and went by the others like Whirlaway past a milk wagon."

The castle, one of several dotting the peaks, was built in 1148. It has battlements, drawbridges, a room decorated with armor, ancient locks and stained windows.

Tactical Air Force Colonel Is Promoted

Paris, Dec. 9 (AP)—Col. John P. Doyle, of Garden City, N.Y., commander of the 26th Wing of the 1st Tactical Air Force, has been promoted to brigadier general, Maj. Gen. Ralph Royce, commanding general of the force, announced today.

Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, commanding general of the European theater communications zone, announced promotion of Brig. Gen. Royal B. Lord, of Washington, his chief of staff, to major general.

Lee also announced promotion of three colonels to brigadier general. They are Roy W. Grower, of St. Louis, commander of the Brittany base section; Fenton S. Jacobs, of San Francisco, commander of the Channel base section, and Oscar N. Solbert, of Washington, chief of special and information services.

Hero Raised to Lieutenant

WITH AMERICAN FIRST ARMY in Germany, Dec. 9 (AP)—This was a big day in the soldier life of Staff Sgt. Walter D. Ehlers, thrice-wounded winner of the Congressional Medal. The First Infantry Division hero was commissioned a second lieutenant this morning and later in the day he was to start the long trip home to Manhattan, Kan., for a thirty-day leave under the rotation plan.

'Ike' Issues Financial Proclamation To Reich

New York, Dec. 9 (AP)—A proclamation by General Eisenhower today told the German people that financial practices inside the Reich discriminating against any person on account of race, religion or political opinions will be abrogated and all persons will be treated with equal justice under the law.

The proclamation, reported here by the Office of War Information, was the sixth in a series explaining Allied plans for Germany.

German officials will be instructed to continue measures against inflation, such as rationing and price control, the proclamation said.

Existing German currency will be continued as legal tender, but Allied military marks will be made legal tender, as well, and "must be accepted on the same basis as the Reichsmarks."

REDS 9 MILES FROM CENTER OF BUDAPEST

Hungarian Capital Almost Three Fourths Circled By Russ Forces

London, *Sunday*, Dec. 10 (AP)—Russian troops have smashed to within nine miles of the heart of Budapest at two points and sealed off the last land of the city on the eastern bank of the Danube by breaking through to the river at captured Vac, 13 miles above the Hungarian capital, Moscow announced last night.

At the same time Russian troops have crossed the water barrier 13 miles southwest of the city in a big envelopment drive, Moscow said.

Almost Three Fourths Encircled

Berlin disclosed that the Hungarian Government had fled to the Austrian frontier town of Sopron as two big Soviet armies in a double flanking movement converged on the besieged city and also sent flying columns racing far around it on the northwest toward Czechoslovakia and Austria. Budapest was almost three quarters encircled.

Premier Stalin in an order of the day announced that Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2nd Ukraine Army had advanced up to 37 miles on a 75-mile front, hurling the Germans back to the former Czechoslovakian border north of Budapest.

Rakosliget Taken

Malinovsky's central columns captured the eastern suburbs of Rakosliget, penetrating to within nine miles of the heart of Budapest, while his southern wing overran most of the 30-mile-long Csepel Island in the Danube due south of Budapest, capturing Szigetszentmiklos, only five miles from Budapest's municipal boundary.

Crossing the Danube at Ercsi, 13 miles southeast of Budapest, Malinovsky's units established a solid link with Marshal Fedor I. Tolbukhin's 3d Ukraine Army pushing up the west bank of the river from the south, Stalin said.

This contact was made at Velencze Lake, 22 miles southwest of Budapest, and the Russians cut the Budapest-Szekesfehervar railway at Dinnyes, six miles east of Szekesfehervar, last big stronghold below the capital.

Release Of Forces Seen

Tolbukhin's forces, in their advance on Szekesfehervar, 110 miles southeast of Vienna, captured Szerecseny and Seregelyes, 7 and 8 miles southeast of the stronghold, in addition to Dinnyes rail station.

The fall of Szekesfehervar would release a large part of Tolbukhin's forces for another direct drive through western Hnugary while Malinovsky's troops are engaged in a twin offensive above the Danube bend northwest of Budapest.

Malinovsky's troops captured 150 places in their big advance, including Balassagyarmat, on the old central Slovakian border 36 miles north of Budapest.

While some of his units turned south along the river from Vac to aid in the reduction of Budapest, others pushed on five miles and took Veroce, on the north bank of the Danube beyond the bend, and only eight miles from the former Slovak frontier.

A German Transocean agency report disclosed that the Hungarian ministers of Ferenc Szalasi's government had fled Budapest and temporarily settled in Sopron, near the Austrian frontier.

Sopron, 34 miles southeast of Vienna, Austrian capital, is only 75 miles northwest of Tolbukhin's southwestern wing, battling around the lower end of Lake Batalon about 40 miles from the Austrian frontier.

Transocean said that Hungarian Foreign Minister Baron Gabor Kemeny, had "left Budapest to attend a ministerial meeting in Sopron," thus affirming what had been reported for several days past—that the Nazi-dominated Szalasi cabinet had abandoned Budapest.

Budapest now is ruled by a Field Marshal Military distator and "Hungarian officials leave no doubt that Szalasi's government will fight on—wherever it may be," the German broadcast said.

In the eastern outskirts of Budapest the Germans admitted fresh Soviet gains, too, as the final phase of the siege began.

The Soviet spearhead which took Balassagyarmat was only forty-five miles south of Banska Bystrica, until a few weeks ago the headquarters of Czechoslovak patriots who maintained an airplane liaison service with the Russians in Poland and the western Allies in Italy. A German punitive expedition forced the patriots to abandon Banska Bystrica.

Russians Reach Danube North Of Budapest

Map on Page 7

London, Dec. 9 (AP)—Premier Stalin announced tonight in an order of the day that the Russian army under Marshal Rodion Malinovsky had broken through German defenses northeast of Budapest on a 75-mile front and reached the Danube north of the Hungarian capital.

In storming to the Danube, Stalin said, the town of Vac on the Danube, fifteen miles north of the capital, was captured by the Russians. Fall of the town already had been admitted by the German high command.

Nograd, eight miles northwest of Vac, also was taken, the order of the day said.

Others Cross Danube

Stalin's broadcast order said other forces under Malinovsky had forced their way across the Danube below the capital and linked up with Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's 3d Ukranian Army driving toward the capital from the southwest.

Below Budapest the Russians also captured Brcsi, on the Danube, only 12 miles south of the capital's outskirts.

More than 150 other places were captured, Stalin announced, including Aszod and Balassagyarmat, on the Czechoslovak border, 40 miles north of Budapest.

The Paris radio said Russian troops had "penetrated into" Pest—that half of Budapest on the east bank of the Danube.

Cabinet Flees Capital

The Berlin radio disclosed that the Hungarian Cabinet had fled to Sopron on the Austrian border, and announced loss of the town of Vac, fifteen miles northeast of Budapest, to Russian forces closing a trap on the capital.

Sopron, a commercial and industrial center, lies 112 miles west of Budapest. The town is near Neusiedler Lake.

A German Transocean Agency broadcast said the Hungarian Foreign Minister, Baron Gabor Kemeny, had "left Budapest to attend a ministerial meeting in Sopron," thus disclosing that the rest of Nazi-dominated Ferenc Szalasi's Cabinet had moved there.

Military Rule

"Hungarian officials leave no doubt that Szalasi's government will fight on—wherever it may be," the broadcast said. Budapest now is under rule of a field marshal, who is military dictator.

"The sounds of battle can be heard more clearly than ever in Budapest," Transocean said, "but there are as yet no indications that Russian forces from the northeast and south have opened their general offensive on the capital."

Berlin said Vac, a Danube city, was lost after hard fighting.

Admit Retreat

Asserting the Russians had thrown in fresh reinforcements in the battle for Budapest, Transocean said German lines "had to be taken back several miles east of the capital."

"From their penetration north of Budapest," the news agency said, "the Soviets increased their pres-

sure southward on Budapest, at the same time attacking toward the north."

Defections Reported

As the Russians were closing in on Budapest like a vise, there were Moscow reports of wholesale defections by Hungarians from the defending forces.

A midnight Soviet bulletin said an entire Hungarian infantry regiment, comprising 29 officers and 1,390 men, surrendered on the Danube front. The bulletin also said 1,500 Germans and Hungarians were killed yesterday on the front west of the Danube.

AMERICAN PLANES POUND STUTTGART

LONDON, Dec. 9—(AP) Boring through blinding snowstorms, in 54 degrees-below-zero weather, more than 700 American warplanes reached the German industrial center of Stuttgart in perfect bombing formation today and carpeted a strategic airdrome and congested freight yards with 1,500 tons of explosives.

Convoyed by some 300 Mustangs and Thunderbolts of the U. S. Eighth air force, 400 Flying Fortresses dropped their loads by visual aiming and instrume

Four of our bombers were reported missing. All the escorting fighters returned safely.

Flak was reported light and, with the exception of one Nazi jet-propelled plane, which was shot down, the Luftwaffe was absent.

This first attack on Stuttgart by American heavies since Sept. 16 proved to be one of the coldest missions the Britain-based bombers have flown.

The intense cold 25,000 to 30,000 feet above the target area possibly could explain lack of initiative by Nazi fighters. Lubricants in their planes may now be of such poor quality that they could not stand such severe cold.

Stuttgart, 70 miles east of Strasbourg and 110 miles east of the Saarbrucken area which is being approached by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army, is the home of large truck and ball-bearing factories as well as a transportation junction for the southern hinge of the Western front.

While the American warplanes were leaving their British fields for the first time in two days, double-edged aerial blow against the Reich developed as Italy-based bombers were reported by the Berlin radio to have attacked Munich, 120 miles southeast of Stuttgart.

Stuttgart's Rail Yards Bombed By 'Forts'

London, Dec. 9 (AP)—American Flying Fortresses from Britain shook Stuttgart's railyards with 1,500 tons of bombs today—part of a two-way air attack on Germany from the west and south.

The Berlin radio said heavy bombers ranged into the Munich area from Italy before noon.

Fewer than 300 Mustang and Thunderbolt fighters accompanied 400 B-17 to Stuttgart in southwestern Germany, headquarters of United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe said.

70 Miles From Fighting

Railroad facilities there lie 70 miles east of the fighting in the Strasbourg area and 110 miles from Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's troops on the approaches to Saarbrucken.

British Lancasters and Mosquitos punched twice yesterday at Duisburg, Rhine River city on the western edge of the Ruhr, using 3,000 tons of bombs against the railroad yards and a synthetic oil plant.

An Air Ministry communique said six fighters were lost from the Spitfire-Mustang escort, but all bombers returned.

54 Below Zero

The American bombers and fighters battled through snowstorms to Stuttgart and at their great height the temperature was 54 degrees below zero.

The Americans encountered no German fighter opposition. Stuttgart was last bombed by United States planes September 16.

SHOWDOWN DUE IN LABOR PARTY

Is Aftermath of Confidence Vote Given Churchill.

London, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—A showdown brewed today in the minority Labor party as an aftermath of the 279-to-30 vote of confidence by the House of Commons in Prime Minister Churchill's policy in the liberated countries.

In the balloting yesterday Mr. Churchill won solid support from his own Conservative party and from Laborites serving in the coalition Government as ministers or parliamentary private secretaries, but only one Laborite rank and file member voted for the Government. This vote was cast by Ivor Thomas.

Laborites in the Government may demand a vote of confidence from their own party, which is opening a conference Monday. A resolution was being drafted for the conference outlining the party's attitude toward liberated countries.

One bloc was known to be drafting a new demand that the Government send a representative to Athens immediately to make a special investigation of the Greek crisis for the House.

Say Law May Go to Greece.

A report was heard in the Commons lobby that Richard Law, Minister of State, would be sent to Greece to try to straighten out the political situation.

Most of the Labor members of Parliament refrained from voting yesterday, hesitant about committing themselves to the British policy, yet reluctant to create a government crisis. Among those who refrained were about thirty-five who were seen in the building.

The breakdown of those who supported the government — including two tellers, whose votes are not officially counted — was 229 Conservatives, twenty-three Laborites, ten Liberals, ten Liberal Nationalists and nine Independents.

While there are 615 seats in Commons, the attendance did not come anywhere near approaching that number. However, dozens of members are in the armed forces or in other war jobs overseas.

Press Finds No Solution.

Sections of the British press, agreeing that Britain had barely escaped being plunged into a political crisis, asserted today that Prime Minister Churchill's speech on Greece did nothing to relieve public anxiety about the lack of a unified Allied political strategy.

The conservative London Times maintained that the situation "supplies good reason" for an early meeting of the Big Three.

Most of the British press, with the exception of the Communist Daily Worker, agreed that Mr. Churchill made "a good speech" but they found nothing in it to give rope for an early solution of the Greek crisis.

M.P. Sees Leftist Rising In Europe

London, Dec. 9 (AP)—Stephen King-Hall, Independent Nationalist Member of Parliament, warned today that a people's movement, leftist and revolutionary in character, was taking shape in Europe, and suggested Great Britain "lead it and guide it into truly democratic channels to avoid danger of a dictatorship from the left."

The gray-haired, outspoken former naval officer, who invoked the wrath of Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels in 1939 over letters he wrote to German citizens seeking their views for establishing peaceful international relations, said the most significant system in Europe is the new radicalism "which is expressed in its most obvious form in most of the resistance movements."

Spanish Press Plays Up Churchill Speech

Madrid, Spain, Dec. 9 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill's House of Commons speech was printed in all Madrid newspapers today under huge headlines and the Spanish national radio broadcast long quotations.

The only speech of an Allied leader to get so much publicity in Spain was the British Prime Minister's complimentary remarks about Spain last May.

ABC headlined its report of the speech: "Churchill Against Communist Dictatorship."

Adm. Doenitz Still Hopes

His First Flotilla of Stormboats Will Be Named Hitler Youth

LONDON, Dec. 9 (AP).—Admiral Karl Doenitz welcomed the name Hitler Youth today for the first flotilla of his one-man torpedoes and miniature submarines with the assertion, "no situation is ever hopeless."

The commander of the German Navy, addressing the Hitler Youth organization on the occasion of Adolf Hitler's bestowal of the name on the first stormboat flotilla, said: "Show us that you have stout hearts and can give the devil himself a licking in hell."

London, Dec. 9 (AP)—Nazi propagandists pepped up their "Hitler-is-well" campaign today by broadcasting statements attributed to a U-boat commander and a Hungarian Army official who were declared to have visited Hitler's headquarters recently. Both were quoted as saying "the Fuehrer looks fresh and healthy."

Polish Cruiser a Blockship

LONDON, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Polish cruiser Dragon was damaged in action with the enemy during operations before the Allied invasion of France and was later sunk as one of the blockships that formed breakwaters for the artificial harbors off Normandy on D-day, the Polish naval staff in London announced tonight.

British Envoy Back Home

London, Dec. 9 (AP)—Sir Archibald Clark-Kerr, British Ambassador to Russia, arrived here today by plane from Moscow.

Promote U. S. Chief in Britain.

London, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—Brig.-Gen. Harry B. Vaughan Jr. of Philadelphia, commander of the United Kingdom base of the United States Army, has been advanced to the rank of major-general. He has commanded the United Kingdom base since its activation last September.

CONGRESSMEN DENY PRISONER PAMPERING

PARIS, Dec. 9 (AP)—German prisoners are neither pampered nor persecuted—and they are not receiving any American cigarettes, members of a United States House Military Affairs Committee reported today after a visit to a camp at Chartres, forty-five miles southwest of Paris.

"They [the prisoners] are sleeping in warehouses, on straw pallets, with one blanket underneath them and one on top, eating in a mess hall with good cooking—with captured German equipment—but at no table," Representative Forest Harness, Republican of Indiana, said.

"They are being treated fairly under the Geneva Convention, but if they could see that camp life a lot of them never would go to war," remarked Representative Matthew Merritt, Democrat of New York.

"People at home have no grounds for considering prisoners pampered," added Representative Charles Elston, Republican, of Ohio. "They receive what they're entitled to and not a bit more."

The Representatives discovered the prisoners were given captured regular German post exchange rations, which are like American K-rations, containing tobacco, cigaret papers, toothbrush, toothpaste and other items.

"Nobody can say they're getting used badly when they get their own supplies," remarked Representative Paul Kilday, Democrat, of Texas.

Joins Opponents Of Franco in Spain

Paris, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—The exiled leaders of Izquierda Republicana, which was one of the largest political parties in Spain before the civil war, yesterday closed a two-day Congress by declaring its support for the 1931 constitution and for ex-Premier Diego Martinez Barrios as the legal head of the Spanish Republic.

The group authorized party executives to enter into a coalition with other political parties for the removal of Gen. Franco.

French Leftist Militia Stays as 'Security' Units

20 Regional Commands Set Up in Compromise

PARIS, Dec. 9 (AP).—The government announced a compromise today with the left-wing resistance groups on the militia issue by the creation of special republican security companies divided among twenty regional commands.

The new organization will be subject to orders of the secretary-general of police in each district. The authorized strength of each company is seventy men.

The security companies afford a place for members of the left-wing militia. The government's recent order dissolving and disarming the militia evoked strenuous protests from the resistance groups.

Pierlot Fears Greater Pinch In Food and Fuel

Says Belgians Can Hope for No Relief Until They Can Import Through Antwerp

BRUSSELS, Dec. 9 (AP).—Economic conditions in Belgium are going to get much worse before they can get better, Premier Hubert Pierlot said at an interview today. He said Belgium's shrinking food and coal supplies could not be supplemented until Antwerp harbor was opened to civilian as well as military use.

"Importation of foodstuffs is our biggest problem," said the former lawyer who headed the Belgian government in exile during the four years of the German occupation. "We realize the military needs of the Allied armies must come first, but in the mean time opposition forces are trying to take advantage of the situation and seize control of the government."

Pierlot was referring to the Independence Front movement headed by Fernand Demany.

"For Belgium the situation is very, very serious," Pierlot said. "We have a population of 750 inhabitants to the square mile and can produce only enough food during normal times to feed our people for six months of the year. Now it has been almost four months since our country was liberated, and the harvest saved from the Germans is almost gone.

"In less than a month oil for making margarine will be gone. In two months there probably will be complete exhaustion of meat and wheat."

"We don't ask more than a chance to work on the Allied side," Pierlot said. "We could pay for materials and food with our own money."

British Capture Town Only Mile From Faenza

Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—A noose was steadily being tightened about the northern Italian highway coastal point of Faenza today by British 8th Army forces in bitter fighting.

Already as much as five miles beyond the Lamone River, the town of Faenza on the south, the British seized San Prospero on the west bank only a mile southwest of Faenza.

A parallel column, beating back steady resistance, fought to a spur less than a mile south of Celle, two miles west of Faenza and only a mile from Highway 9 running northwest to Bologna.

The withdrawing Germans, fighting back hard to protect their flank, recaptured yesterday the village of Pideura, across the Lamone five miles southwest of Faenza, but Allied tanks and infantry won it back after vicious fighting in the houses.

Allies Closing In On Faenza In Italy

Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—Eighth Army troops, rapidly completing the encirclement of Faenza, have captured San Prospero, on the west bank of the Lamone River a mile and a half due west of the Bologna-Rimini highway stronghold.

Capture of San Prospero represented an advance of approximately three miles from Pideura, around which Allied headquarters today described the fighting as "particularly bitter."

Nazis Pulling Back

German troops already had been reported pulling back west of Faenza toward the next large highway center of Imola, eight miles from Faenza and only nineteen from the Po Valley city of Bologna.

Elsewhere on the front activity yesterday was confined to patrol operations, headquarters said.

The withdrawing Germans were putting up stiff resistance in an attempt to prevent the outflanking movement of Faenza.

Allied fire was directed across the Lamone, north of the Bologna-Rimini highway, where the Germans had dug in on the west bank of the stream.

Five Miles Deep

The bridgehead over the Lamone below the highway was already five miles deep in some places.

In the bloody battling for Pideura, enemy infantry and armor counterattacked and recaptured the village yesterday. The Nazis held it most of the day in vicious house-to-house fighting until Allied tanks and troops regained control.

River Bank Cleared

The east bank of the Lamone north of Faenza has been cleared as far as three miles south of Mezzano and Allied patrols were active all the way to Faenza itself.

Activity on the 5th Army front was slowed by the weather. Heavy rains bogged down troops and winds as strong as 50 miles an hour prevailed in the mountainous terrain south of Bologna.

BONOMI FILES CABINET LIST

Communist To Be One Of Three Vice-Premiers

Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—Three vice premiers, including Palmiro Togliatti, Communist leader, will be included in the new Italian Government headed by Ivanoe Bonomi, expected to be announced officially tomorrow, it was learned tonight. A list of ministers has been submitted to Allied authorities for approval.

Authoritative sources said that Togliatti, who broke the deadlock in the two-weeks-old crisis by throwing his support to Bonomi, will share the vice premierships with Giulio di Rodino, of the Christian Democrats, and a Liberal party member.

To Plan Reconstruction

From the fourth party in the new Government, the Labor Democrats, will be selected a minister who will head the newly-created interministerial committee, which will supervise a porgram of economic reconstruction, an Italian communique said.

Meanwhile 71-year-old Count Carlo Sforza, opposed by the British and described yesterday by Prime Minister Churchill as not regarded as a "true and trustworthy man," apparently was out of the picture in the new Government.

Slated to become Foreign Minister, the post for which Sforza had been proposed, is Christian Democrat Degasperi, a minister without portfolio in the former Bonomi Government.

Sforza declared in an interview today that he had failed to adhere to a written promise to the United States State Department to support Marshal Pietro Badoglio because under Badoglio's regime defeated Italian generals were attempting to create a new type of Fascism.

Suggested By Department

Sforza, a leader of anti-Fascism in Italy through a score of years of exile, asserted that before his return in October, 1943, he wrote a letter containing the Badoglio pledge at the suggestion of the State Department "in order to overcome certain oppositions raised from abroad to my return to Italy."

Degasperi, a native of Trento, was elected to the Italian Parliament in 1921, after which he succeeded Don Luigi Sturza, now in the United States, as secretary of the Popular party. He served as secretary until the Fascists ended the party, which has now reappeared as the Christian Democrats.

Regarded also as certain of appointments in the new Government are Alexandro Casati as War Minister, Raffaele de Courten as Navy Minister, Marcello Soleri as Minister of the Treasury, Fausto Gullo as Minister of Agriculture. They held the same posts in the preceding Bonomi Government.

Opposed Badoglio From Sense Of Duty, Sforza Asserts

Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—Count Carlo Sforza declared today he abandoned a pledge given the United States State Department to support Marshal Pietro Badoglio, because the former premier was unable to "revive a military spirit" and because under his regime a new form of Fascism was being created in Italy.

In an interview, Sforza, who is vigorously opposed by Britain for any prominent place in a new Italian Government, said he had given the pledge "in order to overcome certain oppositions raised from abroad to my return to Italy."

Commenting on Prime Minister Churchill's statements in the House of Commons yesterday Sforza asserted: "It was my sacred duty to oppose Badoglio, which I did, not with intrigues, but with an open fight, during which all the nation was with me."

Text Of Statement

The text of Sforza's statement:

"What matters now is the war against the Germans; British soldiers are dying on our soil and this means to me much more than any speech. It is only out of respect for the very many friends I have in America and England that I feel it is my duty to state the following facts:

"I wrote the letter suggested to me by the State Department in order to overcome certain opposition raised from abroad to my return to Italy. I wrote it after having heard a broadcast from Badoglio where all he said was acceptable to me; I was glad to show that I was going to Italy without any personal ambitions of mine.

Disclaims Fault

"It was not my fault that, if after my arrival in Italy, I was reluctantly obliged to admit that it was impossible for Badoglio to revive a military spirit and that, instead of fighting Fascism, the beaten generals were trying to create a more hypocritical and more dangerous Neo-Fascism.

"It is not me; it is the Bonomi (Premier Ivanoe Bonomi) Government that has arrested under the most serious charges General Basso, who under Badoglio was all powerful.

"Therefore, it was my sacred duty to oppose Badoglio, which I did, not with 'intrigues,' but with an open fight during which all the nation was with me.

"My words may be thrown at me, but the facts will always show that it was impossible to act with more loyalty and frankness than I did."

Gen. Antonio Basso formerly was head of the Naples police.

Probe Italian Bomb Blast

Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—Allied authorities are investigating a bomb explosion at an Italian recruiting station in Teramo the night of November 29, the same night that manifestos appeared in the town urging youths not to enlist because the Italians were "a conquered and destroyed people."

Two youths were taken into custody after the bombing, which smashed a wall of the station, but no charges were lodged against them.

Air Wing Leader Made A General

Mediterranean Air Force Headquarters, Rome, Dec. 9 (AP)—Col. William L. Lee, of Jackson, Miss., commander of the youngest heavy bombardment wing of the United States 15th Air Force, has been promoted to the rank of brigadier general.

General Lee is a former resident of San Antonio, Texas. He was commissioned in 1929 after four years' R.O.T.C. training at Texas A.&M. Under Gen. Douglas MacArthur he was assistant liaison officer and chief of the Philippine Air Corps.

General Clark Gives Pa. Man Promotion

U. S. 5th Army Front in Italy, Dec. 9 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark pinned the eagles of a full colonelcy on Lieut. Col. Allen F. Carter, Jr., of Hanover, Pa., today during an inspection of a sector where Colonel Carter's 108th Engineers are maintaining roads for a South African force.

General Clark also presented a carbine and a plaque to Maj. Gen. Evered Poole, commander of a South African armored force.

ELAS GENERAL SAID TO YIELD

Athens Reports Surrender As Ministers Seek To Mediate

Athens, Dec. 9 (AP)—A general of the ELAS forces, whose conflict with the regular Government and British troops turned Athens into a civil-war battleground, was reported to have surrendered tonight, while liberals who have been acting as mediators indicated that peace might be restored to the capital by tomorrow or Monday.

The name of the surrendering general was not announced. The report of his capitulation came even as additional ELAS units were massing outside the city.

[The American broadcasting station in Europe (ABSIE) relayed an official Greek Government announcement tonight that "British, American and Soviet military missions are still at ELAS headquarters at Lamia in central Greece."]

Acts As Intermediary

Dimitri Lambrakis, an Independent Liberal and publisher of the newspaper *Eleutheron Vima*, said he had been consulting all day as intermediary between the moderates, dissenting extremists and Government leaders in an effort to stop the armed clashes and find a solution to the nation's political problems.

Lambrakis said:

"Efforts have been made in all directions and hopes are entertained that a favorable solution may be reached Sunday or Monday at the latest. Of course, the British cannot yield, but, nevertheless, a solution might be possible through formation of a national government under Themistokles Sophoulis, with the other parties participating and including (Premier George) Papandreou."

Sophoulis is the 85-year-old dean of the Liberal party.

A communique from Lieutenant General Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, disclosed the augmenting of the E. L. A. S. forces (the armed detachments of the Left-Wing E. A. M.). The bulletin added that "progress is being made despite increased hostile activity on the part of the rebel forces in the deliberate demolition of an important bridge in Piraeus," the port of Athens.

Snipers In Civilian Garb

Within Athens British troops engaged in anti-sniper patrols found their task difficult because a majority of the snipers wore civilian clothes, the communique declared. Snipers shot a British ambulance driver assisting a wounded Greek civilian and captured the ambulance.

Yesterday in the eastern suburbs of the city ELAS units launched attacks supported by heavy machine-gun and mortar fire, the communique added. These were repulsed by a regular Greek formation.

The British used tanks and fire from light naval craft to clear the areas farther south of Port Leontos, but were held up by strong ELAS positions in buildings and on high ground, the bulletin said. These were sprayed with machine-gun fire in low-level air attacks.

Three of the six Leftist ministers who resigned from Premier George Papandreou's Cabinet told the Associated Press they were "striving as mediators with a view of finding some possible means of negotiations."

Said To Be Breaking Away

The "Liberal" section of the Left Wing EAM party, headed by Ilias Tsirimokos, former Minister of National Economy, also was understood to be breaking away from EAM.

Gen. Stephanos Seraphis, commander in chief of the ELAS, the armed force of EAM which rebelled against Papandreou, was reported reliably to have sent word to Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, that he was remaining under Scobie's command. Seraphis's whereabouts have remained a mystery.

At least twenty per cent of Athens was cleared of the ELAS, and it was believed that no more than 250 still were sniping in uncleared sections of the city. Scobie was reported insisting that the ELAS quit the Attica Peninsula, which includes Athens, as a prelude to negotiations.

Act As Mediators

The mediators were Nicolas Askoutsis, former Minister of Transport; Alexander Svolos, former Finance Minister, and Finance Under Secretary Anghelopoulos, who dissociated themselves from responsibility for the fighting.

"Our role," Askoutsis told the Associated Press, "has been one of reconciliation and compromise. However, since Greek affairs have been complicated, and wound up in civil war, we have stated on both sides that we cannot take part in the strife, the results of which would be disastrous for our country.

"We are now striving as mediators with a view of finding some possible means of negotiating."

The former minister said none of the three ever belonged to EAM, but were part of an action committee that was formed in the mountains during the German occupation.

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Rift Among Greek EAM Heads Develops

Athens, Dec. 9 [Reuter]—ELAS troops have demolished the important bridge at Piraeus, a communique from Gen. Ronald Scobie, British commander in chief in Greece, said tonight. The communique reported that further rebel forces were arriving outside Athens.

Athens, Dec. 9 (AP)—A rift developed today among leaders of the seven-party EAM coalition as the British announced that one fifth of Athens had been cleared of armed bands.

Gen. Stephanos Serafis, commander in chief of the ELAS, was reported to have assured Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie, head of British and Allied troops in Greece, that he was remaining under the latter's command.

Former Transport Minister Askoutsis, one of six Leftists who resigned in the dispute over disarmament of the EAM's military formations, from the Cabinet of Premier George Papandreou, said in an interview that he, former Finance Minister Svolos and Finance Under Secretary Anghelopoulos "never belonged to the EAM." They previously had been identified with the Right wing of the EAM.

"Role Of Compromise"

The Liberal section of the EAM headed by former National Economy Minister Tsirimokos also was reported to be breaking away.

"Our role," said Askoutsis, "has been one of reconciliation and compromise. However, since Greek affairs have been complicated and wound up in civil war we have stated to both sides that we cannot take part in a strife the results of which would be disasterous for the country. We now are striving as mediators with a view of finding some possible means of negotiations."

Although about twenty per cent of the city was cleared of ELAS bands, heavy new concentrations of Leftist militia were reported north of the capital after a march from the provinces.

"Death Or Glory"

The ELAS within the city were reported to consist of about 250 "death or glory" members of inner Communist cells. There are about 25 of these cells, each with its own headquarters, scattered over the capital and suburbs.

These die-hards were still sniping in the uncleared sections of the city, often at extreme range.

Scobie was reported to have demanded that ELAS troops quit the Attica peninsula on which Athens and Piraeus are situated, as a prelude to any negotiations.

One-Hour Truce

The Left Ministers, however, apparently have refused to or dare not, accept Scobie's demand. Repeated attempts by the Archbishop of Athens to mediate the dispute have met with no success.

A one-hour truce was observed this morning to allow Red Cross trucks to distribute milk and medical supplies to hospitals.

Life in the freed sections of Athens gradually was returning to normal.

A serious food shortage has developed, however, and prices are fantastic.

One of the fiercest battles was fought in the market place in the center of town where the ELAS, barricaded in buildings and shops, held out until last night. It was only after tanks opened fire and a few shops and buildings were damaged that the defenders surrendered.

While there were large concentrations of Leftists outside of Athens, the British found little open hostility among many of the Leftist groups. The British military mission with the ELAS at Lamai continued to function with "normal relations," the British said.

Two British trucks drove 150 miles from Salonika to Athens without opposition, although they passed numerous ELAS strongholds.

Temporizing Policy

Prisoners thus far taken by the British seem to be unorganized, not even knowing their brigade or battalion commanders.

The difficulties that the British have encountered in clearing Athens was increased by the temporizing political policy adopted in an attempt to solve the problem of disbanding the Guerrillas bloodlessly. It was known that the ELAS were storing arms at various points in the city. But, with the Left-wingers paying lip service to Premier Papandreou, it was difficult to prevent this.

The British had not supplied arms to the ELAS since April, 1943, but had replaced their ammunition on a small scale. ELAS forces in the Athens area appear to be armed largely with German and Italian equipment.

Ambulance Driver Killed

An ELAS force estimated at between 800 and 1,200 men was said to be besieging a Greek mountain brigade stationed in a barracks to the northeast. Heavy sniping fire was reported.

The 2d and 13th ELAS divisions drew up last night to the village of Hassia, northwest of the capital on the road between the port of Piraeus and Elevsis. A British ambulance driver was killed yesterday on the Athens-Piraeus road and his vehicle captured.

Leftists Use Mortars

One ELAS battalion is known to be equipped with 75-mm. guns. During yesterday's fighting the Leftist forces employed mortars against British tanks.

The Cairo radio said last night word had been received from Athens that a member of the leftist EAM had met a Greek Government representative to discuss cessation of fighting.

Agreement Reported

On the island of Crete, where a German garrison remains, the two major guerrilla forces—the ELAS and the EOK—are reported to have agreed on common measures to avoid civil war. Cretan nationalists make up the EOK.

In Athens, the residence of Princess Helen of Greece—the aunt of King George—was attacked and damaged yesterday by a small ELAS detachment.

Asked by The Associated Press for the Elas side of the story and for any comment on Mr. Churchill's assertions in the House of Commons yesterday in defending British armed intervention in Greece, the Eam-Elas group, through a spokesman, declared:

"If the Elas desired to take over the reins of authority by force it could have done so immediately after the liberation of Athens, when there were no Allied troops or sufficient police or Quisling forces in the capital."

[This dispatch came through the Allied censorship in Athens, which is under British and Greek Government control. It does not identify the Eam spokesman.]

"For two and a half years," the spokesman said, "the sole effort of the Elas was to exterminate the Germans, Italians and Bulgarians.

Plans for Coup Denied

"Churchill's contention that the Elas had long prepared for a coup d'état is unfounded. In fact, the Elas has been attacking German garrisons and convoys continuously and relentlessly.

"On many occasions, while the Elas was engaged in a fight with the Germans, Zervas bands attacked the Elas simultaneously."

[This was a reference to the Edes anti-German group led by Gen. Napoleon Zervas. Mr. Churchill said the Elas had fought members of this group instead of the Germans. The Elas and Edes long were admittedly rivals.]

"The argument that the Elas ravaged villages also is unfounded," the spokesman said, taking up another of Mr. Churchill's allegations. "Villages were destroyed by the Germans whenever their columns were trying to clear mountainous regions of Elas troops so they should not offer shelter to the Andartes (Greek underground).

"On the contrary," contended the spokesman, "it was the Zervas bands that ravaged villages."

The Elas spokesman asserted that the Elas never had any dealings or contact with the Germans, "whereas, according to evidence held by the Elas, the Germans never harassed Zervas (Edes) men when the Edes were attacking Elas troops."

In response to Mr. Churchill's statement that there were Germans in the Elas ranks, the spokesman declared:

"The only Germans among the Elas are a few dozen anti-Fascists who joined the Elas and were used in making propaganda and in writing leaflets inviting other Germans to desert or cease fighting and denouncing Hitler."

The Eam spokesman went on:

"The Elas has been fighting for nearly three years to liberate the country from invaders and to secure the people's sovereignty.

Monarchist Plot Alleged

"For fifty days after liberation nothing was done as promised by Papandreou in his speech Oct. 18. In the meantime, the Elas was aware of plans for the King's restoration by reactionaries encouraged by the attitude of British authorities here, and there was ample evidence to corroborate our argument.

"For this reason we demanded additional securities—mainly consisting of disarmament of all regular forces in Greece and setting up a new Regular Army. This new army would include only loyal officers after a thorough purge by the Supreme Military Council, which was agreed upon.

"The ban on Sunday's demonstration gave rise to the armed conflict between the Elas and the reactionaries," said the Elas' spokesman. "The fact that our argument is irrefutable can be substantiated by the appearance of armed Edes and Exe (Royalists) with the police and regular troops.

"Elas will fight on until Papandreou resigns because they consider him responsible for the bloodshed and because the great majority of the Greek people is on the Elas side for a reaffirmation of political liberty."

EAM DENIES PLOT TO SEIZE CONTROL

Greek Leftist Says His Group Could Have Done So Before British Troops Landed

ATHENS, Dec. 9 (AP)—A spokesman for the Eam (National Liberation Front) made a blanket denial today of British Prime Minister Churchill's charges that the Eam and its military auxiliary, the Elas, were seeking to seize power in Greece and terrorize the countryside, but said the present battle would continue until the Government of Premier Papandreou resigned.

Greeks Hungry For News

Chios, Greece, Dec. 9 (AP)—Medical supplies, spare parts for transport ships and land vehicles and reading matter are the most urgently needed items in Greece, Lieut. Col. Kenneth Musson, United States Army, says.

Moscow, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—The Soviet press and radio gave extensive coverage to the Greek situation today but made no editorial comment.

Dr. Goerdeler A Guinea Pig?

Bern, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Swiss newspaper *Journal de Geneve* said today the Gestapo is using Dr. Karl Goerdeler as a guinea pig to extract from him forcibly confessions which form the basis for the arrests of dozens of prominent Germans opposing the Nazi regime.

The former Mayor of Leipzig, arrested in connection with the plot to slay Hitler, has not been executed, but has been given drug injections daily and then has been submitted to questioning, the newspaper declared.

As a result of the induced statements several industrialists and scores of other important men have been arrested, *De Geneve's* story said.

The newspaper reported also that Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler in his efforts to rout out all opposition has ordered hanged or beheaded more thna 200 lawyers and intellectuals in the environs of Berlin alone.

FLIERS HONORED IN RUSSIA

Soviet and France Decorate Heroes on Eastern Front

MOSCOW, Dec. 9 (AP)—France and the Soviet Union bestowed high honors today on French and Russian airmen who served on the eastern front.

In a ceremony held in the grand salon of the French Embassy, Gen. Charles de Gaulle presented orders and decorations to eleven Soviet officers and forty-three members of the French Normandie Air Regiment.

Earlier Soviet Air Chief Marshal Alexander A. Novikoff pinned the Gold Star of the Hero of the Soviet Union on two Normandie aces and distributed the Patriotic War Order of the Red Star on seventeen other Frenchmen.

PRAVDA TAKES WHITE TO TASK

Soviet Journal Calls His Book On Russia "Calumny"

Moscow, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Communist party newspaper *Pravda* today charged William L. White, American author and foreign correspondent, with having made a trip into the Soviet Union with "the premeditated intention of spreading calumny."

White, son of the late William Allen White, noted editor of the Emporia (Kan.) *Gazette*, toured Russia last summer with United States Chamber of Commerce President Eric Johnston.

David Zaslavsky, author of the *Pravda* article, based his attack on excerpts from White's new book, "Report on the Russians," as published in the *Reader's Digest*.

Peculiar, But Correct

Zaslavsky asserted White's conclusions were drawn during the trip, and declared the book charged that Russian industry had developed no technique of its own, but copied American methods.

"We remember the speech in Moscow of the president of the Chamber of Commerce," Zaslavsky wrote. "He was far from liking everything he saw in our country. His speech was peculiar but it was correct. In fact, he talked about the Soviet Union just as he would about any Allied country."

Zaslavsky said White saw whatever Johnston saw in Russia, but wrote things "opposite from the views expressed by Johnston in press interviews after returning home."

White, The "Contrary"

The Soviet commenator declared that in Johnston's statements "there seemed to be a desire to express impartial judgment about our people. If Johnston made use of the trip to avail himself of impartial judgment, White did the contrary. White declares his sources are not exactly the same as Johnston's."

Zaslavsky said White, as Johnston's companion, enjoyed the hospitality and confidences of the Soviet Union and "abused both. . . . There is no doubt his trip was made with the premeditated intention of spreading calumny. The truth about the Soviet Union penetrates the United States irrespective of the efforts of Fascist agitators to prevent it. . . ."

Comment by White

Mr. White, in New York last night on business from Emporia, said it was the primary obligation "of every American reporter abroad . . . to give his people at home an honest and complete picture of whatever country he is covering."

"If the Russians do not under-

stand this, I can only regret the misunderstanding, for I enjoyed their hospitality . . . feeling that it was a sincere gesture of the Russian people, whom I greatly admire.

"The Soviet Union never had in America a more valuable friend than Wendell L. Willkie, and David Zaslavsky is, I believe, the same man who attacked him last January as a 'political gambler' who was 'playing a peculiar political game' because he discussed the situation of the Baltic states and Poland."

In "Reader's Digest," which permitted quotation from a condensation of White's book, the author said he found "one marked difference between inmates of the Soviet Union and of the Kansas penitentiary, where I have often visited an old friend."

"Food and clothing in both places are about the same, maybe a little better at Lansing," he said. "But should my Kansas friend declare his penitentiary was not well run, and express the hope that there might be a change of wardens, he would run no danger of being shot if he were overheard by a stool pigeon."

White wrote that "competition with the state is outlawed" in the Soviet Union, "hence inefficiency is protected. The people accept it because they know nothing better."

Russ Commentator Assails White

Moscow, Dec. 9 (AP)—A commentator in the Communist party newspaper *Pravda* today attacked William L. White, American correspondent and son of the late William Allen White, famous editor of the Emporia (Kan.) *Gazette*, and charged him with having made a trip to Russia with "the premeditated intention of spreading calumny."

Commentator David Zaslavsky based his attack on excerpts of White's forthcoming book, "About Russians," as published in the *Readers Digest*. White accompanied Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, to the Soviet Union last summer.

"Doubtful Reputation"

Zaslavsky, asserting White's conclusions were drawn during that trip, called the correspondent an obscure American newspaperman of "doubtful reputation," and said that the book's conclusions were "the usual stew from the Fascist kitchen, with all its smells, calumnies, ignorance and hidden anger."

The *Pravda* writer said White's book charged that Russian workers were deprived of any independence and that Russian industry had developed no techniques of its own, but copied American methods.

Zaslavsky commented:

"We remember the speech in Moscow of the president of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Speech Peculiar, But Correct"

"He was far from liking everything he saw in our country. His speech was peculiar, but it was correct. In fact, he talked about the Soviet Union just as he would about any Allied country."

The *Pravda* writer said that White saw whatever Johnston saw in the Soviet Union but wrote things "opposite from the views expressed by Johnston in press interviews after re'urning home."

Johnston's statements were welcomed in the United States, Zaslavsky wrote, adding that "there seemed to be a desire to express impartial judgment about our people.

"Sources Not The Same"

"If Johnston made use of the trip to avail himself of impartial judgment, White did the contrary. White declares his sources are not exactly the same as Johnston's."

"White writes as if he never met a Soviet citizen," the article said. "We may believe that in each city White met another White.

"White, as Johnston's companion, enjoyed the hospitality of the Soviet Union. He enjoyed the confidences. He abused both. He deceived Johnston, who trusted him. There is no doubt that his trip was made with the premeditated intention of spreading calumny.

"The truth about the Soviet Union penetrates the United States irrespective of thhe efforts of Fascist agitators to prevent it.

"The White book is not a revelation of the morality of the Soviet country, but a revelation of the morality of a certain and worst part of the American press. The morality is uncommonly ugly."

Statement Promised

In New York city, Mr. White said he would have a statement later.

CHINESE MAKE 18-MILE GAIN

Railway Town Of Shangssu Retaken In Kweichow

Chungking, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Chinese counteroffensive in Kweichow province has recaptured the railway town of Shangssu in an eighteen-mile advance from Tuhsan, thus almost completing the task of hurling the Japanese back into Kwangsi province, the Chinese high command disclosed today.

The pursuit southward is continuing, the Chinese said, and the new War Minister, Gen. Chen Cheng, declared: "The crisis in Kweichow is passing, but we must be prepared for a resumption of the enemy offensive."

82 Miles From Kweiyang

Shangssu is 82 miles southeast of Kweiyang, Kweichow's capital, and less than five miles from the Kwangsi border. Previously the Chinese had hurled another Japanese column back to the Kwangsi border farther east.

The Japanese invasion was backed by six divisions and one brigade along the Kwangsi-Kweichow border, but only 9,000 of the enemy actually entered Kweichow, it was stated.

General Chen said he intended to strengthen the more efficient divisions of the Chinese Army in hope of an eventual general counteroffensive.

He disclosed incidentally that Gen. Tang En-po no longer was the Chinese commander in Kweichow but did not identify his successor.

Chinese Retake Rail Hub In Kweichow

Chungking, Dec. 9 (AP)—The railroad town of Shangssu, eighteen miles south of newly recaptured Tuhshan, was regained last night in the Chinese campaign to clear Kweichow province of the Japanese, the Chinese high command announced today.

"The Tuhshan sector now has been cleared of enemy remnants and pursuing operations to the south are continuing," the high command communique said.

Chinese Reinforced

Shangssu lies 82 miles southeast of Kweiyang, the provincial capital, and less than five miles from the border of Kwangsi province, from which the enemy spearheads thrust into Kweichow toward Kweiyang and the Burma Road center of Kunming. Most of the invaders already have been ousted by the reinforced divisions of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Gen. Chen Cheng, new Chinese War Minister, announced earlier that the retreating enemy was being pursued in the area of Liming (Dawn) Pass, northeast of the Kwangsi border town of Liuchai.

Had Been Encircled

Tuhshan, only 75 miles southeast of Kweiyang, had been enveloped by the Japanese in their drive along the Kwangsi-Kweichow railroad. Liuchai is 40 miles from Tuhshan.

Chungking newspapers issued extras telling of the victorious Chinese counterattacks and predicting the Japanese would be driven from Kweichow.

A Chinese military spokesman cautioned that "the situation still is serious and we should not be too optimistic."

Fighting At Pass

The Japanese left column was thrown back from Tuhshan, along the railroad to a point only twenty miles from the border. Fighting was in progress there and at Liming Pass. This meant the Japanese nowhere were now more than twenty miles inside Kweichow, though at one time the right column had penetrated as far as 70 miles.

Six Japanese divisions and one brigade have been deployed along the Kwangsi-Kweichow border, the War Minister said, but only 9,000 men penetrated Kweichow — 6,000 in the direction of Tuhshan and 3,000 toward Pachai.

Chiang Reported Agreed To Let Reds Share Power

By The Associated Press.

CHUNGKING, China, Dec. 9—It was reported authoritatively today that Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek had agreed in principle to Communist participation in his government and in military affairs.

Gen. Chou En-lai, Communist negotiator who recently returned to Communist headquarters at Yenan with proposals, is expected to return here soon for implementing any agreement.

The Communists, who had sought a formal coalition of government and armed forces, believe that, if properly equipped, they would be able to make diversionary offensives against the Japanese in north China.

Chinese Reds To Share In War Affairs

Chungking, Dec. 9 (AP)—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has agreed in principle to the participation of the Communists in the national Government and in the direction of China's military affairs, it was authoritatively reported today.

This assessment following upon recent Government changes—particularly the appointment of Foreign Minister T. V. Soong to the additional post of acting Premier—is the most important development which could have occurred in the present critical phase of Chinese history.

Capable Of Offensives

The Communists, it is believed, if properly equipped, would be able to launch successful diversionary offensives in north China.

It was expected here that Gen Chou En-lai, Communist delegate who recently returned to Yenan from Chungking, would be back shortly for implementation of any conclusive understanding that may be reached.

The Communists originally sought a formal agreement for the establishment of a coalition government and joint direction of the Chinese armies.

China Plans To Train 30 More Divisions

New York, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Chungking newspaper *Ta Kung Pao* said today in an article quoted by the OWI that owing to the "unrelenting efforts" of Gen. Chen Cheng, the new Chinese War Minister, 30 Chinese divisions would be trained and equipped with modern weapons within a year with "the aid of the Allies."

The article also said Chen had decided to "better the living conditions of Chinese soldiers" and that "concrete measures regarding the food allowance, shoe allowance and vegetables have already been adopted."

British Gain Seven Miles

NEW DELHI, India, Dec. 9 (AP)—British forces driving south in Burma along the north-south railway have reached the Naba station, 160 miles north of Mandalay, in a seven-mile advance from captured Pinwe, it was announced today. No Japanese have been encountered, Allied headquarters said.

In the Bhamo sector in northeast Burma, American-trained Chinese engaged in a minor action, while British East Africans on the Chindwin front continued a southerly thrust and made contact with the enemy toward Hwegyin.

Chinese Near Wanting In Burma Road Fight

Chungking, Dec. 9 (AP)—Chinese troops gained today in their offensive down the Burma Road toward the border town of Wanting despite stiffening Japanese resistance on the Yunnan Province front, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

The Chinese occupied a height south of Tiger Tail Mountain, northwest of Manpeng, which is about twelve miles from Wanting. Other troops, in a flanking movement have reached a point ten and a half miles east of Wanting.

British Reach Naba Without Meeting Japs

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 9 (AP). British patrols pressing south along the main north-south Burma railway have reached the station of Naba, 160 airline miles north of Mandalay, without meeting any Japanese, Allied headquarters announced today.

The station is about a half-mile north of the town. The Japanese defense in this area had been based at now-captured Pinwe, seven miles north of Naba.

Tahe advance down the railway was part of a four-pronged Allied offensive aimed at driving the Japanese out of all north Burma. The offensive was moving along a 100-mile front east of the Chindwin River.

A WEST CHINA B-29 BASE, Dec. 7 (Delayed) (AP)—The Twentieth Bomber Command, completing the first six months of operation, sent a large force this Pearl Harbor anniversary day over Mukden, where the Japanese began the China war in 1931.

Maj. Gen. Curtis Lemay said that "ninety bombers were on the target," a Japanese airplane factory at Mukden.

Neyland Made General

New Delhi, India, Dec. 9 (AP)—Col. Robert R. Neyland, former University of Tennessee football coach and now commander of the Calcutta section of the Army Service Forces, has been promoted to brigadier general. His home is Greenville, Texas.

By The Associated Press.

NEW DELHI, India, Dec. 9—Maj. Gen. Frank Merrill, commander of the Marauders who helped break the back of the Japanese strength in North Burma, was appointed deputy United States commander in the India-Burma theatre today under Lieut. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan.

Col. Deen Rusk of Oakland, Calif., has been named deputy chief of staff in this theatre.

Col. Robert R. Neyland, former football coach at the University of Tennessee, has been advanced to brigadier general. He is serving in the Calcutta section. His home is in Greenville, Tex.

Bronze Star Given Former AP Editor

Myitkyina, Burma, Dec. 9 (AP)—Capt. Clarence (Clancy) Topp, of Freemont, Neb., a Signal Corps officer attached to the North Burma Combat Area Command, was awarded the Bronze Star today.

Formerly an Associated Press photo editor in New York, Topp was decorated "for meritorious service as a public relations officer who showed initiative and ingenuity in organizing superior photographic coverage of frontline action in the Hukawan valleys and often performed his duties under hazardous conditions at great personal risk."

YANKS OPEN DRIVE TO DESTROY JAP POCKET AT ORMOC

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Heavy Rains Hamper Operations, Enemy Suffers Heavy Losses.

ALBUERA CAPTURED

U.S. Troops Behind Yamashita Line Smash Battered Japanese.

MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 10.—(Sunday)—(AP) The two American infantry divisions south of Ormoc concentrated yesterday on the sizeable job of destroying Japanese troops pocketed there, but torrents of rain hampered the operations.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique today said the 77th division, which was landed there behind the enemy's Yamashita line in a surprise move three days ago, was probing southward, toward the cornered Japanese force.

Yanks Take Albuera

On the south side of the pocket, the 7th U. S. division drove forward three miles, capturing Albuera, terminus of a road crossing Leyte island from east to west.

The trapped enemy force was being squeezed into an ever-narrowing area and his losses were heavy, MacArthur said.

North of Ormoc, where the rain was the worst, the American 32nd division kept up its pressure against the enemy, capturing a field battery and large dumps of munitions and supplies.

On the eastern side of the island Yanks with the aid of light tanks cleared Japanese paratroopers from two U. S. air fields and the sky soldiers were pushed into a narrow pocket where they were contained, the MacArthur communique stated.

The paratroopers landed the night of Dec. 6, while a U. S. convoy was taking the 77th division around the south end of Leyte island for the landing at Ormoc, principal enemy port. The paratroops succeeded in sabotaging some American facilities before counteraction could be taken.

Narrow Jap Pocket

The greatest ground advance in the 24-hour period ending last night was the Albuera capture. This drive was made against intense opposition but it narrowed the space occupied by the Japanese between the 7th and 77th divisions' positions.

This leaves the enemy force in an area extending four miles along the coastal area between Albuera and Camp Downs, pre-war U. S. army post on the outskirts of Ormoc. The Japanese remain in strength, however, to the north and east of Ormoc town.

General MacArthur messaged commendations to Lt. Gen. Walter Kreuger's Sixth army, Vice Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid's 7th fleet and Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney's Far East airforce on the success of the Ormoc landing.

"Please extend to your command my hearty congratulations on the success of the Ormoc operation," MacArthur messaged each. "It was executed with that cool courage, resolute determination and indomitable will for victory which so far has characterized our forces in all campaigns."

The Americans have set up 105 and 155-mm guns on the Ormoc plain to speed the destruction of the enemy.

Former Camp Seized

The 77th, veterans of Guam, drove north for two miles from the point of Thursday's amphibious landing to seize the former United States Army base of Camp Downs on the edge of Ormoc. This advance was scored yesterday.

Five miles south of the 77th's beachhead, the northbound 7th Division swept beyond Palanas to seize Balogo and inland high ground north of the Tabgas River. Atop a hill in the 7th's sector, Alva N. Dopkins, Associated Press war correspondent, saw trapped Japanese run first toward the 77th's beachhead, recoil under fire back toward the 7th which also blasted them and sent many scurrying into wild mountain country.

Six Miles From Coast

But not far away to the northeast, other Yanks scaling those hogbacks from conquered east Leyte were disclosed today to be within six miles of the west coast after capturing the mountain pass at Mahonag.

That pass is ten miles due west of Burauen, near where American ground forces still are probing the wilds for any survivors of the 200 Nipponese paratroopers dropped behind the lines Wednesday.

Pockets Wiped Out

In addition to the tight squeeze being clamped on the south end of Lieut. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's severed defense line a larger trap north of Ormoc was narrowed.

The 32d Division, moving south from Carigara Bay, wiped out bypassed enemy pockets, then inched forward down the rugged corridor beyond the Leyte River, which forks below Limon. The Japanese resisted this advance fiercely.

Shipping Attacked

The Japanese air force, whose nine-hour attack on the American convoy after the 77th's landing was a terrific demonstration of the enemy's still potent striking power, kept pounding away at shipping in Leyte Gulf.

The raid on the east side of Leyte where the invasion forces landed October 20, cost the Nipponese fourteen planes and five more were shot down over west Leyte, headquarters said today.

Although Japan has lost more than 1,000 planes in the Leyte campaign, her air force still is capable of hitting hard.

"Normandy Easier"

James Hutcheson, Associated Press war correspondent aboard a destroyer, heard veterans of the invasion of France say "Take us back to Normandy" after that nine-hour assault on the convoy retiring Thursday from Ormoc harbor.

But the enemy air force is getting a hot reception by American planes and ground guns. Those five newly announced as shot down over west Leyte made a total of 67 bagged in direct relation to the 77th's landing operation.

Americans Storming Ormoc Outskirts

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 9 (AP)—Storming the outskirts of the port city of Ormoc, the recently landed United States 77th Division broadened the coastal center of its beachhead and a frontline dispatch told of bewildered Japanese fleeing in disregard of orders to stand or die.

In the main, however, there was bitter Nipponese resistance.

Lieut. Gen. Walter Krueger's 6th Army, going all-out to wind up the central Philippines campaign, was on the move in all sectors, converging from three directions on Ormoc.

Six Vessels Sunk

Vigilant naval patrols were maintained in the Camotes Sea in an effort to choke off the last trickle of enemy shipments to that menaced reinforcement base. Today's communique disclosed the patrols sank six fully loaded small vessel and set a seventh ablaze.

Far out over the Philippines from Luzon to Mindanao, army, marine and navy planes hunted down other enemy ships, sinking a 9,000-ton transport and destroying or damaging fourteen small freighters.

Big Guns Rip Foe Trapped On Leyte

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Leyte, Philippines, Dec. 9 (AP). A ring of big guns today continued to hammer the divided Jap forces in the Ormoc area despite low-hanging clouds and torrential downpours which slowed as well as concealed ground activity.

The Yank heavy artillery is now ranged on the Japs from all sides and additional batteries are being landed by the invading 77th Division below Ormoc, which can also sweep the bay in event the enemy cares to risk a move from the sea.

The guns which are beating the Japanese into submission are mortars, 75's, 105's and huge 155's.

G. I.'S HUNT BURIED TREASURE

Forty-first Division Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—Documents indicate that the Japanese garrison buried a 30,000 yen pay roll somewhere on this island before being wiped out by the Forty-first Division.

The G. I.'s now are digging for the treasure which at prewar exchange rates amounts to about $5,100.

Most of the soldiers are using picks and shovels but one went to work with a bulldozer.

New York, Dec. 9 (AP)—American Superfortresses raided Tokyo again yesterday, the Nippon radio asserted, but said the attack was limited to the dropping of "a few incendiaries."

Iwo Jima Threat To B-29 Base Reduced

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 9 (AP)—Iwo Jima's threat to the American Superfortress base at Saipan was considerably diminished today after a thorough coordinated pounding by warships and perhaps the biggest landbased air fleet ever used against an island target in the Pacific war.

Scores of Superfortresses and 108 four-engined Liberators, flying under a shield of 30 Lightning fighters, poured a fearsome load of bombs yesterday on the Japanese base in the Boni Island while warships sent destructive salvos ashore in the first combined action of its kind.

Five Japs Shot Down

Six Japanese planes took the air in a feeble attempt to intercept. Five were shot down and the sixth was damaged.

Rear Admiral Allan E. Smith's task force almost certainly included cruisers and possibly even heavily gunned battleships with escorting destroyers.

The crushing blow on the island only eight square miles in size, 750 miles south of Tokyo, served to clear the B-29 bombing route between Saipan and the Nippon capital, and to knock out for the time being the enemy's take-off point for raids on Saipan.

Sizable Force Of B-29's

In announcing the mighty assault yesterday, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz disclosed also that Lieut. Gen. Millard F. Harmon was the new commander of strategic air forces, Pacific Ocean areas. Harmon also is deputy commander of the 20th Air Force, which has charge of all B-29 operations.

Nimitz said a "sizable" force of B-29's participated in the raid. Each Superfort could carry ten tons of bombs on such a mission, and the Liberators could pack at least two tons. In the past official counts the use of "sizable" force by Nimitz has meant 75 to 100 planes.

Airfield Blasted

The absence of anti-aircraft fire enabled the Superfortresses to fly low enough to make their precision bombing deadly accurate. Most of the bombs were concentrated on the main airfield at the south end, but not an important installation was neglected despite considerable overcast.

Even should the Japanese manage to put the installations back into service, they could be neutralized indefinitely by routine air strikes.

Other raids announced by Admiral Nimitz included an 11th Air Force strike on Paramushiro in the Northern Kuriles on Wednesday. On the same day, marine fighters strafed installations on Babelthuap in the Palaus.

Iwo Jima Raid Described

SAIPAN, Marianas, Dec. 9 (Via Navy radio) (AP).—The American air attack on Iwo Jima yesterday was just a curtain raiser for a newly established strategical task force, Lieutenant General Millard F. Harmon, commander of Army Air Forces in the Pacific Ocean area, said today.

Superfortress and Liberator bombers, escorted by Lightning fighters, hit the Japanese island, only 750 miles south of Tokyo, preceding a naval bombardment of the enemy plane base. It was the greatest single co-ordinated Army-Navy air and sea attack of the war on a Nipponese installation.

Speaking at a press conference in the office of Major General Robert W. Douglass, commander of the 7th Air Force, Harmon estimated that 600,000 pounds of bombs were dropped on Iwo Jima. His figure was based on incomplete reports.

"Roughly, 20 per cent of the bombs landed in the target area," he said. "But that doesn't mean that the other 80 per cent didn't do damage, because Iwo is pretty densely covered with installations of all kinds."

"The results appeared good despite a thick cloud cover. The best part is that the attack cost nothing except time, fuel and the bombs used. We lost no aircraft or personnel and none of the planes was damaged."

Iwo Raid Called Biggest Blow In Pacific

By Vern Haugland

Saipan, Dec. 8 [*Delayed—Via Navy Radio AP*]—Today's Army and Navy smash upon Iwo Jima was the greatest single strike of the war against Japanese bases, Brig. Gen. Truman H. Landon, commanding officer of the 7th Bomber Command, said today.

"Today's bombardment at Iwo Jima is indicative of what the Japanese may expect in the way of a combined surface and aerial attack as our forces move closer to the enemy's home islands.

Only "The Beginning"

"This mission, the greatest single strike against a Japanese base during three years of the Pacific war, is the culmination of plans initiated thirteen months ago with the opening of the Central Pacific campaign.

"The 7th Bomber Command is proud of its part in developing and continuing the action, which reached its peak today. We consider it merely the beginning of increasingly powerful uses of our Liberators in co-operative missions with the fleet surface units, fighters and Superfortresses."

No Losses Reported

No plane losses were reported, although the report is still incomplete.

The weather was a great disappointment and interfered with an observation of results, although fires were seen.

The B-29's and B-24's pounded the island with about 900 tons of bombs through the day before the cruisers and destroyers moved in late in the afternoon and shelled the base steadily for an hour.

Earlier a 7th Air Force spokesman said the Iwo Jima *Blitz* was the largest Liberator force and the largest Liberator bomb tonnage every carried in the Central Pacific campaign as well as one of the longest unbroken fighter escort missions of the war.

The 5th Air Force has staged larger strikes, however, he said.

Maximum Loads

The 7th Air Force has been hammering at the Bonin Islands for months with Liberators, whose numbers have been increased almost daily.

The Liberators and B-29's attacked Iwo Jima from approximately the same altitude, and both types of planes were carrying maximum bomb loads.

The B-24's were over the target for an hour and a half, centering on air installations.

Carried Fleet Spotters

The last six Liberators over the target carried navy spotters to direct the cruiser and destroyer bombardments, which finished the

day's activities.

The senior officer in the B-24 strike was Col. William M. Prince, of Laurinburg, N.C., whose wife lives at Mountain Lakes, N.J. He flew in the Aleutians.

Major Warren K. Roeser, of Flushing, Long Island, and Capt. Winston H. Park, of Flint, Mich., led the P-38's on the 720-mile flight to Iwo Jima.

Fighters Lured

Some of the Lightnings went high to lure up enemy fighters and divert anti-aircraft fire, while others strafed the runway and went after anything on the ground and stayed around the target up to 25 minutes.

Three B-29's led the fighters to Iwo Jima and navigated them home.

The fighter sweep preceded the bombings.

Col. Lewis Sanders, of Elkhart, Ind., said it was the longest unbroken fighter mission on record except for one by the 5th Air Force to Halmahera.

By contrast, on the 675-700-mile London-to-Berlin run, fighters have gone in in chain fashion not remaining over the target.

Yokohama Bombed Nov. 30

HEADQUARTERS OF THE TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND, on Saipan, Dec. 9 (AP)—It may now be disclosed that Yokohama shuddered under its first aerial bombing of the war in the early morning darkness of Nov. 30.

The Yokohama area was hit while American Superfortresses were making their third raid on Tokyo.

The B-29 commanded by Capt. James C. Arnold of Corpus Christi, Tex., failed to reach Tokyo and it hit Yokohama, twenty miles southwest, instead.

Nelson, Curtin Confer

Melbourne, Dec. 9 (AP)—Donald Nelson, President Roosevelt's personal representative who is returning to the United States from Chungking, arrived here today, where he conferred with Prime Minister John Curtin.

Jersey Flyer's Exploit

A LEYTE AIR BASE, Dec. 7 (Delayed) (AP).—Captain O. Bates, Essex Fells, N. J., was credited with a direct hit between the wheelhouse and stern of a 7,000-ton Japanese transport which broke in two and sunk under attack from four Marine Corsair planes carrying half-ton bombs. The transport was one of five hiding in San Isidro Bay on the west coast of Leyte Island, which were attacked by the United States Marine Air Force making its debut in the Philippine air war.

Jap Peace Move Or Suicide Blow After Nazi Fall Seen

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 2 [AP—Delayed]—Collapse of the Nazi forces in Europe may bring two immediate and far-reaching effects in the war against Japan.

This is strongly believed by many military leaders in the Pacific, who see these alternative probabilities:

1. Strong peace feelers from Japan when Germany falls; possibly efforts by Japan to bring about a negotiated peace.

2. A last-ditch suicidal effort by the Japanese to strike another staggering blow such as the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

Face-Saving Psychology

Both possibilities are based upon the enemy's psychology—his desire to save face in the ultimate certain defeat.

If the first tack should be followed it seems likely that the Japanese Government could explain defeat to its people by saying in effect "the world is against us, we are superior, but we are hopelessly overpowered."

On the other hand, it seems equally logical that the Imperial Government might order one supreme attack.

Another Pearl Harbor?

Some observers even believe it possible, in fact likely, that Japan's final gesture might be another assault on Pearl Harbor. In Tokyo, December 7, now is a holiday in commemoration of the sneak assault which opened the war.

However, an attempted repetition of the Pearl Harbor attack certainly would have no chances of success and could only be suicidal for any air and naval forces assigned to the face-saving gesture.

But, like the first scheme of seeking peace because "the world is against us," it also would give the Nipponese Government an opportunity to explain loss of the war was due not to inferiority, but to the overwhelming power of Allied forces.

San Salvador Uprising

San Jose, Costa Rica, Dec. 9 (AP). The Guatemalan radio announced today that "bloody riots" broke out in San Salvador, capital of El Salvador, yesterday between armed civilians and police and that many were killed and wounded.

However, the Salvadorean government apparently is in control of the situation, the broadcast said.

A traveler from Guatemala, the neighboring republic, said Salvadorean oppositionists living in Guatemala City were leaving for the Salvadorean border, possibly with the purpose of fomenting an uprising.

T.A.C.A. Airlines announced that all flights to San Salvador had been suspended, although Pan-American said its planes were landing in the capital without difficulties.

4 POLICEMEN KILLED

El Salvador Rioters Also Wound Another in San Miguelito

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, Dec. 9 (AP)—Four policemen were killed and one was wounded yesterday when rebel forces attacked a telegraph office in the San Miguelito district and cut communications wires.

Police reinforcements broke up the attack and captured the instigators, it was reported by authorities, who said calm now prevailed.

Peru Reveals Cabinet Has Been Reorganized

Lima, Peru, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Peruvian Cabinet has been reorganized, resolving a ministerial crisis, it was disclosed today.

Finance Minister Julio East became premier and retained his finance portfolio. Manuel Gallagher, former Minister of Justice and Labor, became Foreign Affairs Minister.

Inland Sea Raid Also Reported By Japanese

San Francisco, Dec. 9 (AP)—American planes raided Tokyo and the inland sea area today (Japanese time), the Japanese radio announced.

The Japanese reported that one B-29 flew over the capital and "dropped a few incendiaries." Later two other B-29's appeared separately and flew over Tokyo, one of them for "about an hour . . . without dropping one bomb," the broadcast, recorded here, said.

The second sortie over the Japanese capital was followed an hour later by an hour-long raid "on the Seto Naikai (Japanese designation for the inland sea) coastal area."

No Report Of Damage

There was no indication by Tokyo on how many planes were involved in the Seto Naikai action. The Japanese made no report of damage at either Tokyo or Seto Naikai.

The inland sea flows between the home Japanese islands of Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu. The strong Kure naval base, which lies on the inland sea, may have been the target of the bombers. The broadcast did not say B-29's were involved in the Seto Naikai raid.

Said Tokyo:

"That the enemy is making raids in this way with a very small number of planes, night and day, is indicative of the fact that they are aimed at a war of nerves."

Argentina Increases Curbs On Axis Firms

Buenos Aires, Dec. 9 (AP)—Government spokesmen say new restrictions which have been placed on Axis firms in Argentina will render them incapable of interfering with the Allied war effort.

If this assertion turns out to be true, Argentina at long last has fulfilled one of her commitments of the Rio de Janeiro conference of foreign ministers in 1942, which called for the elimination of all commercial ties inimical to the security of the Western Hemisphere.

Charges that the Internal Revenue Department had failed to exercise due vigilance over the Axis firms were admitted by the Government in accepting the resignation of the director, Adolfo Silenzi de Stagni, and transferring jurisdiction to the Department of Industry and Commerce.

Mexico Extending Oil Export

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 9 (AP)—Mexico is about to resume the export of oil to nations other than the United States and Britain after several years' suspension forced upon her by the war. The Swedish tanker Falsterbohus of 10,000 tons has arrived at Tampico to take on oil.

Rubber Swap In Making

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 9 (AP)—Unconfirmed reports circulating here have it that the United States and Brazil are soon to sign a new rubber accord whereby Brazil increases its shipments of crude to the United States in exchange for a like amount of synthetic from American war plants.

LAUDS SUICIDE PILOTS

Suicide pilots have accounted for "great war results" and their tactics could possibly mean the ultimate defeat of the United Nations, Gen. Tokoyuki Yamashita asserted today, accordng to the Associated Press.

His broadcast from the front to the Japanese people was picked up and translated by the Federal Communications Commission.

Praising the "body-crash spirit of our heroes," the supreme commander of the Japanese Army in the Philippines declared:

"When we down one B29 through a deliberate crash, the rate of losses will be one to ten. However, when we sink one carrier with one plane, the ratio of losses will be one to 100, or 1,000, or even 10,000."

13 MORE JAPANESE ADMIRALS KILLED

The death of thirteen Japanese admirals—many of them probably in the air and sea battles related to American reinvasion of the Phillippines—was announced today by Japanese headquarters at the Yokosuka Naval Station, the Associated Press reports.

Vice Admiral Hideo Yano, former chief of the Navy Press section, who on last October 4 himself announced the deaths of seven other admirals, was on the list.

The broadcast said the men "met gallant and heroic deaths while fighting dauntlessly and gallantly at the front lines in the southern region."

Tokyo thus has announced the death of 32 admirals since early September. The October 4 announcement of seven death had brought the total within a month to nineteen.

Airfields Taken, Japs Say

The Japanese radio also claimed today that Imperial Japanese paratroops "completely captured" the north and south airfields at Burauen December 6.

The broadcast followed an imperial headquarters communiqué which merely claimed paratroopers landed at Burauen the night of December 6 and that fighting was still going on.

Yesterday Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the landing, but said it was a failure with the bulk of 200 paratroopers being eliminated and the remainder being hunted down. They succeeded, however, in doing some damage, he said.

Burauen is about ten miles west of Dulag on the east coast of Leyte Island.

Claim Airfield Capture.

Imperial Japanese paratroops completely captured the north and south airfields at Burauen on December 6, the Japanese radio claimed today, according to the Associated Press.

The propaganda broadcast, recorded by the FCC, followed an Imperial Headquarters communique which merely claimed paratroopers landed at Burauen the night of December 6 and that fighting was still going on.

Norse Police Head Slain By 'Terrorists'

New York, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Berlin radio said today that Reidar Voigt, head of the Norwegian police force, was shot and killed by "terrorists" at his home in Oslo on December 4. The broadcast said the attackers escaped.

A British-made pistol and remnants of British parachute ropes were found near Voigt's body, Berlin said.

Drafting of Men 26-37 Ordered Increased As War Production Lags

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9. — (AP) Drafting of men aged 26 to 37 was ordered increased tonight to provide replacements for soldiers and sailors released to manpower-short war plants.

War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes asked this step as the government drove to get 300,000 needed workers into war industries and bring lagging production of critical materials up to schedule.

Work Week Extended

In another move, the Army asked and secured an agreement for a 7-day work week for four months in plants manufacturing truck tires and tubes, products which the Army lists among its most important shortages.

Byrnes said in a statement that the Army and Navy had released "several thousand" men to war plants and that the demands for such releases were increasing.

"In order that these men may be replaced," he said, "it is deemed necessary to increase the number of calls by Selective Service for men between the ages of 26 and 37 who are not now doing their part to contribute to the war effort."

Consequently, he said, he had asked Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey to amend his regulations to provide for induction of such men and also to provide for reclassification of those in the 26-37 age group who now have occupational deferment and who leave essential industry.

Draft boards never have been formally ordered to halt induction of men over 26 but few have been drafted since last September when Hershey advised draft boards that it appeared needs of the armed services for the rest of this year could be met from men under that age.

At that time, Hershey stressed that "the armed forces continue to want the younger men."

Both the Army and Navy said they were unable to give exact figures tonight on the number of men they have released to war industries. About 800 were recently released from the Army to the tire industry and releases also have been made to logging and lumbering, foundries and forges, aircraft and ammunition plants and, earlier in the war, to nonferrous mining.

Byrnes' action appeared calculated, however, not only to secure replacements for those released but

to stem a growing movement by workers to leave war jobs and seek employment they could be assured would continue after peace returns. This movement has been one of the principal worries of manpower officials.

The agreement for a 7-day work week in the truck tire industry was announced after a meeting of officials of most of the rubber companies with Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the Army's service forces.

All-Out Effort Urged

Sherman H. Dalrymple, president of the C.I.O. United Rubber workers, asked that all union members "give all-out effort" to the program.

In addition to truck tires and tubes, materials which the Army and Navy have reported are in shortest supply and most needed include heavy caliber ammunition, mortar shells, small arms ammunition, radar, and cotton duck.

"Essential war industries," Byrnes said, "must be provided with the requisite manpower to meet military requirements if full pressure on the enemy is to be continued.

"The importance of war production schedules has necessitated the release of men already in the service. In order that these men may be replaced, it is deemed necessary to increase the number of calls by Selective Service for men between the ages of 26 and 37 who are not now doing their part to contribute to the war effort."

Byrnes also asked Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey to give "immediate consideration" to amendment of draft regulations so as to provide for reclassification of men in the 26-37 age group who now have occupational deferment and who leave essential industry.

(By The Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 — The White House statement on the manpower situation today was as follows:

Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion Byrnes announced today that after consultation with representatives of the Army, Navy, War Manpower Commission and Selective Service he had requested the Director of Selective Service to amend Selective Service regulations to provide for the calling of additional men in the higher age groups into the armed services to replace men released by the Army and Navy to man critical war programs.

The Director pointed out that in addition to the veterans returning to civilian jobs, at his insistence the Army and Navy had already released several thousand men to fill in part the existing manpower shortage in critical war plants and that the demands for such releases are increasing.

The larger number of American divisions now actually engaged in combat and the continuing pressure against the enemy has not only increased the requirement for physically fit soldiers but has also greatly expanded the requirements for military supplies of all kinds.

Justice Byrnes stated:

"Essential war industries must be provided with the requisite manpower to meet military requirements if full pressure on the enemy is to be continued. The importance of war production schedules has necessitated the release of men already in the service.

"In order that these men may be replaced, it is deemed necessary to increase the number of calls by Selective Service for men between the ages of 26 and 37 who are not now doing their part to contribute to the war effort.

"More than two million men over 30 years of age are now serving their country in the armed services, and, hence, it is not too much to expect that all other men in this age group not in the armed service are prepared to contribute to the war effort by working in those industries which are essential to the war effort."

General Hershey has been requested to amend his regulations immediately to provide for the induction of men in this age group who are not now contributing to the war effort as replacement for men in the armed services who have been or may have to be released for war production purposes.

General Hershey has also been requested in consultation with the War Manpower Commission to give immediate consideration to the amendment of Selective Service regulations to provide for the reclassification of men in this age group now having occupational deferment who leave essential industry during this critical period when full war production is required to maintain the relentless pressure now being brought to bear upon the enemy by our soldiers and sailors on every front.

STIMSON SAYS ARMY WON'T LINGER ABROAD

MIAMI BEACH, Dec. 9 (AP)—Secretary Stimson said today that "no country need ever fear a United States Army of occupation—our boys want to get home."

"The American soldier is not afraid of anything, but he's the most homesick creature when he's at war in foreign land," the Secretary added in an interview.

"I remember that I shared that feeling in the last war. The effect was to idealize our home—America was the place where the sun shone all the time."

Returning soldiers must be made to realize, he declared, that this country is not made up entirely of strikers and exploiters. The discharged serviceman and his return to civilian life without bitterness or disappointment were among the primary concerns of the War Department, he said, and he told of intimate talks he has had with soldiers back from battlefields who are being re-processed at the Army redistribution stations.

He asserted that no one person was to blame for the ammunition shortage reported by General Eisenhower.

"Throughout the war," he stated, "the ammunition requirements have fluctuated wildly. Sometimes we have had a surplus of ammunition. At others we have used it up as fast as we could get it."

SAYS PLANE, ROBOT MAY 'DRY UP' OCEAN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—Secretary Forrestal said today in re-endorsing universal military training that the airplane and the robot plane might "dry up the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans." They "already have dried up the English Channel," he said.

The Secretary wrote Archibald G. Thacher of New York, chairman of the Citizens Committee for Universal Training, expressing appreciation for the committee's work.

"I hope you continue and intensify your activities, confident in the knowledge that the measure which you are advocating is of prime importance to the future security of the country," he said in the letter.

"Whether we as a nation become embroiled in war and whether we as individuals must serve in the armed forces is not a decision in which we have a free choice. The attack on Pearl Harbor demonstrated that. So did Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare during 1914-16. Whether we like it or not, we live in a world where we may have to fight—or be conquered.

"That statement implies no disbelief in the efforts to establish a sytem of war security. We do not need to abandon hope for a world association of nations that will insure peace, but our aspirations toward that ideal must be tempered with the cold facts of reality."

NavyPlanning 30 Carriers

Boston, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Navy is planning to construct 30 new carriers, requiring 3,000 planes, in 1945, Walker Mason, New England War Production Board chief, said today.

Mason said he had received the information in a recent conference with naval officials in Washington.

In an address prepared for a conference of the WPB and Labor officials of the metal industry, Mason asserted that "down at Bridgeport (Conn.) alone the requirement has been jumped from 220 planes to 300 per month."

The regional chief said that he had been informed by naval authorities that "Victory-in-Europe Day" would have "absolutely no effect on arms and armament for the Navy."

GERMAN GENERAL TAKEN BY 50 M.P.'S

Capture Followed by 14-Hour Battle With 1,200 Enemy Troops Outside Brest

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—Fifty MP's kept a German general prisoner, but it took some doing.

They helped to fight off 1,200 of the generals' soldiers who tried to rescue him.

That action precipitated a pitched battle in which artillery, mortars, bazookas and tanks were thrown in by the opposing forces. The battle lasted more than fourteen hours and when it was over an estimated 350 Germans were dead, 750 had been taken prisoner and more than 200 German vehicles had been destroyed or captured.

The War Department told about the incident today from the report of Maj. Frederick P. Field of Flushing, Queens, provost marshal for the Sixth Armored Division of the American Third Army. The action occurred Aug. 8 as the Sixth was spearheading its way into the French port of Brest.

Two MP's brought into a bivouac barrier a prize prisoner—Lieut. Gen. Karl Spang, commander of the German 266th Infantry Division.

About the moment the general was turned into a collecting station "all hell broke loose," Major Field said. American combat troops were engaged elsewhere and for hours the half hundred Army police stood off the would-be rescuers.

Eventually, reinforcements for the MP's began to arrive and finally the skirmish developed into full-scale battle.

12 Army Air Units Cited

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP).—Distinguished unit citations for extraordinary heroism have been awarded twelve Army Air Forces units, the War Department announced today. They include the 459th Bombardment Group, 95th Bombardment Group, 321st Bombardment Group, 52d Fighter Group, 1st Fighter Group, 451st Bombardment Group, 483d Bombardment Group, 31st Fighter Group, 455th Bombardment Group, 17th Bombardment Group, 64th Troop Carrier Group, 4th Troop Carrier Squadron of the 62d Troop Carrier Group.

Boy Veterans Get Discharges

Fort Sheridan, Ill., Dec. 9 (AP)—Two of the nation's youngest battle-scarred veterans of fighting in France and Germany, James J. Garvin, 17, and Raymond B. Wallace, 15, both of Chicago, were honorably discharged from the Army today.

Their chests debecked with Army awards, including the Purple Heart, the beardless youngsters, proud of their army records, said they were glad to get back to civilian life. Wallace, 14 years old when he enlisted in 1943, planned to return to school, and Garvin said he hoped to return to work on the farm of Thomas Fisk, near Verona, Ill.

Both youths were fighting in Europe when army officials learned their real ages and sent them home. Garvin was wounded last July 7 but returned to battle the same day. Through losses in his unit, the 17-year-old soldier eventually became a squad leader in France.

Wallace, son of Mrs. Ethel Kinsey, of San Francisco, but raised by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Cotton, Chicago, was wounded at St. Lo and evacuated.

Yank Eats Army Map

Memphis, Dec. 9 (AP)—Corporal David M. Snyder, recovering here from boobie-trap wounds, related how he ate a 16x20 inch army map in France to keep it from falling into German hands.

The Kenton (Tenn.) soldier was wounded in the abdomen near St. Lo. While waiting for aid, he realized he had in his pocket a map showing strategic plans of attack for his company. Snyder said he knew only one way to keep the map from the Germans if they counterattacked.

He chewed and swallowed it.

Patton and Hodges Get New Awards

Washington, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—Lieut.-Gens. George S. Patton and Courtney H Hodges, commanders of [illegible] Third and First American [illegible]es, respectively, have been [illegible]arded Oak Leaf clusters [illegible]ir Distinguished Service [illegible] Both awards, the War [illegible]ment announced today, w[illegible] their leadership in the ca[illegible] in France last summer.

Both G[illegible]ton and Hodges received [illegible]nguished Service Meda[illegible] world war I Gen. Pat[illegible] awarded his first clust[illegible]2.

Hospital Ship's Leyte Feat

400 Patients Taken Off Beachhead By the Mercy Amid Air Raids

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP).—More than 400 patients were embarked on the hospital ship Mercy when she moved in close to a Leyte beachhead in the early days of the Philippine invasion, the Navy disclosed today.

The situation, the Navy added, was made precarious by air raids and landing operations as well as by the proximity of Japanese naval units.

The Mercy was the first hospital ship to take part in the Philippine action.

SIXTH SULLIVAN, A WAVE, TO BE WED

Seattle, Dec. 9 (A. P.).—The last of the Navy's fighting Sulli-vans from Waterloo, Iowa, soon will be a Sullivan no more.

Wave Genevieve Marie Sullivan, whose five brothers were lost when the U. S. S. Juneau, Navy cruiser, was sunk, has announced her engagement to Chief Storekeeper Carleton McCauley, with whom she grew up in Waterloo.

Her fiance is on duty aboard an aircraft carrier in the Atlantic, she explained, and they will be married as soon as he gets leave.

Saipan Mouse Gets Furlough

Chicago, Dec. 9 (AP)—A white mouse that turns up his nose at cheese but devours apples and bread arrived in Chicago from Saipan with 51 marines on furlough.

The mouse, inspected and approved by a marine physician, was the mascot of Pfc. Andrew Borkowski, who duffed him Sad Sack.

Action Slated On Palestine

Washington, Dec. 9 (AP)—A resolution calling for an open door to immigration in Palestine today appeared headed toward Senate Foreign Relations Committee approval.

Handling this politically hot potato gingerly, the committee set Monday for a showdown after debating yesterday over proposals offered by Senators Wagner (D., N. Y.), Taft (R., Ohio) and Vandenberg (R., Mich.).

State Department Opposed

The Taft-Wagner resolution, putting Congress on record as favoring resumption of British-halted Jewish immigration to Palestine, has faced quiet State Department opposition for more than a year. Diplomatic officials have told the committee that it would offend Britain and, more important, might stir Arabic unrest.

But committee members have felt the weight of appeals by Jewish leaders. They decided yesterday by a one-vote margin to report favorably Vandenberg's penciled substitute.

Contents Withheld

Withheld from publication, this reportedly calls for resumption of immigration to Palestine but does not specifically mention Jews.

Wagner won a postponement. He said later that he hoped to work out a compromise with Vandenberg stating clearly that Congress feels the Jews should be invited to emigrate to Palestine.

One influential committee member predicted approval of a "diluted" resolution.

Federal Study Furthers Disabled Vets' Job Aid

DEC 10 1944

Washington, Dec. 9 (AP)—Employers—who wish to find jobs for disabled veterans—might benefit from a Government study recently made.

The study—largest of its kind ever undertaken—was made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It covered 300 plants.

BLS says:

"It is clear from the reports that the majority of companies consider handicapped (a nice word for disabled) persons to be as good or better than the nonhandicapped as regards performance on the job."

Just As Efficient

The study showed that the disabled were just as efficient as the nondisabled.

It also showed that the disabled workers were absent less often, were injured less often and quit their jobs less frequently.

The reason: Disabled workers have a harder time getting a job and therefore try harder to keep it.

The 300 plants in this study employed 1,300,000 workers. Of that number, 63,000 were disabled. Their disability ranged from the crippled to the deaf and blind.

Disabled Workers Studied

This was a study of disabled workers—not of disabled veterans—although there were some of those in the 63,000.

The total number of disabled persons in this country is not known. Several years ago it was estimated that there were at least 5,000,000, and that 3,000,000 of them were of employable age.

Great numbers of them have been employed during the war because of the manpower shortage. Many will retire from their jobs after the war.

But many won't. And the disabled veterans will be coming back. Room will have to be made for them.

Finding Right Job Is Key

These are some of the things BLS has to say as a result of the study:

A majority of the employers said emphatically that finding the right job for the disabled worker is the key to their successful employment.

There has been some difficulty—because they are disabled—in transferring them from one job to another.

But, to overcome this, special training services have been set up in a number of plants.

Many plants now make detailed studies of the physical requirements for each job in order to place a disabled worker where he can do the best for himself and his employer.

WMC Ready To Help

[If a plant isn't large enough to have its own people make such a study, specialists of the War Manpower Commission are ready to help.]

Some companies are so concerned with the problem of placing returning veterans that they are making surveys of their men in service.

In this way they can determine the new skills the men have acquired and the type of work each desires when he returns.

Then these employers earmark at least three jobs for each returning veteran. And one of these jobs is being selected on the supposition that the veteran may return disabled.

Communities Assist

In some cities, finding jobs for disabled people has been made a community project.

Some examples of where the disabled fit in:

Blind workers can sort rivets, bolts or do other work depending on touch; deaf workers are more satisfactory in a boiler shop than workers who can hear; a man minus his right arm, where the lever was always on the right, can do the work if the lever is placed on the left side.

PUT '45-46 BUDGET AT NINETY BILLIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Government's budget for next year will be about $90,000,000,000.

As it stands, the total is roughly double the current income of some $46,000,000,000 a year. The new budget is based on the assumption that America will be fighting only Japan in the fiscal year beginning next July.

About $80,000,000,000 will be labeled for war spending as compared with nearly $89,000,000,000 this year. The rest will go for normal Government expenses and interest payments on the public debt.

By the end of the next fiscal year the debt will be upward of $300,000,000,000.

Powder Plant Rocked By Blast

DEC 10 1944

Pinole, Cal., Dec. 9 (AP)—An explosion of nitroglycerin at the Hercules powder plant today demolished two wooden buildings, spraying debris so high it could be seen five miles away, and rocked buildings and shattered windows for many miles around.

Sheriff James N. Long, of Contra Costa county, said there probably were two or three persons killed and at least 25 injured, some seriously.

Four doctors and eight nurses were sent to the scene promptly by the Richmond chapter of the American Red Cross, Don Cramer, disaster director for the Pacific area, reported. Victims were being treated at the scene.

Medical Unit Sent

A naval medical unit also was sent from the Mare Island base.

At the company's home office in Wilmington, Del., a company spokesman said two men were believed killed and "several others" injured.

Many Workers Cut

Many workers in the building were cut by flying glass of broken windows.

At the yard gate, a guard told newsmen he had heard that two men on duty near the main field magazine were killed.

Effect of the explosion was felt across the wide northern part of San Francisco Bay, in Marin county, where houses were jolted. At Mare Island Navy Yard, about ten miles from the plant, windows were broken.

Plant Is Spread Out

Mark Inskeep, assistant superintendent at the plant, said it was impossible to make an authoritative statement of casualties—or even of the site of the explosion—until injured persons were treated.

An employé who was working about 300 yards from the scene was reported knocked out by empty dynamite boxes piled near by.

All the buildings at the Hercules plant are separated from each other, as the plant is spread over many acres of rolling hills.

The entire area was in a state of high excitement, since recollections of the Port Chicago blast of last July 17, in which 322 were killed, are still vivid. Port Chicago is about ten miles east of Pinole.

Biddle Denies Corcoran Holds Undue Powers

His Influence in Justice Department Overrated, Senate Committee Hears

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP).—Attorney General Francis Biddle expressed the opinion today that Thomas G. Corcoran's influence with the Justice Department was somewhat overrated.

The Cabinet official appeared before the Senate Immigration Committee ostensibly to recommend approval of his executive assistant, Ugo Carusi, as immigration and naturalization commissioner replacing Earl G. Harrison, resigned.

The Carusi nomination, however, became only a peg on which to hang a three-hour give and take on the recent ouster of Assistant Attorney General Norman M. Littell. Mr. Littell contended Mr. Corcoran, a former New Deal intimate, had been able to summon Mr. Biddle to his apartment when he (Littell) had to wait days for an appointment with his chief.

Littell Incident Is Brought Up

After Mr. Biddle delivered a warm recommendation of Mr. Carusi for the immigration post, Senator Homer Ferguson, Republican, of Michigan, led the attorney General into a general rehash of the Littell incident. Mr. Biddle appeared eager to present his side of the affair to the Senators.

"I think that Mr. Corcoran is a completely honest man, and he is a friend of mine," Mr. Biddle told the committee. He declared he felt very strongly about inferences as to Mr. Corcoran's influence with his department.

Mr. Littell was ousted by President Roosevelt last week for insubordination after he had sent the Senate War Investigating Committee a memorandum alleging that Mr. Biddle had sought to intervene in a condemnation suit on Mr. Corcoran's behalf.

After hours of talk about a dozen lawsuits in which Littell, Carusi, Corcoran or Biddle had taken part, Senator Ferguson suggested that Mr. Littell be called up next week to present his side of the affair, but Chairman Richard B. Russell, Democrat, of Georgia, objected.

Mr. Biddle told the committee that Mr. Littell had demonstrated "complete disloyalty" toward him and also had made "most vicious remarks" about Mr. Biddle which the Attorney General declined to repeat.

Senator Burnet R. Maybank, Democrat, of South Carolina, observed: "That's enough for me."

In a Justice Department squabble involving condemnation proceedings against the Savannah Shipyards Co., Mr. Littell had alleged that the law firm of Dempsey & Koplovitz had acted as the "front" for Mr. Corcoran. Mr. Biddle said Mr. Corcoran did not represent the shipyards, but did represent certain interests in the Empire Ordnance Company, which he said had some sort of connection with the shipyard. (Mr. Littell had said Savannah Shipyards was a subsidiary of Empire).

The Attorney General said Mr. Corcoran telephoned him suggested that the condemnation suit could be settled for about a million dollars. Mr. Biddle said he arranged a conference of himself, Dempsey & Koplovitz and Mr Littell at which a settlement was suggested. Mr. Littell advised against a settlement and said he wanted to bring the case to trial.

Government Lost Case

Mr. Biddle said that in the face of a "firm offer" to settle the suit for $1,085,000, he allowed Mr. Littell to take the case to trial. The government eventually lost.

"The final cost to the government, including interest and fees, made a difference of about $300,000 (more) between the firm offer and the final settlement," Mr. Biddle testified.

Then Mr. Biddle said he wanted to tell about "the famous midnight ride." That turned out to be an automobile jaunt to Mr. Biddle's Virginia farm in connection with the Sterling Products case.

The department had filed an anti-trust case against the pharmaceutical house, alleging a tie-up with the German I. G. Farben interests. Mr. Biddle testified that Mr. Corcoran was able to persuade the firm to plead nolo contendere.

Meanwhile Mr. Corcoran and Thurman Arnold, then head of the anti-trust division, had worked out a suggestion that the Secretary of Commerce "police" the reorganized company to see that it remained clear of German influence. Mr. Biddle was out at his farm, the telephone lines were down because of a storm, so they drove out at night.

"Both of them have a sort of flair for the dramatic, you know," Mr. Biddle said.

Mr. Biddle said he turned them down cold.

In New York, Mr. Littell said in a statement:

"The Attorney General charges that I made 'vicious' remarks about him. This smoke-screen attack on a former subordinate whose integrity has never been questioned, except by Tommy Corcoran or Biddle, is another gross misreprentation to a Congressional committee of which several are now a matter of record.

"I stated facts—names, places, dates—in serious charges against an Attorney General of the United States. Why does he not reply in kind, instead of repeating idle gossip, which he declines to substantiate?

"As to his explanation of the settlement of the Savannah Shipyards case, I expected the Attorney General to crawl out on the limb where his statements now place him.

"I shall saw that limb off behind him in another statement which I shall issue in the next day or so."

CORCORAN SUBPOENAED BY HOUSE COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 — (AP) Chairman Rep Lea (D-Calif) of the House committee investigating the Federal communications commission, announced today the committee has subpoenaed Thomas Corcoran, attorney and former White House advisor.

Lea did not say on what day Corcoran—known as "Tommy the Cork"—would appear but said it would be some time next week. Neither would he disclose why the Committee desired to question Corcoran.

The Committee currently is inquiring into the sale of radio station WMCA in New York. Donald Flamm, its former owner, testified he sold the station under "pressure." Corcoran's name has been mentioned several times at public hearings during the WMCA investigation.

Lea also disclosed that the Committee is studying Corcoran's income tax returns. He did not explain the purposes of the inquiry.

PAY-RISE COST $60,000,000

OPA Estimates Steelworkers' Increase At That

DEC 10 1944

Washington, Dec. 9 (AP)—The Office of Price Administration figures $60,000,000 as rock bottom for the probable annual cost of the wage awards recommended for the CIO steelworkers.

The agency's top figure for the extra pay is $150,000,000.

It expects to pin the amount down precisely at some point in that range next week.

Against this finding it will match the steel industry's financial position as disclosed by a cost survey nearing completion, and decide whether the proposed wage adjustment can be absorbed without a price increase.

Vinson To Get Conclusions

The agency's onclusions will be submitted to the stabilization director, Fred M. Vinson, who will make any announcement.

If there are price consequences Vinson must rule whether the wage hike will be allowed. If no price increase is necessary, the War Labor Board, which approved the wage scale revision two weeks ago, will order it into effect.

OPA officials explained that their greatest problem has been calculation of the effect of WLB's grants on each of the 86 basic companies.

The board authorized increases for night-shift workers, additional pay and other revisions but did not disturb basic wages which the Little Steel formula holds to 15 per cent above January, 1941

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levels.

To A "Fine" Point

"We estimate that the maximum cost of these adjustments would be about 11 cents an hour per man, or about $150,000,000 a year," an OPA official said. "The minimum cost would be around 5 cents a man per hour, or about $60,000,000.

This range will be narrowed "to a pretty fine point" when the study is ready for Vinson, he said.

While declining to say whether OPA has reached any conclusions that a price increase may be necessary, the official asserted:

"This much is obviously true: A $150,000,000 cost increase would take a whale of a bite out of industry's earnings before taxes."

He pointed out that a number of the companies affected by the WLB findings have been granted "financial hardship" price increases for some products in the last several months. "That kind of additional cost could wipe out entirely the 1944 earnings of those companies," he said.

There is still a possibility, he added, that the steel industry may appeal the WLB decision, which would delay the report or even kill it.

Increase Reported In Coal Production

Washington, Dec. 9 (AP) — Coal production increased in the week ended December 2 over the preceding week, when some mine workers observed the Thanksgiving holiday.

Bituminous production totaled 11,835,000 tons, an increase of 535,000, the Solid Fuels Administration reported today.

Anthracite production totaled 1,193,000 tons, an increase of 58,000.

Four Ward Stores Hit By Walkout

Detroit, Dec. 9 (AP)—An undetermined number of employés of four Montgomery Ward & Co. stores in the Detroit area walked out this morning and established picket lines.

Spokesmen for the strikers, who are members of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes (CIO), said the workers were seeking to enforce demands for back pay and adjustment of other grievances.

Affected were two Detroit stores and one each in suburban Royal Oak and Dearborn, employing some 2,200 persons.

Stores Remain Open

At the Gratiot avenue store in Detroit, police detained for investigation a man who gave his name as Loyal Cameron, 44, of Grand Rapids. Bernard Mulligan, police lieutenant said the man was taken into custody for attempting to prevent women clerks at a store entrance from passing him.

Officials of the stores declined comment except to say that, "The stores are open and business is being conducted as usual." A management spokesman said 80 per cent of employés at the Gratiot avenue store remained at work and that 60 per cent of those at Royal Oak were at work.

Bendix Employes Walk Out

DEC 10 1944

Teterboro, N.J., Dec. 9 (AP)—Production of flight instruments and aviation accessory equipment at the Eclipse-Pioneer division plant of the Bendix Aviation Corporation halted today when 1,800 workers walked off the job in protest over a new work schedule, a management spokesman said.

The walkout, which involved nearly one third of the plant's 6,000 workers, was staged by members of the Aircraft Workers Union of New Jersey (independent), management said.

Union officials said the walkout was "spontaneous" and that they had taken no part in its arrangement. They said they would negotiate with the company for the absent workers, however.

Tire Factories Agree to Adopt 7-Day Week

Program to Meet Army's Demands Drawn Up at Meeting With Somervell

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP).—Plants manufacturing truck tires and tubes will go on a seven-day work week for four months in an effort to supply the Army's heavy demands.

This decision followed a meeting today of officials of most of the rubber companies with Lieutenant General Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the Army's Service Forces.

The rubber company executives signed a statement pledging themselves to take immediate steps to institute the seven-day work week and to "co-operate with our employees in efforts to stimulate production."

Sherman H. Dalrymple, international president of the United Rubber Workers of America, Congress of Industrial Organizations affiliate, then asked all members of his organization engaged in the production of truck tires and tubes to "give all-out effort" to the program.

Some "bottleneck" operations in rubber plants have been on a seven-day schedule, but most of the industry has shut down on Sunday, officials said.

The program will involve a seven-day work week for most workers, since the industry has found the rotation of employees unsatisfactory for the most part.

Workers averaged forty-six and a half hours a week in September, the last month for which figures were available here. This allowed for absenteeism, and included only workers engaged in the making of tires and tubes.

Government production agencies, which early in the war program sponsored a seven-day week for some industries, including shipbuilding, no longer favor such a long week except in emergencies.

This attitude was reflected in the limiting of the seven-day work week in the rubber industry to a four-month period.

On the basis of present allocations, General Somervell said, the Army will be 472,000 tires short of its requirements for the first quarter of 1945 unless production is stepped up.

At the present time, he said, 500,000 rubber-tired vehicles are in operation on the western front.

Only last week General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander on the western front, said the tire shortage had become so serious that it threatened to tie up a large number of vehicles by early February.

Workers will receive pay at the rate of time and a half for the sixth day and double time for the seventh day in accordance with their contracts.

Promptness Is Stressed

War Production Board sources revealed that a big increase in heavy overcoats, battle jackets, uniforms, heavy trousers and blankets is sought promptly by the Army.

Saying that he based his belief on testimony of Army Service Force, WPB and manpower officials, Mead declared:

"A closer co-ordination of Army and Navy procurement, a more efficient utilization of workers already in plants, and nation-wide recruiting by organized labor will produce the men and women needed."

Mead said his committee will issue a report soon on Army and Navy surplus property accumulations which will "point out some of the answers to the wasteage of manpower and materials."

Charles M. Hay, deputy manpower chairman, agreed with Senator Ferguson (R., Mich.) yesterday that "propaganda" is the commission's chief weapon for enforcing its decrees against workers leaving war plants and limiting civilian industry's manpower quotas.

"In my opinion," Hay said, "the principal thing needed—and it is an imperative need—is a deepening sense of the urgency upon the part of the people respecting war needs."

Reflected In War Plants

Reports last summer speculating over prospects for an early end of the war, he said, were reflected in war plants where many workers left to seek peacetime jobs.

"If people can be persuaded now as to the urgent need for their services, the people will respond to the urgency," he said.

Hay added that while he would welcome early legislation penalizing civilian plants which hire workers in excess of manpower commission quotas, he thinks the problem can be solved without it.

California Steel Plant Made Idle By Walkout

DEC 10 1944

Pittsburg, Cal., Dec. 9 (AP)—All work at Columbia Steel's plants here was stopped last night and CIO Steelworkers International Union officers called a mass meeting today in an effort to induce 3,500 men to return to work.

A 12th Naval District spokesman in San Francisco said the plants had been working on "critical" naval castings.

Both company and union said that Sunday work was involved in the dispute leading to the walkout.

Charles J. Smith, international representative for the United Steelworkers of America, said that while the plants had been on seven-day weeks, the men had worked only six days, alternating Sunday work on a five-week schedule. He declared the company recently had obtained some additional contracts and had ordered the full force to work Sundays.

Company officials, however, asserted that only six riggers had been directed to work a Sunday out of turn, that they refused and walked out. Sympathy work stoppages spread gradually through the plants.

Propaganda Increased To Combat Labor Need

Washington, Dec. 9 (AP)—The full force of propaganda was set in motion today to combat manpower shortages as new calls came from the Army for vitally needed winter equipment.

Chairman Mead (D., N.Y.), of the Senate War Investigating Committee, said that voluntary methods, including appeals to public patriotism, will meet current needs for war workers.

Clothing and blankets were added, meanwhile, to a list of war materials needed as quickly as possible.

Dewey Peace Role Lasts

Albany, N.Y., Dec. 9 (AP)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Republican standard bearer, stood committed today to continue his presidential campaign efforts for bipartisanship in the formation of a world peace organization.

In a two-paragraph statement issued yesterday, Dewey disclosed that he and John Foster Dulles, his foreign affairs adviser, previously had discussed "at length" Dulles's world security talks in Washington with Edward R. Stettinius, Secretary of State, and Republican Senate leaders.

Conferred With Dulles

Dewey's statement, in reply to a query as to whether Dulles represented him in Washington, said:

"Last Monday Mr. Dulles and I discussed at length his proposed visit to Washington today for conferences with Secretary of State Stettinius and Senators Vandenberg and Austin.

"Mr. Dulles and I worked very closely together during the campaign while he acted as my representative at conferences with Secretary Cordell Hull in lifting the organization for lasting peace above partisanship. Our deep interest in the building of a lasting peace in the world and our joint efforts to that end will continue."

Urged Nonpolitical Action

Throughout his campaign, and particularly in his Louisville speech, Dewey urged that politics be kept out of world peace discussions.

Dulles conferred with Hull three times on the Dumbarton Oakes peace organization.

There had been general belief that Dewey would assume an outspoken role as the party's titular leader, but yesterday's statement was his first utterance on foreign affairs since the election.

Billion for Flood Control Approved in Conference

All Senate Additions to House Measure Are Accepted

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 (AP).—A $1,000,000,000 post-war flood-control bill was approved today by a conference committee which accepted all projects added by the Senate to the House Bill.

Conferees said their report will be ready for the House Monday. Approval there would send the bill to the Senate for final Congressional action.

A section stipulating that projects be handled by "existing Federal agencies" was eliminated on the theory that it might impede development of regional authorities.

But the committee retained provisions allowing state review of Federal works, giving irrigation preference over navigation in arid sections, and permitting the Secretary of the Interior to dispose of surplus power at hydroelectric projects.

The bill authorizes development of the Missouri River basin under an integrated program prepared by the Reclamation Bureau and the Army engineers. The program, calling for an initial authorization of $200,000,000, was recommended by President Roosevelt who also suggested establishment of a Missouri Valley Authority as the administrative agency.

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Insert London Russian Berlin xx Slovak frontier

PUSHING INTO THE FOOTHILLS OF 2,700-FT. BORZSONY MOUNTAINS, LAST BIG NATURAL DEFENSE LINE BEFORE THE SLOVAKIAN PLAINS, THE RUSSIANS ALSO CAPTURED A SERIES OF LOCALITIES ON A NINE-MILE FRONT NORTH OF VEROCE, INCLUDING DIOSJENO, 12 MILES NORTHWEST OF FALLEN VAC.

SEIZURE OF THESE LOCALITIES PUT THE RUSSIANS WITHIN 88 MILES OF BRATISLAVA, SLOVAK CAPITAL, AND WITHIN 118 MILES OF VIENNA, AND THEY APPEARED TO BE INTENT ON A WESTWARD DRIVE WITHOUT AWAITING THE FALL OF BUDAPEST.

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AMONG OTHER LOCALITIES TAKEN IN THE BREAK-THROUGH NORTH AND NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST WERE ASZOD RAIL JUNCTION, 15 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL, AND JOBBAGYI, ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE MATRA MOUNTAINS 15 MILES NORTHEAST OF ASZOD. JOBBAGYI IS ON THE HATVAN-LOSONC RAILWAY RUNNING UP TO CENTRAL SLOVAKIA.

MOSCOW DID NOT ANNOUNCE WHEN THE NEW OFFENSIVE BEGAN NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST. IT HAD SLACKENED AFTER THE RUSSIAN CAPTURE OF HATVAN NOV.26, AND BERLIN FIRST BEGAN TALKING SERIOUSLY OF SOVIET ASSAULTS FOUR DAYS AGO. THE RUSSIANS HAD TO FIGHT THEIR WAY THROUGH A STRONGLY-FORTIFIED AREA CRISS-CROSSED BY MANY CANALS.

BERLIN BROADCASTS ADMITTED LAST NIGHT THAT PEST AND ITS HEAVILY FORTIFIED SUBURBS ON THE EAST BANK OF THE DANUBE HAD NOW BEEN ISOLATED AND TOLD OF "BLOODY AND CONFUSED" FIGHTING IN THE OUTSKIRTS. GERMAN LINES EAST OF THE CITY WERE DRAWN BACK SEVERAL MILES, BERLIN SAID.

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IN CAPTURING SZIGETSZENTMIKLOS ON CSEPEL ISLAND IN THE DANUBE THE RUSSIANS WERE ONLY SIX MILES FROM THE LAST NAZI ESCAPE RAILWAY WHICH ENTERS BUDAPEST ON THE SOUTHWEST. ON THE WEST BANK OF THE DANUBE OPPOSITE CSEPEL, AT CAPTURED ERCSI AND NEARBY RACKERESZTUR, THE RUSSIANS WERE WITHIN 15 MILES OF THAT BUDAPEST-VIENNA TRUNK LINE.

A GERMAN TRANSOCEAN X X X ~~CHAMBERLAIN~~ FIRST NIGHT LEAD.

SECOND NIGHT LEAD AERIAL (TO REGNLS) (110)
BY CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN

LONDON, SUNDAY, DEC. 10-(AP)-A FORCE OF RAF HEAVY BOMBERS, APPARENTLY IN SOME STRENGTH, SWEPT OVER GERMANY LAST NIGHT, FOLLOWING A DOUBLE DAYLIGHT BLOW AGAINST STUTTGART AND MUNICH.

THE BRITISH BOMBERS STARTED OUT ACROSS THE CHANNEL SOON AFTER 6 P.M. (BRITISH TIME) AND RETURNED ABOUT 9 P.M. AFTER THE GERMAN RADIO HAS REPORTED THEM OVER THE BERLIN AND HANOVER-BRUNSWICK AREAS.

THE AIR MINISTRY DID NOT DISCLOSE THEIR TARGETS IMMEDIATELY.

YESTERDAY MORE THAN 700 AMERICAN WARPLANES, FLYING THROUGH BLINDING SNOWSTORMS AND IN SKIES WHERE THE TEMPERATURE REGISTERED 54 DEGREES BELOW ZERO, STRUCK AT STUTTGART'S INDUSTRIAL CENTER AND DROPPED 1,500 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES ON A STRATEGIC AIRDROME AND ON FREIGHT YARDS.

CONVOYED BY X X X SECOND GRAPH.

JR1126PEW

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Add London Aer. Chamberlain xx Southeast of Stuttgart.

THE RAF SECOND TACTICAL AIR FORCE IN BELGIUM, OPERATING UNDER A NEW COMMANDER, AIR VICE MARSHAL E.C.HUDDLESTON--A 36-YEAR-OLD AUSTRALIAN AND A VETERAN OF AIR CAMPAIGNS CONNECTED WITH LANDINGS IN SICILY, SALERNO, ANZIO AND SOUTHERN FRANCE--HAD A FIELD DAY TODAY.

NORTH OF HANNOVER, 12 LOCOMOTIVES AND 28 RAILWAY CARS WERE DESTROYED. SEVEN OF THE CARS WERE TROOP CARRYING COACHES, AND FIVE OTHERS WERE LOADED WITH AMMUNITION. IN HOLLAND NEAR AMERSFOORT, ROCKET-FIRING TYPHOON STREAKED THROUGH AN INTENSE "BOX BARRAGE" AND SMASHED A GERMAN HEADQUARTERS WHILE SPITFIRES HURLED BOMBS ON TWO FACTORIES. FIVE ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN.

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IN THE UTRECHT AREA, RAIL LINES BEING USED TO CARRY SUPPLIES TO V2 ROCKET SITES WERE CUT IN AT LEAST 12 PLACES. A NEW ZEALAND SQUADRON POUNCED ON A TRAIN LOAD OF EXPLOSIVES. THE LOCOMOTIVE BLEW UP AND ONE OF ITS RAIL CARS DISINTEGRATED IN A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION.

MEANWHILE, 325 MEDIUM AND LIGHT BOMBERS OF THE U.S.NINTH AIR FORCE BASED ON THE CONTINENT ATTACKED FIVE NAZI DISTRIBUTING POINTS BEHIND THE SAAR FRONT TODAY, THEY RAINED EXPLOSIVES ON BAUMHOLDER, SAARWELLIGEN, LABACH, LOSHEIM AND OBERTHAL.

THE ONE JET PLANE ENCOUNTERED BY THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE FLIERS

WAS SHOT DOWN SOUTHWEST OF STUTTGART BY LT.HARRY L.EDWARDS, A MUSTANG PILOT OF 543 CHARKEY ST., MINCIE, IND. NO OTHER ENEMY AIRCRAFT WERE SEEN.

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EDWARDS SPOTTED THE JET PLANE GLIDING IN TOWARD THE BOMBER FORMATION WITH ITS POWER OFF. WARNING THE OTHER PILOTS BY RADIO, THE HOOSIER STARTED OFF IN PURSUIT. HIS FIRST BURST KNOCKED ONE OF THE TWIN JET UNITS OUT OF OPERATION AND SENT THE ENEMY INTO A STEEP GLIDE. HE FOLLOWED IT DOWN TO ABOUT 100 FEET. WHERE THE PILOT TRIED TO LEVEL OUT. EDWARDS SQUIRTED LEAD INTO IT AGAIN, SHOOTING OUT THE SECOND JET UNIT. THE NAZI CRAFT BEGAN FALLING APART. THE CANOPY FLEW OPEN AND ONE OF THE WINGTIPS RIPPED AWAY. IT FINALLY HIT THE GROUND AND EXPLODED. ITS PILOT DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO FIRE A SHOT.

EDWARDS EARLIER HAD FOUND A SUPPLY TRAIN AND DESTROYED FIVE FREIGHT CARS.

ANOTHER MUSTANG PILOT IN THE SAME GROUP, LT.BRUNO J.GABROVSKI, 85 CASS ST., SPRINGFIELD, MASS., SHOT UP SIX LOCOMOTIVES, RAISING HIS TOTAL SCORE TO 35 LOCOMOTIVES DESTROYED OR DAMAGED.

RA-OSPEW

NIGHT LEAD CHURCHILL-GREECE

BY JAMES F.KING

LONDON, DEC. 9-(AP)-A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS DIVISION AMONG SUPPORTERS OF BRITAIN'S COALITION GOVERNMENT BECAME APPARENT TONIGHT DESPITE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS' VOTE OF CONFIDENCE YESTERDAY ON PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S DETERMINED POLICY OF "INTERVENTION TO KEEP PEACE" IN LIBERATED EUROPE.

THE RANK-AND-FILE OF THE STRONG MINORITY LABOR PARTY THREATENED TO ADOPT A "HANDS-OFF" ATTITUDE ON CHURCHILL'S HANDLING OF THE REBELLIOUS FACTIONS IN GREECE AND ON HIS DENUNCIATION OF COUNT CARLO SFORZA OF ITALY, ALTHOUGH FEW APPEARED READY TO BREAK ENTIRELY WITH THE COALITION.

IN AN EFFORT TO RELIEVE PERSISTING TENSENESS, CREATED BY THE CONFUSION OF THE GREEK FIGHTING, CHURCHILL WAS REPORTED PLANNING TO SEND TO ATHENS ONE OF HIS ACE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS, RICHARD LAW, MINISTER OF STATE.

EVEN AS THE BRITISH PRESS TOOK SIDES--VIGOROUSLY SUPPORTING THE PRIME MINISTER OR VOICING INCREASED ANXIETY OVER BRITAIN'S POLICY--THE L

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LONDON TRADES COUNCIL THIS AFTERNOON ADOPTED A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING "ALARM" AT BRITISH ARMED INTERVENTION.

THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN, CALLING CHURCHILL'S DENUNCIATION OF COUNT SFORZA "THE WORST PASSAGE IN HIS SPEECH," SAID "RELUCTANTLY WE SHALL HAVE TO ASSUME THAT HE MAY BE AN UNCERTAIN, EVEN A DANGEROUS GUIDE IN OUR PASSAGE THROUGH THE EUROPEAN MAELSTROM. LET US HOPE HE DOES NOT WRECK US."

THE YORKSHIRE POST, TAKING AN OPPOSITE VIEW, DECLARED THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH "WAS NOT MERELY A DEFENSE: IT WAS A VINDICATION."

A173

WHILE CHURCHILL WON 279 TO 30, THE VOTE AGAINST HIM WAS THE LARGEST IN SIX TESTS OF CONFIDENCE HE HAS UNDERGONE.

THE LABOR PARTY SPLIT. EVEN THOUGH DEPUTY PREMIER CLEMENT ATTLEE, LABOR PARTY LEADER, URGED HIS MEMBERS TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT, ONLY 23, NEARLY ALL MINISTERS AND THEIR PARLIAMENTARY PRIVATE SECRETARIES, VOTED FOR CHURCHILL'S POLICIES. MOST OF THE LABOR MEMBERS REFRAINED FROM VOTING.

THE PARTY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ADOPTED A MORE NEUTRAL ATTITUDE, ONLY ADVISING LABORITES NOT TO VOTE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT AND LEAVING THEM A FREE HAND IN GOING ALONG WITH THE PREMIER.

IN DEFIANCE OF THE PARTY POLICY, 24 LABORITES VOTED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

THE LABOR PARTY ORGAN--THE LONDON DAILY HERALD--CAUTIOUSLY REMARKED: "MR.CHURCHILL NO DOUBT HOPES THAT THE VOTE WILL BE REGARDED AS AN ENDORSEMENT OF HIS ENTIRE POLICY IN RELATION TO THE LIBERATED COUNTRIES, AND, IN FACT, TO THE EUROPEAN SITUATION GENERALLY.

"IT WILL NOT BE SO CONSIDERED. THE FACT STILL REMAINS THAT HE IS APT, BY HIS UTTERANCES, TO CREATE AN IMPRESSION THAT HE IS BIASED IN FAVOR OF REGIMES OF THE RIGHT."

A MOVEMENT WAS UNDERWAY TO BRING BEFORE THE LABOR PA

Y

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CONFERENCE OPENING MONDAY AN EM

A MOVEMENT WAS UNDERWAY TO BRING BEFORE THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE OPENING MONDAY AN EMERGENCY RESOLUTION DEFINING THE PARTY'S WHOLE ATTITUDE TO LIBERATED COUNTRIES.

A POSSIBILITY AROSE, TOO, THAT THE LABOR MINISTERS IN THE CHURCHILL GOVERNMENT WOULD ASK THE PARTY FOR A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES.

WHILE THERE ARE 615 SEATS IN COMMONS, LESS THAN 400 ATTENDED YESTERDAY'S DEBATE, ALTHOUGH IT WAS THE LARGEST TURNOUT FOR A FRIDAY SESSION IN YEARS.

THE ABSENTEES INCLUDED MANY OF THE 75 TO 100 WHO ARE IN THE ARMED FORCES OR AWAY ON OTHER WAR ASSIGNMENTS, MANY WHO STAYED AWAY PURPOSELY TO AVOID COMMITTING THEMSELVES, SOME WHO WERE ILL, AND SOME WITH PREVIOUS BUSINESS APPOINTMENTS.

CHURCHILL'S SUDDEN DEMAND FOR A VOTE OF CO NCE CAUGHT MANY BY SURPRISE, INCLUDING SOME ABSENT MEMBERS OF H OWN CONSERVATIVE PARTY WHO PERHAPS OTHERWISE MIGHT HAVE ATTENDED. THE PRIME MINISTER WON SOLID SUPPORT FROM CONSERVATIVES AND LIBERALS WHO VOTED.

THE CONSERVATIVES WITH 363 MEMBERS AND LABOR WITH 170 ARE THE TWO DOMINANT PARTIES IN COMMONS.

KA415PEW

LONDON, DEC 9-(AP)-THE GERMANS HAVE NOT YET ACHIEVED "VERY GREAT ACCURACY" WITH THEIR V-2 ROCKETS, THE AIR MINISTRY DECLARED LAST NIGHT IN AN OFFICIAL REPORT COVERING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS

OF THIS TYPE OF ENEMY ATTACK.
THE MINISTRY SAID EXACT LOCATIONS OF HITS WERE WITHHELD SO THE GERMANS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CORRECT THEIR ERRORS.
DECLARING THAT THE ROCKETS DESCEND FROM 60 MILES IN THE STRATOSPHERE AT A SPEED OF 3,000 MILES AN HOUR, THE MINISTRY SAID AIR INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS HAVE UNCOVERED EVIDENCE THAT THE GERMANS WERE FORCED TO USE THE ROCKET BEFORE IT WAS FULLY DEVELOPED.
DN557AEW

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WITH COMMONS

LONDON,DEC.8-(AP)-A NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, AMONG THEM 35 SOCIALISTS, DECLINED TO VOTE TODAY ON THE QUESTION OF CONFIDENCE IN THE CHURCHILL GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY IN CONNECTION WITH THE INCIDENT IN GREECE.

THE VOTE FOUND MANY MEMBERS IN HOME TERRITORIES, MENDING POLITICAL FENCES.

COMMONS HAS A MEMBERSHIP OF 615. THE TOTAL VOTE WAS 313.

MJ203AEW

BY A.I.GOLDBERG

(ADVANCE)..LONDON, DEC.9-(AP)-ENGLAND'S SHOPKEEPERS MOVED TOWARD THE BUSY CHRISTMAS SEASON TODAY WITH A DISTINCTLY BRIGHTER BACKLOG OF RETAIL TRADE AND INDICATIONS OF CONTINUING IMPROVEMENT.

THE RETAIL DISTRIBUTORS ASSOCIATION RELEASED FIGURES SHOWING SHARP IMPROVEMENT FOR OCTOBER OVER THE PREVIOUS FOUR MONTHS IN SALES OF APPAREL, HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND NON-FOOD MERCHANDISE, AS WELL AS A 4.4 PER CENT GAIN IN TOTAL SALES OVER OCT.1943.

THE SURVEY POINTED OUT THAT THE FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO OCTOBER WERE ARTIFICIALLY DEPRESSED. THE FLYING BOMB ATTACKS SENT THOUSANDS OUT OF LONDON AND RESTRICTED THE MARKET.

IT IS IN RETAIL SALES, RATHER THAN IN THE SHADOWY HINTERLAND OF FACTORY CONVERSION AND EXPORT TRADE, THAT THE LITTLE MAN SEES THE RETURN PATH TO A KIND OF PROSPERITY.

THE AVERAGE CITIZEN JOSTLING IN THE BIG DEPARTMENT STORES FOR TOYS AND CLOTHING, STANDING IN LINE TO BE WAITED ON FOR FURNITURE, OR FOR A BITE TO EAT AFTER THE SHOPPING IS DONE, IS LIVING IN A QUICKENED LONDON THESE DAYS.

OUT IN THE PROVINCES THE SHOPS ARE CROWDED TOO. PEOPLE ARE BUYING OVER THE COUNTERS, AND HEAVILY.

IN COMMONS AND IN TRADE COUNCIL OFFICES PHRASES WERE REITERATED--THERE WOULD BE CONVERSION TO PEACE TIME OUTPUT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BRITAIN WOULD RECAPTURE HER EXPORT TRADE, LEND-LEASE WOULD BE MITIGATED TO GIVE BRITISH INDUSTRY FREER PLAY.

THE LITTLE MAN DIDN'T SHOW MUCH INTEREST IN THE PROMISES BUT ACTUAL DISSENT CAME FROM FINANCIAL PULSE TAKERS.

"NO CLEAR STATEMENT OF POLICY IS DISCERNIBLE IN WHAT WAS SAID DURING WEDNESDAY'S DEBATE (ON EXPORT TRADE) IN COMMONS", THE FINANCIAL TIMES SAID. "IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT TOO OFTEN PROGRESS MADE IN PRINCIPLE AND IN ONE DIRECTION IS CANCELLED BY THE METHODS FOLLOWED BY THE CONTROLLING DEPARTMENTS."

THE ECONOMIST SAID THE DEBATE ON EXPORT POLICY WAS "NOT VERY ENCOURAGING."

"IT SOUNDED AT TIMES MORE LIKE A SEARCH FOR ALIBIS THAN A SEARCH FOR POLICY" THE MAGAZINE SAID.

(END ADVANCE FOR AMS OF SUNDAY, DEC.10).

W202PEW

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Add Brussels Belgian Rumson xx own money.

OWN MONEY."

PIERLOT WHO WILL BE 65 YEARS OLD TWO WEEKS FROM TODAY, ADMITTED HIS COUNTRY'S FINANCES WERE DISRUPTED.

"WHEN WE SOLD THEM ANYTHING FROM OUR COUNTRY THEY CHARGED IT ON THE BOOKS," PIERLOT SAID, "BUT WHEN THEY BROUGHT ANYTHING TO US FROM GERMANY IT WAS A CASH DEAL AND USUALLY VERY EXPENSIVE FOR BELGIUM."

BELGIUM'S NATIONAL DEBT, WHICH WAS ABOUT SIXTY BILLION FRANCS BEFORE THE WAR, HAS ALMOST TREBLED, PIERLOT SAID.

PIERLOT DISMISSED WITH A WAVE OF HIS HAND A QUESTION REGARDING THE INFLUENCE OF GREAT BRITAIN ON HIS COUNTRY.

"ENGLAND AND BELGIUM HAVE ALWAYS BEEN VERY GREAT FRIENDS" PIERLOT SAID "COMMON SUFFERINGS OF WAR HAVE BROUGHT US EVEN CLOSER. HER ONLY INFLUENCE ON US HAS BEEN ONE FOR FRIENDSHIP."

HE SPOKE WARMLY OF HIS ADMIRATION FOR GENERAL EISENHOWER AND RECALLED HOW THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER HAD BEEN RECEIVED IN BELGIUM.

"GENERAL EISENHOWER CAME HERE WITH A SPEECH IN HIS POCKET THAT PERHAPS HAD BEEN WRITTEN FOR HIM BY HIS STAFF. I DONT KNOW. BUT HE LEFT THAT SPEECH IN HIS POCKET AND SPOKE ELOQUENTLY. I SHALL ALWAYS REMEMBER HIS BEGINNING, 'I AM HERE IN A FREE LAND'. IT IS SO."

AS I LEFT HIM ALONE IN THE BIG HIGH CEILINGED ROOM, HE WALKED TO THE DOOR AND HESITATED BEFORE SAYING GOODBYE.

"PLEASE TELL THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA FOR ME," PIERLOT ASKED, "THAT WE HAVE PROFOUND ADMIRATION FOR AMERICAN BOYS AND AMERICAN TROOPS. IT IS INCREDIBLE THAT SUCH ENORMOUS ARMIES HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED SO QUICKLY AND COMMANDED SO SKILFULLY. WE OWE A GREAT DEBT TO GENERAL EISENHOWER, HIS ARMY AND THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND THEIR GREAT PRESIDENT."

MJ221PEW

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(AN ENEMY BROADCAST CLAIMED THAT GERMAN FORCES HAD SURROUNDED THREE COMPANIES OF DOUGHBOYS IN THE CONTESTED TOWN OF PACHTEN, ADJACENT TO DILLINGEN, AND ALSO HAD SURROUNDED A "MAJOR UNIT" OF AMERICANS IN THE SAARLAUTERN BRIDGEHEAD.

(REFERRING TO THE FIGHTING IN THE SARREGUEMINES SECTOR THE GERMANS ASSERTED THAT LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON,JR., WAS EMPLOYING SIX TO 10 TANK DIVISIONS AND FOUR COMPLETELY MECHANIZED INFANTRY DIVISIONS THERE).

Add last US front xxx bombed and blasted.

THE NEW CROSSINGS OF THE SAAR WERE MADE BY THE 35TH INFANTRY DVISION AT DIEDING AND WITTRING, 3 1/2 AND FIVE MILES SOUTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES RESPECTIVELY. THE FIRST UNITS ACROSS USED ASSAULT BOATS, RAFTS AND A PARTLY WRECKED RAILROAD BRIDGE. THEN ENGINEERS LAID TREAD BRIDGES FOR THE TROOPS WHICH FOLLOWED. BRIDGEHEADS A HALF-MILE DEEP WERE ESTABLISHED AT BOTH POINTS. SARREGUEMINES, AT THE THRESHOLD OF THE SAAR BASIN, IS EIGHT MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN.

ON THE THIRD ARMY'S RIGHT FLANK THE SEVENTH ARMY SURGED FORWARD AS MUCH AS THREE MILES ALONG A 35-MILE FRONT. A FIELD DISPATCH SAID

30. 24— 21117

SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS ENTERED A TOWN 4 1/2 MILES FROM THE GERMAN FRONTIER.

SEVENTH ARMY FORCES FIGHTING AT ENCHENBERG, 22 MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN, WERE SEVEN MILES FROM THE SAAR BORDER. THIRTEEN MILES EAST OF ENCHENBERG LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S TROOPS FOUGHT TO A POINT NORTHEAST OF OBERBRONN, SIX MILES SOUTH OF GERMANY'S PALATINATE BORDER. OTHER UNITS, IN A THREE-MILE PUSH ACROSS RUGGED TERRAIN, CAPTURED MOUTERHOUSE, ABOUT MIDWAY BETWEEN ENCHENBERG AND OBERBRONN AND ONLY 7 1/2 MILES FROM THE PALATINATE.

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A30

FRENCH FIRST AND AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS IN ALSACE HAVE CLEARED NEARLY THREE-FOURTHS OF THE VOSGES AND ARE SQUEEZING FROM THREE DIRECTIONS AGAINST THE GERMANS POCKETED AGAINST THE RHINE. A GAP OF ONLY 22 MILES NOW SEPARATES ALLIED TROOPS PUSHING SOUTHWARD TOWARD COLMAR AND THOSE MOVING NORTH ABOVE MULHOUSE. THE ALLIES' WESTERNMOST MOUNTAIN POSITIONS ARE LITTLE MORE THAN 25 MILES FROM THE RIVER.

WHILE THIRD ARMY LONG TOMS AND HEAVY HOWITZERS WERE WRECKING SAARBRUCKEN, PATTON'S MECHANIZED CAVALRY FOUGHT DEEPER INTO FORBACH, 3 1/2 MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE CITY.

THE AMERICANS' ORIGINAL BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE SAAR AT SAARLAUTERN WAS EXPANDED YESTERDAY DESPITE BITTER RESISTANCE. THERE AND IN THE NEARBY DILLINGEN AREA AMERICAN TROOPS WERE UNDER HEAVY ARTILLERY FIRE FROM BOTH SIEGFRIED LINE CASEMATES AND MOBILE GUNS. THE SAARLAUTERN BRIDGE HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF 6,000 ROUNDS OF GERMAN ARTILLERY, BUT THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT THE BRIDGE WAS KNOCKED OUT. GERMAN UNITS STILL HELD OUT IN SOME SIEGFRIED LINE EMPLACEMENTS INSIDE SAARLAUTERN.

FAR BACK OF THE FRONT AT METZ, THE 11TH REGIMENT OF THE FIFTH DIVISION SEIZED FORT DRIANT, TAKING 670 PRISONERS. ONLY THE FORT OF JEANNE D'ARC STILL HELD OUT AS A MENACE TO THE FULL USE OF METZ'S COMMUNICATION LINES.

ON THE BATTLEGROUND TO THE NORTH LT.GEN.COURTNEY H.HODGES' U.S. FIRST ARMY TROOPS CAPTURED TWO HEIGHTS NEAR THE ROER RIVER. ONE WAS NEAR PIER, LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE RIVER NORTH OF DUREN, AND THE OTHER COMMANDS SCHLICH, THREE MILES WEST OF DUREN. OTHER FORCES BROADENED THEIR HOLD ON THE ROER TO 800 YARDS NEAR BERGSTEIN, EIGHT MILES SOUTH OF DUREN.

DN429AEW

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A HAZE OBSCURED COLMAR TODAY, BUT NORTH OF IT A NUMBER OF VILLAGES COULD BE SEEN BURNING, SOME FROM GERMANY ARTILLERY FIRE AND SOME FROM OURS. GERMAN SHELLS WERE BURSTING METHODICALLY IN SELESTAT.

Add US Observation Post in Vosges (Wilson) xx stained windows.

"ON CLEAR DAYS WE CAN SEE GERMAN TRAINS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RHINE," SAID LT.JAMES BROWN OF HAMLET, N.C. "WE CAN ALSO SEE THE BRIDGE ACROSS THE RHINE AT BRISACH, BUT THE GERMANS USUALLY KEEP IT COVERED WITH SMOKE."

OTHER INHABITANTS OF THIS BIRD'S NEST WITH 10-FOOT THICK STONE WALLS WERE PVT.ALBERT MOREHOUSE, 144 COLUMBIA AVE., PASSAIC, N.J.; CORP. KENNETH MCCUNE, ST.PETERSBURG, FLA.; PVT.JOHN HENDERSON, WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.; PVT.HUGH PHINNEY, 48 OTTAWA ST., ROXBURY, MASS., AND SGT.A.KISSINGER, TREMONT, PA.

SJ&B401PEW

DEC 10 1944

BISCHWILLER

BY THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY NEAR BISCHWILLER, GERMANY, DEC. 9-(AP)-TANK-SUPPORTED AMERICAN INFANTRYMEN IN A SURPRISE PRE-DAWN ATTACK DROVE TODAY INTO BISCHWILLER, FOUR MILES SOUTHEAST OF HAGUENAU--MOST IMPORTANT ENEMY SUPPLY AND COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN NORTHEASTERN ALSACE.

THE ADVANCE INTO BISCHWILLER WAS ORDERED WITHOUT ARTILLERY PREPARATION TO ACHIEVE SURPRISE, AND SO WELL DID IT WORK THAT THE INFANTRY SEIZED INTACT A 100-FOOT BRIDGE OVER THE MODER RIVER IN THE NORTH PART OF TOWN.

SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE OF HAGUENAU IS OUT OF THE QUESTION ONCE BISCHWILLER IS CLEARED. THE SEVENTH HOLDS MORE THAN A SCORE OF TOWNS IMMEDIATELY SOUTH, WEST AND NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU, WHILE A THICK AND WIDE FOREST LIES ON THE NORTHEAST.

BISCHWILLER IS ON THE MAIN ROAD FROM HAGUENAU NORTH OF STRASBOURG AND IS FOUR AND A HALF MILES FROM THE RHINE.

LT. COL. EDWIN VAN BIBBER, BEL AIR, MD., TOLD HOW A PATROL LAST NIGHT FOUND A BRIDGE BLOWN JUST SOUTHWEST OF TOWN.

ENGINEERS BEGAN REPAIRS AT DAYBREAK. WHILE ONE BATTALION OF INFANTRY MADE A LEFT END RUN INTO TOWN, ANOTHER SPED AROUND ON THE RIGHT. THE THIRD LATER WENT THROUGH THE CENTER.

TANKS ARRIVED IN TIME TO PROTECT THE ENGINEERS AND, WHEN THE BRIDGE WAS READY, RUMBLED INTO TOWN.

THE GERMANS TRIED TWO COUNTERATTACKS SUPPORTED BY TANKS AND SELF-PROPELLED GUNS IN THIS AREA, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. EARLY TONIGHT NEARLY 200 PRISONERS HAD BEEN TAKEN.

PFC GORDON WOODS, WHEELING, W.VA., SAID HE SAW DEAD GERMANS EVERYWHERE HE LOOKED.

A FEW DAYS AGO THE GERMANS TRIED TO GET 800 MALE CIVILIANS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 60 TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE VOLKSSTURM (PEOPLES ARMY).

ONLY 200 TURNED UP AND LT. RUDOLPH LORENZ, 3831 NORTH LAKEWOOD, CHICAGO, AN INTERROGATOR, SAID HE WAS TOLD TEN CIVILIANS WERE SHOT IN REPRISAL.

TWO OTHER INTERROGATORS, SGT. FREDERICK STERMAN, 263 APPLETON, LOWELL, MASS., AND SGT. BERNARD BERNKOF, CAMDEN, N.J., SAID PRISONERS REPORTED TWO OF THEIR NUMBER HAD BEEN SHOT BY THEIR OWN TROOPS WHILE TRYING TO SURRENDER.

KA521PEW

DEC 10 1944

BY EDWARD D.BALL

FORT DRIANT, FRANCE, DEC. 9-(AP)-THE FIFTH DIVISION BOYS WHO WEAR THE RED DIAMOND ON THEIR SHOULDER PATCH CAME OUT OF THE MUD INTO THIS TENTACLE-LIKE FORTRESS TODAY AND FOUND WHY IT HAD MADE NECESSARY A THREE-MONTH SIEGE.

STARTED BY THE ROMANS AND EXPANDED BY THE FRENCH AND GERMANS, FORT DRIANT LIVED UP TO ITS BILLING AS EUROPE'S STRONGEST FORTRESS--

AND THEN SOME.

ONE CLUE TO THE REASON THE 670 GERMAN OFFICES AND MEN COULDN'T TAKE IT ANY LONGER WAS DROPPED BY THEIR COMMANDER, A LT. COL. RICHNER, WHO SWORE THE AMERICANS WERE USING A "SECRET WEAPON." HE WAS REFERRING TO OUR 155-MM GUNS WHICH PENETRATE THICK REINFORCED CONCRETE.

MUNCHING ON U.S. K RATIONS, THE COLONEL ALLOWED HIS MEN COULDN'T STAND UP FOREVER UNDER SUCH A JARRING.

THE FORT'S INNER WORKINGS ARE SPREAD OVER SIX LEVELS INSIDE A 300-FOOT HIGH RIDGE.

THERE ARE MILES OF PASSAGES ON EACH LEVEL, RADIATING FROM THE CENTRAL FORT LIKE THE SPOKES OF A WHEEL TO SATELLITE FORTS CARVED OUT OF THE ALMOST SHEER SIDES OF THE HILL.

THERE WAS A BIG SHOP WITH COUNTLESS LATHES WHERE SHELL CASES WERE MADE FOR THE FORTS AROUND METZ. THERE WAS A VAST AMOUNT OF STORAGE SPACE FOR AMMUNITION AND FOOD. THE COLONEL ENJOYED ICE CREAM FROM A PHILADELPHIA-MADE FREEZER.

FOR RECREATION THE GERMANS HAD A BAND, EQUIPPED WITH DRUMS AND SOME OTHER INSTRUMENTS BELONGING TO THE "BLACK WATCH" UNIT OF THE BRITISH HIGHLAND DIVISION AND WHICH THE GERMANS HAD CAPTURED NEAR DUNKERQUE IN 1940. WHETHER THE BLACK WATCH OCCUPIED DRIANT BEFORE THE RETREAT WAS NOT LEARNED.

WHEN CAPT. GERARD GRAFTON OF GREENVILLE, MISS., AND LT. ROBERT BARNETT OF SANDY RIDGE, PA., LED THEIR COMPANY INTO THE FORT TODAY, THEY FOUND THE GRAVES OF COMRADES WHO FELL DURING THE BRIEF OCCUPATION OF ONE OF THE FORT'S TUNNELS EARLY LAST OCTOBER.

KA558PEW

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY IN ALSACE, DEC.9-(AP)-AMERICAN INFANTRY WAS SLOGGING FORWARD IN A METHODICAL ADVANCE WHEN IT WAS FORCED TO HALT BY ARTILLERY FIRE BEING DIRECTED BY A GERMAN OBSERVER IN A CHURCH STEEPLE THREE-FOURTHS OF A MILE AWAY. (one mile and three-quarters)

THE INFANTRY SENT OUT AN S.O.S. AND A TANK DESTROYER WAS BROUGHT TO THE SCENE. CPL.EARL TOWNE OF SOUTH GATE, CALIF., TOOK CALM AIM AND FIRED, SCORING A 3,000-YARD BULLSEYE WHICH BLEW THE BOCHE OBSERVER FROM HIS PERCH.

JUST TO SHOW IT WAS NOT A FLUKE, TOWNE FIRED MORE ROUNDS AND SCORED FOUR MORE DIRECT HITS ON THE TOWER.

PARIS, DEC 9-(AP)-DESPITE MADRID DENIALS OF A CRISIS IN THE FRANCO REGIME, MIGUEL MAURA, FORMER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR IN THE SPANISH REPUBLIC, ARRANGED TONIGHT TO LEAVE FOR THE SPANISH FRONTIER WITH A NEW PROPOSAL FOR A TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT IN SPAIN. MAURA SAID HE WAS CERTAIN THAT FRANCO HAD RESIGNED.

MAURA SAID HE WOULD TRY TO ENTER SPAIN AND CONFER WITH FALANGIST LEADERS IN AN EFFORT TO PERSUADE THEM TO STEP ASIDE AND RESTORE THE 1931 CONSTITUTION WITH EX-PREMIER DIEGO MARTINEZ BARRIOS, PRESIDING OFFICER OF THE LAST REPUBLICAN PARLIAMENT, AS PROVISIONAL CHIEF OF STATE.

CONCERNING REPORTS OF A MADRID CRISIS, MAURA ASSERTED FRANCO HAD ATTEMPTED TO FORM A MILITARY REGIME AFTER THE RESIGNATION OF FOUR OF HIS CABINET MINISTERS, INCLUDING FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE FELIX LEQUERICA. ACCORDING TO MAURA, FRANCO HAD TURNED HIS POWERS OVER TO THE GENERALS THURSDAY WHEN THEY HAD REFUSED TO SUPPORT HIS PLANS.

MK940PEW

BY JOSEPH DYNAN

PARIS, DEC. 9--(AP)--FRENCHMEN WILL SUFFER MORE IN THEIR FIRST WINTER OF LIBERATION THAN IN ANY PREVIOUS FOUR WINTERS UNDER NAZI (Germany) DOMINATION, COMPETENT OBSERVERS AGREED TODAY.

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WITH HER TRANSPORT, INDUSTRIES, FOOD AND COAL SUPPLY LINES STILL BURDENED DAMAGED FROM THE EFFECTS OF WAR, FRANCE IS FACING THE WORST WINTER IN HER HISTORY SINCE THE WAR OF 1870.

THERE HAVE BEEN SOME IMPROVEMENTS SINCE THE FLIGHT OF THE NAZIS, BUT LIVING CONDITIONS NOWHERE APPROACH THE RELATIVELY COMFORTABLE MONTHS BEFORE D-DAY.

THE AVERAGE CITIZEN, HIS POCKETS FREQUENTLY STUFFED WITH FANCY, EXPENSIVE LOOKING FRANC NOTES, IS PACING HIS COUNTRY'S BOULEVARDS AMID THE PRE-CHRISTMAS RUSH WITHOUT KNOWING HOW MUCH THESE NOTES WILL BE WORTH TOMORROW.

HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW HIS FAMILY WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP WARM,

HOW HE WILL BE ABLE TO FEED THEM OR WHETHER HE WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WORKING.

MUCH OF HIS COUNTRY'S INDUSTRY WAS BOMBED OR SABOTAGED DURING THE OCCUPATION. PORTIONS WERE W CARRIED OFF TO WW GERMANY. MANY OF INDUSTRY'S W SKILLED WWWWWW WERE DEPORTED TO THE REICH. MANY INDUSTRIAL LEADERS WERE SHOT BY THE GE MANS FOR RESISTING NAZI-FICATION. MANY ARE IN DANGE OF BEINGW SHOT BY THE PRESENT REGIME FOR ASSISTING NAZIFICATION.

DURING THE OCCUPATION WELL TO DO FRENCHMEN MANAGED QUITE WELL BY MAKING WWW PERIODICAL TRIPS INTO THE RICH WWWW FARMING DISTRICTS OF NORMANDY OR WWWWW BRITTANY, OR SIMILAR DISTRICTS WWWWWWS UTH OF PARIS. DISRUPTED TRAIN SERVICE AND RESTRUCTIONS ON USE OF TRUCKS AND PRIVATE CARS WW RESTRICT THISW NOW.

OTHERS TOOK MEALS AND BOUGHT OTHER NECESSITIES THROUGH THE BLACK MARKET RESTAURANTS AND STORES WHICH FLOURISHED UNDER ENCOURAGEMENT OF VICHY AND NAZI RACKETEERS. WWW

THE FARMERS, KNOWING THAT THE GE MANS WERE TAKING AS MUCH PRODUCE AS POSSIBLE FROM FRANCE, SOLD GLADLY AT HIGH PRICES TO BLACK MARKET TRADERS ON THE THEORY THAT THE MORE SOLD TO FRENCHMEN THE LESS WOULD GO TO GERMANY.

WWWW TRADE IS WWW NO LONGER POSSIBLE, WWWWWWWWWWWW

NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1939, THE AVERAGE FRENCHMAN FINDS HIMSELF FORCED TO EXIST ON MEAGE OFFICIAL RATIONS. DIFFICULTIES OF SUPPLY AND INFLATION HAVE SENT BLACK MARKET PRICES BEYOND THE AVERAGE CITIZEN'S REACH.

A SIMILAR SITUATION PREVAILED IN REGARD TO FUEL. DURING THE OCCUPATION THE RAIL SYSTEM FUNCTIONED WELL ENOUGH TO BRING AN ADEQUATE AMOUNT OF COAL INTO THE CITIES. FRENCHMEN OBTAINED ENOUGH DESPITE THE DRAIN INTO THE REICH AND SUPPLEMENTED COAL WITH WWWWW CORDWOOD.

NOW TRANSPORTATION KINKS HAMPER THE FLOW OF MINING EQUIPMENT INTO THE MINING DISTRICTS, THROTTLES SHIPMENTS OF COAL BACK TO THE FACTORIES, POWER PLANTS AND HOMES. PRIVATE CITIZENS ARE UNABLE TO HAUL IN WOOD FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE.

NORMALLY FRANCE DEPENDS ON RIVER BARGE TRANSPORT TO DELIVER MUCH OF ITS COAL FROM THE MINES TO THE CITIES. THIS YEAR RECORD RAINS HAVE CAUSED HIGH WATERS AND FLOODS ALONG MANY STREAMS. FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS BARGES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OPERATE ON MANY RIVERS BECAUSE THEY ARE UNABLE TO PASS UNDER THE BRIDGES.

DEC 10 1944

DYNANS THROUGH THIRD 1715 ms/3e

PARIS, DEC. 9 - (AP)- A FRENCH GOVERNMENT DECREE TODAY HAS ORDERED CLOSING OF PARISIAN FLOWER STALLS FOR THE WINTER AS A FUEL CONSERVATION MEASURE.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT DECLARED THAT HOT HOUSES WERE REQUIRED FOR RAISING OF VIRTUALLY ALL FLOWERS EXCEPT ALONG THE RIVIERA. VIOLATORS OF THE DECREE WERE MADE SUBJECT TO FINES RANGING FROM $60 TO $10,000.

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-MK DYNANS 01735 RPS 505A.

AN AVIATION ENGINEER BASE IN FRANCE, DEC. 9--(AP)--

TECH. SGT. CHARLES H. EDWARDS, 59 VALLEY STREET, EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, WAS PRESENTED WITH THE LEGION OF MERIT TODAY BY MAJ. GEN. RALPH ROYCE, COMMANDER OF THE FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE, FOR "OUTSTANDING SERVICES AS A MACHINIST."

PREWI KENNEDY 02105 ms/530e

PARIS, DEC. 9 - (AP)- STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS BROKE INTO FOUR PARISIAN SCHOOL BUILDINGS LATE YESTERDAY, AND BREAKING SHATTERING WINDOWS AND EQUIPMENT.

SOME SOURCES SAID THE STUDENTS WERE PROTESTING RECENT TUITION INCREASES, BUT EDUCATION MINISTRY OFFICIALS ASSERTED THIS WAS NOT THE CAUSE OF THE DISSATISFACTION. OTHER SOURCES ATTRIBUTED THE OUTBREAKS TO STUDENT DISSATISFACTION WITH THE SLOWNESS OF A PURGE OF SUSPECTED VICHYITE AMONG THE FACULTIES.

DEC 10 1944

All Rome Italian (Norgaard) xxx in the lower

THE GERMANS WERE CLEARED NOW FROM THE EAST BANK OF THE LAMONE FROM FAENZA FOR ABOUT 13 MILES NORTHEASTWARD AND ALLIED ARTILLERY WAS BLAZING AWAY AT STOUTLY ENTRENCHED MACHINE-GUN AND MORTAR POSITIONS ACROSS THE STREAM.

EIGHTH ARMY PATROLS ALONG THE ADIATIC REPORTED AN AREA FROM THREE TO FIVE MILES NORTH OF RAVENNA NOW CLEAR OF THE ENEMY.

FIFTH ARMY PATROLS SOUTH OF BOLOGNA GROPED THROUGH FOG SO DENSE THAT VISIBILITY WAS CUT TO A FEW YARDS AND STRUGGLED AGAINST HEAVY RAINS THAT HAVE KEPT THAT SECTOR OF THE FRONT STATIC.

WINDS WHICH AT TIMES REACHED 50 MILES AN HOUR ADDED TO THE DIFFICULTIES.

WE1207PEW

30 24 — 21121

ROME, DEC. 9-(AP)-THE PEOPLE OF THE ISLANDS OF SCARPANTO AND CASO, SOUTHERNMOST OF THE DODECANESE, HAVE PROCLAIMED THEIR REUNION WITH GREECE AFTER OUSTING ALL ITALIAN AUTHORITIES, THE SECRETARY OF THE METROPOLITAN OF THE ISLANDS SAID TODAY.

HE INFORMED ALLIED OFFICIALS THAT THE ISLANDERS WERE CONVINCED THE BRITISH "WILL AID OUR RETURN TO THE BOSOM OF OUR MOTHER AND REALIZATION OF OUR ANCIENT DREAM."

DEC 10 1944

WDAARPEW

ATHENS--~~FIRST ADD FIRST~~ LEAD GREEK X X X EXTREME RANGE.

Insert Athens Greek (Barber)

THREE OF THE SIX EAM MINISTERS WHO RESIGNED FROM THE CABINET OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU NOW ARE SEEKING A COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO END THE CIVIL WAR, IT WAS REPORTED RELIABLY.

THE REPORT SAID THAT FORMER FINANCE MINISTER SVOLOS NATECONOMY, MINISTER TSIRIMOKOS AND TRANSPORT MINISTER ASKOUTSIS HAD ESTABLISHED INDIRECT CONTACT WITH MAJ.GEN.R.M.SCOBIE, BRITISH COMMANDER OF ALLIED FORCES IN GREECE.

pick up of Scobie was reported etc.

ATHENS--SECOND ADD GREEK (ORIGINAL) XXX ELAS DETACHMENTS.

SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE UNRRA MERE DISTRIBUTING SUPPLIES WERE UNDER FIRE. THEY INCLUDED: DONALD DAVIS, JAMES MARAKAS, CHRISTOPHER G.MANUS AND WILLARD ROGERS, JR., OF CHICAGO: NICHOLAS KALMER, PITTSBURGH: LARRY MARSHALL, BUTLER, PA.; NORMAN RUSSELL, EAST ORANGE, N.J.: JOHN E.ROSS, SAN FRANCISCO, AND NICHOLAS TRAYFORS, WASHINGTON.

(Barber)

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WD1052AEW

Add Athens Greek (Barber) XXX the German occupat.

THE BRITISH FOUND LITTLE OPEN HOSTILITY OUTSIDE ATHENS. A BRITISH MILITARY MISSION STILL IS WITH ELAS GUERRILLAS AT LAMIA, 100 MILES NORTHWEST OF ATHENS ON THE ROAD TO SALONIKA. TWO BRITISH TRUCKS DROVE FROM SALONIKA TO ATHENS PAST ELAS STRONGHOLDS WITHOUT BEING FIRED UPON.

BRITISH DETERMINATION TO DISARM THE GUERRILLAS AS BLOODLESSLY AS POSSIBLE WAS SLOWING THE TASK OF CLEARING ATHENS. BUT YESTERDAY GROUND FORCES SUMMONED WARPLANES, WHICH STRAFFED ELAS POSITIONS AT THE FOOT OF THE ACROPOLIS AND HILLTOP POSITIONS AROUND PIRAEUS.

A GREEK MOUNTAIN BRIGADE WAS BESIEGED IN BARRACKS NORTHEAST OF ATHENS, WHERE A FORCE OF UP TO 1,200 GUERRILLAS WAS REPORTEDLY MASSING IN THE HILLS AROUND FOR AN ATTACK.

ONE OF THE FIERCEST STRUGGLES INSIDE ATHENS EDDIED AROUND THE MARKET PLACE IN THE CENTER OF TOWN, WHERE ELAS HELD OUT UNTIL LAST NIGHT, WHEN TANKS OPENED FIRE ON THEIR POSITIONS IN BARRICADED BUILDINGS AND SHOPS.

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A TRUCE WAS OBSERVED THIS MORNING WHILE RED CROSS TRUCKS DISTRIBUTED MILK AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO HOSPITALS.

FREED SECTORS OF THE CITY GRADUALLY WERE RETURNING TO NORMAL, ALTHOUGH SNIPERS FIRED OCCASIONALLY FROM ROOFTOPS.

WF137PEW

ADD DASH MATTER FOLO MOSCOW--PRAVDA, X X X STATEMENT LATER.

IN THE READER'S DIGEST, WHICH PERMITTED QUOTATION FROM THE BOOK CONDENSATION, WHITE SAID HE FOUND "ONE MARKED DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INMATES OF THE SOVIET UNION AND OF THE KANSAS STATE PENITENTIARY WHERE I HAVE OFTEN VISITED AN OLD FRIEND."

"FOOD AND CLOTHING IN BOTH PLACES ARE ABOUT THE SAME, MAYBE A LITTLE BETTER IN LANSING," HE SAID. "BUT SHOULD MY KANSAS FRIEND DECIDE THAT HIS PENITENTIARY WAS NOT WELL RUN, AND EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT THERE MIGHT BE A CHANGE OF WARDENS, HE WOULD RUN NO DANGER OF BEING SHOT IF HE WERE OVERHEARD BY A STOOL PIGEON."

IN THE SOVIET UNION, HE SAID, "COMPETITION WITH THE STATE IS

OUTLAWED, HENCE INEFFICIENCY IS PROTECTED. THE PEOPLE ACCEPT IT BECAUSE THEY KNOW NOTHING BETTER. X X X OVER EVERYTHING RESTS THE DULL, UNIMAGINATIVE HAND OF A BUREAUCRACY WHICH PRODUCES ONLY A DREARY MEDIOCRITY."

WE1245PEW.

MOSCOW, DEC. 9--(AP)--THE MOSCOW RADIO SAID TODAY THAT THREE NEW CANNERIES BUILT IN FAR EASTERN SIBERIA DURING THE WAR HAVE FULFILLED THEIR PROGRAM AND NOW ARE GOING AT TOP SPEED.

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THE BROADCAST SAID THE RUSSIANS HAVE COMMENCED ICE FISHING ON THE AMUR RIVER WHICH DIVIDES THE SOVIET UNION FROM MANCHURIA.

PW/00815/THO/525A

CAIRO, DEC 9-(AP)-TWO MEN ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING LORD MOYNE, BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE RESIDENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WILL BE TRIED UNDER AN EGYPTIAN COURT MARTIAL, PROBABLY BEFORE THE YEAR'S END, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

FIVE CIVIL JUDGES WILL HEAR THE CASE, WITHOUT A JURY.

THE CASE MAY HAVE WIDE POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, IN VIEW OF POLICE STATEMENTS THAT THE TWO MEN IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES AS MEMBERS OF THE STERN GROUP OF EXTREME JEWISH NATIONALISTS, AND HAD TERMED LORD MOYNE'S POLICIES PREJUDICIAL TO JEWISH ASPIRATIONS FOR A NATIONAL HOME IN PALESTINE.

LORD MOYNE AND HIS CHAUFFEUR WERE SHOT DOWN NOV. 6. THE TWO MEN GAVE THEIR NAMES AS MOSHE COHEN AND ITZAKCH SALZMANN.

SW1004AEW

Add A W China B-29 Base xxx dt Mukden.

COLD WEATHER RANGING DOWN TO NINUS 40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE WAS EXPERIENCED OVER THE TARGET.

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COL. WILLIAM H. (BUTCH) BLANCHARD, AN EX-WEST POINT FOOTBALL PLAYER FROM CHELSEA, MASS., THE GROUP COMMANDER SAID: "IT WAS VERY OPEN OVER THE TARGET--I DON'T SEE HOW IT WAS POSSIBLE WE COULD MISS."

OPEN OVER THE TARGET--I DON'T SEE HOW IT WAS POSSIBLE WE COULD MISS."

BLANCHARD TOLD HOW THE GROUP FOUND JAPANESE FIGHTERS WAITING AND ADDED:

"WE COULD SEE THEM COMING HELL-BENT WITH VAPOR TRAILING ALL OVER THE SKY TRYING TO GET OUT IN FRONT OF US. AT BOMBS AWAY THEY ATTACKED AND KEPT SLOW ROLLING DOWN THE LINE OF OUR WITHDRAWAL. THEY WERE FAIRLY AGGRESSIVE BUT NOT IN GREAT NUMBERS."

Add V.S. B-29 Base Saipan (Hagland) xx inserted

ARNOLD'S NAVIGATOR WAS SECOND LT. WILLIAM P. GUY, FOREST HEIGHTS, KNOXVILLE, TENN. HE SAID THE BOMBS LANDED IN YOKOHAMA'S DOCK AREA.

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OTHERS ABOARD THE FIRST B-29 TO HIT YOKOHAMA INCLUDED BOMBARDIER, SECOND LT. IRVIN S. MORKOWITZ (1057 E. 27TH) BROOKLYN, N.Y.; FLIGHT ENGINEER SECOND LT. EUCLID H. ROCK, SOUTH BARRE, VT.; RADIO MECHANIC SGT. CARL H. BERTHOLD, ST. LOUIS, MO.; RADIO MECHANIC SGT. ROBERT M. RENERD, LAKE BUTLER, FLA., AND GUNNERS CORPS. GEORGE W. SHAW, MCCONNELLSBURG, PA., OAKLEY A. SIMON, DEVILS LAKE, N.D., AND PETER W. MEDVECKIS, WORCESTER, MASS.

NN118PCW

PLANES WAS DAMAGED."

Add Saipan Marianas (Hagland) xx damaged."

HARMON DISCLOSED THAT THE ARMY'S FORWARD AIR COMMAND SETUP IN THE PACIFIC, COMMANDED BY MAJ.GEN. WILLIS H. HALE, HAS BEEN REPLACED BY A NEW TASK FORCE CALLED "COMSTRATAIR." THE ABBREVIATION MEANS COMMAND STRATEGICAL AIR FORCES.

THE NEW ORGANIZATION IS COMMANDED BY HARMON AND EMBRACES ALL LAND-BASED UNITS IN THIS AREA THAT CAN BE USED FOR LONG-RANGE

30. 24 — 21123

...OPERATIONS. THESE INCLUDE MEDIUM BOMBERS AND LONG-RANGE FIGHTERS.

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HARMON SAID HALE WAS RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES, BUT WILL BE REASSIGNED IN THE NEW ORGANIZATION WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE MARIANAS.

WHEN HARMON IS ABSENT FROM THE MARIANAS, DOUGLASS WILL SERVE TEMPORARILY AS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF COMSTRATAIR.

BRIG.GEN.TRUMAN H.LANDON, COMMANDER OF THE SEVENTH BOMBER COMMAND FOR THREE YEARS, WAS RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES HE WAS BEEN SUCCEEDED BY COL.LAWRENCE J.CARR, CHICAGO, WHO WAS CHIEF OF STAFF TO HALE.

NAVY CAPT.W.V.DAVIS OF SAVANNAH,GA., WHO WAS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO HALE IN THE OLD FORWARD AIR COMMAND, WILL SUCCEED CARR AS HALE'S CHIEF OF STAFF WHEN THE LATTER RETURNS TO HIS NEW COMMAND HERE.

HARMON SAID THE IWO ATTACK WAS THE FIRST OPERATION OF THE NEW COM. STRATAIR, AND THAT THE "COORDINATION WORKED OUT PERFECTLY."

HARMON ALSO IS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE ARMY'S 20TH AIR FORCE, WHICH DIRECTS B29 OPERATIONS.

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HE SAID THAT SUPERFORTRESS OPERATIONS WERE GOING ABOUT AS EXPECTED IN THE EARLY STAGES, BUT AS TRAFFIC TO TOKYO INCREASES THERE WILL BE BETTER WEATHER OBSERVATION, GIVING THE B29S THE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE FREQUENT STRIKES.

"THE ATTACK ON IWO JIMA WAS THE FIRST TIME P38 FIGHTERS HAVE ACCOMPANIED THE B29S ON A LONG-RANGE MISSION, AND THAT PHASE WORKED OUT VERY SATISFACTORILY," HARMON SAID.

HARMON SAID AT LEAST ONE GOOD OIL FIRE AND SEVERAL OTHER BLAZES WERE OBSERVED WHEN THE NAVAL BOMBARDMENT STARTED AT IWO JIMA.

"THE RESULTS APPEARED GOOD," HE COMMENTED. "WE WERE FORTUNATE TO GET AS MANY HITS AS WE DID CONYPPRKFKJR

M WKDXC UNOVWN CO

TO GET AS MANY HITS AS WE DID CONSIDERING THE WEATHER. WE DEFINITELY ARE NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE OVERALL RESULT, BUT ONE DAY WE WILL GET A GOOD BREAK."

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JW439PCW NM

HOME AT CAMP DOWNS.

JAPANESE CAUGHT IN THE POCKET BETWEEN THE 77TH AND THE ADVANCING 7TH DIVISION FARTHER SOUTH, FOUND THEIR FIGHTING SPACE NARROWED TO THE EASTWARD, WHERE YANK TROOPS HAVE CAPTURED MAHONG, IN A MOUNTAIN PASS SIX MILES FROM THE COAST.

GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR SAID YESTERDAY THE 7TH HAD CAPTURED HIGH GROUND NORTH OF THE TABGAS RIVER, SEIZED BALOGO, A COASTAL TOWN, AND HAD PUSHED TO WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE 77TH.

A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF JAPANESE TROOPS CAUGHT BETWEEN THESE TWO DIVISIONS FACE ANNIHILATION, MACARTHUR SAID.

FAVORED BY STRONG POSITIONS IN MOUNTAIN TERRAIN, THE JAPANESE NORTH OF ORMOC ARE PUTTING UP STRONG RESISTANCE TO THE AMERICAN 32ND DIVISION'S ADVANCE SOUTHWARD FROM LEYTE RIVER.

THE YANKS HAVE THE ADDITIONAL TASK OF MOPPING UP NIPPONESE POCKETS BYPASSED WHEN THE ENEMY WAS DRIVEN FROM LEYTE VILLAGE TWO WEEKS AGO IN ONE OF THE BITTEREST BATTLES OF THE PHILIPPINES CAMPAIGN.

NAVY PATROLS SCOURING THE CAMOTES SEA OFF LEYTE'S WEST COAST SEARCHING FOR JAPANESE SUPPLY AND REINFORCEMENT SHIPS BOUND FOR THE ISLAND, SANK SIX SMALL VESSELS AND SET ANOTHER AFIRE.

AIRMEN HITTING IN THE LUZON ISLAND AREA SANK A 9,000-TON ENEMY TRANSPORT.

WHILE ALLIED PLANES STRAFED AND BOMBED NIPPONESE AIRFIELDS, SHIPPING AND INSTALLATIONS FROM THE PHILIPPINES TO BORNEO, NEW GUINEA AND THE SOLOMONS, JAPANESE FLIERS STRUCK AT AMERICAN SHIPPING IN LEYTE GULF. FOURTEEN OF THE ENEMY AIRCRAFT WERE SHOT DOWN.

JWGG258PCW NM

BY MORRIE LANDSBERG

DEC 10 1944

(ADVANCE) US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC. 9-(AP)-THE NIGHT JOE MCCABE HUNTED DOWN EIGHT ENEMY SHIPS IN A CELEBES ISLAND HARBOR HE BOMBED AND STRAFED UNTIL THE MOON WENT DOWN.

THEN HE TURNED HIS LANDING LIGHTS ON.

TIME AFTER TIME THE CATALINA FLYING BOAT SWUNG LOW OVER EIGHT SHIPS, ALL SMALL. WHEN HIS AMMUNITION AND BOMBS WERE EXHAUSTED THE CREW BEGAN TO THROW DOWN EMPTY BOXES--ANYTHING TO DISCONCERT THE ENEMY.

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THEY SANK FOUR SHIPS AND BEACHED TWO OTHERS. THEN LIKE SOME CINDERELLA OF THE SKY, THE LUMBERING "BLACK CAT" HEADED BACK FOR AN ADVANCED BASE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC BEFORE COMING OF DAYLIGHT.

THIS MISSION BY LIEUT. JOSEPH MCCABE, 27, OF 4015 GREEN ST., PHILADELPHIA, WAS ONE OF 75 HOPS BY MEMBERS OF A NAVY PBY SQUADRON WHICH FOR 34 NIGHTS BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1 AND OCTOBER 4 PLAYED HAVOC WITH JAP SHIPPING IN THE NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES AND THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES.

"THE NIGHT WOULD NOT PASS WITHOUT GETTING AT LEAST ONE SHIP," SAID LIEUT. DONALD A. BINGWALL, 29, OF CRESTWOOD, TUCKAHOE, N.Y., AN AIR COMBAT INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.

THE SQUADRON IS CREDITED WITH SINKING 103,500 TONS OF ENEMY WARSHIPS AND MERCHANT VESSELS AND DAMAGING ANOTHER 53,000 TONS. THE SHIPS SUNK INCLUDED A LIGHT CRUISER, FOUR ARMED ESCORTS, A 9,000 TON SEAPLAN TENDER AND FOUR BIG FREIGHTERS OR TANKERS.

THE SAME UNIT, OPERATING FROM NEW GUINEA, EARLIER IN THE YEAR SANK 23,000 TONS AND DAMAGED 15,000 TONS.

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NO OTHER BLACK CAT SQUADRON HAS ROLLED UP SUCH A TOTAL -- 94,500 TONS SUNK AND DAMAGED.

MCCABE, LIEUT.COLIN B.SILLERS, 27, OF CALVIN, N.DAK., AND LIEUT.(JG) WILLIAM B.SUMPTER, 29, OF NATIONAL CITY, CALIF., IN A PRESS INTERVIEW RELATED SOME OF THE INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS BEHIND THESE FIGURES. TWO FELLOW PILOTS, LIEUT (JG) JOHN R.ZUBLER, 29, OF SPRINGMILLS, PA., AND LIEUT.(JG) WILLIAM R.POPE, 26, OF MT.HOURNE, N.C. ALSO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE. THESE FIVE PATROL PLANE COMMANDERS HAVE 35 SHIPS TO THEIR CREDIT.

ON THE FIRST HOP, MCCABE WENT BARGE HUNTING ALONG THE NEW GUINEA COAST. FLYING LOW THROUGH DARKNESS IN HIS BLACK-PAINTED PLANE, HE SIGHTED A THOUSAND TON FREIGHTER.

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B47KX

AFTER TWO STRAFING RUNS, THE PHILADELPHIAN LET GO WITH FOUR 100-POUND BOMBS.

"I HAD ONE OF THOSE LUCKY HITS. THE BOMBS LANDED UNDER THE FANTAIL AND WHEN I WENT BACK THERE WASN'T ANY SHIP."

MCCABE TOPPED OFF THE NIGHT BY STRAFING A 3,000 TON CARGO SHIP WHICH HE LEFT DOWN BY THE STERN AND SINKING, TWO BARGES AND A SAIL-BOAT.

THE MAN WHO GOT THE CRUISER WAS SUMPTER. IT WAS WHILE MAKING THE NORTHERN CELEBES RUN, SEPTEMBER 3.

HIS LONE CATALINA CAME ACROSS A JAP LIGHT CRUISER, A DES-TROYER AND A DESTROYER ESCORT.

THE CATALINA CAME IN SO CLOSE TO THE ENEMY WARSHIPS THAT "WE COULD ALMOST COUNT THEIR TEETH." ALL EIGHT BOMBS DROPPED IN A SALVO.

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THE CRUISER SANK IN APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MINUTES, SUMPTER SAID.

SILLERS TOLD OF FINDING A CONVEY OF FIVE SHIPS IN A NORTH BORNEO

30.24— 21125

HARBOR AND SINKING ONE OF THEM. HE SAID A SHELL HIT HIS PLANE AND PASSED WITHIN "FOUR INCHES OF MY NOSE" BUT THE PILOT RECEIVED ONLY TWO SMALL WOUNDS ON THE ARM.

THE FIVE PATROL PLANE COMMANDERS AND THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER HAVE BEEN DETACHED FROM THE SQUADRON AND ARE NOW RETURNING TO THE UNITED STATES.

(END ADVANCE, SUNDAY AMS, DEC.10)

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CO 28ACW

NIGHT LEAD IWO (SECOND NIGHT LEAD EAST OF KA)

BY MORRIE LANDSBERG

U.S.PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS,PEARL HARBOR,DEC.9-(AP)-THE MIGHTIEST WARSHIP AND PLANE BLOW YET TO CRASH DOWN ON A JAPANESE BASE -- THE DEC. 7 (U.S.TIME) ATTEMPT TO ELIMINATE IWO JIMA AS AN INTERVENING MENACE TO THE B-29S NOW RAIDING TOKYO -- WAS EXPANDED BY NEW NAVY REPORTS TODAY.

A COMMUNIQUE TODAY SAID NAVY SEARCH PLANES, IN THE FACE OF INTENSE ENEMY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE, FLEW LOW TO BOMB AIRSTRIP INSTALLATIONS AT IWO JIMA, WHICH IS IN THE BONIN ISLANDS AREA 750 MILES FROM TOKYO AND ABOUT AN EQUAL DISTANCE NORTH OF THE B-29 BASE ON SAIPAN.

PREVIOUSLY OFFICIAL AND SPOKESMAN REPORTS HAD TOLD OF MORE THAN 100 LIBERATOR BOMBERS AND PERHAPS AS MANY AS 70 SUPERFORTRESSES (B-29S), ESCORTED BY LONG RANGE LIGHTNINGS, POURING DOWN AN ESTIMATED 900 TONS OF BOMBS ON IWO JIMA DURING THE DAY. THE REPORTS ALSO TOLD OF A NAVAL TASK FORCE HEAVILY SHELLING THE ISLAND WITH THE AID OF AERIAL SPOTTERS.

TODAY'S COMMUNIQUE DID NOT SPECIFY WHETHER THE NAVY SEARCH PLANES PRECEDED OR FOLLOWED UP THE BOMBERS AND WARSHIPS.

(MENTION OF THE HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT MIGHT INDICATE THE SEARCH PLANES WENT IN FIRST INASMUCH AS ACK ACK WAS REDUCED TO ALMOST THE VANISHING POINT DURING THE HEAVIER ASSAULTS).

ONE NAVY SEARCH PLANE WAS DAMAGED, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID. ALL RETURNED SAFELY.

THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO REPORTED RAIDS DEC. 7 ON PAGAN AND ROTA, ENEMY BASES IN THE MARIANAS CLOSE TO SAIPAN.

AT THE B-29 BASE ON SAIPAN, LT.GEN.MILLARD F.HARMON, COMMANDER OF THE ARMY AIR FORCES IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, SAID THE IWO JIMA ATTACK WAS JUST A CURTAIN RAISER AND THAT ALTHOUGH THE RESULTS APPEARED GOOD "WE DEFINITELY ARE NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE OVERALL RESULT" BECAUSE THE WEATHER PROVED A HANDICAP.

"ROUGHLY, 20 PER CENT OF THE BOMBS LANDED IN THE TARGET AREA," HE SAID. "BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT THE OTHER 80 PER CENT DIDN'T DO DAMAGE, BECAUSE IWO IS PRETTY DENSELY COVERED WITH INSTALLATIONS OF ALL KINDS.

"THE RESULTS APPEARED GOOD DESPITE A THICK CLOUD COVER. THE BEST PART IS THAT THE ATTACK COST NOTHING EXCEPT TIME, FUEL AND THE BOMBS USED. WE LOST NO AIRCRAFT OR PERSONNEL AND NONE OF THE PLANES WAS DAMAGED."

HARMON DISCLOSED THAT THE ARMY'S FORWARD AIR COMMAND SETUP IN THE PACIFIC, COMMANDED BY MAJ.GEN.WILLIS H.HALE, HAS BEEN REPLACED BY A NEW TASK FORCE CALLED "COMSTRATAIR." THE ABBREVIATION MEANS COMMAND STRATEGICAL AIR FORCES.

THE NEW ORGANIZATION IS COMMANDED BY HARMON AND EMBRACES AL LAND-BASED UNITS IN THIS AREA THAT CAN BE USED FOR LONG-RANGE OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS. THESE INCLUDE MEDIUM BOMBERS AND LONG-RANGE FIGHTERS.

HARMON SAID HALE HAS RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES,BUT WILL BE REASSIGNED IN THE NEW ORGANIZATION WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE MARIANAS.

WHEN HARMON IS ABSENT FROM THE MARIANAS, DOUGLASS WILL SERVE TEMPORARILY AS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF COMSTRATAIR.

BRIG.GEN.TRUMAN H.LANDON, COMMANDER OF THE SEVENTH BOMBER COMMAND FOR THREE YEARS, HAS RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES HE HAS BEEN SUCCEEDED BY COL.LAWRENCE J.CARR, CHICAGO, WHO WAS CHIEF OF STAFF TO HALE.

NAVY CAPT.W.V.DAVIS OF SAVANNAH,GA., WHO WAS DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO HALE IN THE OLD FORWARD AIR COMMAND, WILL SUCCEED CARR AS HALE'S CHIEF OF STAFF WHEN THE LATTER RETURNS TO HIS NEW COMMAND HERE.

HARMON SAID THE IWO ATTACK WAS THE FIRST OPERATION OF THE NEW COMSTRATAIR, AND THAT THE "COORDINATION WORKED OUT PERFECTLY."

HARMON ALSO IS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE ARMY'S 20TH AIR FORCE, WHICH DIRECTS B29 OPERATIONS.

HE SAID THAT SUPERFORTRESS OPERATIONS WERE GOING ABOUT AS EXPECTED IN THE EARLY STAGES, BUT AS TRAFFIC TO TOKYO INCREASES THRE WILL BE BETTER WEATHER OBSERVATION, GIVING THE B29S THE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE FREQUENT STRIKES.

"THE ATTACK ON IWO JIMA WAS THE FIRST TIME P38 FIGHTERS HAVE ACCOMPANIED THE B29S ON A LONG-RANGE MISSION, AND THAT PHASE WORKED OUT VERY SATISFACTORILY," HARMON SAID.

TARMON SAID AT LEAST ONE GOOD OIL FIRE AND SEVERAL OTHER BLAZES WERE OBSERVED WHEN THE NAVAL BOMBARDMENT STARTED AT IWO JIMA.

"THE RESULTS APPEARED GOOD," HE COMMENTED. "WE WERE FORTUNATE TO GET AS MANY HITS AS WE DID CONYPNRKFKJR

GM WKDX UNOOWN NG

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TO GET AS MANY HITS AS WE DID CONSIDERING THE WEATHER. WE DEFINITELY ARE NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE OVERALL RESULT, BUT ONE DAY WE WILL GET A GOOD BREAK."

JW439PCW NM

VERN HAUGLAND (230)

U.S.B29 BASE, SAIPAN,DEC 7 (DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO-(AP)-

JAPANESE AERIAL BOMBS DESTROYED AN AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESS AND ITS FULL LOAD OF BOMBS AND FUEL HERE EARLY TODAY.

~~THE GROUND CREW OF THE GIANT PLANE ESCAPED INJURY IN THE GRPAT FIRE AND EXPLOSION WHICH~~

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THE GROUND CREW OF THE GIANT PLANE ESCAPED INJURY IN THE GREAT

FIRE AND EXPLOSION WHICH, BY EXTREME GOOD FORTUNE, DID NOT COST A SINGLE LIFE.

ONE GROUND CREWMAN SAID "THIS IS THE NEAREST I'VE EVER CAME TO CRYING" AS HE SURVEYED THE WRECKAGE.

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BULLDOZERS SCOOPED EARTH UPON THE BURNING DEBRIS AND PREVENTED THE FIRE FROM SPREADING.

IT WAS THE FIRST B-29 LOST TO JAPANESE AIR RAIDERS IN THE PACIFIC--BY LOW-FLYING, STRAFING ENEMY PLANES--AND ALSO WAS ONE OF THE FIRST THREE IN WHICH WAR CORRESPONDENTS WERE PERMITTED TO FLY IN THE PACIFIC. IT WAS CAPABLY COMMANDED BY FIRST LT.CECIL P.SCARBOROUGH WHO TOOK THE SHIP OFF FOR THE FIRST TOKYO RAID NOV.24. BUT 600 MILES NORTH OF SAIPAN A CYLINDER BLEW OUT AND THE SUPERFORTRESS RETURNED TO ITS BASE ON THREE ENGINES.

AMONG THOSE WITH SCARBOROUGH ON THE FLIGHT FROM THE UNITED STATES TO SAIPAN WERE FIRST LT.MAX H.BRASELTON, OF ATLANTA, GA., AN OBSERVER, 8 MEMBERS, FIRST LT.DAN A.PECK, OF ELIZABETH.

TO SAIPAN WERE FIRST LT.MAX H.BRASELTON, OF ATLANTA, GA., AN OBSERVER, CREW MEMBERS, FIRST LT.DAN A.PECK, OF ELIZABETH, N.J., AND

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SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH; AND SECOND LTS.CHARLES H.GRIFFENBERG (5532 PINE ST.) PHILADELPHIA, PA., HOWARD V.GUIOT (3928 N.21ST ST.) ST.LOUIS, MO., LEROY FLORENCE, LEE'S SUMMIT, MO.; SGTS. EUGENE F.BAILY (240 WHITON) JERSEY CITY, N.J., N.F. CORMAN (1152 COMMONWEALTH AVE.) BOSTON, MASS.; CORPS.EDWARD B.TWOMBLY, JR. (23 FERNWOOD RD.) SUMMIT, N.J., VICTOR CARSON, BERESFORD, S.D., WILLIAM FRIZZELL, (608 N.3RD ST.) RICHMOND, VA., AND HANS K.SORTH, ERIE, PA.

LT. COL. EDWARD FLANDERS, OSHKOSH, WIS., COMMANDER OF THE AVIATION ENGINEERS, DIRECTED THE FIRE FIGHTING.

BULLDOZER OPERATOR T-5 AUBREY W.CHRISTAL, RED BAY, ALA., PUSHED A BURNING GASOLINE TRUCK--WITH FLAMES DARTING THROUGH THE TRACTOR TREADS AND AROUND THE OPERATOR'S SEAT--60 FEET FROM THE POSITION WHERE IT WAS THREATENING ANOTHER B-29.

BRIG. GEN. HAYWOOD S.HANSELL, JR., CHIEF OF THE 21ST BOMBER COMMAND, WHO WAS WATCHING CHRISTAL'S MANEUVER, SAID THE DRIVER KNEW THE TRUCK MIGHT EXPLODE AT ANY MOMENT BUT WAS WILLING TO RISK HIS LIFE TO SAVE OTHER LIVES AND EXPENSIVE AIRPLANES.

OTHERS OF THE BULLDOZER OPERATORS INCLUDED T/5 CARL R.ANDRE (902 BATES ST) INDIANAPOLIS, IND., DANIEL F.BROWN, MARS HILL, N.C., T-5 BANA LONG (764 BLUFF CITY BLVD) ELGIN, ILL., T/4 PAUL M.LYNDON, SR. (708 HENLEY ST.) KNOXVILLE, TENN., PFC FRANK E.DUKE, SMYRNA TENN., AND PVT. LOUIS W.WOOD (1145 GOLD THWAITE ST.) MONTGOMERY, ALA.

DEC 10 1944

AQ4 LAPSS4 LIMA 60 PSS CLCT 1045AM 9TH
PRESS ASSOCIATED NEWYORK
00930 MINISTERIAL CRISIS SOLVED THRU CABINET REORGANIZATION WHEREBY FINANCE MINISTER JULIO EAST BECOMES PREMIER RETAINING SAME PORTOFOLIO WHILE MANUEL GALLAHER FORMERLY JUSTICE LABOR SHIFTED TO FORNAFFAIRS WHILE THREE NEW MEN INSTEPPING FIRST TIME POLITICS STOP THEY WAR MINISTER GENERAL ANTONIO SILVA SANTISTEBAN JUSTICE LABOR MANUEL CISNEROS SANCHEZ PUBWORKS RAILWAYS ALBERTO JOCHAMOWITZ STOP CABINET SCHEDULED INSWEAR 01100

SENT 1220PM CO

BY HAMILTON W. FARON

GUAM, NOV. 20-(DELAYED)-(AP)-JAPANESE STRONGPOINTS IN THE MOUNTAINS NEVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED AS "CAVES"--INSTEAD, THEY ARE UNDERGROUND FORTS.

PARTLY NATURAL INFORMATION, PARTLY HEWN BY HAND, THE "CAVES" IN SOME INSTANCES EXTEND FOR MILES THROUGH THE CORAL AND LIMESTONE FORMATIONS.

ONE ON THIS FORMER AMERICAN ISLAND REGAINED ONLY RECENTLY AFTER IT HAD BEEN CAPTURED BY THE JAPANESE IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE WAR, IS SO LARGE THAT ITS JAPANESE OCCIPANTS HAD TABLE TENNIS EQUIPMENT NEAR THE HEADQUARTERS ROOM.

BUT LET'S VISIT A "CAVE":

THE ENTRANCE IS NARROW AND LOW. STOOPING, SLIPPING AND SLIDING DOWN CRUSHED CORAL, WE REACH A MAIN PASSAGEWAY.

THERE IS ONLY A GHOSTLY GLOW FROM THE ENTRANCE--TORN BY AMERICAN GUNFIRE. BATTERED EQUIPMENT LITTERS THE FLOOR, SMOKE STAINS COVER THE WALLS AND VAULTED CEILING.

WE MOVE SLOWLY FORWARD. THE LIGHT FADES. THERE ARE NO FLASHLIGHTS, SO POCKET LIGHTERS ARE USED FOR MEAGER ILLUMINATION.

"BE CAREFUL," CALLS A YOUNG MARINE WHO EARLIER HAD SAID, "I DON'T WANT TO GO IN THERE ALONE, BUT I'LL GO WITH ANYBODY ELSE FOR COMPANY."

WE HOLD THE FLICKERING LIGHTERS HIGH AND STEP CAREFULLY.

ON AND ON THE PASSAGEWAY LEADS. THERE ISN'T EVEN A GLOW FROM THE ENTRANCE NOW. BROKEN GUNS, TIN MESS KITS, PAPERS, SHATTERED CHAIRS, DESKS, EQUIPMENT OF ALL TYPES COVER THE "CAVE'S" FLOOR.

ON ALL SIDES OTHER PASSAGEWAYS BRANCH OFF INTO THE MOUNTAIN. POCKET LIGHTERS JUST AREN'T EFFICIENT ENOUGH FOR EXPLORATION OF A SIDE PASSAGE.

THERE IS A SHARP TURN TO THE RIGHT. AT WHAT HAD BEEN AN ENEMY COMMAND POST THERE IS A BATTERED DESK AGAINST THE WALL.

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D107WX

THE PASSAGE CONTINUES TO CURVE TO THE RIGHT. STORED ONLY A FEW FEET FROM THE COMMAND POST DESK--JUST AROUND A CORNER--IS A GIANT BOMB. POSSIBLY IT WAS INTENDED FOR DEMOLITION OF THE "CAVE" AND MARINES STRUCK TOO QUICKLY FOR IT TO BE EXPLODED.

WE CRAWL CAREFULY AROUND THE BOMB.

ON AND ON THE PASSAGE CONTINUES. SOMEONE FINALLY CALLS "THERE'S LIGHT." WE CONTINUE, PICKING OUR WAY THROUGH THE LITTER.

THE LIGHT GROWS BRIGHTER. THE PASSAGEWAY, AFTER REACHING DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAIN, HAS CURVED AROUND. WE STEP THROUGH AN ENTRY. WE ARE BACK WHERE WE STARTED AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PASSAGEWAY.

THEY CERTAINLY ARE MORE THAN CAVES.

BUENOS AIRES, DEC 9-(AP)-THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THE APPOINTMENT OF A THREE-MAN COMMITTEE TO DRAW UP A STATUTE GOVERNING POLITICAL PARTIES.

THE DECREE UNDER WHICH THE COMMITTEE WAS CREATED SAID "IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RETURN TO NORMALCY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE" AND TO "RESTORE TO THE CITIZENS THEIR POLITICAL RIGHTS."

IN ORDER TO ASSURE A TRUE DEMOCRATIC REGIME, THE DECREE ADDED, IT IS IMPERATIVE TO "IMPROVE THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM AS WELL AS ELIMINATE POLITICAL CORRUPTION AND FRAUD."

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE THREE JUDGES WITHOUT POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS: RODOLFO MEDINA, JUSTICE OF THE CRIMINAL COURT OF APPEALS; BENJAMIN VILLEGAS BASAVILBASO, MEMBER OF THE SAME COURT, JOSE MANUEL ASTIGUETA, JUDGE OF THE PROVINCE OF BUENOS AIRES.

MK&MT842PEW

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, DEC. 9-(AP)-TACA AIRLINES ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE CENTRAL OFFICE IN TEGUCIGALPA GUATEMALA TO SUSPEND ALL FLIGHTS TO SAN SALVADOR BEGINNING TOMORROW.

EL SALVADOR HAS BEEN THE SCENE OF RECENT DISORDERS BUT THERE WAS NO INFORMATION WHETHER THERE HAD BEEN A RENEWAL OF DISTURBANCES.

ALLIED TO THE DROPPING OF "A FEW INCENDIARIES."

TOKYO ADDED THE CLAIM THAT NIPPONESE INTERCEPTORS HAD "ACCOUNTED FOR" 19 OF THE GIANT B-29S WHICH HAD ATTACKED MUKDEN AND OTHER MANCHURIA TARGETS THURSDAY. AN AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE EARLIER HAD SAID THAT ONLY ONE B-29 WAS LOST TO ENEMY ACTION IN THIS ATTACK.

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IN ITS UNCONFIRMED REPORT OF YESTERDAY'S RAIDS, THE TOKYO RADIO, IN A BROADCAST PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID THE INCENDIARIES WERE DROPPED BY A SINGLE SUPERFORTRESS. LATER, IT ADDED, TWO MORE OF THE BIG PLANES APPEARED OVER THE CITY, ONE REMAINING ABOUT AN HOUR, BUT NEITHER DROPPED BOMBS.

THE BROADCAST ALSO REPORTED THAT THE ATTACK ON TOKYO WAS FOLLOWED AN HOUR LATER BY A RAID ON THE "SETO NAKAI COASTAL AREA." SETO NAKAI IS THE JAPANESE DESIGNATION FOR THE INLAND SEA, BETWEEN THE HOME NIPPON ISLANDS OF HONSHU, SHIKOKU AND KYUSHU. THE LARGE KURE NAVAL BASE LIES ON THE INLAND SEA.

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RADIO TOKYO CONCLUDED THAT THE AMERICAN RAIDS, "WITH A VERY SMALL NUMBER OF PLANES, NIGHT AND DAY, IS INDICATIVE OF THE FACT THAT THEY ARE AIMED AT A WAR OF NERVES."

(NY) UNDATED--INSERT, UNDATED JAPANESE ADMIRALS, AFTER SECOND GRAPH, STARTING "VICE ADM." X X X IN THE LIST." (ELIMINATING EIGHTH GRAPH BEGINNING "JAPAN HAS," AND ENDING "X X X HAD BEEN KILLED").

TOKYO THUS HAS ANNOUNCED THE DEATHS OF 32 ADMIRALS SINCE EARLY SEPTEMBER. THE OCT. 4 ANNOUNCEMENT OF SEVEN DEATHS HAD BROUGHT THE TOTAL WITHIN A MONTH TO 19.

THE FEDERAL, ETC., THIRD GRAPH.

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CB1047AEW

Add Undated Jap Admirals xx Odd line.

THE FACT THAT YOKOSUKA, WHICH COVERS THE COASTS OFF TOKYO, AOMORI, IWATE, MIYAGI, FUKUSHIMA, KARAFUTO AND HOKKAIDO MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT INDICATED THE ADMIRALS WERE OPERATING OUT OF THAT LARGEST NIPPONESE HOME NAVAL BASE.

THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THE 13 FLAG OFFICERS PRESUMABLY MET THEIR DEATHS IN SEPARATE ACTIONS, DOMEI'S REPORT OF THE YOKOSUKA ANNOUNCEMENT DID NOT SPECIFY DATES. OWI SAID IT WOULD BE FAIR TO ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT THE OFFICERS WERE KILLED AFTER OCT. 4, SINCE ON THAT DATE YOKOSUKA ISSUED AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DEATHS OF SEVEN OTHER ADMIRALS IN PREVIOUS ACTIONS.

OWI SAID THAT IF THE NEWLY DISCLOSED DEATHS DID OCCUR AFTER OCT. 4, THE POSSIBILITY AROSE THAT THE 13 ADMIRALS WERE KILLED DURING VARIOUS PHASES OF THE SERIES OF MAJOR NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS WITH UNITED STATES FORCES WHICH BEGAN OCT. 12 OFF FORMOSA AND EXTENDED PAST THE FIRST LANDING OF AMERICAN TROOPS ON PHILIPPINES SOIL.

DEC 10 1944

SW1003AEW

UNDATED GREEK (240)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREEK LIBERALS WHO HAVE BEEN ACTING AS MEDIATORS INDICATED LAST NIGHT (SAT) THAT PEACE MAY BE RESTORED TO STRIFE-TORN ATHENS TODAY OR TOMORROW. AN UNIDENTIFIED GENERAL OF THE ELAS FORCES, WHOSE CONFLICT WITH BRITISH AND GREEK GOVERNMENT TROOPS TURNED THE ANCIENT GREEK CAPITAL INTO A CIVIL WAR BATTLEGROUND, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SURRENDERED.

HOWEVER, ADDITIONAL ELAS UNITS WERE MASSING OUTSIDE THE CITY. MAJ. GEN. R.M. SCOBIE, BRITISH COMMANDER IN GREECE, WAS REPORTED TO BE INSISTING THAT THE ELAS FORCES QUIT THE ATTICA PENINSULA, WHICH INCLUDES ATHENS, BEFORE ANY NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MILITANT LEFTISTS ARE OPENED.

AN UNNAMED SPOKESMAN FOR THE EAM (NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY), OF WHICH THE ELAS IS THE MILITARY AUXILIARY, MADE A BLANKET DENIAL OF BRITISH PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S CHARGES THAT THE EAM AND THE ELAS SOUGHT TO SEIZE POWER IN GREECE AND TERRORIZE THE COUNTRYSIDE. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF THE ELAS HAD DESIRED TO SEIZE AUTHORITY BY FORCE, IT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LIBERATION OF ATHENS, WHEN THERE WERE NO ALLIED TROOPS OR "SUFFICIENT POLICE OR Q

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SLING FORCES IN THE CAPITAL."

DESPITE THE STATEMENT OF DIMITRI LAMBRAKIS, INDEPENDENT LIBERAL, THAT A FAVORABLE SOLUTION MAY BE REACHED TODAY OR MONDAY, THE EAM SPOKESMAN SAID THE PRESENT BATTLE WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU HAD RESIGNED.

IN LONDON, CHURCHILL WAS REPORTED TO BE PLANNING TO SEND TO ATHENS ONE OF HIS ACE TROUBLE-SHOOTERS, RICHARD LAW, MINISTER OF STATE.

JR1145PEW

UNDATED GERMAN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A BERLIN DISPATCH TO STOCKHOLM SVENSKA DAGBLADET SAYS A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS RATION HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED IN GERMANY CONSISTING OF "250 GRAMS OF MEAT (18.8 OUNCES), TWO EGGS AND 25 GRAMS OF SWEETS (NEARLY ONE OZ.), FOR CHILDREN, AND HALF A BOTTLE OF SPIRITS AND HALF A BOTTLE OF WINE FOR GROWN-UPS." THE DISPATCH WAS REPORTED TO THE OWI SATURDAY.

DEC 10 1944

WD449PEW

UNDATED JAPANESE LEYTE PLIGHT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RADIO TOKYO TODAY TOLD THE JAPANESE PEOPLE THAT THE FIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES REPRESENTED "THE DECISIVE BATTLE IN WHICH WE CANNOT WITHDRAW EVEN A SINGLE STEP FOR WE HAVE BURNED OUR BRIDGES BEHIND US."

THE LEYTE BATTLE, TOKYO SAID, "IS A GREAT DECISIVE BATTLE ON WHICH THE LIFE OF THE GEA (GREATER EAST ASIA) WAR DEPENDS, FOR IT DECIDES WHETHER WE LOSE OUR SEA ROUTES TO OUR SOUTHERN REGIONS. X X X

"AIR FORCE STRENGTH AND SUPPLY MAINTENANCE ARE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT FOR THEY DECIDE THE SITUATION. X X X THE SUPPLY OF PLANES AND

AMMUNITION, OF COURSE, HAVE ALL CHANGED FAVORABLY FOR US."
TOKYO SAID ON LEYTE "FIERCE BATTLES, IN WHICH ONE CANNOT PAUSE EVEN FOR A BREATH, ARE RAGING EVERY MOMENT AND EVERY MINUTE REGARDLESS OF NIGHT OR DAY." IT ADDED THAT ORMOC PORT, ON THE WEST COAST, "HAS BEEN REDUCED TO ASHES BY THE BOMBARDMENT OF ENEMY PLANES AND LONG-DISTANCE GUNS."

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THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION PICTURED JAPANESE OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS ON LEYTE AS LIVING A TOUGH LIFE, AT TIMES GOING WITHOUT FOOD FOR TWO DAYS. IT ADDED WOUNDED NIPPON SOLDIERS WERE IN A BAMBOO FOREST "WITH NO ROOF TO KEEP RAIN AND DEW AWAY FROM THEM."

TOKYO REPORTED THAT "IT APPEARS THE ENEMY IS EMPLOYING A BRITISH FLEET IN LEYTE OPERATIONS. REGULAR BRITISH SOLDIERS FROM THE BRITISH HOMELAND AND REGULAR AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS ARE APPARENTLY NOT SUFFICIENT FOR THE ENEMY."

JW327PCW

BROADCAST

NEW YORK, DEC 9--THE AMERICAN BROADCASTING STATION IN EUROPE (ABSIE) RELAYED AN OFFICIAL GREEK GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT TONIGHT THAT "BRITISH, AMERICAN AND SOVIET MILITARY MISSIONS ARE STILL AT ELAS HEADQUARTERS AT LAMIA IN CENTRAL GREECE." THE BROADCAST WAS RECORDED BY CBS.

(EDITORS: MAY BE BRACKETED IN 2ND NL GREEK)

MK810PEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TONIGHT:

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY: CAPTURED HOLDOUT FORT BELOW MAAS IN HOLLAND. FRONT UNCHANGED ELSEWHERE.

BRITISH SECOND ARMY: FRONT BEFORE VENLO IN HOLLAND UNCHANGED.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: FRONT UNCHANGED ALONG ROER; SMASHED LAST TWO POCKETS AT JULICH.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: CAPTURED TWO NEW HEIGHTS BETWEEN JULICH AND DUREN ON THE ROER.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: FOUGHT HOUSE TO HOUSE IN SARREGUEMINES; BATTERED INTO SIEGFRIED LINE ABOVE SAARLAUTERN; DROVE ON SAARBRUCKEN.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: CLOSED UP TO RHINE ABOVE STRASBOURG; SHELLED SIEGFRIED LINE FROM POINT 4 1/2 MILES FROM REICH FRONTIER.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: DRIVING NORTH FROM MULHOUSE ON COLMAR, NARROWED GERMAN ESCAPE GAP TO 22 MILES.

--DASH--

U.S. DIVISIONS

26TH INFANTRY: DROVE NORTH ON SARREGUEMINES AND MADE A JUNCTURE WITH 33TH.

35TH INFANTRY: BATTLED HOUSE TO HOUSE IN SARREGUEMINES; ENLARGED THREE SAAR BRIDGEHEADS.

90TH INFANTRY: REPULSED HEAVY COUNTERATTACK ABOVE SAARLAUTERN, ELIMINATED MORE SIEGFRIED LINE PILLBOXES.

95TH INFANTRY: BEAT AGAINST SIEGFRIED LINE EAST AND SOUTH OF SAARLAUTERN.

SIXTH ARMORED: WIPED OUT ENEMY SALIENT SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN.

MK739PEW

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC. 9, 1940--ALL BRITAIN PASSES RAIDLESS DAY AND NIGHT AFTER ALMOST CONTINUOUS GERMAN BOMBINGS. ITALIANS AT SIDI BARRANI IN EGYPT ATTACKED BY THE BRITISH.

DN543AEW

THE ROAD TO BERLIN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1. WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2. EASTERN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3. HUNGARIAN FRONT: 420 MILES (FROM NEAR BUDAPEST).
4. ITALIAN FRONT: 551 MILES (FROM NORTH OF RAVENNA).

(ITALIAN FRONT REDUCED SIX MILES IN PAST WEEK. ALL OTHERS UNCHANGED).

DN542PEW

PANAMA CITY,FLA.,DEC.9-(AP)-THE LIBERTY SHIP WENDELL L. WILLKIE, NAMED AFTER THE LATE AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL LEADER AND FORMER REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE, WAS LAUNCHED TODAY AT THE WAINWRIGHT SHIPYARD.

HIS WIDOW WAS THE SPONSOR.

L.C.PARKS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE GULF POWER COMPANY OF PENSACOLA, FLA., DESCRIBED WILLKIE AS "ONE OF THE GREAT LIBERALS OF THIS NATION.

"HE WORKED HARD TO PROMOTE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION AND THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD IN ORDER THAT LIBERTY AND FREEDOM, AND PEACE AND PROSPERITY AND GOOD WILL AMONG MEN WOULD PREVAIL."

ACCOMPANYING MRS.WILLKIE FROM NEW YORK CITY WERE A SISTER, MRS.MILLER HAMILTON; A SISTER-IN-LAW, MRS.EDWARD WILLKIE; HER SON, NAVY LT.PHIL WILLKIE; AND A NIECE, MISS ELIZABETH WILLKIE.

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MK857PCW NM

(ADVANCE FOR USE AT 6:30 P.M., EASTERN WAR TIME, TODAY, SATURDAY DEC. 9)

(ADCANCE) WASHINGTON, DEC. 9-(AP)-BREATHER TUBES NOW ENABLE GERMAN U-BOAS TO REMAIN LONG SUBMERGED AND TO PENETRATE AREA

GERMAN U-BOATS TO REMAIN LONG SUBMERGED AND TO PENETRATE AREAS THEY HAD HITHERTO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO REACH, AN ANGLO-AMERICAN STATEMENT DISCLOSED TONIGHT.

THE STATEMENT, ISSUED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION, DEFINED

DISCLOSED TONIGHT.

THE STATEMENT, ISSUED THROUGH THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION, DEFINED THE NEW DEVICE AS EXTENSIBLE AIR INTAKE AND EXHAUST.

ISSUED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL, THE STATEMENT ADDED THAT REPORTS THAT GERMAN SUBMARINE CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN ABANDONED ARE "PROBABLY GERMAN-INSPIRED AND ARE UNTRUE."

THE STATEMENT, COVERING SUBMARINE AND ANTI-SUBMARINE OPERATIONS IN NOVEMBER, ALSO SAID:

"SHIPPING LOSSES FROM U-BOAT LOSSES HAVE AGAIN BEEN VERY SMALL AND THE NUMBER OF U-BOATS SUNK IN PROPORTION HAS AGAIN BEEN SATISFACTORY.

"THE ENEMY HAS BY NO MEANS ABANDONED THE STRUGGLE X X X ON THE CONTRARY, IMPROVED TYPES OF U-BOATS MAY AT ANY TIME BE THROWN INTO THE BATTLE AND RETENTION OF OUR PRESENT COMMAND OF THE SEA WILL PROBABLY CALL FOR UNREMITTING VIGILANCE AND HARD FIGHTING."

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 6:30 P.M. EASTERN WAR TIME TODAY, SAT.DEC.9)

GW-LT435PEW

77th Captures Ormoc, Traps Foe on Leyte; 1st Army Drives a Mile in Roer Snowstorm

DEC 11 1944

ENEMY CORNERED IN DEATH POCKET BY 3 U.S. COLUMNS

MacArthur Sees Heavy Fighting Ahead Before Campaign Is Ended.

THOUSANDS CORNERED

Doughboys Capture Stronghold After Surprise Landings on West Coast.

Scripps

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Monday, Dec. 11—(AP) Four days after the American 77th division surprised the Japanses with swift landings on the west coast of Leyte island, these battle-hardened veterans smashed through strong resistance yesterday to seize Ormoc, vital supply port.

The capture came in mid-afternoon after an attack launched in the early morning from the vicinity of Camp Downes, on the southern outskirts of Ormoc.

Heavy Fighting Ahead

While the town was a Japanese reinforcement point for the entire Ormoc corridor and its loss represents a heavy blow to the enemy, it does not mean the Leyte campaign is concluded. There is still much heavy fighting to be done before Japanese forces both south and north of Ormoc are wiped out.

There have been no recent estimates of the strength of the Japanese forces, but after reinforcement moves they were estimated at "many thousand."

Gen. Douglas MacAarthur described the force trapped between the 7th and 77th divisions as "many thousand strong."

Three forces were converging on the trapped Japanese. The 77th was pushing southward and expected momentarily to join with the 7th moving relentlessly northward. A third force already had joined with the 7th after breaking through to the coast from the eastern side of the island.

After destruction of the enemy force, Gen. MacArthur said, "We will be in a position to take the northern segment of the Yamashita line in reverse." Northern fighting is on a line north from Ormoc to positions a short distance south of Limon.

Associated Press Correspondent Al Dopkins reported that the Japanese appeared to be retreating from the 7th division, but are expected to make a final stand. General MacArthur said this force will be unable to extricate itself from the American trap.

U. S. Planes Hit Visayas

American warplanes again ranged widely. Liberators, Lightnings and Corsairs bombed the Visayas, and three small freighters were damage off Luzon.

American fighter planes dropped 268 tons of bombs on runways and other airdrome installations at Cebu, Negros, Panay and Masbate islands in the Central Philippines.

MacArthur said the Seventh division pushing up from the south was less than a mile from a junction with the 77th in Ormoc. Yanks moving westward from Burauen have made contact with the Seventh near Albuera.

"Trapped and compressed into a narrow pocket by these three Allied columns," the communique said, "the enemy's forces in the southern segment of the Yamashita line, although many thousands strong, are unable to extricate themselves.

"They are being destroyed with little opportunity for effective retaliation."

MacArthur said American fighter planes were active in combat over Leyte.

Seventh Overruns Abuera

The Seventh overran the ruined town of Abuera, after breaking stiff rearguard resistance and crossing the rain-swollen Calingatngan and Sibugay rivers.

Al Dopking, Associated Press correspondent with the Seventh, said the Japanese were definitely on the retreat toward the north where they may be forming for a death stand.

The Japanese breaking point in the Seventh's advance came when the American veterans of Attu and Kwajalein scaled Hill 606 overlooking the valley beyond. Until then the enemy had been fighting a skilful delaying action in the bamboo jungles.

From the top of the hill, Dopking said, the devastation at Ormoc could plainly be seen. The town, once the main supply port for the Japanese on west Leyte, has been heavily hit by American aircraft and artillery.

COLONELS UNLOAD CARGO

Help Troops to Speed Supplies to Forces in Ormoc Bay

Schaffer

ABOARD A LANDING SHIP off Ormoc, Dec. 9 (Delayed) (AP)—Three colonels shouldered heavy crates, helping a working party to get the urgently needed material onto the beach here before Japanese planes could attack.

The colonels—all West Pointers—were Frank H. Britton and William Ryder of St. Louis and Forrest Cookson of Troy, Ohio.

As they pulled and puffed along with the GI's, a sailor on duty at a gun station remarked to a buddy:

"This is sure some Army. We have colonels and corporals working cargo."

4 TOWNS SEIZED BY FIRST ARMY IN SMASHING ATTACK

DEC 11 1944

Doughboys Advance in Saar Assault, Repulse Nazi Counter-Blows.

BATTLE IN HAGUENAU

Bombers Blast Enemy Rail Lines in Support of New Offensive.

Bellmer

PARIS, Dec. 10.—(AP) Doughboys of the U. S. First Army opened a vicious drive against the enemy's last footholds west of the Roer river at dawn today and by nightfall had gained nearly a mile, captured four towns and fought into three others.

Their concerted blows rained down along a 10-mile, snow-covered front after 500 medium bombers and fighterbombers and hundreds of big guns had pulverized enemy positions in their path.

Nazi Attacks Repulsed

The First's biggest attack in a week was loosed as the U. S. Third Army beat off four attacks against its Saar bridgeheads and sent its 26th division to within three miles of the Saar basin on the south after overrunning Gros Rederching, southeast of virtually liberated Sarreguemines, in a one-mile advance.

The U. S. Seventh Army, keeping up the terrific pressure on Germany from the south, fought house-to-house into Haguenau, most important enemy base left in northern Alsace, after breaking through bunkers emplaced along railway tracks on the southwest.

Nearly 2,000 heavy bombers and fighters, daring the intermittent snow and temperatures as low as 50 degrees below zero, backed the First Army attack with smashing blows on crowded rail lines and other targets in the Rhineland.

In southern Alsace, the French First army captured the enemy stronghold of Thann, 10 miles northwest of Mulhouse, as it pressed eastward against an enemy withdrawing across the Rhine.

Floods slowed American and French forces trying to close the gap between them north and south of German-held Colmar, but the First tactical air force poured 300 tons of bombs on the Rhine rail bridge at Neuf-Brisach, one of the last escape spans for the enemy east of Colmar.

Patrols felt out enemy positions on the U. S. Ninth Army front on the Roer north of the First Army, and along the British Second and Canadian First army fronts in eastern Holland.

Renewed thrusts were indicated by air activity. Some 500 sorties were flown by Second Tactical air force fighterbombers and many of them blasted at dams and canal locks with the announced purpose of creating floods to block enemy retreat.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army jumped off in six inches of snow, and as more fell intermittently Yanks bent back the enemy's whole Roer river line before the main fortress of Duren. At some places the Americans were but a few hundred yards from the river.

So effective was the preliminary barrage, which opened before dawn, that on some sectors tanks and infantry were driving east against little or no enemy artillery fire.

The American assault lines stretched from Schophoven, six miles northwest of Duren, to Schafberg, five miles southwest of Duren. Latest accounts presented this picture of the attack from north to south:

Hodges troops were within 500 yards of Schophoven, almost on the Roer, and were fighting across open, rolling country.

One mile south they entered the outskirts of Pier, less than a mile from the Roer. One unit fought into the center of the town, ran into heavy fire, and withdrew to permit artillery to pound the positions.

Another force moved a half-mile out of Lucherberg, a mile south of Pier, and took vital high ground in concert with other troops just to the south who moved nearly a mile out of Luchem toward Echtz, two and a half miles northwest of Duren.

Biggest gains were rolled up by a tank-paced attack which overran Geich and Obergeich, three and a half miles west and slightly north of Duren and within two and a half miles of the Roer.

Hodges' forces fought into the bitterly-defended forest town of Merode, three and a half miles west of Duren, where two "lost" companies of the First division had been cut off but refused to surrender.

First Captures Gey

They captured Gey, a village four miles southwest of Duren, overwhelmed Strass, 1,000 yards southeast, and pressed into Schafberg, another 1,000 yards to the south.

(A Berlin military commentator called this a "large-scale attack" and declared that smoke screens shrouded the U. S. Ninth army front to the north along the Roer's west bank indicated a drive there was imminent).

Gey, a village four miles southwest of the Roer citadel of Duren which had been converted into a strongpoint, was captured three hours after the battle began a front dispatch said. Other forces fought into the western section of Schafberg, a mile to the southeast. Light

snow was falling.

Skies cleared just before mid-day and fighterbombers shot into action, blasting enemy front-line targets, including Schophoven, where 10 German tanks had concentrated.

Enemy attempts to retake high ground overlooking the Roer in the area of Bergstein, seven miles southwest of Duren, were beaten back.

In the battle for Germany's Saar basin, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army threw back four tank-supported counterattacks and took 1,150 prisoners.

The heaviest fighting was raging inside the Siegfried Line fortifications around the fortified city of Dillingen, three miles north of Saarlautern. A fifth of Dillingen was in American hands. Dillingen, a town of 15,000 to 20,000, was a maze of pillboxes and fortress cellars. The railroad station in Saarlautern was captured, the Germans were cleared from a hotel strongpoint, and nine pillboxes inside the city were knocked out.

Enemy Hits Back

On the lower part of the Third army front, the Germans hurled 20 tanks and tank-riding infantry into two assaults aimed at the 35th division's bridgeheads near Sarreinsming and Wittring, two and five miles southeast of Sarreguemines. Two enemy tanks were destroyed.

Biggest Patton gains were recorded near Rohrbach, 10 miles southeast of Sarreguemines, where the Americans moved on a mile and a half.

In Saareguemines, troops of the German 17th SS Panzer division were donning civilian clothes and engaging in street sniping. Some were caught and presumably summarily dealt with, since under military law they are subject to trial and execution.

Just north of Sarreguemines, patrols were stabbing into Neunkirch, less than a half mile from the Saar border, but no further progress was reported in the assault on Saarbrucken, first city and capital of the basin.

While the Third was being slowed in its push against the Siegfried defenses, the Seventh army of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch kept up the pressure eastward all the way to the Rhine.

Hydra-Like Forts Blast Americans at Saar River

When One Is Flattened Others Open Fire, Officer Says

WITH THE AMERICAN 90TH DIVISION ON THE SAAR RIVER FRONT, Dec. 10 (AP).—The monster of Greek mythology (Hydra), which sprouted two heads when one was cut off, has almost been created by the Germans in the Westwall, the toughest obstacle struck by the American 3d Army since it started churning across France last summer.

"You never are out of range of from one to three of these little forts, and as fast as you knock out one of these over-sized pillboxes others start shooting at you," one officer said.

EISENHOWER EXPLAINS AMMUNITION SHORTAGE

PARIS, Dec. 10.—(AP) Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower today told members of the Military Affairs committee of the U. S. House of Representatives that the current shell shortage was due to fluctuating conditions of warfare and weather which had upset estimates of ammunition needs.

Eisenhower said the blame could not be placed in any one quarter and added that the main point was to deliver more shells in the shortest possible time.

The Supreme Allied commander also discussed the French military position with the congressional group, saying France will share with other Allied nations in the eventual occupation of the Reich.

The congressmen visited Eisenhower at his headquarters and brought him a number of Christmas presents, including a bottle of bourbon whiskey—which he sent to a hospital.

Gen. A. A. White Gets Second Star

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY, in Alsace, Dec. 10 (AP)—Promotion of Brig. Gen. Arthur A. White of Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y., Chief of Staff of the Seventh Army, to major general was announced today.

Seventy-ninth in Haguenau

WITH THE AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY in France, Dec. 10 (AP)—It was revealed today that the Seventy-ninth Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. I. T. Wyche of Pinehurst, N. C., was the Seventh Army force that entered the big enemy base of Haguenau, normally a city with a population of 16,000.

Germans' Coal Cut 75 Per Cent

With U.S. 7th Army, Dec. 10 (AP). This winter the Germans will be allowed only one fourth the amount of coal for private consumption that they received last winter, say reports reaching United States 7th Army headquarters.

REDS ADVANCE ON 2 FRONTS

Take Town North Of Budapest And Push To Slovak Border

London, *Monday*, Dec. 11 (AP)—A Red Army battered along the Danube's east bank yesterday to within seven miles north of Budapest, as other Russian columns far to the north reached the central Slovakian border on a front of at least 11 miles.

Soviet tanks and infantry, overcoming stiff German resistance bolstered by fresh armor and motorized SS (Elite Guard) divisions, smashed 6 miles from Vacs and captured Alsogod in the closest approach to Budapest from the north.

Frontier Junction Taken

Along the Slovak frontier the Russians advanced more than 9 miles from Balassagyarmat and captured the road junction of Dregelypalank, on the Slovak frontier.

Red Army infantry pressed two German companies against the Ipoly River that runs along the frontier and wiped them out in an outflanking maneuver, said a supplement to the Soviet communique.

More than 40 places fell yesterday to Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army north and northeast of Budapest. From December 5 to yesterday his forces captured 5,600 prisoners.

Move To Envelop Capital

The drive that resulted in the capture of Alsogod was part of an enveloping move on Budapest. Only about a 35-mile arc on the western side of the city remained to be closed. On the south the Russians already were within five miles of the capital and within three miles on the east.

The Germans disclosed the Russians had thrust up the west bank of the Danube southwest of the capital to Erd, less than five miles southwest from its outskirts.

The Germans said Erd was recaptured, but the Russians have never claimed it.

Moscow front dispatches expressed belief Soviet [illegible] troops already were battling inside the gates of Budapest, striking the blows that will knock Hungary out of the war and pave the way for an invasion of Germany through Austria.

Hungary's puppet government had already fled to the Austrian frontier town of Sopron, 112 miles west of Budapest, leaving the city to be defended by the Germans and those Hungarians with enough heart left to put up a fight.

A late report by Col. Ernst Von Hammer, German news agency military expert, disclosed the Russians had thrust up the west side of the Danube to Erd, eight miles beyond captured Ercsi and less than five miles southwest of the capital's outskirts. He said Erd was recaptured by the Germans. The Russians have not claimed the town.

Farther southwest of Budapest the Nazis claimed they had regained the initiative between Lake Balaton and the Drava river frontier with Yugoslavia, recapturing Kethely and Marcali near the lake's lower tip.

A German war reporter's description of the situation inside Budapest said artillery blasts were rattling windows, and air raid sirens were howling hourly, chasing citizens to shelters.

Streets along the Danube river were prickly with gun positions and anti-tank barriers, the report added. Russian siege guns were bucking and roaring within sight of the city's tall buildings and domed turrets.

A front dispatch in the Moscow newspaper Izvestia said entire Hungarian units had been surrendering to the Russians without firing a shot, and that special Hungarian military police had failed to halt a wave of desertions.

Malinovsky's recent crossing of the Danube at Ercsi, thirteen miles southwest of Budapest, and his linking with Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's troops at Velencze Lake, twenty-two miles southwest of the capital, was made under cover of darkness, Moscow disclosed.

Red Army men carried one-ton pontoons about a mile to the river's east bank and set out across the wide, murky stream. A German searchlight discovered the miniature fleet midway in the river, and hundreds of Russian guns immediately opened a barrage.

By daylight the Russian forces had driven a wedge into log-buttressed German trenches and pillboxes lining the river's west bank.

8TH BOMBS TRAFFIC AT COBLENZ, BINGEN

U.S. 'Heavies' Blast Congested Rail Yards Along Rhine in Extremely Cold Weather

LUFTWAFFE AGAIN WARY

Planes From Italy Hit Skoda Works at Pilsen—Mosquitos Stab at Berlin by Night

LONDON, Dec. 10 (AP)—Nearly 1,200 American warplanes saturated the congested rail yards of Coblenz and Bingen on the Rhine today with 1,500 tons of explosives.

Bomb bays had to be cracked open by hand after freezing shut in 50-degree below zero weather, crewmen from the more than 500 Flying Fortresses and Liberators that made the attacks reported.

For the second successive day the fleets of Britain-based planes of the United States Eighth Air Force hit vital military targets in the Reich without being molested by the Luftwaffe or encountering much flak. Three of our "heavies" were reported missing and one of the more than 650 Mustang and Thunderbolt escorts failed to come back.

Despite hazardous flying conditions the Eighth Air Force's losses in yesterday's attack on Stuttgart and the day's double blow at Coblenz and Bingen were seven bombers and one fighter missing out of about 2,000 planes.

Two Nazi Jet Planes Sighted

The only Nazi aircraft sighted during the attack were one jet-propelled Messerschmitt 262 yesterday, which was shot down, and two more today that kept clear of the American formations.

[The Luftwaffe was said to be forming new jet squadrons and training pilots as rapidly as possible, according to a United Press dispatch. It was estimated that the Germans might soon have a first-line strength of at least 500 jet planes.]

Coblenz and Bingen, thirty miles to the south, are river and rail transportation junctions, vital for the enemy's lateral movement of supplies in the rear of the battle lines as well as for direct distribution of equipment to the front.

Heavy rolling clouds screened the targets and bombs were dropped by instrument.

Following up Saturday's daylight attacks on the Stuttgart rail yards by the Eighth Air Force and on German oil and rail targets by Italy-based heavyweights of the Fifteenth Air Force, a formation of Mosquitos of the Royal Air Force bombed Berlin last night—handing the Nazi capital its 185th attack of the war.

RAF Typhoons scored direct hits with 1,000-pound bombs on a dam in the Netherlands twelve miles northwest of Nijmegen.

Other Typhoons hurled twenty-four rockets into a suspected German headquarters in the Reichwald Forest east of Nijmegen and other RAF planes shot up a railway yard at Borhen, where the Germans are marshaling white-painted cars. Six cars were destroyed and fifteen damaged by the RAF pilots.

French and American crews of Marauders operating from bases in France claimed hits today on the 1,000-foot railroad bridge over the Rhine at Neuf-Brisach, east of Colmar. Germans evacuating the Colmar area have been using this bridge at night and under smoke screens in daylight.

Nearly 1,000 sorties were flown by the continental-based United States 9th Air Force and the 1st and 2d Tactical Air Forces, with a loss of six planes. The three forces hit enemy targets in close support of the United States 3d and 9th Army drives.

Mosquitos Bomb Berlin

LONDON, Dec. 10 (AP).—A force of Mosquitos bombed Berlin last night, handing the Nazi capital its 185th raid of the war.

R. A. F. Typhoons scored direct hits with 1,000-pound bombs on a dam twelve miles northeast of Nijmegen.

FLYING BOMBS FIRED AT

British Guns Are Believed to Have Hit Missiles

LONDON, Dec. 10 (AP)—Anti-aircraft guns lifted a heavy barrage tonight as flying bombs came in from the east coast. Several of the missiles were believed to have been hit.

FLAK-CRIPPLED FLIER CARRIES OUT HIS TASK

A UNITED STATES EIGHTH AIR FORCE BOMBER STATION, in England, Dec. 10 (AP)—His right arm nearly severed recently by flak over Germany, Lieut. Frederic T. Kiessel of Los Angeles, a Flying Fortress bombardier, regained consciousness in time to aim his bombs at the target. Lieut. Kiessel now is in a hospital recuperating. His arm had to be amputated.

While on a bombing mission over Ludwigshafen, Lieutenant Kiessel's ship was hit by flak, which knocked out two engines and shattered the nose as he was bending over his equipment, ready to drop the bomb load. He was thrown into a corner, his arm severely cut and his hip stinging from another piece of shrapnel.

Lieut. Benjamin Starr, also of Los Angeles, grasped the emergency bomb release to dump the load, but Lieutenant Kiessel regained consciousness and dragged himself back to his station to do his job.

The crippled bomber dropped behind the formation after having left the target and was pounced on by German planes. The engineer, whose guns had been hit by flak, was preparing to man the chin turret guns, ordinarily operated by the bombardier, when Lieutenant Kiessel raised himself from the floor and directed the firing until the fighters had been dispersed.

4 Escaped German Prisoners Are Recaptured In Bomber

Leigh, Lancaster, England, Dec. 10 (AP)—Four German prisoners of war who escaped from a camp near here last night sneaked into an American air force base, climbed into a Marauder bomber and had started its engines for an escape flight to Germany before they were overpowered and captured by a sentry.

The noise of the engines and the gleam of a match in the darkened nose of the bomber attracted the sentry, Private Arthur Seher, a military policeman from Putnam, Okla., as he was walking his beat.

Experimenting With Controls

He approached the plane quietly in the dark and when he saw a pair of feet jutting from the bomb-bay, he challenged the man. The other three were experimenting with the controls by the light of a match.

"I pulled my gun and ordered them out," Seher said.

After a short struggle with the trio, who were armed with a commando knife and a kitchen fork, he marched them off for delivery to British authorities.

Wore British Trousers

The prisoners were wearing British trousers and German uniform jackets. Three of them claimed to be flyers.

"When I asked them in my broken German what they were trying to do," Seher related, "one told me they were trying to get back to Germany for Christmas."

Seher today received commendation from the commanding general of the air service command depot to which he is attached.

BRITAIN FORMS PACIFIC FLEET

Admiral Fraser To Command New Force In War On Japan

London, Dec. 10 (AP)—Britain now has two naval fleets to hurl against the Japanese in the Far East—one in the Pacific and the other in the Indian Ocean.

These first major steps to implement Prime Minister Churchill's promise that Britain would send the greatest possible forces to the Orient to help defeat Japan were disclosed tonight when the Admiralty announced appointment of the men who are to command the new fleets.

New Pacific Forces

The new forces are:

The British Pacific Fleet, an entirely new command under Admiral Sir Bruce A. Fraser, a famous gunnery expert who becomes its commander in chief to lead it into battle in conjunction with the United States Pacific fleets.

The fleet of the East Indies station under Vice Admiral Sir Arthur J. Power.

Fraser since August has been commander in chief of the Eastern Fleet and Power his second in command. Under the new division Power becomes commander in chief of the East Indies station, a command which lapsed when the Japanese overran the Malayan peninsula and captured Singapore.

To Serve Under Nimitz

The Admiralty declined to describe the precise limits of Fraser's new command, but informed quarters believed his fleet would operate in any section of the Pacific where its power was needed.

It was believed there would be no appointment of a supreme Allied commander responsible to the combined chiefs of staff, but that Fraser's fleet would operate under command of Admiral Chester Nimitz in the central Pacific and under Gen. Douglas MacArthur in the Southwest Pacific, as strategy demands.

The East Indies station command would provide floating power to support Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's advance into lower Burma and Malaya, or to slash at Japanese sea communications anywhere between Rangoon and Rabaul.

Conqueror Of Scharnhorst

Fraser, junior to Nimitz as an admiral by about three years, is known to Britons as the man who sank the Scharnhorst, having been in command of the British Home Fleet when it sank the German raider off Norway last December.

The 55-year-old Fraser is regarded as one of the Royal Navy's greatest gunners.

Rear-Admiral C. S. Daniel, who won the D. S. O. for anti-submarine work early in the war, has been made vice-admiral and placed in charge of administration of the British Pacific Fleet.

"The British Pacific Fleet will operate in any part of the Pacific where the situation requires," an Admiralty spokesman said.

MacMillan Returning To Mediterranean Post

London, Dec. 10 (AP)—Harold MacMillan, British resident Minister for the central Mediterranean who had been in London for consultations with the Government, has rushed back to the Mediterranean and it was believed tonight in informed quarters that he would proceed at once to Athens to act in the Greek civil war.

Various speakers in the House of Commons debate on Greece Friday had demanded that Prime Minister Winston Churchill send to Athens as "trouble shooter" a Cabinet Minister with full responsibility to intervene for peace.

Morton Downey in Europe

LONDON, Dec. 10 (AP)—Morton Downey, singer, has arrived in the European theatre of operations to entertain troops.

2 NAZI SHIPS ATTACKED

LONDON, Dec. 10—(AP) British carrier-borne aircraft attacked and left afire two small enemy supply ships and damaged two cargo barges in successful sweeps into Norwegian coastal waters, the Admiralty announced today.

Communist Warns Churchill

BIRMINGHAM, England, Dec. 10 (AP)—R. Palme Dutt, vice chairman of the Communist party, denouncing Britain's policy of intervention in Greece, told an audience today that Prime Minister Churchill should be cautioned that he had been accepted as a war leader "and never for his private political views and notorious sympathies to reaction."

Subasic Returns To London

London, Dec. 10 (AP)—Prime Minister Ivan Subasic, of Yugoslavia, returned to London today after consultations with Marshal Tito and talks in Moscow with Soviet authorities.

Channel Island Relief May Await War's End

London, Dec. 10 (AP)—The liberation of Britain's own Channel islands must wait perhaps until the end of the war while British troops fight elsewhere, it was reported here today.

They're a part of Britain—the islands of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney and Sark, nestled a few miles off the Cherbourg peninsula—but their military importance is considered insufficient to divert a liberating force from the main task of invading Germany.

It is estimated the German garrison on the islands numbers about 15,000. To attack them with guns and bombs would mean casualties among the 65,000 Britons who remain there.

No Soap, No Medicine

Herbert Hopgood, a secretary of the Channel Islands Refugee Association, declared today that starvation and lack of medical supplies under German rule threaten as great a loss of life as bombs and shells might cause.

There is no clothing available for replacements and no fuel but wood. There is no soap, no tea, no medicines, no flour. Fortnightly rations include two ounces of meat while supplies last, five pounds of potatoes, and nine pounds of bread made with sea water.

Hopgood said there have been epidemics of diphtheria, scarlet fever and influenza.

French High Court Rejects Treason Verdict

Paris, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Appellate Court at Lyon today refused to uphold the conviction and death sentence meted out by a collaboration court to Angelo Angeli, Vichy regional prefect, and ordered a new trial—the first time that this has occurred since the purge trials were begun in France.

Former Mayor Marrant of Sollies-Pont in southern France was condemned to death on a collaborationist charge in a trial at Toulon.

6 MAIN ISSUES IN BELGIAN ROW

Resistance Leader Lists Counts Against Pierlot

By ROBERT EUNSON

Brussels, Dec. 10 (AP)—A former Brussels newspaper reporter who heads the resistance movement in Belgium is challenging the leadership of Prime Minister Hubert Pierlot, on six main issues.

Chief of these is his charge that the Government has been ineffective in dealing with collaborators and even is friendly to them.

Forty-year-old Fernand Demany, who founded and led the front of resistance through the years of German occupation, eluded the Gestapo for four years and was once saved from capture and execution by his 9-year-old daughter, told me he does not wish to be Prime Minister himself.

Demany Not Communist

I found Demany in an old building four blocks from Parliament. Uniformed, but unarmed, guards ushered me to a reception room past walls bearing placards announcing meetings of the Communist party.

"But Monsieur Demany, he is not Communistic," Mlle. Van Foren, whispered while the guards gave us the once over and a blond girl in khaki slacks and battle jacket strode through the room.

"He is practically the only one of them that isn't," she paused, "shall we say pink?"

Covered Chicago World Fair

Smallish, dapper, Demany met us at the door and led us to chairs in his spacious, ancient office.

He explained that he covered the world's fair in Chicago for his newspaper and could speak English with effort but preferred talking through an interpreter.

Demany recently resigned as Minister without portolio when demonstrators demanded resignation of the government Pierlot brought from exile in London and clashed with police in a gun battle on the streets.

Disputes With Pierlot

He outlined these disputes with Pierlot's Government.

1. The Prime Minister did not integrate the resistance forces into the new Belgian Army. This young army had been more active in resisting the Germans than any in other occupied countries, Demany said, and it desired to fight on as a unit.

2. Many economic collaborators are still at large while most of the ones Pierlot's Government has arrested have been of little importance.

[About 100,000 arrests have been made and three have been put to death.]

3. "We should fight in an atmosphere of confidence in our leaders." Demany said. "Instead Pierlot's Government has become friendly toward many who opposed ours resisting the Germans."

Would Confiscate New Factories

4. Several important collaborators are working for the Allies because they have newer equipment given them by the Germans than have the men who refused to collaborate and let their machinery get outdated. Demany says he would requisition these newer factories and give the jobs to those who took part in resistance.

5. The resistance in Belgium opposed any government coming back from exile to take over a country in which resistance members lived and fought during the occupation.

6. In 1940 the Government had almost capitulated. "The resistance we created inside our country was often against the wishes of the Government in exile," Demany said.

Created Army In 1942

Demany created the resistance army in April, 1942, and was forced to hide from the Gestapo which was hot on his trail for editing a tiny mimeographed newspaper *Resistance*.

This clandestine newspaper was founded in February, 1942. At first he printed it at home but later moved his office to the Museum, Belgium's arcade built in 1880 to celebrate 50 years of Belgian liberty.

Demany said the Museum keeper helped publish anti-German periodicals. *Resistance* first had a circulation of 500, but Demany's present paper, *Front* goes to 50,000 readers.

Saved By Little Daughter

Three times before he moved Demany was almost captured by Gestapo agents. A fourth time they picked up his little girl en route from school and tried to make her tell where her daddy was hiding. The little patriot knew, but fearlessly replied, "Messieurs, Demany is in London where you Germans can't get him."

Through underground arrangements the BBC announced later that he was safe in England. His wife and daughter later joined him in the Belgian underground.

Demany insisted he does not want to be Prime Minister.

"You know," he said, "M. Pierlot's big watch and the big clocks in the Chamber and in the Senate stopped May 10, 1940. They have never been started since.

"I favor a coalition government until the Germans are beaten and then let the people decide."

German Faenza Lines Are Bombed

Rome, Dec. 10 (AP)—Five waves of United States Mitchell bombers dropped thousands of fragmentation bombs today on German lines around Faenza, where British 8th Army men have fought off savage counterattacks seeking to break the ring slowly being forged around the Po highway city.

Hundreds of medium and fighter-bombers pounded enemy lines, hit a barracks on Bologna's outskirts, and again attempted to close the Brenner Pass route, through which "a heavy flow of supplies" again is rolling from Germany to support Nazi soldiers in Italy.

The Germans used tanks in their assaults upon the 8th Army's new Lamone River bridgehead flanking Faenza, strong point on the Bologna highway, but all attacks were beaten back, Allied headquarters announced.

Germans Claim Successes

Heavy fighting fluctuated near the village of Celle, 2 miles due west of Faenza, and in the bridgehead sector near San Prospero, 1½ miles southwest of Faenza.

[The German high command communiqué declared counterattacking Nazi tanks had thrown the British from most of the ground the 8th had won in five big attacks. The bulletin asserted the British were "thrown back beyond the Lamone sector on the western ridge of Faenza"—an apparent claim that the river bridgehead had been eliminated.]

A British unit pierced enemy defenses and reached a road junction 800 yards below Celle. Armored counterattacks, however, forced a withdrawal to original positions 200 yards farther south.

Battlefield A Quagmire

Heavy rains made the battlefield a quagmire as a spearhead from the Lamone bridgehead force tried unsuccessfully to advance near San Prospero. A counterblow shoved the British back at one point, but they ended the day with a net gain of 500 yards.

Faenza, 29 miles southeast of Bologna on Highway 9, is slowly being flanked. Northeast of the town, where the 8th Army holds a long stretch of the flooded Lamone River's east bank, patrols found Germans strongly entrenched on the high west bank.

Gales and heavy rain kept activity on the 5th Army front in the mountains south and southeast of Bologna to a minimum.

15th Air Force Also Meets "Jets"

ROME, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Germans sent up at least eight of their new jet-propelled fighters in vain efforts yesterday to head off United States Fifteenth Air Force Flying Fortresses and Liberators attacking targets at Linz, and Vil-

laach, Austria; Pilsen in Czechoslovakia and Regensburg in southern Germany.

The enemy "jets" did not get a single American plane and suffered no losses when they tangled with the bombers and their Lighting and Mustang escorts.

The American "heavies" targets included an oil refinery and the rail yards at Regensburg and the Skoda armament works at Pilsen.

Four big bombers and twenty-four other planes were missing from the day's operations of the Mediterranian Allied Air Forces, which included hundreds of fighter-bomber attacks in close support of Allied troops in the Po Valley, bombing of the Zagreb rail yards in Yugoslavia and RAF Spitfire attacks on Elas troops trying to dig in positions in the southern suburbs of Athens.

BONOMI FORMS NEW CABINET

Communist And Christian Democrat Named Vice Premier

Rome, Dec. 10 (AP)—A new government of Premier Ivanhoe Bonomi with two vice premiers—the Communist Palmiro Togliatti and the Christian Democrat Giulio Dirodino—was announced officially tonight.

Portfolios were distributed evenly among the Liberals, Christian Democrats, Labor Democrats and Communists—the four parties which decided to support Bonomi in remaking his cabinet. The Socialists and Actionists, which are the other two parties of the Committee of National Liberation, have decided to stay out.

Gasperi Foreign Minister

Alcide de Gasperi, Christian Democrat, who formerly was Minister without portfolio, is the new Foreign Minister.

Count Carlo Sforza, Minister without portfolio in the last cabinet who was rejected by Britain for the post of Foreign Minister, is not a member of the new Government and it is reported that his position as commissioner for sanctions against Fascism will be replaced by a committee.

Bonomi Heads Interior

Bonomi himself retains the Ministry of the Interior.

Besides Di Rodino, a pre-Fascism Minister of Justice, and War, new figures in the Government include Manlio Brosio, Liberal, a new Minister without portfolio, who won the silver medal for bravery in the first World War and later was a member of a special committee to investigate the Matteotti murder.

Others In Cabinet

Among others were:

Vincenzo Aranzo Ruiz, Liberal, lawyer and professor of Roman law, Minister of Education.

M. Cerabona, Labor-Democrat, Minister of Transportation.

Meuccio Ruini, Labor-Democrat, Minister of Public Works.

Mario Cevolotto, Labor-Democrat, Minister of Posts and Telegraph.

Carlo Sciaoia, Labor-Democrat, Minister of Air.

Mauro Scoccimarro, Communist, former commissioner of the Fascist purge, Minister of State Administration of German-occupied territory, a portfolio dealing with patriot activities.

Antonio Pesenti, Communist, Minister of Finance.

Ministers who hold the same posts in the new Government that they held in the last one include:

Marcello Soleri, Liberal, Minister of the Treasury.

Alexandro Casati, Liberal, Minister of War.

Giovanni Gronchi, Christian Democrat, Minister of Labor.

Tupini, Christian Democrat, Minister of Justice.

Fausto Gullo, Communist, Minister of Agriculture.

Raffaele de Courten, Independent, Minister of the Navy.

Earlier, it was learned that Bonomi had written two letters to Allied authorities, pledging the Government would keep the armistice terms and would not raise the question of a monarchy for Italy until after the war. These pledges also were the conditions for Allied approval of the first Bonomi Government which resigned two weeks ago.

Shot Fired At Cardinal, Rome Paper Reports

Rome, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Christian Democrat newspaper *Il Popolo* said today that a shot was fired at the automobile carrying Pietro Cardinal Fumasoni Biondi while the prelate was returning recently to Rome from Tuscany.

The shot struck the windshield but no one was injured.

Pope Pius Officiates At Penitence Services

Vatican City, Dec. 10 (AP)—Pope Pius XII today officiated at a special penitence ceremony at St. Peter's, attended by thousands, including Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's personal representative to the Vatican.

Mr. Taylor sat on the same row with the Japanese Ambassador Ken Harada and the Nazi Ambassador Baron Ernst Weizsacker.

Many races and nationalities, including hundreds of Allied soldiers, gathered in the great basilica and offered prayers, asking Divine intervention to alleviate the suffering of mankind.

The Pope received a tremendous ovation when he appeared in the church.

Desertion Rumors Denied

ROME, Dec. 10 (AP).—Allied headquarters officially denied today what it said were rumors current in Greece that part of the Greek Navy and the entire Greek air force operating under Allied command in the Piraeus area had deserted to E. L. A. S. ranks.

Bomb Blast In Naples Theater

Rome, Dec. 10 (AP)—Dispatches to the Rome press today said 25 persons were injured in Naples yesterday when a bomb exploded in a motion picture theater. An investigation is underway.

IMPOTENT REICH IS URGED

Russian Paper Calls for Ban on Fascism in Europe

MOSCOW, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Allied powers must completely liquidate fascism in Europe to win the peace, Russian newspapers said today.

Hailing the victorious wartime alliance of Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union, Red Star declared, "Freedom-loving nations face the task of clearing liberated territories of political time-bombs." This time, it added, Germany "must be completely disarmed militarily, politically and economically."

Pravda warned, "It is necessary to watch vigilantly against intrigues of Hitlerites in 'neutral' countries, as well as the activities of collaborationists in countries liberated from German oppression."

France And Russia Sign Mutual Assistance Pact

Moscow, Dec. 10 (AP)—Gen. Charles de Gaulle crowned his mission to Moscow with a treaty of alliance and mutual assistance with Soviet Russia today and started for home in France, once again in the front rank of European powers.

As a special train carried de Gaulle's delegation toward Baku, on the Black Sea and his waiting plane, the Moscow radio announced the signing of the new entente with an old ally.

The party left Moscow in a snowstorm with Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov waving a farewell from the windy platform.

Seeks To End German Menace

The treaty, the text of which will be made public later, embodies Russian-French determination to remove the menace of German aggression. It pledged partnership in the war against Germany "until complete victory" and joint measures to safeguard Europe from new aggression after the war.

It parallels the twenty-year alliance between Britain and Russia that was signed in 1941 after Germany invaded the Soviet Union, and fills a gap in Russia's future defenses in the west, where she started building a ring around Germany with her Czechoslovak alliance.

The treaty was signed at the Kremlin at 4.40 this morning after an all-night meeting which began with a formal banquet where the French and Russians were joined by British and United States diplomatic and military missions in Moscow.

Molotov Sees De Gaulle Off

At the station this morning a Red Army band played the French and Soviet national anthems and an honor guard of infantry marched past.

De Gaulle, in a formal good-by ending his 16-day visit, declared: "I am sure the days we have spent here will leave a mark in a history of this war and I believe, too, they will leave a mark in the peace for the good of all men. Long live Soviet Russia!"

The tall French general, shaking hands with Foreign Commissar Molotov, said, "Thank you for everything."

16 Days Set Speed Record

The fact that the treaty was discussed, written and signed within sixteen days was something of a diplomatic speed record. It realized the highest hopes expressed by de Gaulle before he left Paris.

He returns now with an intimate acquaintanceship established with Stalin in five separate talks in Moscow.

There were few, if any, European problems interesting the two countries which were not reviewed in detail by the French and Russian leaders.

The French termed de Gaulle's visit an unqualified success, and judged it had raised his stature as a statesman immeasurably.

Americans, British Informed

The Russian and French negotiators kept the British and Americans informed of all developments during the negotiations. The definite impression was sustained that the strengthening of the Franco-Soviet entente was being done within the larger framework of the friendship of both countries with Britain and the United States.

De Gaulle's party was accompanied on the return trip by Soviet Ambassador Bogomolov and Major General Kutuzov representing the Red Army.

Text Of Communique

The communiqué announcing conclusion of the new pact said:

"The sojourn in Moscow of General de Gaulle, chairman of the Provisional Government of the French Republic, and M. Bidault, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was marked by numerous manifestations of sympathy which unites the people of France and those of the Soviet Union and which was strengthened by the trials experienced during the war.

"Conversations took place with the chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the U.S.S.R., J. V. Stalin, and the People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs V. M. Molotov.

Wide Accord Shown

"These talks were concerned with the sum total of problems appertaining to the conduct of the war and the organization of peace, and in particular to the German problem.

"These talks disclosed the existence of a wide concord of the point of view between both governments as well as the most sincere desire for close collaboration. Both governments again confirmed their decision to conduct military operations until complete victory over Germany, and their will to take jointly all the necessary measures to safeguard Europe from new aggression.

"In the spirit of these decisions on December 10 this year both governments signed a treaty of alliance and mutual assistance, the text of which will be published separately."

Original Pact Signed In '34

France and the Soviet Union signed their prewar alliance, providing for mutual assistance in event of attack by a third power, on May 2, 1934. A similar Soviet-Czechoslovak treaty followed on May 16 of that year.

These facts later were adopted by Adolf Hitler as an excess for tearing up the Locarno pact and remilitarization of the Rhineland.

But although Russia had mutual-assistance treaties with both France and Czechoslovakia, she was not invited to the Munich conference in 1938 which gave the Sudetenland to the Germans, and the pact was widely regarded as a dead letter thenceforth.

When the war broke out in 1939 Russia adopted a "hands-off" policy.

New York, Dec. 10 (AP)—The ELAS, Greek left-wing forces, now hold most of the port of Piraeus and the bulk of the police stations in Athens, the London radio said tonight, quoting a dispatch from its Athens correspondent.

BOMBERS BLAST ELAS IN ATHENS

Leftist Attack Supported by Artillery, Repulsed by British.

ATHENS, Dec. 10 — (AP) R.A.F. Wellington bombers and cannon-firing Spitfires attacked ELAS concentrations around Athens today after an earlier ELAS attack supported by mortars and artillery had been repelled by British troops using tanks and field guns.

Several mortar shells fired from ELAS positions fell near British headquarters on the eastern outskirts of the city and some sniper bullets hit the upper floors of the Grande Bretagne hotel, which is the temporary seat of the Greek government on Constitution Square in the center of the city.

British Headquarters Hit

At least one 75 millimeter shell hit the British headquarters. Artillery experts said the shell fire came from high ground outside the city and probably was fired over open sights.

The British replied with 76 mm. guns and 25 pound mortars.

Peter Garayafalas, press minister for the Government, said ELAS casualties to date numbered 1,500 killed and wounded and 2,500 captured.

The danger of epidemics was causing growing concern after the week-long strife. All unloading of relief ships was at a complete standstill. U.N.R.R.A. plans to organize soup kitchens had failed to materialize.

Large numbers of dead still are waiting burial.

With the battle of Athens only beginning and large forces massed on both sides neither the ELAS or British are putting all their weight into the punches, hoping a settlement still may be reached.

Dimitri Lambrakis, publisher of an independent liberal newspaper who has been working to mediate the crisis, said tonight he had found the Communist and EAM leaders taking a less emphatic view of their demands.

Lambrakis said the left wingers were insisting that a new national government be formed in which all parties—both left and right—participate.

The publisher said he was confident the ELAS would take orders from a new government headed by the liberal leader, Themistocles Sopohoulis, and would evacuate Athens and the Attica peninsula. He said they would have no objection to Premier George Papandreou remaining in the cabinet.

Sees New Regime Needed

Former Finance Minister Alexander Svolos also said in an interview that the formation of a new government including all parties was necessary to end the civil strife.

The ELAS, armed militia of the left-wing EAM political party, are well dug in the stadium area, in the park around the Zappion building and east of Hadrian's arch and the temple of Zeus. The stadium

offers excellent defensive covering with its underground rooms and corridors.

As the Greek civil war, which flared into open bloodshed last Sunday in a clash on Constitution Square between police and left-wingers, went into its second week strong ELAS forces were massed west of Pireaus and north and east of Athens. So far these forces have made no move to come to the relief of their comrades battling in Athens. Strong detachments, however, have attacked in force several points, notably a police barracks, a mile east of British headquarters at the eastern foot of the Acropolis.

British Spitfires strafed concentrations and strongpoints within the city in an effort to scatter the ELAS.

"Peace" Pleas Denied

British headquarters said that Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie, head of Allied troops in Greece, had received "no peace proposals" from the ELAS.

Correspondents attached to British headquarters were told not to attempt any direct contact with "the enemy" in view of the possibility they might be the taken prisoner and forced to divulge military information.

(An ELAS spokesman told two Associated Press interviewers yesterday that the government's ban on a demonstration last Sunday gave rise to the present conflict. They made a blanket denial of Prime Minister Churchill's charges that the EAM and its military auxiliary, the ELAS, sought to seize power in Greece and terrorize the countryside, and said their only purpose was to force the resignation of Premier Papandreou.)

PRAVDA ATTACKS CORRESPONDENT

MOSCOW, Dec. 10 — (AP) The Communist party newspaper Pravda today charged William L. White, American author and foreign correspondent, with having made a trip into the Soviet union with "the premeditated intention of spreading calumny."

White, son of the late William Allen White, noted editor of the Emporia (Kans.) Gazette, toured Russia last Summer with U. S. Chamber of Commerce President Eric Johnston.

David Zaslavsky, author of the Pravda article, based his attack on excerpts from White's new book, "Report On the Russians," as published in Readers Digest.

Zaslavsky asserted White's conclusions were drawn during the trip, and declared the book charged that Russian industry had developed no technique of its own, but copied American methods.

"We remember the speech in Moscow of the president of the Chamber of Commerce," Zaslavsky wrote. "He was far from liking everything he saw in our country. His speech was peculiar but it was correct. In fact, he talked about the Soviet Union just as he would about any Allied country."

Zaslavsky said White saw whatever Johnston saw in Russia, but wrote things "opposite from the views expressed by Johnston in press interviews after returning home."

The Soviet commentator declared that in Johnston's statements "there seemed to be a desire to express impartial judgment about our people. If Johnston made use of the trip to avail himself of impartial judgment, White did the contrary. White declares his sources are not exactly the same as Johnston's."

Zaslavsky said White, as Johnston's companion, enjoyed the hospitality and confidences of the Soviet Union and "abused both. There is no doubt his trip was made with the premeditated intention of spreading calumny. The truth about the Soviet Union penetrates the United States irrespective of the efforts of Fascist agitators to prevent it."

Revolt In Hungary Reported Crushed

Stockholm, Dec. 10 (AP)—The newspaper *Svenska Dagbladet* today reported an attempted revolt against Premier Ferenc Szalasi's régime in Hungary had been crushed, and that martial law had been declared in all parts of the country still under Nazi control.

The story, the source of which was not given, declared that mixed German-Hungarian military courts had been established and "sensational arrests and death sentences" resulted from the attempted coup. Three generals were reported hanged.

Leader of the revolt was said to have been a peasant party leader, Bajcsi-Zsilinsky, who went underground when the Nazis took full power in Hungary last October.

Dr. Endre Named To New Hungarian Puppet Post

New York, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Nazi-controlled Hungarian home radio tonight announced the appointment of Dr. Vitz Leszlo Endre, Under Secretary of State in the puppet Ministry of the Interior, as "leader of the civilian administration of the operational area," and Dr. Laszlo Szlavy, as Endre's deputy in the new post.

Spain Hails Churchill Speech

Madrid, Dec. 10 (AP)—The entire Spanish press, from the régime's international commentators to the smallest provincial dailies, devoted columns of praise today to Prime Minister Churchill's Friday speech, which all the writers viewed as the first suggestion of a break between Britain and Russia.

CHINESE FORCES RETAKE HSIASU

CHUNGKING, Dec. 10—(AP) The Kweichow railroad town of Hsiasu, 12 miles from the Kwangsi province border, has been recaptured by the Chinese in their current counter-offensive which virtually has cleared Kweichow province of the invaders, the Chinese High command announced today.

The Japanese once penetrated to a point 70 miles within Kweichow in a drive toward Kweiyang, capital of the province and a strategic Burma road town from which they could have driven 300 miles southwest to Kumming or to Chungking, 200 miles northwest.

High command said Hsiasu fell yesterday and "the battered enemy is fleeing toward Liuchai pursued by our troops." Liuchai is just over the border in Kwangsi province.

Earlier a Chinese communique had reported that a second Japanese force which had penetrated Kweichow along the Yuyun-Ishan trail had been driven to within five miles of the Kwangsi border and that Shangsu, 82 miles southeast of Kweiyang, had been recaptured.

Although the Chinese comeback was achieved against comparatively small enemy forces it put new heart and new hope in Chungking after the anxiety of the past fortnight. Even formerly pessimistic quarters now believe the Chinese might be able to withstand any full-scale invasion of Kweichow and some predict the Japanese never will be able to take Kweiyang or Kunming.

The High command revealed today that Chinese forces, apparently in a diversionary move to prevent the enemy from concentrating too much strength in Kwangsi, had delivered surprise attacks Dec. 7 on the Hunan city of Lengshuitan, 55 miles southwest of Hengyang, and Tienmengchien, north of Hengyang, inflicting "considerable losses" on the enemy.

The same day, the communique said, other Chinese forces operating along the Siang river, north of Changsha, sank 13 Japanese river boats and killed a number of enemy troops.

In powerful support of the south China land offensive planes, of the U. S. 14th Air force on Dec. 7 and 8 destroyed 56 Japanese planes, sank a destroyer, a transport and a freighter, left two freighters burning and probably sank another, said a communique from Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's Chinese-American wing.

The attacks were made in the areas of Hong Kong, Nanking and Anking, occupied capital of Anhwei province, the communique said.

Bhamo Pounded By Chinese Guns

Southeast Asia Headquarters, Ceylon, Dec. 10 (AP)—Chinese troops have brought up heavy siege guns and are blasting Bhamo, Burma road stronghold in northern Burma, the Southeast Asia Command announced today.

Guns of 105 and 155-mm. have been brought up through the jungle to aid in reducing the stronghold on the Irrawaddy, 170 miles northeast of Mandalay.

On the Chindwin River front, to the southwest, East African troops were harassing the enemy along the main road between the river port of Kalewa and Yeu, 80 miles east on the Mu River.

TOKYO BLACKS OUT, YANK FLIERS REPORT

TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND, Saipan, Dec. 9—(Via Navy Radio)—(Delayed—(AP) Tokyo is blacking out at night now.

The Japanese capital was brightly lighted during the early B-29 raids, and the Japanese radio boasted that there was nothing to fear from the American raiders. But a weather reconnaissance Superfortress which bombed the city shortly before dawn today found even the suburbs dark.

Not only Tokyo, but also Yokahama and other cities were blacked out, the Superfortress commander, Lt. John Thomas Garvin said.

The only lights were at Chofu airdrome 17 miles from Tokyo where three Japanese planes were going in with landing lights on.

Garvin bombed the capital's industrial center between the Sumida river and Ara waterway through a partial overcast. His crew saw the bombs glow against clouds.

YANK WARSHIPS HAMMER IWO JIMA

SAIPAN, Dec. 9—(Via Navy Radio—Delayed)—(AP) Firing salvos every twenty seconds, American cruisers and destroyers slowly paraded around Japan's Iwo Jima for a full hour yesterday pouring some 300 tons of explosives into the Nippon base.

The warships cut loose on the island shortly after it was battered by twice or three times that weight in aerial bombs dropped by B-29s and B-24s.

There was slight Japanese return fire during the first five minutes and it "didn't even come close" said Associated Press Photographer Charles Gorry.

The photographer, who comes from Arlington, Va., and Hollis, Long Island, reported "an hour before we got to Iwa we could see smoke all over the island from Superfortress bombs, one column reaching 2,000 feet. Then we saw Liberators come in and lay down the most beautiful bomb pattern I ever saw straight across the island. Not one bomb landed in the water.

"We started shelling at 1:47 p. m. from the north end of Iwo we circled the entire island at about 20 knots firing salvos every 20 seconds. We finished shelling at 2:47 p. m.

"The Japs opened up with a few six-inch guns without effect and after five minutes they didn't fire at all. Our destroyers fired five-inchers all the time. The cruisers used eight-inchers and then closed to 7,000 yards firing five-inchers during the last 20 minutes of the bombardment.

"The continuous roar of the guns left us worn out so I can imagine how it left those Japs on Iwo. We raked every cliff, beach and airfield and all the gun positions our airmen could spot. A couple of Jap planes hung around, but beyond our range. Evidently they were out of ammunition.

"We were only 700 miles or so from Japan yet not one Japanese ship or submarine came near."

Japanese Big Leaguer Forced Off Base, Killed

UNITED STATES 41ST INFANTRY DIVISION HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific (AP).—Captain Hikichi Kazuo, one of Japan's leading baseball players, has been killed by 41st Division troops on this hard-won Pacific island. Infantry patrols, mopping up, flushed Kazuo and 100 of his men from a coral cave. All were killed.

On Kazuo's body was found a thick wad of newspaper clippings telling of his baseball exploits. He played third base with the Osaka club in Japan's big league.

Chilean-Russ Ties Forecast

Santiago, Dec. 10 (AP)—Santiago newspapers said today Chile would establish relations with Russia tomorrow.

Reports 120,000 Jews Deported From France

New York, Dec. 10 (AP)—Baron Guy de Rothschild, captain of the staff of Gen. Pierre Koenig, military governor of Paris, said today that of 350,000 Jews in France when the war began 120,000 have been deported and 10,000 to 15,000 were known to have been exterminated.

He spoke at the 50th annual meeting of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

JAP 'SUICIDE' FLIERS COMMENDED BY CHIEF

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Japanese, in a Tokyo radio broadcast Sunday, listed 24 Nippon "suicide" airmen who, it was claimed, crashed the bomb-laden planes into American ships in Surigao strait, Ormoc bay and Leyte gulf, central Philippines.

The broadcast, recorded by Federal Communications commission, listed these claimed "war results" by suicide fliers Dec. 5-7-8-9:

Two large transports and 16 landing barges sunk; one warship of unknown category and four large transports seriously damaged and left in flames; Ormoc landing beaches blasted. The claims lacked American confirmation.

Maj. Gen. Shuichi Matsumura, chief of the Japanese army press section, Imperial headquarters, highly praised the airmen. He quoted these slogans of the flying suicide squadrons:

"In serving on the seas, be a corpse saturated with water.

"In serving on land, be a corpse covered with weeds.

"In serving in the sky, be a corpse that challenges the clouds.

"Let's all die close by the side of our sovereign."

JAPS TERM BATTLE OF LEYTE 'DECISIVE'

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Radio Tokyo yesterday told the Japanese people that the fighting in the Philippines represented "the decisive battle in which we cannot withdraw even a single step for we have burned our bridges behind us."

The Leyte battle, Tokyo said, "is a great decisive battle on which the life of the GEA (greater East Asia) war depends, for it decides whether we lose our sea routes to our southern regions.

"Air force strength and supply maintenance are particularly important for they decide the situation. The supply of planes and ammunition, of course, have all changed favorably for us."

PARIS TAKEN 60 DAYS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10—(AP) Paris was taken by the Allies 60 days ahead of schedule, undersecretary of War Patterson said today.

The Whole of France and Belgium also was cleared "months ahead of schedule" although the Allies had fallen behind the military time-table when they were penned up, at the outset, on the Normandy peninsula, he reported.

Then, with reference to the recent phases of the Western front campaign, Patterson said that "the time for renewing large-scale operations had to be deferred until the necessary supplies were again accumulated at the front."

Patterson made this presentation of the Allied schedule in an address prepared for the Philharmonic symphony hour of CBS, in which he emphasized the government's plea for greater production of war goods.

30.24 — 21135

Pratt Commands West Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10 (AP) The War Department announced today the designation of Maj. Gen. Henry C. Pratt as commanding general of the Western Defense Command here during the temporary absence of Maj. Gen. Charles H. Bonesteel.

Admiral Kimmel's Son, Missing, Awarded Medal

Washington, Dec. 10 (AP)—The Bronze Star Medal has been awarded Lieut. Com. Manning Marius Kimmel, USN, 31, who is missing in action, and son of Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, USN (retired), the Navy Department announced today.

Commander Kimmel's wife, Mrs. Agatha Kimmel, lives at University, Va. He was born in Washington, D.C., and previously was awarded the Silver Star.

BRITISH, REDS CHARGED WITH PROLONGING WAR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10. — (AP) The Army and Navy Journal holds that British and Russian "preoccupation" with affairs in eastern and southern Europe prolonged the war with Germany past Dec. 7.

The unofficial service publication says:

"Since D-day in France, greater preoccupation has been shown by Russia in her Baltic and Balkan campaigns, intended to insure her security, and by Great Britain in Italy, Greece and Albania, to protect her lifeline through the Mediterranean, than in achievement of the prime objection of our armies—the prompt defeat of Germany and concentration of all possible power to that end.

"The result has been that the expectation in Washington that the war in Europe would be over by the Pearl Harbor anniversary this week, has not been realized."

UNIFIED COMMAND TO FACE CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10—(AP) First direct step toward consolidating the Army and Navy by statute, legislation to establish the joint chiefs of staff as a permanent body will face the new Congress.

It was introduced last week in the House by Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the Military committee and Chairman Vinson (D-Ga.) of the Naval committee, but will not be pushed during the remaining days of the resent session. The joint chiefs, whose purpose in coordination, includes the heads of the services and the President's chief of staff.

"We just want to get the subject before Congress and have a bill ready for action next month," May said in an interview. "The members will have an opportunity to study it between now and the time the new Congress convenes."

While May declined to say whether the Army and Navy are sponsoring the legislation, it was learned elsewhere that it was introduced with their knowledge and consent.

The joint chiefs of staff now operate only under temporary authority. The legislation pending would cloak the Army-Navy high command with power to "formulate and collaborate in the execution of policies and plans concerning military and naval operations and make studies and recommendations as to strength, organization and equipment of the several components of the armed forces."

The special House committee on post war military policy has held extensive hearings on proposals to merge the Army and the Navy, but has reached no conclusions. Its members generally are in agreement, however, that a joint staff should guide the two armed forces and that a peacetime military-naval establishment should be built around universal military training.

Early enactment of the May-Vinson bill next year would require the joint chiefs of staff to make recommendations concerning the peace-time strength of the Army and Navy. As soon as these recommendations are made, the post-war military committee is expected to recommend enactment of compulsory peace time military training legislation.

Adjournment of Congress Expected Late This Week

End of 78th Session Depends on Crowded Calendar in Senate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 — (AP) This is the last week of the 78th Congress—it hopes.

If there's one thing the members want for Christmas it's some time at home, but there's a lot of work to be done before they get away.

Adjournment sights have been fixed tentatively on the coming week-end, and House leaders say they can make it. But the Senate faces a full week of work and the threat that some of it might spill over into the following week.

With its major short-session problems out of the way, the House finds itself Monday with a lot of tag ends to dispose of. Its most serious business may come on legislation to modernize congressional procedure by streamlining routine committees.

Service Bill Pending

On the Senate's calendar of unfinished business is a house-passed bill to create eight temporary five-star commands atop the Army and Navy, legislation to revive crop insurance, and a much-debated rivers and harbors bill which carries with it the explosive subject of a St. Lawrence seaway project.

All have been passed by the House but Senate changes can force the bills into session-end conference committees.

Also awaiting Senate action is the last of the 78th Congress' appropriation bills. With it is a companion measure—a House attempt to raise the pay of legislative clerks. Both cleared the House late last week.

The bulk of the "must" legislation for this session got through last week with Senate approval of a one-year extension of the administration's war powers act. Without the renewal act—congressional basis for rationing, priorities and other wartime emergency orders—would have expired with the end of the year.

Some House members fear their attempt to win a hand in treaty making by upsetting the Senate traditional two-thirds vote [illegible] on ratifications might find itself trapped in the adjournment drive.

Little Hope on Treaty Change

A proposed constitutional amendment to make future treaties subject to ratification by a majority vote of the Senate and House has been approved by the House Judiciary committee but it hasn't yet had rules committee clearance necessary to send it to the floor.

To become operative the amendment must be passed by both the House and Senate before this session ends and then be agreed to by 36 of the 42 state legislatures which meet early in 1945. Sponsors admit privately that the proposal has no practical chance of Senate approval this session.

CHANGES LIKELY FOR STATE DEPT. DURING THE WEEK

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—(AP) State department reorganization plans to stre[illegible]e and [illegible]d administration are about completed and scheduled for announcement this week.

Under the new scheme, responsibility for policy decisions is reported more broadly distributed, with the idea that work can be done faster that way.

Official disclosure of the new setup may be delayed until the Senate has acted on nominations of Undersecretary Joseph C. Grew and five new assistant secretaries.

An extensive personnel shakeup is expected after the new men take office, although there is no indication of any important policy reversals.

Composed of comparatively young men, the new State department high command headed by Secretary Stettinius will have direct lines of authority down through the department, relieving the undersecretary and secretary of many decisions on details.

One of the main features of the new plan is reported to be integration of economic affairs, formerly divided among several offices. Will Clayton, whose nomination as assistant secretary is awaiting Senate confirmation, is understood to be slated to handle communications, aviation, shipping and labor as well as regular economic matters. The separation of normal and wartime economic affairs probably will be abolished in the general tightening of lines to prepare for handling the peace.

At least two of the geographical divisions will come under two new assistant secretaries, instead of being the charge of the already burdened undersecretary. These are Latin American affairs, under Nelson Rockefeller, and European affairs, under James C. Dunn. Undersecretary Grew is expected to continue direction of Far Eastern affairs.

Departmental administration, which is to be centered under Brig. General Julius Holmes, and public information, under Archibald MacLeish, are scheduled for general revamping, uniting functions carried on by scattered divisions in various parts of the department.

Secretary Stettinius is expected to turn most of his attention and time to world security organization as soon as he has the doneover department functioning smoothly.

NOMINEES FACE CARTELS QUIZ

Senator O'Mahoney Wants To Know Views On Subject

Washington, Dec. 10 (AP)—Senator O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) wants to know if President Roosevelt's opposition to international cartel practices would be affected by the State Department reorganization.

In a letter to Chairman Connally (D., Texas) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, O'Mahoney said he hoped that six nominees to the State Department staff will be asked to give their views on that question when they appear before the committee this week.

The Wyoming Senator, who moved successfully in the Senate to send the nominations back to the committee, said he will be out of town when the hearings begin Tuesday.

Acheson As Liaison Man

He called attention to the fact that Dean Acheson, assistant secretary who heads the interdepartmental committee on economic foreign policy, will become liaison man with Congress under the new régime. W. L. Clayton, retiring Surplus War Property administrator and a Texas cotton dealer, was nominated to head the economic division.

"To what extent, if at all, this reorganization means a change of policy from that charted by (former) Secretary Hull is a question of utmost concern to all the people of the United States, and I trust that all of the nominees will be asked to give their views to the Foreign Relations Committee and through the committee to the Senate and to the people," O'Mahoney wrote.

Hull's Stand On Cartels

He said Hull's stand against "excessive and unreasonable restrictions" on international commerce had been approved by the President with the assertion that "cartel practices which restrict the free flow of goods in foreign commerce will have to be curbed."

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Secretary of State, has been called as the first witness on the nominations. Besides Clayton, appointees include Joseph C. Grew, named as Under Secretary, and Archibald MacLeish, Nelson Rockefeller, James C. Dunn and Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes, appointed as assistant secretaries.

BYRNES ASSUMES TIGHTER CONTROL OVER HOME FRONT

War Mobilizer to Concentrate on Production and Manpower Policies.

PARLEY SET TODAY

Drafting of 26-37 Group Expected to Keep War Workers in Jobs.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10 — (AP) James F. Byrnes' "produce or fight" edict signals his assumption of full policy control over the home front effort.

Associates in the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion said today that the director will relegate his dispute-settling function to second place and take active direction of the production, manpower and economic phases of the war as well as reconversion.

Byrnes shortly will make two more appointments to his new staff, it was learned, one of them a planning chief who will head a unit intended to chart home war policy right through to the demobilization of industrial controls and ration programs.

A rapid start on deliberations of the OWMR advisory board, appointed by President Roosevelt last week to give Byrnes the viewpoints of labor, management, agriculture and public spokesmen, is indicated in the calling of its first session at the White House tomorrow, under Chairman O. Max Gardner, former governor North Carolina.

OWMR's expansion is bound to cut in on the policy powers of the older war agencies—War Production board, War Manpower commission and Office of Price Administration among others. But while exercising "the full charter of authority granted OWMR" by Congress, Byrnes is represented as intending to leave the agencies' operating functions alone.

Draft Increase Ordered

Byrnes' instructions to Selective Service yesterday—to increase the drafting of men aged 26 through 37 "who are not now doing their part to contribute to the war effort"—is viewed as principally a [illegible]oper war workers to keep [illegible]rs at lathes and benches. OWM[illegible], in other words, is using the selective service act to put the "teeth" in manpower rules that officials have been asking and Congress is unlikely to grant at this time.

Byrnes explained his decree as designed to replace service men who have been released to bolster lagging munitions programs, but such releases have totaled only a few thousand men.

The more obvious intent is to check the outflow of workers from war industry. The more successful the measure is, the fewer men above the ages now being called will it put into the armed forces.

However, regulations expected to follow the Byrnes directive may require men holding occupational deferments to get government consent before changing jobs.

Moves Into Manpower Field

Byrnes' move into the manpower field—one day after WMC's executive director, Charles M. Hay, told Congress that WMC had no new program except "propaganda" to curb labor turnover—was foreshadowed Wednesday by Byrnes' appointment of the first actual staff he had ever used. He chose four top aides, each to help him in a particular phase of getting production "from the assembly line to the front line."

Byrnes has asked each to give full time to OWMR. This also departs from his earlier practice of using advisors on a "when needed" basis. In evident preparation for a considerable expansion of OWMR, new offices are being tak-

en in the Lafayette building downtown.

Byrnes already nas chosen his new planning unit director, OWMR sources said, but is withholding the name pending his transfer from another government agency. Maj. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, formerly procurement chief of the Army service forces, was named deputy director for war programs and general administration, William Haber for manpower, J. B. Hutson for agriculture and Fred Searls, Jr., as Clay's assistant in stimulating munitions output.

CIO SUPPORTS WARD STRIKE

State Council Backs Walkout Of 1,500 In Detroit Stores

Detroit, Dec. 10 (AP)—Some 1,500 striking empolyés of four Montgomery Ward stores in this area have received the support of the Michigan CIO Council, Gus Scholle, regional CIO director for Michigan, announced tonight.

A spokesman for the United Automobile Workers (CIO) said the UAW also would support the strike.

Scholle said the decision approving the strike, which threatens to spread to other cities, including Chicago, had the support of the council's officers.

Firm Says Stores Will Be Open

The strikers, members of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employés (CIO), walked out yesterday in what union leaders described as a protest against failure of the company to recognize War Labor Board directives covering union maintenance-of-membership, dues check-off, back-pay demands and arbitration of grievances.

R. W. Rosevear, Montgomery Ward district manager, said the four stores, including two in Detroit and branches in suburban Dearborn and Royal Oak, employing some 2,200 persons, would be open for business tomorrow morning.

He asserted that Saturday's "holiday business was up to normal."

Continued Picketing Promised

At a meeting this afternoon, Roy Scoggins, state director of the union, told 500 members that "if the NWLB does not step in to enforce its directives, no employer in a nonessential industry will feel obligated any longer to obey such directives."

The unionists said picket lines would be continued tomorrow.

The Government, after a strike in the Chicago mail-order plants of the company, took over the operation of those plants from April 26 to May 9, when it returned the properties to the firm. The company, however, refused to grant maintenance of membership, and Sewell Avery, chairman of the board, said yesterday that the firm would not agree to "a closed shop."

"The company," he said, "is trying to preserve the right of an employé to join, or not join, or to resign from a union. This is a permanent policy."

A.F.L. SEEKS UNION WITH MINE GROUP

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 10—(AP) The dove of peace liberated by the American Federation of Labor at its New Orleans convention may turn out to be a homing pigeon for John L. Lewis.

The often gruff-spoken leader of the United Mine Workers seemed pleased and tolerant of his one-time companions in the AFL last week after the federation had so obviously extended a welcoming hand.

In his own words, however, Lewis was "unusually non-committal."

President William Green of the AFL thus far has taken no steps to bring the UMC back into the federation. But Green was here only briefly during the past week, and while he gave no indication when he would contact the Miners' boss, he is authorized to do so when he feels like it.

Green made it clear "there will be no crawling" on the part of the Federation to induce Lewis to come back.

Last act of the New Orleans session was the authorization, by the executive council which consists of 15 of the most influential AFL leaders, of a new set of negotiations with Lewis.

The AFL made it clear it also wanted the Congress of Industrial Organizations to come back to the Federation fold, but particular stress was laid on the resumption of negotiations with Lewis and his 600,000 United Mine workers.

Not the least consideration in this move, of course, is the desire to boost membership. With Lewis' union the AFL would have close to 7 1-2 million workers, compared to the CIO's 5,300,000. The CIO claims another million members in the armed forces whose affiliation has been kept open.

Former negotiations with the miners bogged down in May, 1943, over the chemical workers organized by the UMW District 50. There was jurisdictional conflict with the AFL's chemical union.

There are these obvious factors pointing to a possible resumption of negotiations:

1. Lewis waited until the AFL's convention was over—Dec. 2—to reply to the British trade union council's invitation to an international conference in London in February. He turned it down, just as the AFL had done. The timing would indicate he wanted to make certain the AFL was of the same mind as he. The CIO and Soviet trade unions have accepted the same invitation.

2. The presidential election is over. Lewis is a bitter critic of the President. Mr. Roosevelt has many friends and supporters in the AFL.

WAR PRODUCTION BEHIND IN OCTOBER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10—(AP) None of the major categories of combat munitions met its October schedule, the War Production board reported today.

The report placed the value of the month's munitions output at $5,240,000,000, substantially the same as in September. On an overall basis, production fell two per cent behind reduced schedules set at the beginning of the month.

As a group, the "critical programs" gained six per cent over the September output. Increases ranged from small to sizeable. Major increases included: Communications wire, 10 per cent; trucks over 10 tons, and cotton duck for tents, 13 per cent; general purpose and fragmentation bombs, 11 per cent; tanks, 20 per cent.

"In spite of the October gains," the Board said, "the critical programs must still improve much more than they did if the armed forces are to get all the critical supplies called for in their stated requirements.

"For example, a rise of 55 per cent over the October rate is required in November and December for Army heavy artillery to meet the 1944 stated requirements; even this goal is below computed strategic requirements."

Other war equipment behind schedule included heavy bombers, heavy ammunition and artillery, heavy trucks, assault transports and assault cargo ships, cotton duck, and spare parts for the fleet.

Strike In Steel Plant In California Ended

Pittsburg, Cal., Dec. 10 (AP)—A six-man walkout which spread until 3,500 men quit work was ended today, and Columbia Steel's Pittsburg plant resumed operations after a 32-hour shutdown.

The United Steel Workers of America (CIO) ordered the men back to work last midnight after agreeing to submit a new riggers' work schedule to company officials for approval Tuesday.

Six riggers declined to accept Sunday work and walked out Friday morning. By 8 P.M., the stoppage was plantwide. The 12th Naval District said "critical" navy castings were held up.

World War II Veterans Organize National Group

E. H. Keel, Washington, Heads Mutual Assistance Body

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 10 (AP).—A new national veterans' group, the American Veterans of World War II—AmVets for short—was born here tonight.

Formal organization came at the end of two days of conferences attended by thirty-five representatives of miscellaneous groups of service men and women from all sections of the United States. Elmo W. Keel, of Washington, was elected commander. AmVets headquarters will be in Washington.

Other officers elected were: Albert C. Geremia, of Providence; La Marr Bailey, Amarillo, Tex., and George C. Burke, St. Petersburg, Fla., vice-commanders; Carl G. Freudenberg, Cincinnati, financial officer; T. Paul Moody, Los Angeles, judge advocate; Claude C. Morgan, Los Angeles, public relations; Thomas H. Chunn, Columbia, Tenn., national adjutant; Brigadier General H. C. Holdridge, Washington, national executive secretary.

Purposes of AmVets, as listed in the preamble of the organization's constitution, are "to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to safeguard the principles of freedom, liberty and justice for all; to promote the cause of eternal peace and good will among nations; to maintain inviolate the freedom of our country; to preserve the fundamentals of democracy and Americanism; to maintain law and order; to perpetuate the friendships and associations of the great war of liberation and to dedicate ourselves to the cause of mutual assistance."

N.Y. Meat Dealers To Take 'Holiday' In War On OPA Rules

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Government moves to end "red market" in meats.....*Page 20*

Poultry experts predict Eastern Shore chickens will be diverted to armed forces until late in March or April.....*Page 20*

New York, Dec. 10 (AP)—An estimated 3,500 New York city meat dealers, shouting down all protests, voted at a turbulent mass meeting today to take a "holiday" beginning Christmas Day and continuing "until Office of Price Administration regulations are adjusted."

Albert T. Wendel, president of the New York State Association of Retail Meat Dealers, estimated 10,000 retail stores, or 80 per cent of those in greater New York, would be closed. Chain stores and a few small retailers would not be affected, he said.

Informed of the butchers' action, a spokesman for the regional OPA office said "every possible effort" would be made to avert a city-wide closing of stores. He said Daniel P. Woolley, regional OPA administrator would confer with the dealers and "attempt to bring about a satisfactory adjustment before December 25."

The action climaxed a growing situation which resulted yesterday in Mayor F. H. LaGuardia and a ranking official of the butchers' union joining in a demand that the Government take immediate steps to solve New York's meat problem, which they termed "serious."

The butchers declared in a resolution they were being "subjected to an unworkable and unfair regulation" and that the "entire ceiling structure was promulgated on the basis of live steers being 13 to 14 cents per pound and at the present time 18 cents."

Wendel told the meeting no dealer in the city could sell at a profit "at present ceiling prices and no man can live up to the 8,000 OPA regulations."

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LONDON--[illegible] RUSSIAN X X X CLAIMED IT.
TOWNS CAPTURED NEAR THE SLOVAK FRONTIER INCLUDED DEITAR, SIX MILES
SOUTHWEST OF BALASSAGYARMAT, AND IPOLYVECZE, ANOTHER FOUR MILES BEYOND
DEITAR.
ALSO MENTIONED IN THE COMMUNIQUE WAS IPOLYSZEG. THIS WAS POSSIBLY
IPOLYSAG, WHICH IS SLIGHTLY ACROSS THE OLD SLOVAK FRONTIER AT A POINT
88 MILES EAST OF BRATISLAVA, THE SLOVAK CAPITAL, AND 114 MILES EAST OF
VIENNA, AUSTRIAN CAPITAL. THE COMMUNIQUE MADE NO DIRECT MENTION OF
A CROSSING INTO SLOVAKIA.
THE ENEMY'S INCREASED USE OF ARMOR IN THE FIGHTING NORTH OF
BUDAPEST WAS REFLECTED IN THE COMMUNIQUE'S REPORT THAT 76 GERMAN
TANKS WERE DESTROYED OR DISABLED YESTERDAY AND THE DAY BEFORE.
IN ADDITION THE RUSSIANS REPORTED THE GERMANS HAD THROWN LARGE

AIR FORCES INTO THE FIGHTING. SOVIET AIRMEN CLAIMED 18 GERMAN PLANES SHOT DOWN YESTERDAY AND 24 THE DAY BEFORE FOR A TOTAL OF 42. IN THE THREE-DAY PERIOD BEGINNING FRIDAY AND ENDING YESTERDAY THE RUSSIANS CLAIMED THEY KNOCKED OUT 109 GERMAN TANKS AND 88 GERMAN PLANES.

IN ADDITION TO CAPTURING ALSOGOD THE RUSSIANS SEIZED DOMONY AND CSOMAD, BOTH ABOUT 7 1/2 MILES NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST; AND SZOD, VAEZRATOT AND SZOD, ALL ON AN ARC ABOUT 10 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL.

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A BROADCAST ROMANIAN COMMUNIQUE SAID TAPIO-SZENTGYORGY, ABOUT 11 MILES DIRECTLY EAST OF BUDAPEST, FELL TO ROMANIAN TROOPS WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING ALONGSIDE THE RED ARMY.

FRONTS FAR TO THE NORTH OF HUNGARY CAME IN FOR BRIEF MENTION IN THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE SOVIET WAR COMMUNIQUE. SIX GERMAN ATTEMPTS TO CAPTURE A RUSSIAN STRONGHOLD WEST OF JELGAVA IN LATVIA WERE REPELLED, THE SUPPLEMENT SAID.

SOUTH OF PULTUSK IN THE SECTOR NORTH OF WARSAW A SOVIET DETACHMENT CARRIED OUT A SUCCESSFUL RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE.

MOSCOW FRONT DISPATCHES ~~WERE~~ GRAF AS BEFORE.

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CB10PEW

INSERT AFTER 18TH GRAF ENDING X X X MILE AND A HALF.

THE 35TH DIVISION MOVED INTO THE NORTHERN PORTION OF SARREGUEMINES ON THE EAST BANK OF THE SAAR AND AFTER ROUTING THE GERMANS FROM A BIG CERAMICS FACTORY IN A BRISK ENGAGEMENT HAD CLEANED OUT NEARLY ALL THAT SECTION OF THE CITY BY NIGHTFALL. (Realmer)

OTHER ELEMENTS HACKED OUT GAINS OF A HALF MILE TO A MILE NORTH AND EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.

IN SARREGUEMINES, ETC., 19TH GRAF.

CB540PEW

~~CITY AND CAPITAL OF THE BASIN.~~ Add W-from (Realmer) xx Rhine,

~~WHILE THE THIRD WAS BEING SLOWED IN ITS PUSH AGAINST THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSES, THE SEVENTH ARMY OF LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH KEPT UP THE PRESSURE EASTWARD ALL THE WAY TO THE RHINE.~~

HIS FORCES DROVE INTO THE SOUTHWESTERN PART OF HAGUENAU AND WERE BATTLING WITH THE GERMANS DUG IN AROUND THE RAILROAD TRACKS BENT ON DEFENDING THE BIG BASE AT ALL COST.

NIEDERBRONN, 11 MILES NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU, WAS CLEARED OF THE ENEMY AND PATCH'S FORCES PUSHED ON TO A POINT LESS THAN FOUR MILES FROM THE PALATINATE BORDER, THEIR CLOSEST APPROACH TO GERMANY.

HAGUENAU ALSO WAS HARD PRESSED FROM THE SOUTHEAST, WHERE THE AMERICANS CAPTURED BISCHWILLER, CONSIDERED A KEY TO THE CITY'S DEFENSES.

DRIVING NORTHWEST, THESE FORCES REACHED KALTENHOUSE, ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY TWO MILES FROM HAGUENAU, AND NEARBY MARIENTHAL. OTHER [illegible] ENTERED OBERHOFFEN, THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE NORTH OF BISCH-

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UNITS [illegible]
WILLER AFTER CROSSING THE MODER RIVER.

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AT THE WESTERN END OF THE FRONT, WHERE THE SEVENTH IS MOVING ON THE SAAR IN CONCERT WITH THE THIRD, THE LAST GERMANS WERE ROOTED FROM BINNING, SIX MILES FROM THE BORDER.

GEN. JEAN DE LATTRE DE TASSIGNY'S FRENCH FIRST ARMY IN SOUTHERN ALSACE DROVE THE GERMANS FROM MOST OF THANN, 10 MILES NORTHWEST OF MULHOUSE, BUT THE FRENCH WERE UNDER FIERCE ATTACK JUST WEST OF MULHOUSE AT THE BRIDGEHEAD OVER THE DOLLER RIVER.

AFTER CAPTURING SEVERAL RAILROAD INSTALLATIONS AND A BRIDGE, THEY WERE FORCED TO YIELD THE RAILWAY STATION UNDER COUNTERBLOWS.

IN THE HIGH VOSGES, THE FRENCH WERE MOVING THROUGH SCHLUCHT PASS AND WERE FIVE MILES NORTH OF MUNSTER, ON THE MAIN ROAD THROUGH THE GAP WEST OF COLMAR.

NO CHANGES WERE REPORTED ON THE BRITISH-CANADIAN SECTOR OF THE FRONT IN HOLLAND, AND LT.GEN.WILLIAM H.SIMPSON'S NINTH ARMY DUELLED WITH GERMAN ARTILLERY AND MORTAR UNITS ACROSS THE ROER RIVER.

SB&WD348PEW

U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE FIGHTER BOMBERS DESTROYED FIVE GERMAN PLANES IN THE AIR, TWO AGROUND AND KNOCKED OUT SIX TANKS AT A COST OF ONE CRAFT.

BESIDES SMASHING A SCHOPHOVEN BRIDGE, THUNDERBOLT BOMBS OPENED UP ANOTHER HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE ROER NEAR NIDEGGEN, SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF DUREN. THE GENERAL LINNICH-JULICH AREA WAS BATTERED FROM THE AIR. NINTH FLIERS ALSO DIVE-BOMBED AND STRAFED ENEMY INFANTRY AND TRANSPORT.

CB931PEW

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY--FIRST ADD HAGUENAU X X X NORTHERN ALSACE.

OTHER FORCES CLEARED THE ENEMY FROM BISCHWILLER, A ROAD JUNCTION FOUR MILES SOUTHEAST OF HAGUENAU, FOUGHT ON A MILE AND A HALF NORTHWEST TO KALETENHOUSE, ON THE MAIN ROAD TO HAGUENAU, AND ENTERED NEARBY MARIENTHAL.

SEVENTH ARMY FORCES BEYOND NIEDERBRONN, 11 MILES NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU, SLASHED TO LESS THAN FOUR MILES FROM THE GERMAN BORDER.

[illegible]

PART OF THE FORCE THAT SEIZED BISCHWILLER CROSSED THE MODER RIVER--ONE OF THE BIGGEST WATER HURDLES BETWEEN THEM AND GERMANY--AND ENTERED OBERHOFFEN, THREE QUARTERS OF A MILE NORTH.

W102PEW

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Add With the 7th Army in Alsace XXX announced today

~~CHIEF OF STAFF, TO MAJOR GENERAL WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.~~ WHITE, AN ILLINOIS NATIVE, HAS TWO BROTHERS, WALTER A.WHITE, 7610 SOUTHWOOD ST. CHICAGO AND EDMOND V.WHITE, 418 GREENLEAD ST., PEORIA, ILL.

COL.CLYDE MASSEY, OF BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, SEVENTH ARMY QUARTERMASTER WAS PROMOTED TO BRIGADIER GENERAL.

SN451PEW

A-1 With U.S. 90th Division on the Saar River (Hawkins) xx officer said.

HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM THE DILLINGEN AREA, THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN, WHERE THE 90TH DIVISION GAINED A MILE IN THE FIRST TWO HOURS AFTER CROSSING THE SAAR RIVER FIVE DAYS AGO AND HAS ADVANCED ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YARDS SINCE THEN.

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DILLINGEN, OUTWARDLY AN INDUSTRIAL CITY OF FROM 15,000 TO 20,000 POPULATION, ACTUALLY IS A FORTRESS CITY BULWARKED BY SCOREDOON SCORES OF PILLBOXES THAT REALLY ARE SMALL FORTS.

AFTER FIVE DAYS OF THE TOUGHEST KIND OF FIGHTING, THE 90TH HOLDS ONLY ABOUT A FIFTH OF THE CITY.

THIS TEXAS-OKLAHOMA DIVISION, LED BY BRIG.GEN.JAMES A.VAN FLEET, IS NO UNTRIED OUTFIT AND ONLY LAST MONTH WON HIGHEST PRAISE FROM LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON JR., FOR CROSSING THE MOSELLE RIVER IN THE THIONVILLE AREA AT THE OPENING OF THE CURRENT DRIVE.

BUT FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, THE MEN DOING THIS JOB AGREE IT IS MUCH TOUGHER THAN THE MOSELLE FORCING, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED BY PATTON AS THE FINEST SINGLE JOB DONE BY THE THIRD ARMY UNIT.

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ALSO, FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, THERE SEEMS NO DOUBT THAT THE 90TH CAN HANG ON AND GOUGE ITS WAY FIRMLY INTO THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSE BELT AND EVENTUALLY THROUGH IT. BUT THESE MEN ARE NOT KIDDING THEMSELVES ON THE CALIBER OF THE JOB BEFORE THEM.

SWIFTLY EXPLOITING SURPRISE GAINED IN THE ORIGINAL PRE-DAWN CROSSING, UNITS OF THE 358TH REGIMENT UNDER LT.COL.FREDERICK M.TOOMIS, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, SPLASHED MORE THAN A THOUSAND YARDS ACROSS EXPOSED MARSHES INTO THE FRINGE OF THE CITY BEFORE RECEIVING THE FIRST FIRE.

LT.LEO J.CROSS, AN ARTILLERY OBSERVER WITH THE THIRD BATTALION OF THE 358TH REGIMENT, GAVE THIS DESCRIPTION OF THE SAAR RIVER CROSSING AND THE SUBSEQUENT FIGHTING:

"WE CROSSED IN ASSAULT BOATS SHORTLY AFTER 4 A.M. AND GOT ACROSS IN A VERY FEW MINUTES. WE PILED OFF INTO KNEE-DEEP MUD AMONG TRENCHES AND FOXHOLES WHICH WERE FULL OF WATER AND UNOCCUPIED.

"JUST AFTER WE GOT ASHORE AN AIRPLANE CAME OVER AND DROPPED A FLARE. EVERY MAN FLOPPED IN THE MUD AND WE THOUGHT SURELY WE WOULD BE DISCOVERED AND BE FIRED UPON, BUT THE FLARE DIED OUT QUICKLY AND WE PUSHED ON ACROSS THE LONG, MUDDY SLOPE TOWARD TOWN, PASSING SEVERAL PILLBOXES BUT DRAWING NO FIRE. THOSE KRAUTS MUST BE SOUND SLEEPERS."

ANOTHER OBSERVER, LT.DOMINIC E.BEAGEL, WATKINS GLEN, N.Y., CONTINUED:

"WE REACHED A FRINGE OF BUILDINGS THIS SIDE OF THE RAILROAD TRACK WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED AND IT WASN'T UNTIL OUR INFANTRYMEN WENT BACK AND STARTED BLOWING UP BY-PASSED PILLBOXES THAT THE GERMANS WOKE UP.

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"SOME OF THOSE SLEEPY KRAUTS AS IT BEGAN TO GET LIGHT CAME WANDERING OUT OF THEIR PILLBOXES, NOT KNOWING WE HAD PASSED AND WERE BEHIND THEM."

"BUT THEN THINGS REALLY BEGAN TO HAPPEN," SAID LT.THOMAS J.MANN, 1111 EAST EIGHTH ST., KANSAS CITY, MO., WHO WENT ALONG AS AN OBSERVER WITH THE FIRST BATTALION.

"WE BEGAN DRAWING FIRE FROM ALL ANGLES AND LEARNED QUICKLY THAT IN ADDITION TO REGULAR PILLBOXES WHICH WEREN'T TOO HARD TO SPOT, THERE WERE DOZENS MORE CONCEALED INSIDE WHAT LOOKED LIKE GARAGES AND HOUSES.

"THESE HOUSES WERE JUST FALSE SHELLS WITH ONE CORNER MADE INTO A

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LITTLE PORT SIGHTED T. FIRE DOWN TWO STREETS, OR BOTH WAYS ALONG ONE STREET.

"WE DREW SOME FIRE FROM WHAT LOOKED LIKE A GARAGE SO WE BLASTED IT WITH DEMOLITION CHARGES AND WENT ON, ONLY TO HAVE MORE FIRE AT OUR BACKS. SO WE TURNED ABOUT AND FOUND A TWO-STORY DEEP PILLBOX IN THE WRECKAGE.

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"IN ADDITION WE FOUND THE GERMANS HAD INFILTRATED INTO SOME OF THE BOXES THAT WE HAD CLEARED OUT BUT HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO DESTROY FULLY OR TO LEAVE MANNED."

THE VALUE OF SURPRISE WAS ILLUSTRATED BY THE EXPERIENCE OF THE SECOND BATTALION, WHICH CROSSED JUST AFTER DAYLIGHT IN A RESERVE POSITION IN AN OPERATION WHICH OBSERVER SGT. LEO BULLER, SPRINGFIELD, S.D., DESCRIBED THUSLY:

"WE GOT ONE COMPANY ACROSS ON A FOOTBRIDGE WHICH THE ENGINEERS HAD PUT IN DURING DARKNESS AND THEN THIS WAS SHOT OUT. WE WERE PINNED DOWN IN THE MUD RIGHT AT THE RIVER'S EDGE FOR FIVE HOURS BY MACHINE-GUN FIRE FROM PILLBOXES BETWEEN US AND TOWN.

"FINALLY, BY HAVING MORTARS LAY DOWN SMOKE, WE WERE ABLE TO BREAK THROUGH TO THE SHELTER OF BUILDINGS."

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LACKING ANTI-TANK GUNS OR ARMOR, AND ABLE TO MAKE ONLY LIMITED USE OF THE ARTILLERY ON THE WEST BANK FOR DIRECT FIRE NEEDED TO SMASH PILLBOXES, THE DOUGHBOYS HAD TO BLOW THEM ONE BY ONE WITH POLE CHARGES.

THE CHARGES WERE PLAC[illegible] MEN WHO CRAWLED UP ON THE "BLIND SIDE" OF THE BOXES UNDER COVER OF RIFLE AND MACHINEGUN FIRE.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE IMPRESSIONS OF BILLIGEN AND ITS ELABORATE DEFENSES OBTAINED BY THESE MEN AND BY OTHERS WHO HAVE BEEN ACROSS THE RIVER AND BACK, INCLUDING PVT. HERMAN J. HORN, 306 WEST 97TH ST., NEW YORK CITY; PVT. ALFRED DEVONS, BALLASTOWN, PA., AND SGT. JULIAN A. MAZZOLA, 2255 CALDER ST., BEAUMONT, TEX.:

THE PILLBOXES ARE THE BEST THE 99TH DIVISION HAS ENCOUNTERED. THEY ARE EQUIPPED WITH LIGHTS AND RUNNING WATER INDEPENDENT OF THE CITY SYSTEM, WHICH WAS TURNED OFF AFTER THE ATTACK BEGAN. THEY ARE WELL STOCKED WITH FOOD AND MUNITIONS.

THEY ARE MANNED BY THREE TO 40 MEN, DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF THE FORTIFICATIONS. A TYPICAL CREW INCLUDES ONE OR TWO WELL-TRAINED INFANTRYMEN OR GUNNERS, BACKED BY A MIXED COLLECTION OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL, QUARTERMASTERS, AND THE LIKE.

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THE TOWN ITSELF, WHICH INCLUDES A TANK FACTORY BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN IN PRODUCTION UP TO A WEEK AGO, IS AN UP-TO-DATE CITY WITH MODERN HOUSES.

IN ONE OF THE FEW PENETRATIONS BEYOND THE RAILROAD TRACK RUNNING ALONG THE SOUTHWESTERN SIDE OF TOWN, COMPANY F OF THE SECOND BATTALION USED A TUNNEL TO GET AT A PILLBOX JUST ON THE OTHER SIDE, CAPTURING IT AND SENDING PRISONERS BACK THROUGH THE TUNNEL.

BUT TANKS COUNTERATTACKED, FIRING POINT BLANK AT THE CONCRETE WALLS, AND RECAPTURED THE STRONGPOINT, TAKING SOME AMERICANS WITH IT.

COMPANY G IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWED F THROUGH, SWUNG NORTH IN A FLANKING MOVE, STRUCK A COLUMN MOVING BACK WITH THE AMERICAN PRISONERS, AND FREED ABOUT HALF OF THEM.

PILLBOXES ARE EVEN CONCEALED IN SUMMER HOUSES, IN GARDENS OR IN SOME OF THE LARGE HOMES.

AN ARMORED OBSERVATION POST, STICKING UP ONLY A COUPLE OF FEET

ABOVE GROUND BUT RUNNING TWO STORIES DEEP AND EQUIPPED WITH PONES AND ARTILLERY FIRING CHARGES, WAS FOUND BETWEEN THE AMERICAN-HELD PART OF TOWN AND THE RIVER THREE DAYS AFTER THE FIRST BY-PASSED IT. APPARENTLY IT HAD BEEN IN USE ALL THAT TIME.

WITH 30 TO 40 OF THESE FORTS KNOCKED OUT--AND EXCEPT IN THE FIRST FEW HOURS NO CREWS SURRENDERED UNTIL BLOWN OUT--THE JOB OF CRACKING THIS FIRST GREAT KEYPOINT OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THIS AREA WAS ONLY BEGUN.

DEC 11 1944

B47

BUT IN THE PAST 24 HOURS THE FIRST TANKS AND SELF-PROPELLED TANK DESTROYER GUNS HAVE BEEN PUT OVER THE SAAR, WHICH IS SWOLLEN TO A WIDTH OF 300 FEET, AND THE JOB SHOULD GO FASTER.

MEANWHILE, ARTILLERY CONTINUES TO DO A GREAT JOB OF PROTECTING THE LODGEMENT AGAINST THE GERMAN TANKS AND INFANTRY BY FIRING CONCENTRATIONS ON CALL WITHIN 50 YARDS OF OUR POSITIONS TO KEEP THE ENEMY FROM CLOSING.

FOR EXAMPLE, GUNS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF BRIG. GEN. ERNEST A.DIXBY, CHARLESTOWN, N.H., DIVISION ARTILLERY COMMANDER, WHANGED 1,200 ROUNDS OF EVERYTHING FROM 75'S TO TEN-INCHERS INTO BILLINGEN IN THREE HOURS AND A HALF DURING A CRITICAL PERIOD WHEN ARMOR ATTACKED DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY.

DEC 11 1944

--DASH--

(EDS: 1ST GRAPH ABOVE, READ XXX LED BY MAJOR GEN. JAMES., ETC., "NOT BRIG. GEN.)

SN&ME727PEW

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, DEC. 10-(AP)-BRIG.GEN.GARRISON H. "GAR" DAVIDSON, FOOTBALL COACH AT WEST POINT FROM 1933 TO 1938, HAS BEEN AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL FOR DIRECTING THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PORTS OF PALERMO AND MARSEILLE WHILE CHIEF ENGINEER FOR THE SEVENTH ARMY. HIS WIFE AND THREE SONS LIVE IN GHANA, MED.

DEC 11 1944

BY TOM YARBROUGH

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY, DEC 10-(AP)-AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS PUSHED OFF IN SIX INCHES OF SNOW JUST AFTER DAWN TODAY TOWARD FOUR GERMAN VILLAGES IMMEDIATELY WEST OF THE ROER RIVER.

LESS THAN TWO HOURS AFTER LAUNCHING THE ATTACK THEY WERE IN THE WESTERN OUTSKIRTS OF THREE PLACES--PIER, 15 MILES EAST-NORTHEAST OF AACHEN, GEY AND SCHAFBERG, 15 MILES EAST-SOUTHEAST OF AACHEN.

OTHER ELEMENTS SPEARHEADED BY TANKS WERE MOVING TOWARD GEICH, ABOUT THREE MILES SOUTH OF PIER.

THESE PLACES ARE WITHIN ABOUT A HALF-MILE TO TWO MILES OF THE ROER.

THIS PORTION OF THE FRONT WAS MOVING EAST IN THE WORST KIND OF WEATHER IN A CONCERTED DRIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WEEK.

WD906AEW

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE, DEC. 10-(AP)-IT WAS REVEALED TODAY THAT THE 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION, COMMANDED BY MAJOR GEN.I.T. WYCHE, PINEHURST, N.C., WAS THE SEVENTH ARMY FORCE WHICH ENTERED THE BIG ENEMY BASE OF HAGUENAU, NORMALLY A CITY WITH A POPULATION OF 16,000.

(EDS: MAY BE INSERTED IN PARIS WESTERN FRONT IF DESIRED.)

Add Rome Greece ~~XXXXX~~ ELAS ranks.

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THE TEXT OF THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

"RUMORS ARE REPORTED TO BE CIRCULATING AMONG THE POPULATION IN PARTS OF GREECE TO THE EFFECT THAT UNITS OF THE ROYAL HELLENIC NAVY AND THE WHOLE ROYAL HELLENIC AIR FORCE IN PIRAEUS AREA HAVE DESERTED TO THE ELAS.

"ADMIRAL SIR JOHN D.CUNNINGHAM, KCB, MVO, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF ALLIED NAVAL FORCES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, AND AIR MARSHAL SIR JOHN SLESSOR, KCB, DSO, MC, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE RAF IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND MIDDLE EAST, CATEGORICALLY DENY THAT THERE IS ANY TRUTH WHATSOEVER IN THESE RUMORS."

HJ625PEW

30. 24 — 21141

BY SID FEDER

ROME, DEC. 10-(AP)-THE SECOND ANNUAL MEDITERRANEAN THEATER INTERALLIED BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS OPEN TOMORROW FOR A WEEK-LONG RUN, WITH AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL TITLE TEAMS FROM SEVEN ZONES OF THIS AREA SCHEDULED TO COMPETE.

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UNITED STATES, FRENCH, AND BRITISH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS ARE ENTERED IN THE TOURNEY. AMONG THEM ARE A NUMBER OF BATTLERS WHO WON CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE FIRST BEAKBUSTING PARTY HELD LAST WINTER AT ALGIERS.

ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE PERFORMERS IS MIDDLEWEIGHT MARCEL CERDAN, A FRENCH SAILOR, WHO WAS THE HIT OF THE ALGIERS TAFFYPULL.

ALSO IN THE LIST IS THE CHAMPIONSHIP FIFTH ARMY TEAM OF THE FIRST AFFAIR, MANY OF WHOSE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PLUCKED OUT OF FRONTLINE ASSIGNMENTS FOR A WEEK'S TEMPORARY DUTY TO TAKE PART IN THE TOURNAMENT.

ONE OF THE FLASHIEST NEWCOMERS IS EZZARD CHARLES, LONGARMED CINCINNATI MIDDLEWEIGHT--NOW GROWN TO LIGHTWEIGHT SIZE--WHO WAS ONE OF THE TOP 20 FIGHTERS AMONG THE 160-POUNDERS BEFORE HE ENTERED THE ARMY. HE IS SERVING WITH A QUARTERMASTER OUTFIT HERE.

IN ADDITION TO CERDAN, ANOTHER DEFENDING CHAMPION IS LARRY CISNEROS, CALIFORNIA WELTERWEIGHT.

DEC 11 1944

WE1039PEW

ROME, DEC 10-(AP)-"MISS MAYWOOD" MADE HER 100TH TRIP OVER ENEMY TERRITORY YESTERDAY, AND AS USUAL BROUGHT ALL HER BOYS HOME SAFELY.

"MISS MAYWOOD" IS A FLYING FORTRESS THAT AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 142, MAYWOOD, N.J., GAVE TO THE AIR FORCE. IT TOOK HER ONLY 10 MONTHS TO REACH THE CENTURY MARK OF MISSIONS. DURING THAT PERIOD ONLY THREE OF HER CREWMEN HAVE BEEN WOUNDED, AND NONE HAS BEEN KILLED.

APPROPRIATELY, THREE NEW JERSEY MEN WERE IN HER CREW WHEN THE PLANE BOMBED REGENSBURG, GERMANY, YESTERDAY. THEY WERE STAFF SGTS.GEORGE TENGITORE, 543 MCCHESNEY ST., ORANGE; JOHN FRANKE, 390 UNION AVE., WOODBRIDGE, AND TECH.SGT.ROYA. RASKOPF, 422 MAPLE ST., RIDGEFIELD PARK.

THE REGENSBURG FLIGHT THROUGH THICK CLOUD ALSO MARKED THE 400TH COMBAT MISSIONS FOR THE VETERAN 97TH BOMB GROUP, OF WHICH "MISS MAYWOOD" IS A PAART.

THE 97TH FLEW THE FIRST AMERICAN HIGH-LEVEL PRECISION ATTACK ON NAZI TERRITORY FROM BRITAIN ON AUGU. 17, 1942, BOMBING ROUEN. SINCE THEN IT HAS FLOWN MORE THAN 10,000 SORTIES, DROPPED 22,000 TONS OF BOMBS, SHOT DOWN 376 ENEMY PLANES.

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YESTERDAY'S WAS A TOUGH MISSION FOR LT.-COL.DAVID J.JONES, GOLETA, CALIF., DEPUTY GROUP COMMANDER AND PILOT OF THE LEAD PLANE. HE BLACKED OUT WHEN HIS OXYGEN LINE BECAME UNFASTENED. BUT GROUP COMMANDER COL.NILS OHMAN, 80 HYDE PARK ST., EAST DEDHAM, MASS., WAS CO-PILOT AND TOOK OVER.

SN427PEW

A21 All Athens Greek (Barber) xx Papandreou)

A BRITISH OFFICER, MAJ.LUDOVIC GARDINER, WHO ARRIVED BY AIR FROM SALONIKA DESCRIBED THE SITUATION THERE AS "TENSELY QUIET."

"THE ELAS HOLD COMLETE CONTROL THERE SO THERE ARE NO OUTWARD MANIFESTATIONS OF TROUBLE," HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD "3,000 CIVILIANS HAD BEEN QUIETLY 'BUMPED OFF' BY THE ELAS, THE EAM AND THE POLICE SINCE THE GERMANS LEFT."

A GENERAL STRIKE IN SYMPATHY WITH THE ATHENS ELAS WAS CALLED OFF AFTER ONE DAY WHEN THE BRITISH TOOK CHARGE OF THE POWER STATION AND AFFORDED MILITARY PROTECTION FOR THE WATER CARTS, THE OFFICER SAID.

A BRITISH COMMUNIQUE SAID ELAS FORCES WERE REPORTED DIGGING FORTIFICATIONS AT SALONIKA AND PATRAS.

A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WHO ARRIVED IN ATHENS LAST NIGHT SAID THE FOOD SITUATION IN THE PROVINCES, PARTICULARLY IN THE MOUNTAINOUS REGIONS WHERE SNOW ALREADY HAS FALLEN, WAS DESPERATE. HE SAID THE POPULATION OF THE AREA WAS IN DANGER OF STARVING AS THE GENERAL STRIKE AT PIRAEUS, PORT OF ATHENS, HALTED THE FLOW OF RELIEF SUPPLIES. SUPPLIES, HOWEVER, WERE BEING UNLOADED AT SALONIKA.

TROOPS OF THE REGULAR GREEK ARMY MOUNTAIN BRIGADE, VETERANS OF

FIGHTING IN ITALY, ATTACKED STRONG ELAS POSITIONS IN THE FOOTHILLS OF MOUNT HYMETTUS, NORTHEAST OF THE CITY, YESTERDAY. ELAS FROM THEIR WOODED POSITIONS HAVE BEEN SNIPING AND HURLING MORTAR SHELLS ON THE TROOP BARRACKS AT GOUDI, TWO MILES NORTHEAST OF ATHENS.

AIDED BY TANKS, RAF SPITFIRES AND ARTILLERY THE TROOPS ASSAULTED THE ELAS POSITIONS AND INFLICTED HEAVY CASUALTIES. THE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE, IN THE ALL-DAY BATTLE, CAPTURED A 75 MILLIMETER GUN AND SEVERAL MORTARS. THEY ALSO CLEANED OUT A HOSPITAL BUILDING NEARBY WHICH WAS HELD BY ELAS SNIPERS.

DURING THE LAST 24 HOURS THE ELAS HAVE SHOWED SIGNS OF BECOMING BETTER COORDINATED IN THEIR BATTLE PLANS.

CONFUSION CONTINUED TO EXIST HOWEVER, AS TO THE ATTITUDE OF GENERAL SERAFIS, TITULAR HEAD OF THE ELAS MILITIA, WHO IS KNOWN TO BE PERSONALLY FRIENDLY TO THE BRITISH. ONE REPORT SAID HE HAD NOTIFIED GEN.SCOBIE THAT HE STILL CONSIDERED HIMSELF UNDER THE BRITISH GENERAL'S COMMAND. ANOTHER SAID HE AND HIS STAFF HAD GONE INTO NORTHERN GREECE, INDICATING HE DID NOT PLAN TO GIVE ANY SUPPORT TO THE REBELS IN ATHENS.

PAPANDREOU, IN A STATEMENT TODAY, DENIED HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PRO-FASCIST OR THAT THE ELAS HAD RISEN IN DEFENSE OF THE GREEK STATE.

"I REPUDIATE THESE CHARGES WITH ALL THE FORCE OF MY SOUL," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE STATEMENT WAS MADE TO DISPEL AN "ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION" ON THE PART OF FOREIGN PUBLIC OPINION.

HE DECLARED ANY ARMED GREEK NATIONALISTS ATTEMPTING TO JOIN BRITISH AND REGULAR GREEK RANKS HAD BEEN ARRESTED AND PLACED IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

PAPANDREOU SAID NUMEROUS CONCESSIONS HAD BEEN MADE TO LEFT-WINGERS IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN NATIONAL UNITY.

"I APPEAL TO DEMOCRATS AND LIBERALS OF THE WHOLE WORLD," HE DECLARED, "AND DEMAND THEIR MORAL SUPPORT BECAUSE MY GOVERNMENT DEFENDS FREEDOM AGAINST THE TYRANNY OF AN ARMED MINORITY WHICH IS FASCIST.

"IF THE EXTREME LEFTISTS HAD BELIEVED THE MAJORITY WAS ON THEIR SIDE THEY WOULD NOT HAVE RISEN BUT WOULD HAVE AGREED TO DISARMAMENT AND REMAINED IN OFFICE UNTIL A FREE ELECTION COULD BE HELD. THEIR DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO REVOLT IS FRANK ADMISSION THAT THE LEFT-WING IS NOT IN THE MAJORITY."

W118PEW

ATHENS, DEC. 10-(AP)-DISREGARDING BULLETS FROM MACHINE-GUNS AND SNIPERS, EDGAR M.WAHLBERG OF 1257 BANNOCK ST., DENVER, BECAME AN AMERICAN HERO OF THE ATHENS FIGHTING.

DRIVING A BATTERED, BULLET-RIDDLED TRUCK ADORNED WITH THE STARS AND STRIPES AND A HUGE RED CROSS, WAHLBERG, CHIEF WELFARE OFFICER OF THE ATHENS DISTRICT OF THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION, AND HIS LOYAL ASSISTANT, MRS. AMALIA LYKOUREZOU, GREEK RED CROSS VOLUNTEER, RUSHED FROM HOSPITAL TO HOSPITAL IN THE HOTLY-CONTESTED BATTLE ZONE.

ON FRIDAY, WAHLBERG DROVE 15 MILES OUT OF THE CITY TO KIFISSIA, TAKING URGENTLY-NEEDED FOOD TO 300 REFUGEE CHILDREN FROM BURNED VILLAGES QUARTERED IN A SANITARIUM THERE. HIS WAS THE LAST DELIVERY TO GET THROUGH, FOR LATER KIFISSIA WAS CUT OFF FROM ATHENS BY THE ELAS.

"WE ASKED FOR ELAS PERMISSION TO MAKE THE TRIP SO AS TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, BUT IT DID NOT COME THROUGH," WAHLBERG SAID.

"WE GOT THROUGH OKAY, AND THEN ON THE WAY BACK DECIDED TO LOOK IN ON THE GREEK RED CROSS HOSPITAL THREE MILES OUTSIDE THE CITY ON THE MAIN KIFISSIA ROAD. THIS WAS IN THE EVENING.

"AT 3:30 A GREEK MOUNTAIN BRIGADE FROM THE GOUDI BARRACKS TOOK THE HOSPITAL AND DROVE THE ELAS OUT BECAUSE THEY HAD USED IT AS A SNIPERS' NEST.

"THE CONDITION OF THE PATIENTS WAS APPALLING. FOR 48 HOURS THEY HAD BEEN WITHOUT WATER AND FOOD. MOST OF THEM HAD BEEN EVACUATED TO THE BASEMENT WHERE THEY WERE LYING ON LITTERS MOANING AND BEGGING FOR WATER. IT WAS LIKE A CORNER OF A BATTLEFIELD. BULLETS WHIPPED THROUGH THE OPERATING THEATER WHERE SURGEONS WERE TRYING TO CARRY ON THEIR WORK. EVERY WINDOW IN THE PLACE WAS SMASHED."

WAHLBERG DECLARED "THE WHOLE PLACE WAS UNDER CONSTANT MACHINEGUN AND SHELL FIRE."

HE AND MRS.LYKOUREZOU CALLED ON THE COMMANDER OF THE GREEK GENDARMERIE, WHO COLLABORATED WITH THE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE IN TAKING THE HOSPITAL FROM THE ELAS, AND PREVAILED ON HIM TO RELEASE MEMBERS OF THE NURSING STAFF WHO HAD BEEN HELD FOR QUESTIONING.

MRS.LYKOUREZOU SAID THAT "UNDOUBTEDLY AMONG THE STAFF THERE WERE SOME WHO HAD SNEAKED THE ELAS MEN IN. A NUMBER OF 'PATIENTS' WHEN EXAMINED TURNED OUT TO BE FAKES. THEY WERE BANDAGED AND LAY IN BED PRETENDING TO BE ILL WHEN THE GOVERNMENT FORCES ARRIVED, HOPING TO ESCAPE THAT WAY. BULGARIANS AND RUSSIANS WERE FOUND AMONG THEM."

WAHLBERG RETURNED TO THE GREEK RED CROSS HOSPITAL SATURDAY WITH TWO TRUCKS OF FOOD. THE WATER SUPPLY, WHICH HAD BEEN TURNED ON AGAIN, HAD BEEN DISABLED BY A BULLET IN THE MAIN PIPES, AND A SHORTAGE THREATENED ONCE MORE.

WAHLBERG RETURNED TO THE HOSPITAL TODAY, TAKING A SURGEON AND AN ASSISTANT, BOTH BADLY NEEDED THERE.

WD446PEW

ATHENS,DEC.10 (AP)--A GERMAN OFFICIAL AND A GERMAN WOMAN WERE CAUGHT AT AN RAF TRANSIT HOTEL TODAY WHEN ELAS SHELLING BROKE OUT IN THE CI

THE HALL PORTER OF THE HOTEL SPOTTED THE COUPLE, WHO HAD LIVED AT THE HOTEL DURING GERMAN OCCUPATION, IN THE STREET. HE CALLED AN RAF OFFICER WHO ARRESTED THEM.

DEC 11 1944

APRB01800AM425P

MOSCOW, DEC. 10-(AP)-- JULIU MANIU, MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO IN THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT AND LEADER OF THE PEASANT PARTY, WAS NN ACCUSED BY THE MOSCOW TRADE UNION NEWSPAPER TRUD TODAY OF JUSTIFYING IRON GUARDISTS WHO MURDERED ASSASSINATED LEADERS OF THE NATIONAL

DEMOCRATIC FRONT.

"THE CRIMES COMMITTED BY THE IRON GUARD SHOW THAT WITHOUT A THOROUGH PURGE OF THE STATE MMM APPARATUS, THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE CANNOT CREATE A DEMOCRATIC ROMANIA FRIENDLY TO THE U.S.S.R. AND THE ALLIED NATIONS," THE NEWSPAPER DECLARED.

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"IT IS NOT BY CHANCE THAT BANDIT GANGS ASSASSINATE WORKERS. THE WORKING CLASS IS PLAYING A CONSIDERABLE ROLE IN CONSOLIDATION OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FORCES. IN SEPTEMBER, 150,000 WORKERS ORGANIZED IN TRADE UNIONS. THEY ACT ENERGETICALLY AGAINST REACTIONARY FORCES."

ALB/ SECOND 1115 PW 137PEW

SUBMARINE CREW NEARS

11th Saipan Iwo Bombing + (Hoyland) ex near

REAR ADM. ALLEN E.SMITH, COMMANDING THE NAVAL FORCE, SAID THE IWO ATTACK WAS SMOOTHLY HANDLED AND WELL COORDINATED.

QD112PPW

CREW SAW THE BOMBS CLOUD AGAINST CLOUDS.

Add 21st Bomber Command, Saipan-Tokyo (Hoyland xxclouds.

WITH GARVIN WERE 2ND LTS. EDWIN SEITZ, (1106 OHIO ST). WALKERTON, IND.; HAROLD ERLANDSON, (1818 W. FORTY-FIRST ST) KANSAS CITY; HENRY LEIGHT MILLER, (4900 QUEENSBURY RD) RIVERDALE, MD.; RICHARD BAUML, (162 DELAMINE RD) ROCHESTER, N.Y.

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ALSO IN THE CREW WERE STAFF SGT.JOHN JOSEPH CIEZAERK, (3442 N.CENTRAL PARK AVE) CHICAGO; AND SGTS. DAVID CALDWELL GRIMES, CALIF.; JAMES HENRY BRAUM, 65 KIRKWOOD AVE) AKRON, OHIO; ALVIN C.BORDEN, DUNCAN, OKLA AND

WICHITA FALLS, TEX.; FELIX LILES, WENDELL, N.C. AND FITZGERALD, GA; FRANK OBLOCK, HERMINE, PA.

THE RETURNING FLIERS MADE NO REPORT ON DAMAGE TO JAPAN BY THE RECENT QUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE REPORTED BY RADIO TOKYO. SUCH DAMAGE WOULD NOT BE DISTINGUISHABLE IN PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY THE HIGH-FLYING SUPERFORTS.

DEC 11 194

PM1202PPW

PHILIPPINES (280)

BY DEAN SCHEDLER

WITH THE 77TH DIVISION ON LEYTE,MONDAY,DEC.11-(AP)-THIS DIVISION'S LIGHTNING FOUR-DAY DRIVE TO CAPTURE ORMOC, WHOSE FALL WAS ANNOUNCED BY GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR TODAY, WAS A VICTORY OBTAINED BY STRIKING THE JAPANESE WITH COMPLETE SURPRISE, AND PUSHING NORTHWARD DESPITE AN ENEMY FLANKING THREAT.

D-DAY MORNING MAJ.GEN.ANDREW BRUCE PLANNED TO SECURE AN EXTREMELY NARROW BEACHHEAD ABOUT 1,500 YARDS LONG AND 1,000 DEEP. FROM THIS PERIMETER HE WOULD WHEEL HIS DIVISION NORTH AND BEGIN THE ATTACK ALONG THE COASTAL ROAD TOWARD ORMOC.

BUT AS SOON AS AMERICAN TROOPS WERE OFF THE LANDING CRAFT AND JAPANESE OPPOSITION WAS FOUND EXTREMELY LIGHT AND SPOTTY, HE REVISED HIS PLAN AND STRUCK FOR HIS OBJECTIVE THREE MILES TO THE NORTH.

"THE STATUE OF LIBERTY" DIVISION, WITH THE AVERAGE AGE OF ITS TROOPERS OVER 28 YEARS, HIGH FOR AN INFANTRY SOLDIER, MAINTAINED THE PACE WITHOUT A LETUP. MEN FOUGHT AND LIVED WITH WHAT THEY CARRIED ON THEIR BACKS.

DURING THE FIRST DAY THEY ADVANCED TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE SUGAR MILL TOWN OF IPIL, MEETING ONLY LIGHT POCKETS OF RESISTANCE.

ADVANCING IN COLUMNS ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD THESE TROOPS WITH LIGHT WEAPONS AND AUTOMATIC FIRE FLUSHED A FEW ENEMY SNIPERS FROM THE THICK GRASS AND HEDGEROWS. ENEMY SNIPERS AT TIMES WERE VERY ACCURATE.

DIGGING IN THE FIRST NIGHT AT IPIL AFTER FIGHTING THROUGH WAIST-DEEP RICE PADDIES, THE 77TH WAS SHOWN TO BE A WELL-TRAINED COMBAT GROUP.

ORDERED TO HOLD THEIR FIRE UNTIL POSITIVE CONTACT WAS MADE, OUR FORWARD PATROLS DISCHARGED ONLY BRIEF AND SPORADIC FIRE AND THERE WAS NOT "TRIGGER HAPPY" SHOOTING.

DURING THE FIRST NIGHT ENGINEERS CONSTRUCTED A MINED ROADBLOCK JUST FORWARD FROM OUR OUTER DEFENSE PERIMETER. AS EXPECTED, ABOUT MID-NIGHT AN ENEMY GROUP BELIEVED TO BE A MACHINEGUN COMPANY STARTED TO PROBE TOWARD IPIL.

LT.ELMER E.FOX, (8823 WEST RICE ST.) CHICAGO,ILL., AND HIS FIRST SERGEANT, ANTHONY FOX (CORRECT), FREDERICKTOWN,PA., SET THE TRAP AND WERE REWARDED IN THE MORNING BY FINDING PARTS OF SIX JAPANESE BLASTED BY THE EXPLOSION. THERE WAS NO FURTHER INFILTRATION.

FROM IPIL TO CAMP DOWNES, COL.WILLIAM HAMILTON, DILLON,S.C., LEADING THE FORWARD REGIMENT, CALLED FOR ARTILLERY FIRE AGAINST ENEMY POSITIONS AND WORKED FAST TOWARD HIGH GROUND OF THE CAMP LOCATION.

THIS ADVANCE MET BOLSTERED ENEMY RESISTANCE AND SEVERAL WELL-PREPARED DUGOUTS AND PILLBOXES HAD TO BE LEVELLED. AMPHIBIOUS TRACTORS BRINGING AMMUNITION AND EVACUATING THE WOUNDED FROM THE FRONT WERE PRESSED INTO CLOSE ARTILLERY SUPPORT AGAINST SOME OF THESE SPOTS.

DURING THIS PUSH JAPANESE COUNTERFIRE WAS LIMITED TO SMALL ARMS

AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. THE ONLY FIRE THE ENEMY SENT BACK WAS SOME ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN AIR BURSTS.

TORRENTIAL RAINS PROVIDED THE MOST DIFFICULT OBSTACLE FOR TWO DAYS. THE INFANTRY WORKED IN BOGGED RICE PADDIES IN A BLINDING RAIN, THUS AT TIMES EXPOSING THEMSELVES TO ENEMY SNIPERS. IN ONE RICE FIELD A SNIPER SHOT FIVE MEN BEFORE HE WAS LOCATED AND KILLED JUST A FEW YARDS AHEAD OF THE LINE.

SELF-PROPELLED 75 MILLIMETER GUNS GAVE CLOSE SUPPORT TO THE FAST MOVING DOUGHBOYS. THESE TANK-TYPE VEHICLES, COMMANDED BY SGT.DAVID CORE, TAYLORSTOWN,PA., SPEARHEADED THE DRIVE TOWARD CAMP DOWNES, WIPING OUT JAPANESE MACHINEGUN EMPLACEMENTS IN A THICK BAMBOO GROVE.

WORKING IN SUCH A TIGHT POSITION, THE 77TH DIVISION WAS VULNERABLE TO ENEMY AIR ATTACKS BUT ONLY A FEW DUSK AND DAWN RAIDERS MOLESTED OUR REAR AREAS, INFLICTING NO APPRECIABLE DAMAGE.

THE HIGH GROUND AT CAMP DOWNES WAS IDEAL FOR ARTILLERY COMMANDING ORMOC POSITIONS. SEVERAL JAPANESE BARRACKS STANDING INTACT WERE PRESSED INTO USE FOR MEDICAL EVACUATION. JAPANESE ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN POSITIONS WERE LEFT WITH GUNS IN MOUNTS AND AMPLE AMMUNITION STORES.

ALTHOUGH THE OBJECTIVE IS GAINED AND MOST OF THE WEST COAST OF LEYTE IS IN OUR HANDS, JAPANESE POCKETS TO THE NORTH AND EAST MAY STILL BE SIZABLE, AND SOME BITTER FIGHTING MAY BE NECESSARY TO SMASH THE ENEMY NESTS AND PREVENT ESCAPE OF THE NIPPONESE BY SEA.

DEC 11 1944

BY DEAN SCHEDLER

WITH THE U.S. 77TH DIVISION, LEYTE, PHILIPPINES, DEC.7 -(DELAYED)-GREEN-CLAD DOUGHBOYS OF THE 77TH (STATUE OF LIBERTY) DIVISION FANNED OUT HARD AND FAST FROM THEIR SMALL BEACHHEAD PERIMETER TODAY, DRIVING ALONG THE VITAL JAPANESE SUPPLY ROAD TOWARD THE PORT OF ORMOC.

THE 77TH MADE THE BEACHHEAD TODAY, LANDING UNDER THE PROTECTION OF PLANES AND NAVAL SURFACE CRAFT.

AS THIS IS WRITTEN ADVANCE INFANTRY AND TANK ELEMENTS OF THE DIVISION, VETERAN OF THE GUAM CAMPAIGN, ARE DIGGING IN JUST OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE OF IPIL, THREE MILES SOUTH OF ORMOC.

THE AMERICANS ARE BEING KEPT OUT OF THE TOWN BY EARTH-SHAKING EXPLOSIONS SET OFF BY HEAVY YANK ARTILLERY BULLSEYE-HITS ON A HUGE JAPANESE AMMUNITION AND GASOLINE DUMP ON THE SOUTHERN OUTSKIRTS OF THE TOWN.

DEBRIS FROM THE EXPLODING DUMP SHOWERS DOWN ON THE WAITING AMERICANS.

THE TROOPS, UNDER COL. STEVEN SMITH HAMILTON, OF DILLON, S.C., HAVE ADVANCED IN COLUMN ALONG THE ROAD, ALMOST UNCHECKED EXCEPT FOR SMALL POCKETS OF JAPANESE RESISTANCE. AUTOMATIC RIFLE FIRE AND FLAME THROWERS CLEANED OUT THE POCKETS.

THE QUICK LANDING CAUGHT THE JAPANESE BY SURPRISE. EVIDENCE OF THIS WAS SEEN IN ABANDONED SUPPLY DUMPS ALONG THE ROAD AND NIPA SHACKS HASTILY DESERTED BY THEIR FORMER SOLDIER OCCUPANTS. THEY ALSO LEFT A FLOATPLANE, UNDAMAGED.

FROM SOME OF THE SMALL SHACKS NEAR THE SUPPLY DUMPS, THE ENEMY RUSHED INTO THE HILLS, LEAVING WARM FOOD ON THE TABLES. SEVERAL TRUCKS WERE FOUND IN GOOD CONDITION.

THE JAPANESE ALSO LEFT QUANTITIES OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AS WELL AS FOOD AND AMMUNITION, AND JUDGING FROM THE PILES OF POSTCARDS AND WRITING PAPER, A COMPLETE SPECIAL SERVICE UNIT WAS ESTABLISHED HERE.

AS THE ADVANCE SWEPT NORTH THE TERRAIN TO THE EAST OF THE ROAD GRADUALLY UNFOLDED INTO MORE OPEN AND PASSABLE GROUND, WITH A FEW SMALL HILLS. FROM THE BEACHHEAD TO THIS POINT THERE HAD BEEN THICK JUNGLE ALONG THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ROAD AND MANY DEEP RICE PADDIES, THROUGH WHICH THE YANKS WADED UP TO THEIR WAISTS IN MUD AND WATER.

QD257PPW

BY AL DOPKING

DEC 11 1944

WITH U.S.SEVENTH DIVISION, LEYTE, PHILIPPINES, DEC.9-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE U.S.SEVENTH DIVISION APPEARED TODAY TO HAVE BROKEN THE BACK OF JAPANESE RESISTANCE IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR ON THE WEST COAST OF LEYTE ISLAND.

THE DOUGHBOYS ARE MOPPING UP ENEMY POCKETS AS THEY ROLL NORTHWARD TOWARD A JUNCTURE WITH THE 77TH DIVISION ON ITS BEACHHEAD THREE MILES SOUTH OF ORMOC. THE DIVISIONS ARE ABOUT FOUR MILES APART.

WHATEVER IS LEFT OF THE JAPANESE ARMY'S CRACK 26TH DIVISION, WHICH HAD THE PRIME MISSION HERE OF ANNIHILATING THE U.S. 7TH, CONQUEROR OF THE NIPPONESE AT ATTU AND KWAJEILIN, IS BEING SQUEEZED INTO AN EVER-NARROWING CORRIDOR BETWEEN THE TWO AMERICAN V

WHICH HAD THE PRIME MISSION HERE OF ANNIHILATING THE U.S. 7TH, CONQUEROR OF THE NIPPONESE AT ATTU AND KWAJEILIN, IS BEING SQUEEZED INTO AN EVER-NARROWING CORRIDOR BETWEEN THE TWO AMERICAN FORCES.

ABANDONED ENEMY AMMUNITION DUMPS FOUND BY THE AMERICANS AND THE LIGHT RESISTANCE ENCOUNTERED INDICATE THAT THE JAPANESE ARE RETREATING NORTH WHERE THEY MAY BE FORCED INTO A SUICIDE STAND.

VCOL. CURTIS O'SULLIVAN OF NAPA, CALIF., A FRONTLINE OFFICER, SAID THE NIPPONESE, UP TO TWO DAYS AGO, HAD BEEN FIGHTING A SKULFUL DELAYING ACTION BY MAKING THE MOST OF THE RUGGED TERRAIN.

AFTER THE SEVENTH DIVISION SCALED HILL 606 OVERLOOKING THE VALLEY BEYOND, THE JAPANESE MADE ONLY HALF-HEARTED STANDS.

IN A GREAT SURGE, AMERICAN INFANTRYMEN, SUPPORTED BY LIGHT TANKS, SWEPT ACROSS CALINGATNGAN AND SIBUGAY RIVERS, SWOLLEN BY RAIN, AND ON PAST THE SMOLDERING RUINS OF ALBUERA VILLAGE, WHICH IS ABOUT SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF ORMOC.

MOST OF THE JAPANESE OF THE 26TH DIVISION HAVE BEEN TOUGH FELLOWS, O'SULLIVAN SAID. SOME OF THOSE WHOSE BODIES LITTER THE BATTLEFIELD WERE WELL OVER SIX FEET TALL.

THE PROGRESS OF THE SEVENTH UNTIL TWO DAYS AGO WAS SLOWED BY RUGGED RIDGES COVERED WITH BAMBOO THICKETS, WHERE THE JAPANESE DEPLOYED FOR THEIR REAR GUARD ACTION. THE AMERICANS POUNDED THEM HEAVILY WITH ARTILLERY.

THE SEVENTH NOW HOLDS COMMANDING POSITIONS IN THE SOUTHERN SECTOR. FROM ITS VANTAGE POINT ATOP HILL 606 WE CAN SEE WHAT IS LEFT OF ORMOC, WHICH HAS BEEN THE JAPANESE SUPPLY BASE IN THIS AREA.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT AMERICAN ARTILLERY AND AIRCRAFT HAVE DEALT ORMOC DEVASTATING BLOWS WHICH HAVE WRECKED MOST OF ITS BUILDINGS.

QD122PPW

WELLINGTON,N.Z.,DEC 8 (AP)-THE NEW ZEALAND PETROLEUM CO., LTD., TODAY ABANDONED ITS SEARCH FOR OIL IN THIS COUNTRY AFTER SPENDING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN EXHAUSTIVE BUT FRUITLESS EXPLORATION WORK, INCLUDING BORINGS DEEPER THAN ANY EVER MADE BEFORE IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

DEC 11 1944

EXPLORATION WAS FINANCED BY THREE SHAREHOLDING COMPANIES, VACUUM OIL, CALIFORNIA-TEXAS INVESTMENTS AND SHALE (CORRECT) OIL INVESTMENTS. SHALE OIL, REPRESENTING AUSTRALIAN INTERESTS, SPENT NEARLY $5,000,000.

EIGHT MAJOR WELLS AGGREGATING 52,105 FEET IN DEPTH WERE DRILLED. MORE THAN 100 OTHER HOLES WERE SUNK BY SMALLER DRILLING PLANTS.

---SC100ACW NM

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, DEC. 10-(AP)-THE PUERTO RICO INDEPENDENCE CONGRESS, OPEN TO ALL POLITICAL PARTIES AND LAST HELD IN 1942, CONVENED TODAY WITH AN ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE OF 20,000. A REQUEST THAT PUERTO RICO BE MADE AN INDEPENDENT REPUBLIC WAS SENT TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

CB903PEW

30.24 — 21145

UNDATED JAPANESE DECORATIONS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
POSTHUMOUS AWARDS HAVE BEEN GRANTED TO MAJ.GEN.TSUENO IWABUCHI AND 23 OTHER ARMY OFFICERS AND MEN "WHO DIED IN ACTION ON THE CHINA CONTINENT AND THE SOUTHERN REGIONS AS WELL AS ON THE JAPANESE MAINLAND," THE NIPPONESE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY SAID TODAY (MONDAY).
THE AGENCY, AS RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID IWABUCHI ALSO WAS AMONG 96 OFFICERS AND MEN GRANTED SPECIAL CITATIONS FOR "OUTSTANDING FEATS OF VALOR." IWABUCHI WAS CREDITED WITH PERFORMING "BRILLIANTLY AND DARINGLY" IN THE ATTACK ON HONG KONG, AND IN THE SOUTHERN SUMATRA AND GUADALCANAL CAMPAIGNS.
PW NM

MFIRST LEAD UNDATED TOKYO RAIDS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESSES APPEARED OVER TOKYO FOR THE SECOND TIME SUNDAY NIGHT AND MONDAY MORNING (JAPANESE TIME) AND "DROPPED SOME BOMBS," THE NIPPONESE RADIO REPORTED.
FIRES WERE STARTED IN THE CITY, SAID A FRENCH-LANGUAGE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, BUT "WERE PUT OUT SPEEDILY." THERE WAS NO ALLIED CONFIRMATION OF THE RAIDS.
EARLIER THE RADIO HAD REPORTED THAT SUPERFORTRESSES HAD ROARED OVER JAPAN AT 10:30 A.M. SUNDAY (TOKYO TIME), APPARENTLY WITH RECONNAISSANCE AS THEIR OBJECTIVE.
IN THE LATER ATTACKS, THE RADIO SAID, "AIR RAID DEFENSES XXX DROVE OFF THE RAIDERS BEFORE THEY COULD DO ANY REAL DAMAGE."
AN EARLIER BROADCAST HAD SAID THAT TWO MARIANAS-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES TOKYO AT 8:30 P.M. SUNDAY PENETRATED TO METR

AN EARLIER BROADCAST HAD SAID THAT TWO MARIANAS-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES HAD PENETRATED TO METROPOLITAN TOKYO AT 8:30 P.M. SUNDAY (JAPANESE TIME), ANDHAD DROPPED MANY INCENDIARY BOMBS AND CAUSED FIRES. BUT FLED UNDER HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE.

FIRST LEAD UNDATED TOKYO RAIDS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
FOR THE FOURTH TIME WITHIN 25 HOURS, AMERICAN B-29 BOMBERS RAIDED JAPAN AND JAPANESE-HELD KOREA, WHEN TWO MARIANAS-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES PENETRATED TO TOKYO AT 8:30 P.M. SUNDAY (:730 A.M. EWT), THE JAPANESE RADIO REPORTED IN A BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
IN THE LATEST RAID, THE BROADCAST SAID, "BECAUSE OUR ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY UNITS INTERCEPTED THESE PLANES AND SHOWERED A HEAVY BARRAGE, THE ENEMY PLANES FLED."
HOWEVER, THE BROADCAST CONTINUED, "THE ENEMY DROPPED MANY INCENDIARY BOMBS AND CAUSED FIRES, BUT DUE TO THE ACTIVE WORK OF OUR AIR DEFENSE UNITS, THESE FIRES WERE IMMEDIATELY PUT OUT."
THE THREE PREVIOUS RAIDS HAD BEEN MADE AT 7:30 P.M. SATURDAY OVER WESTERN JAPAN, AT 10:30 A.M. OVER KYUSHU AND AT 11 A.M. UNTIL NOON OVER TWO POINTS IN KOREA. (ALL JAPANESE TIME).
(NO PICKUP)
WD1051AEW

UNDATED JAPANESE-DIET
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
"FULL PRECAUTIONS" HAVE BEEN TAKEN SO THAT "INTENSIFIED ENEMY AIR RAIDS" MAY NOT INTERRUPT THE 86TH IMPERIAL JAPANESE DIET CONVENING DEC.24, TOKYO RADIO SAID TODAY IN A DOMESTIC BROADCAST PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
QD436PPW NM

JAPANESE IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS TODAY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE CLAIMING THAT ON DEC.7 JAPANESE AIR UNITS ATTACKED A SUPERFORTRESS BASE WEST OF CALCUTTA AND HAD SET ABLAZE "AT LEAST FIVE PLANES ON THE GROUND, AND FOUR LOCATIONS."
THE COMMUNIQUE, BROADCAST TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE BY THE TOKYO RADIO AND RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, ALSO CONTAINED A ROUNDUP OF PURPORTED "WAR RESULTS."
INCLUDED WERE CLAIMS THAT ON DEC.7-9 JAPANESE AIRCRAFT OPERATING OVER ORMOC BAY AND LEYTE GULF SANK TWO TRANSPORTS AND TWELVE LANDING BARGES, AND SEVERELY DAMAGED AND SET AFIRE FOUR TRANSPORTS AND ONE WARSHIP OF UNKNOWN CATEGORY.
PM202APW NM

UNDATED EISENHOWER PROCLAMATION
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A PROCLAMATION ISSUED TODAY IN THE NAME OF GEN.EISENHOWER ASKED THE AID OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE "IN ROUTING OUT ACTIVE NAZI INDIVIDUALS" AND WARNED THEM TO AVOID "SUSPICION OF COMPLIANCE" WITH SECRET NAZI EFFORTS TO OBSTRUCT THE ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT.
THE PROCLAMATION, REPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION, WAS THE SEVENTH IN A SERIES EXPLAINING ALLIED PLANS FOR GERMANY. IT TOLD THE GERMAN PEOPLE THAT UNDER ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT THEIR RIGHT TO THEIR OWN PROPERTY WOULD BE RESPECTED, BUT THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO RETAIN WHAT RIGHTFULLY BELONGS TO OTHERS.
THE GERMANS WERE TOLD THAT THEIR FIRST DUTY WAS TO REMAIN "PEACEABLE AND ORDERLY" AND TO CONTINUE THEIR DAILY OCCUPATION IF THEY WERE ENGAGED IN A LAWFUL PURSUIT.
DN510AEW

UNDATED B29S
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THREE AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESS FLIGHTS OVER JAPAN PROPER AND A FOURTH OVER NIPPON-HELD KOREA WITHIN A PERIOD OF 25 HOURS WERE REPORTED BY RADIO TOKYO SUNDAY.
THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, LACKED VERIFICATION FROM ANY AMERICAN SOURCE.
THE JAPANESE SAID TWO B-29S FROM SAIPAN HIT THE NIPPON CAPITAL SUNDAY NIGHT (TOKYO TIME) WITH "MANY" INCENDIARY BOMBS THAT STARTED FIRES WHICH WERE "IMMEDIATELY PUT OUT."
TOKYO SAID THE RAIDERS "FLED" IN THE FACE OF A HEAVY ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY BARRAGE.
THE JAPANESE REPORTED SUPERFORTS ALSO VISITED WESTERN JAPAN SATURDAY NIGHT AND KYUSHU ISLAND AND KOREA SUNDAY MORNING, TOKYO TIME.
THE JAPANESE AGENCY DOMEI SAID A LONE B-29 WAS OVER THE FUSAN REGION OF KOREA WHILE ANOTHER WAS OVER THE WESTERN PART OF THAT COUNTRY. THEY CLAIMED THE PLANES "FLED WITHOUT DOING ANY DAMAGE."
TOKYO REPORTED INCENDIARY BOMBS WERE DROPPED IN THE WESTERN JAPAN RAID BUT THAT NO ATTACK WAS MADE ON KYUSHU. IT ADDED "IT APPEARED AS IF THESE PLANES HAD RECONNAISSANCE FOR THEIR OBJECTIVE."
A JAPANESE IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE, ALSO BROADCAST BY TOKYO, SAID NIPPON AIRMEN SET FIRE TO AT LEAST FIVE GROUNDED SUPERFORTS AT A BASE WEST OF CALCUTTA, INDIA, DEC.7.
QD1155APW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (160)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (SUN):
CANADIAN FIRST ARMY: FRONT UNCHANGED.
BRITISH SECOND ARMY: FRONT BEFORE VENLO IN HOLLAND UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: DUELLED WITH GERMAN ARTILLERY AND MORTARS ACROSS ROER.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: RENEWED ROER DRIVE, SEIZING GEY AND ENTERING FOUR OTHER GERMAN VILLAGES.
U.S. THIRD ARMY: REPULSED FOUR ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS AGAINST ITS SAAR BRIDGEHEADS.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: FOUGHT INTO HAGUENAU, LAST IMPORTANT GERMAN BASE IN FRANCE.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: CLEARED MOST OF THANN; GERMANS ATTACKED FIERCELY AT DOLLER RIVER BRIDGEHEAD.
U.S. DIVISIONS:
26TH INFANTRY: CAPTURED GROS REDERCHING, THREE MILES FROM SAAR BASIN BORDER.
35TH INFANTRY: CLEARED OUT NORTHERN PORTION OF SARREGUEMINES ON SAAR EAST BANK.
90TH INFANTRY: SEIZED ONE-FIFTH OF DILLINGEN, THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN.
95TH INFANTRY: CAPTURED SAARLAUTERN RAIL STATION AND KNOCKED OUT NINE ENEMY PILLBOXES IN THAT CITY.
ME708PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 10-(AP)-DON WHITEHEAD, ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR CORRESPONDENT JUST RETURNED FROM THE WESTERN FRONT, SAID TONIGHT HE THOUGHT THAT GERMANY WOULD NOT BE DEFEATED BEFORE NEXT FALL.
SPEAKING ON THE RADIO PROGRAM, "WE THE PEOPLE," (CBS) WHITE ADDED:
"AND I ALSO THINK THAT THE GERMAN PEOPLE WON'T CRACK -- BECAUSE THEY AREN'T ORGANIZED TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT. THEY WORK AND FIGHT TOGETHER BECAUSE THEY HAVE TO. YET AMONG THOSE GERMANS INSIDE OUR LINES THERE IS NO COMMUNITY SPIRIT BINDING THEM TOGETHER."
WHITEHEAD DESCRIBED THE FIRST ARMY'S FIGHTING IN THE HURTGEN FOREST BETWEEN AACHEN AND THE PLAINS OF COLOGNE AS "REGULAR INDIAN WARFARE -- GOING FROM TREE TO TREE."
MQ1130PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 10-(AP)-ROY PORTER, WHO HAS BEEN REPORTING THE WAR IN THE CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER FOR THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING SYSTEM, IS IN FLOWER FIFTH AVENUE HOSPITAL RECOVERING FROM A "SLIGHT" RECURRENT ATTACK OF DENGUE FEVER WHICH HE CONTRACTED A YEAR AGO.
PORTER, ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER ON LEAVE, WHO WAS AN OBSERVER ON THE FIRST B-29 RAID ON TOKYO, SAID HE SUFFERED A RELAPSE RECENTLY WHICH FORCED HIS RETURN FROM OVERSEAS.
MQ1128PEW

DEC 11 1944

NAZI DEFENSES COLLAPSING WEST OF ROER; YANKS ANNIHILATE JAPS TRAPPED ON LEYTE

DEC 12 1944

AMERICAN TROOPS SEIZE HAGUENAU AS FOE RETREATS

First Army Captures Four Towns in Big Drive on Cologne.

BEALMEAR

SARREGUEMINES FALLS

Hodges' Forces Threaten Last Outposts on Approaches to Duren.

PARIS, Dec. 11.—(AP) The Germans were driven from their French buffer cities of Haguenau and Sarreguemines today and their last defenses west of the Roer river before Cologne were caving in as three U. S. armies redoubled blows at the Reich from west and south.

Indications mounted that the enemy was withdrawing at numerous sectors along the Western front, before the First army at the approaches to Cologne's plain, and before the Third and Seventh from Sarreguemines to the Rhine.

The First army drive on the Roer river positions added up to three miles in two days as four more towns in a 15-mile assault arc were captured, four or five more were entered and others were by-passed.

Drive Toward Duren

At last reports the First was closing hard upon Mariaweiler, only a mile and a half from Duren, key to the Roer river line, and upon Hoven, within 500 yards of the west bank of the Roer to the north.

While the U. S. Seventh army captured Haguenau—greatest base left to the enemy in France—one column speared into the Maginot line town of Woerth, eight miles north and seven from Germany. Farther west beyond Niederbronn the Americans hacked at enemy positions less than four miles from the border.

The U. S. Third army broke the stubborn German resistance in Sarreguemines, standing at the southern door to the industrial Saar basin, and lanced three miles northeast to the border. Big guns hammered two Saar cities five to seven miles inside the basin.

Despite patchy weather, 300 fighter-bombers ripped into German positions just ahead of the American assault lines in the Roer valley after supply lines in the enemy's rear had been hammered by 1,600 U. S. heavy bombers, greatest air fleet ever sent aloft in a single operation.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First army was threatening the last two towns on the approaches to Duren, and a front dispatch said the Germans appeared to be fighting mainly a screening action while moving the bulk of their strength across the Roer to new defense positions.

Enemy Forces Retreat

Another front dispatch recording the fall of Haguenau to Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army troops said there were indications the Germans were retreating to the Maginot and Siegfried lines all along the Seventh army front.

From Lt. Gen. Patton's Third

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army front, a dispatch quoted American officers as seeing signs of German weakening in the Siegfried line outpost of Fraulautern, as fiercely defended a town as any yet struck by the Americans in the western Saarland.

Hodges' troops overran Schlich, Echtz, and Dhorm in the center of their assault arc about two and a half miles from Duren, and Schafberg, five miles southwest of Duren.

They were digging the Germans from Pier, Merken, Merode, and Gey, house by house as their lines moved up 17 miles inside Germany for the deepest penetration of the Reich and 21 miles from Cologne on the Rhine.

Only at one point did the Germans strike back with anything like their customary strength, and that was at Strass, southwest of Duren, where the counterblow was contained.

The failure of the Germans to mount effective counter-attacks in this battle swirling 21 miles west of Cologne indicated that they were pulling back to fortified positions on the eastern bank of the Roer, leaving only screening forces behind.

Seventh Takes Haguenau

In northern Alsace one of the day's biggest prizes fell to the U. S. Seventh army north of Strasbourg, where it captured the enemy's big supply and communications center of Haguenau on the invasion route to the industrial palatinate of Germany, whose border is 15 miles north.

The U. S. Third army, meeting its first stern test in the Siegfried Line of the Saar basin, warded off at least three determined counter-blows at Dillingen and extended its lines slightly there and around Saarlautern, three miles southeast.

On its southern flank, the Third in a mile and a half advance from its Saar bridgehead at Sarreguemines captured the town of Folpersviller, but a half mile from the Saar border for its nearest approach to the industrial region from the south.

The U. S. Seventh and the French First armies battled floods as well as Germans in their attempts to erase the last German pockets west of the Rhine.

Storming the villages of Kientzheim and Siegelsheim they edged to within three and a half miles of Colmar, which the Germans are defending to protect withdrawals across the Rhine.

Hampered by floods, the Canadian First army in eastern Holland limited activity to a raid on enemy outposts three miles northeast of Nijmegen, taking 20 prisoners.

The First army picked up today where it left off yesterday and in gains of more than a mile occupied Echtz, two and a half miles northwest of Duren, Dhorm, two and a half miles west, and Schafberg, five miles southwest.

Forces due west of the rubble heap of Duren were fighting for a tree-grown slag heap near Konzendorf, two miles from the edge of the city.

Doughboys were fighting in the streets of Merken, almost on the Roer three and a half miles northwest of Duren, and some of them were around the city a quarter of a mile to the east. Here they were 21 airline miles from the western edge of Cologne.

Strongest German resistance came at the northern end of the front, where the Germans were locked in street fighting in Pier and at the approaches to Schophoven, six miles northwest of Duren. The enemy threw tanks and self-propelled guns into the battle.

The front was broadened by three miles when the Americans attacked and captured high ground just north of Bergstein, almost on the Roer seven miles south of Duren.

U.S. 1st Army Now 17 Miles Into Reich

Paris, Dec. 11 (AP)—First Army veterans drove within two and a half miles of the Roer River citadel of Duren today and advanced one and a half miles along the Aachen-Cologne superhighway to Merken, seventeen miles inside Germany and the deepest point of conquest.

Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's shock troops fought toward the Roer on a ten-mile front. More than six inches of fresh snow covered the ground they battled over.

Dhorn, three miles west of Duren, and Echtz, two and a half miles northwest, were captured. Nearby Geich, Obergeich and Strass were taken yesterday.

Within Sight Of Duren

Late in the day the 1st Army had fought a quarter of a mile east of Echtz within plain view of the snow-covered ruins of Duren. It also seized Schlich, two and a half miles west of Duren, although fighting continued west of the village.

All along the 1st Army front the Germans were giving ground and apparently making only rear-guard fights while moving the bulk of their forces beyond the Roer. Three prepared German lines lie within 2,500 yards of the east bank of that river.

Total advances since the drive started yesterday were three miles or more at places. Dive bombers supported the foot troops with screaming attacks on hidden German 88-millimeter guns.

Fighting In Five Villages

Street fighting raged in at least five villages, the farthest of which was five miles from Duren. These were Pier, Merken, Gey, Merode and Schafberg. The Germans employed dug-in tanks and self-propelled guns at Gey.

On the Saarland front to the south, Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army fought amid Siegfried Line defenses at Dillingen and Saarlautern, encountering ever stiffening resistance. The Nazis trained tanks and guns on the Americans from vantage points inside buildings.

Eleven German attacks have been made in this area in the past two days. Three came at Dillingen before dawn today. In one of these 85 Germans made a charge shouting "Heil Hitler!" Every Nazi was killed.

More Street-Fighting

On Patton's right, the United States 7th Army fought inside Haguenau and three near-by towns, including Reichshoffen.

The 95th Division reported cleaning out 25 pillboxes, 30 fortified buildings and several dugin tanks yesterday inside Saarlautern, which the Americans half won eight days ago. Patton's men also fought in the streets of Roden and Fraulautern, which are beyond Saarlautern, and in Sarreguemines.

At Merken, the 1st Army was within 22 miles of Cologne and astride the main highway which the Germans call *Autobahn*. The road crosses the Roer three miles north of Duren and then splits into lesser roads in the flat rolling approaches to Cologne.

On Patton's right, the 7th Army was at grips with the Germans on the east side of Haguenau, into which the 79th Infantry Division forced its way yesterday. Heavy fighting raged at several places in the Haguenau area, including the streets of Reichshoffen, a mile south of Niederbronn.

Below Gey, the Germans in the first light today attacked Americans holding Strass. Front-line reports said the Yanks were holding.

The 35th and 26th Infantry Divisions of the 3d Army extended their lines in the center of the Western front east of Saareguemines, squeezing the Germans out of some of the last bits of France in that sector.

No further progress was reported either toward Saarbrucken, still three miles or so ahead of American troops, or inside the near-by French city of Forbach.

Two Towns Stormed

Floods impeded other 7th Army units and French 1st Army troops in the cleanup of what remains of the Alsatian pocket around Colmar. The storming of Kientzheim and Sigelsheim put the Americans within three and a half miles of Colmar to the northwest. The French were four miles west.

[The Germans said 16 infantry and tank divisions, possibly 225,000 men, were exerting pressure toward Duren. Only ten divisions have been identified in Hodges's First Army.

Berlin Admits Setbacks

[Berlin said the center of heaviest fighting was still along the Saar at Dillingen and Saarlautern, where "energetic German counterthrusts forced the Americans to abandon several pillboxes. The Nazis acknowledged that the 3d Army had captured a dozen groups of pillboxes in Dillingen and that "pillbox busters are now harassing these with flamethrowers."]

Battlefront dispatches said the Germans had moved up more artillery in the Saarlautern and Dillingen sectors and fired 6,000 rounds into the two towns on each of three recent days.

Folpersviller Taken

Striking east and northeast from Sarreguemines, the 35th Division captured Folpersviller, two miles away. The 26th Division captured an underground factory near Wittring, five miles southeast of Sarreguemines.

French 1st Army troops in southern Alsace captured the defensive center of Thann, ten miles northwest of Mulhouse, and pressed eastward against German units withdrawing across the Rhine.

7TH ADVANCES PAST HAGUENAU

City Falls As Patch's Troops Gain On 25-Mile Front

With U.S. 7th Army in Alsace, Dec. 11 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th Army lashed out on a 25-mile front in northern Alsace tadty, capturing Haguenau and sweeping on five miles to the north and east in a thrust toward the Siegfried Line near the Rhine.

After taking Haguenau, the Americans struck quickly around the vast Haguenau Forest north of the city to Soufflenheim, 10 miles to the east, while other troops pushed through the woods and entered Walbourg, 5 miles north of Haguenau.

On the left flank and to the north, the advance reached Petit Rederching, 5 miles west of Bitche, against heavy tank fire. The Yanks ran into strong road blocks and sizable forces of enemy troops in well-intrenched positions in this neighborhood.

Two Miles From Border

Some of the Americans reached a point only 2 miles from the Reich border in an unidentifiable sector.

At Petit Rederching, they are a little less than 4 miles south of the border. North and northwest of Haguenau they are about seven miles from the border, having seized Reichshoffen and entered Froeschwiller, both southeast of Neiderbronn.

The twin drive on both sides of the Vosges Mountains against declining enemy resistence brought closer the battle for the Siegfried Line.

The Americans had driven to the southwestern suburbs of Haguenau yesterday, and the Germans apparently pulled out during the night, abandoning the last sizable town on which they could hinge a defense of the 7th Army's steady push to the frontier.

German Retreat Indicated

As the 79th Infantry Division occupied the old French garrison city of 16,000 population, there were indications the Germans were retreating to the Maginot and Siegfried lines all along the 7th's front.

The Germans left the badly damaged city loaded with mines. Even a church steeple and a children's swing in the park were booby-trapped.

The absence of any artillery or mortar fire from the thick Haguenau Forest just north of the city may support the belief that the Germans have no intention of manning the Maginot Line forts very strongly.

Sizable quantities of guns and other material were abandoned by the Germans in their flight from Haguenau over the Moder River, but nine bridges in and around the city were blown up.

Train Caught By Fire

Apparently they had planned to evacuate troops in a train which was caught by our fire. One car alone contained 28 German dead.

Twenty-five Germans walked into the post of Major Herbert Sponheln, San Diego, Cal., and surrendered.

The American entry liberated 200 women political prisoners who were scheduled to be killed by the Germans for such acts as offering food to Allied prisoners.

Meanwhile, far south on the Alsatian Plain, fighting was making slow progress around both Colmar and Mulhouse. It was revealed that the United States 36th Infantry Division now is under the French 1st Army.

The French finally cleared the west bank of the Rhine from Kembs 8 miles south to the Swiss border.

Advances between the Thur and Doller rivers overran Leimbach, 10 miles northwest of Mulhouse. The flooded Ill River, a mile over its banks around Selestat, slowed the French drive south toward Colmar.

Miracles Become Commonplace In Battlefront Field Hospitals

Major Reiter, of Southport, 'Goes to Work on Jim' in German Schoolhouse.

By DON WHITEHEAD

AN AMERICAN FIELD HOSPITAL IN GERMANY, Nov. 29—(Delayed)—(AP) The kid with the thin waxen face looked up from his cot and said, "say, Doc, how about a cuppa hot coffee?"

It's amazing that this young sergeant still was alive and could speak after shrapnel had torn through his flesh as he was fighting in the dark, forbidding Hurtgen forest.

But Miracles became almost commonplace in this American field hospital. Doctors and nurses are fighting a 24-hour battle with death—salvaging life for the wounded men who fall under the shells and bullets of the enemy only four miles away.

The slim sergeant—we'll call him Jim—had no right to expect to live. But there he was, asking for hot coffee—and the doctor still said he had one chance in ten of pulling through.

One chance in ten wasn't much but at least there was hope as that slim kid lay in a room of the old schoolhouse which had been converted into a hospital. Others were there, too—the "non-transportable" wounded—soldiers so badly hurt they had to have immediate surgery if they were to live. No time could be lost carrying them back to the rear areas.

All the wounded had chest or abdominal wounds, fractured pelvic bones or other serious injuries. But, on the average, they had 85 chances to live against 15 that death would overtake them on German soil.

Jim was the sickest of all. He was with his platoon fighting through the woods when a German shell exploded and sent hot fragments into his body. He was hit in the stomach and a slug perforated his small bowel. Another fractured right thigh and inflicted other injuries. His right hand was smashed and a piece of stell ripped off the flesh from one arm.

Jim was hit in the morning and that, in a way, was lucky. If he'd been wounded at dusk he would have lain in the forest all night before the litter bearers found him.

Medics picked Jim up—and laboriously carried him in. They didn't think there was any chance for him because they couldn't detect his pulse. When he was brought here from a forward aid station, Maj. Benjamin Reiter, of Southport, Conn., formerly on the staff of Bridgeport hospital, went to work on him.

"The odds were against us, but we have to take those chances," Reiter said. "That's the decision we must take very often."

First, he repaired the damage to

Jim's bowel and then he repaired other injuries. Reiter didn't touch the fractured pelvis. He'll do that later if Jim pulls through.

"It's in cases like these where field hospitals fit into the picture," explained Col. Harry P. Harper of Rochester, Minn., a physician with the Mayo clinic until he entered the Army. "Our job is to get up as near the front as possible to do surgery on the most seriously wounded soldiers.

'Now Entering Reich By Courtesy Of 95th'

With U.S. 3d Army, Dec. 11 (AP).—Since Berlin juggled the Franco-German border in 1940 to embrace Alsace-Lorraine, there are no markers along the frontier where the 3d Army has been crossing.

So, the Army put up little signs saying: "You are now entering enemy territory. Remain alert."

But along the road which the 95th Division fought on the way to Saarlautern there is a much larger sign. It says:

"You are now entering Germany through the courtesy of the 95th Division."

4 Germans Convicted Of Straying, Are Fined

With U.S. 3d Army, Dec. 11 (AP)—In the first announced summary court-martial action against German civilians in the 3d Army area, four persons were convicted today of leaving their communities without permission and were fined $30.

The hearing was held in the 5th Division's sector, with two men and six women accused of illegal wandering. Four were acquitted.

GERMANS WARNED ABOUT MILITARISM

The German people were told today in a proclamation issued in the name of Gen. Eisenhower to beware of joining or encouraging others to join underground military organizations.

The broadcast proclamation, eighth in a series explaining Allied Military Government plans to the Germans, was reported by the Office of War Information.

It told the German people that militarism must be stamped out in Germany and that the population would be called upon to surrender articles of military significance including weapons, ammunition, explosives and radio transmitters.

Veteran of 3 Invasions Receives Medal of Honor

Kansas Farmer, Ex-Sergeant, Now First Lieutenant

PARIS, Dec. 11 (AP).—A veteran of three invasion landings, First Lieutenant Walter D. Ehlers, twenty-three-year-old farmer from Manhattan, Kan., received today the nation's highest award, the Congressional Medal of Honor, for gallantry in action on the Normandy beachhead.

Ehlers, who until two days ago was a staff sergeant, received the award from another Kansan, Lieutenant General John C. H. Lee, commanding general of the communications zone. Lee is from Junction City, which is in the next county from Manhattan and is the home of Ehlers's grandfather, Claus Ehlers.

Tomorrow Ehlers, who has been with the 1st Division of the 1st Army in Germany, will start home on a thirty-day furlough. He participated in the landings at Casablanca, in Sicily and on the Normandy beachhead D-Day. He has been overseas two years. He entered the Army in October, 1940.

Leading an assault squad June 9 near Goville, Ehlers found his men held up by heavy mortar and machine-gun fire. Alone, with a rifle and bayonet he killed eighteen Germans, silencing two machine-gun nests and two mortar crews. A sniper shot him in the back, but Ehlers turned around and killed the sniper. Then he carried a wounded rifleman back to a first aid station through a shower of steel. There he insisted on returning into the field to retrieve his own rifle, which he had been forced to leave when he carried the injured comrade.

Mrs. Luce Back in Paris, Lauds U.S. Army Chiefs

Says Front Commanders Stress Urgent Need for Wacs

PARIS, Dec. 11 (AP).—Representative Clare Boothe Luce, Republican, of Connecticut, said today on her return here from a tour of the western front that the American people can feel "very lucky" in their military leaders. She and sixteen male members of the House Military Affairs Committee leave tomorrow for the Mediterranean theater.

Mrs. Luce said she felt some of the troops were not getting enough credit.

"I don't think the nurses get the break they deserve," she declared. "Some have been lieutenants for years. They should get higher promotions, and more often.

"If the people back home only knew what tough lives the Wacs are leading and how badly they are needed and how every commander asked me, 'Could you get us more Wacs?' then perhaps more women would join up."

The most difficult supply problems would have been whipped, she ventured, "if we had run the home front as well as the battle front." She said she had always favored legislation to freeze or draft men into essential war industries, plus female conscription if necessary.

One correspondent inquired if she thought such a quick tour could give much insight into a complex situation. Mrs. Luce replied that the knowledge could be only superficial unless one had the background and experience. "But I've been in this war since 1938 and have the background," she added.

French Resistance Asks More Alliances

Paris, Dec. 11 (AP)—France's semi-governmental national Council of Resistance today suggested France should form alliances with other members of the United Nations similar to the Russian pact negotiated by Gen. Charles de Gaulle in Moscow.

News of the mutual assistance treaty with the Soviet was greeted with "profound satisfaction" at a special plenary session of the council, central body of liberation groups.

Navigator Holds Eyes Open With His Fingers

A U.S. Bomber Station, England Dec. 11 (AP)—Navigator Carl L. Hoag, Jr., held his eyes open with his fingers four hours and guided his Fortress home after splinters fom flak had severed the muscles activating his eyelids.

The air forces announced this today when the Distinguished Service Cross was awarded the lieutenant from San Mateo, Cal. America's second highest award was presented by Lieut. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, commander of United States Strategic Air Force in Europe.

Flying his second mission, the 21-year-old navigator was wounded shortly after "bombs away." A flak burst crashed through the flooring of his compartment. Fragments smashed his table and sent jagged steel and wood splinters into his face and eyes.

The pilot, Lieut. George K. Cracroft, of Helena, Ark., gave Hoag airspeeds and instrument readings, while other crew members provided map information. By dead reckoning, the navigator found a plan of flight through the dense undercast and Copilot Lieutenant Martin Karant made an emergency landing in England.

Hoag, former Stanford University student, has recovered full vision in one eye, and wounds have healed in the other. He expects to resume active duty.

'No Victory Till Fall'

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—Don Whitehead, Associated Press war correspondent just returned from the Western front, said last night he thought that Germany would not be defeated before next fall.

Speaking on the radio program, "We the People," Whitehead added:

"And I also think that the German people won't crack—because they aren't organized to overthrow the Government. They work and fight together because they have to. Yet among those Germans inside our lines there is no community spirit binding them together."

THE MILEAGE TO BERLIN

By Associated Press.

Western Front: 301 miles (from near Duren).

Eastern Front: 304 miles (from north of Warsaw.

Hungarian Front: 420 miles (from near Budapest).

Italian Front: 551 miles (from north of Ravenna).

FIRST WORLD WAR IS TOPPED BY YEAR

Germany Shows Few Signs Of Collapse Like In 1918

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—History's bloodiest and costliest conflict passed a new milestone today to become a year longer than the first World War, and Germany showed few signs of such an internal collapse as brought about its defeat in 1918.

This war is 5 years 14 weeks and 2 days old today.

World War I ended in 4 years 14 weeks and 2 days—six hours after the armistice terms were signed in Marshal Foch's railroad carriage at 5 A.M. on November 11, 1918, in Compiegne Forest.

Reich Better Off Than In '18

Tendency to discount the possibility of a home-front revolt was strengthened today by British Ministry of Economic Warfare reports generally showing that the average German family is better fed and better clothed now than it was in 1918.

For example, a ministry spokesman said the German ration per adult now amounts to about 7½ ounces of sugar a week, 9 ounces of meat, 9½ of fats, about 78 of bread and about 5½ to 7½ pounds of potatoes.

Food Comparison With 1918

In February, 1918—although there was no national ration system—the average German was getting about 5 ounces of sugar, 7½ ounces of meat, less than 3 of fats, 31 of bread and about the same quantity of potatoes as now.

Other ministry estimates:

Clothes—A great deal worse off in 1918 than now.

Manpower—About the same.

Munitions—Few vital shortages now, but the German position in 1918 was better.

ENEMY DEFENDERS OF ORMOC CRUSHED IN SWIFT ASSAULT

Thousands of Japanese Troops Killed as Amer-icans Close Vise.

FIERCE FIGHTING AHEAD

Three U. S. Columns Press Remaining Forces Into Narrowing Pocket.

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Tuesday, Dec. 12.—(AP) Annihilation of the entire defending garrison at Ormoc, Yank-captured port on Leyte island, and destruction of thousands of Japanese trapped in a pocket to the south were announced by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today.

MacArthur reported that the veteran 77th Division which landed last week four miles below Ormoc had been joined by the Seventh Division, closing the southern jaw of a nutcracker vise, and "enemy forces which were trapped between the two have been destroyed."

Quantities of Supplies Seized

Great quantities of equipment and supplies were seized.

Fierce fighting preceded final destruction of the Ormoc garrison. Fall of Ormoc, Japan's last big port of reinforcement for her troops to the north in the Ormoc corridor, was a sharp blow to the enemy. Its capture Sunday was announced yesterday.

"The fighting in Ormoc itself before its fall was of the most desperate character," MacArthur reported.

The General reported yesterday that "many thousands" of Japanese were in the narrowing pocket between the 77th and Seventh Divisions coming together just below Ormoc.

A third Yank division, the 32nd, was pressing against the Japanese to the north despite almost impassable terrain.

Air activity continued on a destructive scale. Airdromes in the central Philippines were bombed anew and enemy shipping was blasted over a wide area. Petroleum installations on Borneo took direct bomb hits, flooding the Tarakan and Balikpapan fields with flaming oil. One freighter was sunk offshore.

The surprise landing of the 77th south of Ormoc last week split the enemy forces. Capture of Ormoc Sunday (Philippine time) ended the possibility of reinforcement or supply and nipped any hope the two forces may have had of retiring into that battered port for a junction and final stand.

Maj. Gen. Andrew Bruce's 77th division seized Ormoc in a lightning move to the north from its easily won beachhead, capitalizing on the lack of enemy resistance. In four days it battled through to its objective, living and fighting on what it carried on its back.

Enemy Forces Trapped

The enemy forces below Ormoc "are unable to extricate themselves," said Monday's communique announcing capture of Ormoc, "although many thousands strong." It added they are "being destroyed with little opportunity for effective retaliation."

Units of the 77th Division are to the north of this enemy force, the 7th infantry division is battering it from the south and other elements of the 24th corps are driving in over the mountains from the east. The latter already have contacted the 7th near Albuera, on the coast. A junction of the 7th and 77th was expected hourly.

Meanwhile in the corridor north of Ormoc that 32nd infantry division bore down on Japanese isolated in that area. They have established a stout roadblock on the Ormoc highway which has resisted every enemy counterattack.

Destruction of the southern enemy force will enable the 7th and 77th divisions to drive northward, squeezing the enemy in the corridor and taking his defenses from the rear.

3 U. S. FORCES CRUSHING JAPS IN ORMOC TRAP

MacArthur Says Thousands of Enemy Troops Are Facing Destruction.

FOE HAS NO CHANCE OF ESCAPE

Key Port Fell in Surprise Move

30. 2x— 21149

by Americans Who Met Slight Resistance.

DEC 12 1944

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Leyte Island's strategic seaport of Ormoc was in American hands today—captured just four days after surprise landings to the south—and three columns of veteran American troops put a nutcracker on thousands of Japs trapped in a narrow pocket by the action.

Ormoc was seized in midafternoon Sunday by the American Seventy-seventh Division, which launched the knockout attack in early morning from the town's outskirts after a quick drive from beachheads established Thursday under naval and air cover.

The American Seventh Division was less than a mile from Ormoc after making contact at Albuera on the west coast with a column which came west over the hills from Burauen in Leyte Valley. In the ever-narrowing corridor between these forces were thousands of Japs facing a deadly squeeze play.

Japs Are Trapped.

"Trapped and compressed into a narrow pocket by these three Allied columns, the enemy's forces in the southern segment of the Yamashita line, although many thousands strong, are unable to extricate themselves," Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said. "They are being destroyed with little opportunity for effec-

Associated Press correspondent Dean Schedler, with the Seventy-seventh Division, wrote that Major-Gen. Andrew Bruce's veteran outfit found opposition surprisingly light upon securing a beachhead and, revising plans, immediately pushed toward Ormoc along the coastal road, meeting only light pockets of resistance at first. Later strong dugouts and pillboxes had to be destroyed.

Capture of Ormoc represents a heavy blow to the Japs. It was vital to the enemy as a reinforcement port for his troops in the Ormoc corridor running through mountain country from Ormoc to Carigara Bay on the north. This corridor, on the northwest shoulder of the island, is Japan's last effective grasp on Leyte, which Tokyo considers the key to the Philippines campaign. The Japs still have a small port facing the Visayan Sea. This is Palompon, eighteen miles northwest of Ormoc.

Campaign Not Over Yet.

Ormoc's seizure, wrote Associated Press Correspondent Murlin Spencer, "does not mean the Leyte campaign is concluded. There is still much heavy fighting to be done before Jap forces both south and north of Ormoc are wiped out."

Al Dopking of the Associated Press said the Japs appeared to be retreating from the Seventh Division but were expected to make a desperate, final stand. There was every indication the Japs would make a fight for every inch of Leyte.

American fighter planes were active in combat over the fighting zone and bombers scored effective hits on central Philippines shipping and airdromes.

A total of 268 tons of explosives blasted runways and other airdrome installations on Cebu, Negros, Panay and Masbate islands in the central Philippines. Two freighters were sunk and three damaged.

Japs Claim 5 Ships.

Two large transports, a cruiser or large destroyer and two landing barges were rammed and sunk by Jap airplanes in Surigao Strait southeast of Leyte Island in the Philippines, Japanese Imperial Headquarters claimed in a communique today.

200 Jap Parachutists Fought Off By 34 Yanks

DAVIS

Leyte, Dec. 10 [*AP—Delayed*]—Landing of Japanese parachutists near an eastern Leyte airfield at San Pablo in the dusk of December 6, and the valiant resistance of 34 outnumbered Americans was described today by a 5th Air Force troop carrier surgeon.

Major George Murphy, of Paterson, N.J., told how the small band of flyers and ground crewmen stood fast through the night and fought off Japanese parachutists shortly after dawn.

Of the 34 men, only 12 returned to the American lines. Four pilots, a communications officer and 17 enlisted men are missing.

Sees 24 Enemy Planes

Murphy said he counted 24 enemy transport planes gliding in low over Leyte's central mountain range.

"It was about 8 P.M. and there had been a brilliant red sunset," he said. "The sky was still slightly gray in the west when I saw them. It was too dark to see the 'chutists fall, but there was a terrific ack-ack display and I did see two transports crash in flames."

The Japanese took to the woods.

Corporal Thomas Berzedett, of Kentucky, one of the twelve who got back to the American lines, said:

"We only had small arms, but we did our best to shoot 'em as they floated down."

Wait For Attack

Murphy said the enemy skytroopers were crafty. Instead of launching an immediate attack against the Americans, they hid in the undergrowth and dense woods near the field.

About 2 A.M. of the seventh, Medical Sergeant Ray Jokelan, a Minnesotan, thought he heard firing in the distance. Jokelan was given permission to gather up medical supplies and records and load them in a truck and drive to Dulag, some ten miles east.

The other soldiers slept on the ground with guns at their sides. The Japanese remained in hiding until 6.20 when the men were in the mess hall eating breakfast. A small group of Japanese was spotted and fired upon as they advanced from a near-by rice paddy.

The troops withdrew quickly to their foxholes. And soon nearly a hundred Japanese charged the mess hall.

"About a dozen Filipinos still were in the mess hall. They didn't have a chance. They were slaughtered," Corporal Berzedett said.

"We had carbines, .45's, and one tommy gun. The Japs had light mortars and grenades, as well as machine guns. It was one hell of a situation.

Sergeant Shoots Eight

"I saw the boy with the tommy gun—he's a master sergeant from Texas named Betson—shoot eight Japs."

Berzedett lay low for several hours, then determined to escape. He tunneled his way under a log and crawled on his belly to high grass. Then he made a final dash to a fringe of trees.

As Berzedett ran he heard a moan and returned to find one of his officers seriously wounded by mortar fragments. He picked up the officer and staggered on blindly.

Machine Guns Stop

Machine guns began firing from a new direction as Berzedett struggled along with the wounded officer. In desperation, he stopped and waved his arms. The machine-gun fire stopped.

"Those machine guns were ours and we were safe," he said.

Betson and his tommy gun also escaped. He and Berzedett had previous combat instruction with the infantry before being transferred to the Air Corps.

Most of the Japanese parachutists, estimated at two hundred, were mopped up during the day.

U.S. Planes Pound Jap Bases For Saipan Raids

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 11 (*AP*)—Navy, army and marine planes teamed up for a series of neutralization raids from December 8 through December 10, aimed primarily at bases from which the Japanese have been trying to strike the B-29 base at Saipan from which attacks on Japan are mounted.

Iwo Jima in the Volcanos, said today's navy announcement of the aerial thrusts, was attacked by 7th Army Air Force Liberators on Friday and Saturday. Their attack was directed at the airstrip and installations.

Also Strike In Bonins

Navy planes struck at targets on Haha Jiba, in the Bonins north of Iwo and within 650 miles of Tokyo.

Corsairs and Avengers of the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing strafed Babelthuap, in the Palaus of the western Carolines, and Pagan airstrip in the Marianas. Pagan is north of Saipan.

Navy and marine aircraft continued their neutralization raids in the Central Pacific Marshal Islands.

BRITISH FLEET IN THE PACIFIC

Great New Armada to Serve Under Admiral Nimitz.

Melbourne, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Admiral Sir Bruce A. Fraser, commander in chief of the newly created British Pacific Fleet, has arrived here, it was announced today.

In an interview Sir Bruce declared that the new fleet would be based in Australia and would include battleships and aircraft carriers. It will operate under command of Admiral Chester Nimitz, but until he had conferred with the American commander he could not say how it would be used, Sir Bruce added.

Bad News for Japan.

London, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—A great new British Pacific Naval Command in addition to the present Far Eastern Fleet has been created to join the American fleets in the all-out offensive to bring Japan to her knees, the Admiralty disclosed last night.

An official announcement, reflecting Prime Minister Churchill's promise that Britain would send the greatest possible forces to the Orient to help defeat Japan, said that the fleet will be commanded by Admiral Sir Bruce A. Fraser, who since August has been Commander in Chief of the Far Eastern Fleet. Simultaneously it was disclosed that the Far Eastern Fleet will be centered in the Indian Ocean as the East Indies Station, a command which lapsed when the Japanese overran the Malayan Peninsula and captured Singapore. This fleet will be commanded by Vice-Admiral Sir Arthur J. Power, who had been second in command to Admiral Fraser.

DAY

Huge Battleship on Hand.

H. M. S. Howe, 35,000-ton battleship, will be Admiral Fraser's flagship, the commanded of the new British Pacific Fleet announced in Melbourne today, according to the British radio.

In a broadcast recorded by CBS in New York, London described the Howe as one of the Royal Navy's great men o' war, a vessel of the King George V class.

Admiral Fraser, London added, "summed up his strategy in these words: 'It is to find and sink the Japanese fleet. We have the requisite strength to do it.'"

Colonel) James Doolittle's carrier force as for purposes of propaganda only.

Warns Of Strafing Attacks

B-29s Keep Tokyo Sleepless

HAUGLAND

New York and Jersey Flyers Join in Show—One Showers City With Beer Bottles.

DEC 12 1944

Twenty-first United States Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Combining weather reconnaissance work with nocturnal harassing tactics, America's Superfortresses gave Tokyo's seven million people a restless time over the week end. It began early on Saturday when a plane commanded by Lieut. Thomas Garvin of North Bergen, N. J., not only started fires there, but also dropped two cases of empty beer bottles on the Japanese capital.

Early yesterday a Superfortress commanded by Lieut. William Sutton of Atlanta, Ga., started five fires in Tokyo's industrial area, one visible 100 miles away. Last night and today two other B-29s, commanded by Lieut.-Col. Robert Haynes of Hermosa Beach, Cal., and Capt. Elmer Hahn of Idaho Falls, Idaho, bombed the city. Both of these went in about 5,000 feet lower than the normal B-29 altitude, Col. Haynes said, in order to test Tokyo's defenses. "They still couldn't hit us, so I guess they are pretty poor," he added.

Nevertheless Col. Haynes got a small flak hole in one wing tip. He said that searchlights caught his bomber for four minutes and that the anti-aircraft fire came reasonably close for three minutes.

"B-29's may invade Japan from a low altitude and carry out machine-gun strafings on the ground," warned the broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

"It is difficult to discover the enemy," the radio complained. ". . . Furthermore, it is difficult for anti-aircraft shells to reach the enemy planes. . . . In order to intercept the enemy more or less 20 minutes are required (by fighter plane) to reach the stratosphere after taking off from the ground."

The broadcast said, however, that Americans are suffering heavy losses in their Tokyo attacks, adding that the United States objective is to carry out "group bombings such as those over the European battlefields."

"Do not shrink because of aimlessly fearing the destructive power of bombs," the broadcast concluded, "or become overnervous, because if we do we will get caught in th evil designs of the enemy."

Tokyo Warns On Nervousness About Superfortress Attacks

DEC 12 1944

San Francisco, Dec. 11 (*AP*)—Tokyo radio in a domestic broadcast appealing against "overnervousness," told the Japanese people tonight to expect new and more vigorous attacks by American Superfortresses.

The air attacks have become "vigorous operations," the radio said, in dismissing the original Tokyo raid by Lieut. Gen. (then

Series Of Raids On Tokyo Is Reported

San Francisco, Dec. 11 (AP)—A series of Superfortress raids on Tokyo over the week end were reported by the Japanese radio, which said that fires started by incendiary bombs "were immediately put out."

The newest attacks, said the broadcast, recorded here, were made by small formations of B-29's Sunday night and Monday morning (Japanese time). The claims, made in a French-language overseas broadcast, were not confirmed by any Allied source.

"The air-raid defenses of the city drove off the raiders before they could do any real damage," the announcer asserted.

"Fires Put Out"

Earlier the radio had said that two Marianas-based Superfortresses had penetrated to metropolitan Tokyo at 8.30 P. M. Sunday (Japanese time), adding that heavy anti-aircraft fire drove the American super-bombers off.

"The enemy dropped many incendiary bombs and caused fires, but due to the active work of our air defense units, these fires were immediately put out," the broadcast said.

Other Raids Reported

Tokyo also reported that B-29s had raided western Japan at 7.30 P.M. Saturday, had appeared over Kyushu, southernmost of the Japanese home islands, at 10.30 A.M. today and had raided two points in Korea from 11 A.M. until noon.

Not long ago the radio was boasting that there is nothing to fear from the Superfortress raids, but a night reconnaissance pilot reported finding the Japanese capital and other important cities strictly blacked out now.

Find Even Suburbs Dark

During the earlier raids Tokyo was brilliantly lighted. However, the reconnaissance pilot, Lieut. John Thomas Garvin, of Chicago, said at Saipan that on a recent mission he found even the suburbs dark and that Yokohama and other cities were completely blacked out.

The only lights seen were at Chofu airdrome, said Garvin, and these were on three enemy planes which [illegible] going in for a landing.

LEADER OF DEC. 7 ATTACK IS KILLED

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo finally got around to admitting Monday that the Japanese admiral who directed the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor is dead.

Domei news agency, in announcing that Vice Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, killed on Saipan last July 7, had been "commander-in-chief of the task force that led the attack on Pearl Harbor," confirmed Adm. Chester W. Nimitz' statement of July 13.

Domei previously had announced Nagumo's death in a final suicide attack on Saipan, but did not identify him at the time as leader of the Pearl Harbor assault which plunged the United States into World War II. Admiral Nimitz, however, had announced that Nagumo and a rear admiral identified only as Yano were killed on Saipan July 7, and said Nagumo was leader of the Pearl Harbor raid.

Nagumo and six other admirals and a general were given posthumous decorations, said Domei in a Tokyo radio broadcast picked up by the Federal Communications commission.

This raised to 73 the number of Japanese admirals and to 18 the number of Nippon generals reported dead since last May. Domei disclosed that Nagumo had been posthumously promoted to a full admiralcy.

The other admirals receiving posthumous decorations, Domei said, were Vice Admirals Hunju Izaki and Teruo Akiyama, and Rear Admirals Hidehisa Iwagami, Takeji Miyasaki, Shinki Nakaoka and Senkichi Amano. The general was Maj. Gen. Tsuneo Iwabuchi, who "performed brilliantly and daringly during the attack on Hong Kong as well as the campaigns in southern Sumatra and Guadalcanal."

Hawaii Assault Leader Killed, Japs Admit

San Francisco, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Japanese agency Domei belatedly confirmed today Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's announcement of five months ago that a Nippon admiral killed on Saipan Island was the officer who led the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor.

Domei said the officer, Vice Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, had been "commander in chief of the task force that led the attack on Pearl Harbor."

Led Suicide Attack

The Domei story, broadcast by Tokyo, was recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

The agency announced Nagumo's death last July in a final suicide attack at Saipan, but did not identify him at that time as the Pearl Harbor attack leader.

Last July 13 Admiral Nimitz said Nagumo and a rear admiral named Yano were killed on Saipan July 7. He identified Nagumo as commander of the Pearl Harbor assault.

Honored Posthumously

Domei said Nagumo and six other Nippon admirals and a general were given posthumous decorations. This boosted to 73 the number of Japanese admirals, and to 18 the total of generals reported dead since last May.

The broadcast said: "The Navy Ministry today officially announced that Vice Admiral Chiuchi Nagumo, supreme commander of the Japanese naval forces who was killed in action on Saipan Island in July of this year, has been posthumously raised in rank to full admiral."

Casualties Listed

Last week Yokosuka Naval Station reported the deaths of thirteen other admirals.

The admirals, besides Nigumo, who died, Domei said, were Vice Admirals Hunju Izaki and Teruo Akiyama and Rear Admirals Hidehisa Iwagami, Takeji Miyasaki, Shinki Nakaoka and Senkichi Amano. It was not disclosed how they died. The dead general was Maj. Gen. Tsuneo Iwabuchi, who "performed brilliantly and daringly during the attack on Hong Kong, as well as the campaigns in southern Sumatra and Guadalcanal."

Credited With Sinkings

Special mention was made of Vice Admiral Izaki. Domei said he commanded a destroyer squadron "credited with sinking two enemy cruisers and setting another cruiser ablaze in a night battle off Kolombangara," an island in the Solomons group.

Meanwhile, the Japanese high command claimed in a communiqué today that two large transports, a cruiser or large destroyer and two landing barges were rammed and sunk by Japanese airplanes in Surigao Strait southeast of Leyte Island in the Philippines.

Destruction of a second cruiser or large destroyer was also reported in the communiqué, recorded here and without Allied confirmation.

Six Planes Credited

Six planes of the Tanshin air unit of the Special Attack Corps, the Nipponese asserted, did all the damage.

Said the communiqué:

"Instantaneously sunk: two big transports, one cruiser or a big destroyer and two landing barges.

"Damaged and set afire: one big transport, one cruiser or big destroyer. The cruiser or big destroyer that had been damaged and set afire was sunk later by our escorting fighter planes."

Filipino Puppet Heads Decorated By Japanese

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—High Japanese imperial decorations have been awarded by Emperor Hirohito to seven Philippine puppet officials, the Nippon agency Domei said today.

Radio Tokyo quoted the agency as saying the decorations were "for meritorious services in fostering amity between Japan and the Philippines."

The Filipino puppets decorated were President Joseph P. Laurel; Jose Yulo, Supreme Court Justice; Clara M. Recto, Foreign Minister; Antonio de las Alas, Finance Minister; Teofilo Sison, Home Affairs Minister; Rafael Alunan, Agriculture Minister, and Quintin Paredes, Justice Minister.

BATTLES RAGING AROUND BUDAPEST

Reds Claim 2 Towns—Paris Hears Van Is In City

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 12.—(AP) The Russians captured two more villages near northeastern Budapest yesterday, gaining three miles in raging battles that Moscow said left the approaches to the city littered with hundreds of dead.

The Germans hurled fresh Nazi armored forces into the defense of the bombed and flaming Hungarian capital.

Reds Extend Front

Far to the north of Budapest the Red army extended its front along the central Slovak border to almost 30 miles in thrusts up to seven miles. Soviet spearheads pointed toward Bratislava and Vienna on the west and also menaced the rear communications of Germans fighting in Eastern Slovakia.

In the drive on Budapest Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army captured Veresegyhaz, and Szada, both 8 1-2 miles from the Capital's northeastern suburbs.

The Paris and Algiers radio reported Malinovsky's vanguards had penetrated the capital, but this was not confirmed by either the Russians or the Germans.

Yesterday's communique reported the capture of only 14 populated places in Hungary, six north and northeast of Budapest and eight north and northwest of Miskolc, 85 miles northeast of Budapest.

The fierceness of the fighting was measured by the Soviet communique's report that 22 enemy tanks were destroyed yesterday and 35 Sunday. The total bag since Friday was 166 tanks knocked out and 75 planes destroyed.

Szada is only two miles from Ogodollo, an important rail junction. Veresegyhaz is less than two miles above Szada on the Vac-Godollo railway.

The front along the central Slovak border was extended with the capture of Hont, three miles west of the rail junction of Dregelypalank, taken Sunday. The Russians also seized Varsany, 8 1-2 miles southeast of Balassagyarmat, previously the easternmost point seized in this sector.

The advance put the Russians within 85 miles of Bratislava, the Slovak capital, and 116 miles from Vienna.

Fierce Battle Rages

German reports declared fierce battling was in progress in that area. They have not admitted the fall of Balassy-Gyarmat, claiming a battle for the city is still in progress.

German reports declared the main pressure against Budapest was being maintained between Lake Balaton and the west bank of the Danube river. There was no mention in yesterday's Soviet communique of the fighting in this sector, where Malinovsky's forces have joined with those of Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army in an attempt to encircle the city from the southwest.

breaches in the Nazi lines, the German radio admitted.

The Nazis said one Russian column had thrust up the west bank of the Danube toward Budapest, while another pointed toward the key rail fortress of Szekesfehervar, 32 miles southwest of Budapest and northeast of the lake.

The Germans said the Russians reached Lake Velencze, but were driven back. Previously the Russians had reported the capture of Gardony and Dinnyes on the lake.

Report City In Flames

Advices from Moscow said part of Budapest already was in flames, and that the Germans had thrown in fresh tanks and SS (Elite Guard) units into the battle for the city with orders not to budge an inch.

"Beautiful Budapest is going the way of Warsaw," one report from Moscow said. "Black smoke, pierced by red tongues of flame, is hanging low and thick over the city. The never-ending roar of battle is bringing sleepless nights to the civilians trapped in their city."

The front along the central Slovak border was extended with the capture of Hont, 3 miles west of the rail junction of Dregelypalank, taken Sunday. The Russians also seized Varsany, 8½ miles southeast of Balassa-Gyarmat, previously the easternmost point seized in this sector.

The advance put the Russians within 85 miles of Bratislava, the Slovak capital, and 116 miles from Vienna.

German reports declared fierce battling was in progress in that area. They have not admitted the fall of Balassy-Gyarmat, claiming a battle for the city is still in progress.

Gain In Miskolc Area

The sector north and northwest of Miskolc, rail junction 85 miles northeast of Budapest that fell to the Russians December 3, claimed attention with the Russians reporting the capture of eight places north and northwest.

Towns captured included Radoystan, 7 miles northwest of Miskolc and 16 miles from the Slovak border, and Hangacs, 12 miles northeast of Miskolc and 17 miles from the Slovak border.

Northeast of Kassa, German stronghold in eastern Slovakia, six Russian regiments renewed their offensive and made several

Frontal Assault On Budapest Seen Near

London, Dec. 11—Paris and Algiers broadcasts said tonight Red Army vanguards had entered the flaming Hungarian capital of Budapest.

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—Russian troops drove on Budapest from positions seven miles north and five miles south of the city today as Moscow advices said great panic swept the Nazis inside the beleaguered Hungarian capital.

Formations of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army also were poised three miles east of the Danube-straddling city with an all-out frontal assault from that direction expected at any hour.

Nazis May Give Up City

As yet there were no official Russian reports of heavy shelling of Pest, the section of the city on the east side of the Danube, and it appeared the Russian high command felt the Germans might consider their situation hopeless and not make a battleground of the city itself.

Other Russian columns far to the north reached the central Slovakian frontier on a front of at least eleven miles. The Soviet communiqué said more than 40 places fell yesterday to the 2d Ukraine Army drive north and northeast of the capital.

Tito Reports Gains

[Reuter reported in London that Marshal Joseph Tito's Yugoslav forces were within five miles of Vinkivci, important junction on the Simplon-Orient express line, 90 miles northwest of Belgrade.

["Half of Vukovar on the west bank of the Danube, 85 miles northwest of Belgrade, where a new river crossing has been reported, has been occupied by our forces," Tito's communiqué said.

["Gracac on the main German escape railway from Dalmatia is completely encircled by our units," it added.]

Six Miles Past Vac

Red forces immediately north of Budapest had smashed six miles down the Danube from captured Vac, on the great bend where the river turns west toward Vienna, and taken Alsogod.

The Germans disclosed that Russian armored forces driving up the west bank of the Danube from Ercsi were less than five miles from the city's outskirts. The Germans

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said Erd was captured.

Hungary's puppet Government already has fled Budapest to the Austrian frontier town of Sopron.

Moscow reported that 5,600 prisoners had been taken between December 3 and 7. The Russians reported the Germans had thrown large air forces into the fighting north of Budapest, and said eighteen German planes were shot down yesterday and 24 on Saturday.

Offensive In Poland Expected

A Berlin broadcast early today said a tremendous Soviet offensive was in the making in the Vistula bridgehead at Baranov, Poland, and that a large-scale drive aimed at Cracow could be expected.

The Soviet communiqué said Russian troops had repelled six German attempts to capture a Russian stronghold west of Jelgava, in Latvia, where huge German forces are being pressed against the Baltic.

Pact Binds Russia and France

De Gaulle Diplomatic Triumph Seen as Blow at Any Future Aggression.

Moscow, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—France's relations with Soviet Russia were cemented today with a new treaty of alliance and mutual assistance negotiated by Gen. Charles de Gaulle as the crowning achievement of his sixteen-day visit to Moscow.

The pact, paralleling a twenty-year alliance between Britain and Russia, was announced last night several hours after the French leader had boarded a special train en route to Baku, where a plane was waiting to carry him back to Paris.

While the text of the treaty was not immediately released, an official announcement said both Governments had affirmed their intention to fight on together until complete victory over Germany is achieved. They also expressed their determination to take jointly all measures necessary to safeguard Europe against future aggression.

De Gaulle Hails Pact.

Gen. de Gaulle issued a short statement saying:

"I am sure the days we have spent here will leave a mark in the history of this war, and I believe, too, they will leave a mark in the peace for the good of all men. Long live Soviet Russia."

The treaty was signed in the Kremlin at 4:40 A. M. yesterday, following an all-night session which began with a formal banquet at which the French and Russians were joined by British and United States diplomatic and military representatives.

Throughout the negotiations the western Allies were kept informed of developments, and there were definite indications that the pact was concluded within the framework of the ties binding the United Nations.

Gen. De Gaulle was accompanied on his return trip by Soviet Ambassador Bogomolov and Major-Gen. Kutuzov, representing the Red Army.

London Times Lauds Pact.

The London Times says "that the new Franco-Russian treaty concluded in Moscow will have as warm a welcome in Britain as in France and Russia," said a British broadcast recorded early today by CBS.

"The Times says: 'It extends and powerfully reinforces the momentous treaty into which Great Britain and Russia entered more than two years ago. It was always the British hope that treaty would be the model and incentive for others.'"

Russians Oust Mission Again

Istanbul, Dec. 10 [AP—Delayed]

The Russians have expelled a fourman United States Office of Strategic Services team from Bulgaria for the second time since Bulgaria's surrender.

Allowed to return after an earlier expulsion, the four were told they must leave on the same grounds as before—that they were not officially accredited by the Russians.

[On October 2, Cordell Hull, then Secretary of State, said an Allied military mission had been ejected from Bulgaria by a Russian commander, but that he believed the difficulty was straightened out and that the mission would re-enter the country as a result of arrangements by Washington and London with Moscow.

[The mission went to Bulgaria to handle Anglo-American interests. Some authorities in Washington said that the Russian military commander had not been properly advised.]

[At Washington yesterday, officials said they had not been informed of the second expulsion of the O. S. S. men, but added that the United States has several other representatives at Sofia, the Bulgarian capital. Maynard Barnes is there as a representative of the State Department, and Major General John A. Crane heads the American section of the Allied Control Commission for Bulgaria, the officials said.]

RECORD RAID HITS GERMANY

3,200 American Planes Strike From Britain And Italy

London, Dec. 11 (AP).—The greatest bomber fleet ever assembled—more than 1,600 American Fortresses and Liberators—pounded the German rail network in the Frankfurt area with 6,000 tons of explosives today as part of a massive air assault by more than 3,200 United States warplanes.

The huge fleet of 8th Air Force heavies, forming a sky train 300 miles long, was escarted by more than 800 fighters. From the operation twelve bombers and two fighters were missing tonight—light losses for a raid of such magnitude.

A force of 16,800 United States flyers—more men than are in a combat division of infantry—took part in the operation.

Luftwaffe Absent

The German air force kept clear of the United States armada, and anti-aircraft fire was meager. But heavy, billowy clouds caused the bombers to drop their explosives by instruments and obscured the damage done at Frankfurt, Hanau, ten miles east, and Giessen, 30 miles north.

In a simultaneous attack from the south, more than 500 United States bombers and 350 fighters struck into Austria from bases in Italy.

The 15th Air Force hammered the Moosbierbaum refinery, 22 miles northwest of Vienna, freight yards and the south ordnance depot in Vienna, and rail targets at Graz, Austria. The raiders met intense flak and a smoke screen at the refinery, believed to produce aviation gasoline.

British Attack Ruhr

A few hours earlier, probably 500 RAF Lancasters and Mosquitos from Britain, herded by Spitfires and Mustangs, had attacked the industrial Ruhr. The British force raided a freight yard and benzol plant at Osterfeld and other benzol plants at Heiderich and Bruckhausen.

At dusk another big fleet of British heavyweights with escort of Spitfires and Mustangs was seen crossing the Channel en route home from what probably was the third big raid on Germany in seven hours.

The aerial offensive apparently was continuing after dark. Berlin radio reported bombers over the Hanover and Brunswick area.

Most of the fighter escort of the 1,600 bombers, finding the air free of the *Luftwaffe*, dropped to telephone-pole level to strafe trucks and trains heading from Frankfurt to the Saarbrucken battle zone 120 miles southwest.

Eight Locomotives Destroyed

One fighter group ranging as far as Kassel, 125 miles northeast of Frankfurt, destroyed eight locomotives.

In the Duren area before Cologne, Thunderbolts attacked a train of 25 flat cars loaded with 50 Tiger tanks being rushed to reinforce the front under attack by the 1st and 9th armies.

All three rail targets attacked by the 8th Air Force are on main lines between the principal industrial centers of northwest and central Germany and the defenses facing the 1st and 3d armies.

The greatest single bomber raid previously was on July 25 when 1,500 American heavies lent tactical support on the Normandy front.

9,000 Sorties In Week

Despite days of cold, thick weather in the last week, approximately 9,000 sorties have been made by British-based planes against every main rail line serving the Western Front—Giessen, Kassel, Bebra, Mainz, Soest, Munster, Osnabruck, Stuttgart, Duisburg, Coblenz, Bingen and Hamm.

"Allied officials have many indications of the great strain under which all German transport now operates," said an 8th Air Force staff officer. "Facilities have been curtailed to such an extent that each successive attack becomes a serious blow."

Four V-2 rocket installations in Holland were hit today by RAF Spitfire "pin-pointers."

1600 AMERICAN BOMBERS BLAST WEST GERMANY

All-time Record Air Fleet Rains 6000 Tons on Rail Centers.

17,000 U. S. FLYERS ON RAID

800 Fighters Escort Armada—R. A. F. and Yanks From Italy Join in Three-way Attack.

London, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Sixteen hundred American bombers and 800 fighters—the greatest fleet of four-engined craft ever mounted in aerial warfare—raided western Germany's railroad centers with 6,000 tons of explosive today.

The Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the British-based Eighth United States Air Force took part in a co-ordinated operation in which heavy bombers from all three air forces in the European theater also participated, slashing the Reich with their bombs.

British Lancasters and Mosquitoes jolted three German cities in the Ruhr before noon. Railway yards and a fuel plant at Osterfeld and refineries at Meiderick and Bruckhausen were the targets.

At the same time roughly 1,000 big bombers and fighters of the Italian-based Fifteenth United States Air Force struck prime targets in Austria. Thus during the day some 3,500 United States planes hammered the Germans.

17,000 Americans Aloft.

The size of the British-based force meant that almost 17,000 American pilots, navigators, bombardiers and gunners were in the skies over Germany. An Eighth Air Force spokesman said that every main railroad leading from industrial centers in central and southwestern Germany to the German defenses in the west had been ripped apart by British and American bombs in the past week.

Today the Eighth bombed the main-line railroad centers of Frankfurt, nearby Hanau and Giessen. One fighter group left the bombers and dived down to explode eight locomotives near Kassel.

All the targets were obscured in cloud and bombing was by instrument.

The Fifteenth Air Force Liberators and Fortresses from Italy bombed the Moosbierbaum refinery, twenty-two miles northwest of Vienna, ordnance and freight yards in Vienna, and railroad yards at Graz in Austria.

Temperatures of fifty-degrees below zero have plagued the big bombers since Saturday. The extreme cold, however, may have been responsible for the absence of German fighter opposition.

Stuttgart, Coblenz and Bingen were hit by almost 2,000 Britain-based bombers and fighters Saturday and yesterday. Seven bombers and one fighter were lost.

Thunderbolts of the Tactical Air Command tangled with German fighters along the Ninth United States Army front and destroyed four of the enemy planes without loss for the Americans. A Thunderbolt squadron led by Col. James McGee of Birmingham, Ala., destroyed and damaged two more on a Nazi air field near Dusseldorf.

Italian based planes made more than 1,000 sorties yesterday against targets in the Brenner Pass and the Po valley. Sixteen German locomotives were destroyed.

Finn Army On Peace Basis

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Finnish Army is now established on a peacetime footing, the Moscow radio said today.

Under its armistice agreement, Finland was to demobilize under supervision of the Allied Control Commission by December 5. This demobilization has now been completed, Moscow reported.

Axis Foreign Ministers Mark Pact Anniversary

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Foreign Ministers of Germany, Japan and Fascist Italy exchanged "fight to the end" messages today on the third anniversary of the tripartite military pact, the German radio reported.

Germany's Joachim von Ribbentrop, admitting that all three parties were hard-pressed, declared: "The war has entered its decisive phase."

Japan's Mamoru Shigemitsu said "We Japanese are prepared to make the heaviest sacrifices. . . ."

Benito Mussolini, in a speech read by a German announcer, said he counted upon German aid "to defend Italy's skies now dominated by Allied forces."

Hirohito Felicitates Fuehrer and Duce

By Associated Press.

Emperor Hirohito of Japan sent congratulatory telegrams today to Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini on the third anniversary of the signing of the Japanese-German-Italian military alliance. Domei, the Japanese official news agency, declared in a broadcast recorded by the FCC.

Wants Resistance Head Premier

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—Prime Minister Pieter Gerbrandy of the Netherlands said upon his return from liberated areas of his homeland today that he would like to be succeeded by a leader of the resistance movement.

V-Bombs Killed 716 Civilians In Month

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—German V-bombs killed 716 civilians in the United Kingdom during November—more than four times as many as in the previous month and more than double the combined total for October and September—the Ministry of Home Security disclosed tonight.

Of those killed 269 were men, 345 women and 102 children under 16 years.

It was during November that British officials first announced the Germans were firing long-range rockets against these islands.

But the November fatalities were down sharply from August's 1,103 during the height of the flying-bomb *Blitz*. During November 1,511 sustained injuries requiring hospitalization, and in August there were 921 such cases.

October's deaths totaled 172 and September's 170.

716 V-Bomb Victims In Nov.

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—German V-bombs killed 716 persons and seriously injured 1,511 in the United Kingdom during November, the Ministry of Home Security announced tonight.

Of those killed 269 were men, 345 women and 102 children under 16 years, the ministry announced. Among the seriously injured were 197 children and 799 women.

Damage and casualties were inflicted on southern England again last night, the ministry said.

there is talk in Germany of "V-4," but no hint as to its nature.

Meanwhile it is a matter of official knowledge that the Germans have developed a submarine equipped with radical new devices for underwater breathing, and it is possible that some of the craft may even now be at sea. Known as the Schnorkel Spirall submarine, the new vessel has been dubbed the "snorts" by the British.

London newspapers have told their readers that swift hit-run raids by jet-propelled planes are possible, and that England can expect V-bomb attacks until the Nazis die in their last spasm of resistance.

"The new rockets are impossible to stop at their source as they are manufactured in vast underground factories," the London Daily Mirror said in a dispatch from Brussels. "Their sites are smaller than buzz bomb sites, and infinitely more mobile. V-2's have been fired from a city square, roadways, and small clearings in the woods. Next day the men who fire them move on."

V-3 Bases in Norway Reported.

Reports from neutral countries place Germany's Fighter plane production at 1,500 craft a month despite the Allied aerial onslaught, and there is some talk of a Luftwaffe comeback based on jet plane activities. These are factors operating against the Nazis.

Feverish building activities have been reported in a Norwegian hide-away—one neutral informant said the sites were for V-3 launchings.

V-3 and New Type U-boat Revive Nazis' Hope

London, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Reports reaching London from many sources indicate that Germany is gathering her forces—including two new V-weapons and a new type of submarine—for a 1945 counter-offensive which she hopes may turn the tide of the war.

Two enemy V-weapons—the flying bomb and the rocket bomb—already are in use against southern England and continental points. Nazi production chief Albert Speer was quoted as saying recently that "V-3" would be ready for use against New York before the new year and, now craft are already being used for reconnaissance behind the Allied lines, have attacked bomber formations, and may possibly be the German dive-bomber of 1945.

A report from the front inside Germany says that the enemy has found a way to "dim out" his artillery, reducing the flash of a 105mm. gun to that of pistol. If substantiated, this would give the foe an important means of hiding his artillery concentrations.

The Germans still have a lot of fight left in them, said the London Daily Herald, but declared that the enemy man-power shortage and Allied aerial superiority

Labor Party Votes To Stay

London, Dec. 11 (AP)—The British Labor party voted today to stay in Prime Minister Churchill's coalition government until victory in Europe but served notice it would fight the next general election independently.

Labor is Britain's strongest minority faction and its decision assures continuance of the coalition. After victory, the party was told, it should set out to build a Socialist British Commonwealth.

Laski Comment

Opening the party's annual conference amid tension created by a division over Britain's policy in Greece, Prof. Harold Laski, writer on economics, asserted:

"We are not beating Germany, we are not going on to the defeat of Japan, either to restore 'traditional' Britain, or to open the way to that monopoly-capitalism which requires, not democracy, but Fascism as its inherent institutional principle."

"Few of us can doubt that it is the duty of the Labor party to support Mr. Churchill until victory in Europe is both overwhelming and complete," said Professor Laski. "But we must then seek from the people of Britain decisive and independent electoral authority to enter in the fullest way we can upon the great task of building the Socialist commonwealth."

Warning that an "unplanned world" would lead to another war within a generation, Laski said "only a planned world can hope to be a free world for the common man."

"We need to recognize, in the fullest possible way," he added, "that if we can plan for victory in war we can, not less certainly, plan for the life of reason and plenty in peace."

Hambro Leaving Raw Materials Board

London, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Sir Charles Hambro, British member of the Combined Raw Materials Board in Washington, will be succeeded on Friday by Sir Henry Self, the Ministry of Production said today. Sir Henry is now a member of the Combined Production and Resources Board.

Rumors Of Franco's Resignation Denied

Madrid, Dec. 11 (AP)—Officials today categorically denied rumors that Generalissimo Franco had resigned.

Franco returned to El Prado Palace today from Cordoba province, where he spent the last week on a hunting trip with friends.

[Rumors that Franco and his Government had resigned were printed in the Paris paper *Liberation* last week.]

FIGHT SHIFTS FOR FAENZA

Kesselring Throws Rommel Veterans Into Battle

Rome, Dec. 11 (AP)—A see-saw battle raged today on a 4-mile front southwest of Faenza, with the Germans throwing in rested veterans to save the highway center from the British 8th Army.

Field Marshal Albert Kesselring tossed the 90th Panzer Grenadier Division—once the mainstay of Rommel's Africa Corps—into a fullblown counterattack aimed at driving the British off a vital ridge extending from San Prospero, a mile southwest of Faenza, to Pideura, 5 miles west of Faenza.

Tanks Support Nazi Attack

Nazi tanks supported the infantry, while self-propelled guns pounded the British lines. Under this pressure the British were forced to yield 400 yards at one point, but they remained astride an important road bend near Celle, 2 miles west of Faenza.

The Allied high command announced tonight that enemy assaults at other points had been beaten off decisively and heavy casualties inflicted. Allied planes mixed in the fighting, strafing and bombing enemy troops and tanks.

Would Deny Roads To Allies

Kesselring appeared willing to stake the cream of his combat troops in a gamble to hold off the 8th Army until the winter snows in the Apennines would aggravate Allied supply problems. His all-out defense of Faenza and Bologna was designed primarily to deny the Allies use of highways and railroads into the Po Valley from the south.

The 8th Army gained a valuable supply road into the valley with the capture of Forli. Seizure of Faenza would provide another good highway from the south, plus a railroad from Florence over which heavy equipment could be transported.

In a stiff clash near Murazzo, 14 miles south and slightly west of Bologna, American troops killed 45 Germans.

GERMANS COUNTER FIERCELY IN ITALY

Rome, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Large-scale German counter-attacks against the Allied bridgehead west of the Lamone River on the approaches to Faenza have been defeated decisively, Allied headquarters announced today.

The fiercest of these counter-thrusts was directed at gaining a foothold on the ridge running southwest from San Prospero to Pideura, west of Faenza. Both San Prospero and Pideura had been captured by Eighth Army troops in bloody battles.

The Germans fought desperately to prevent the inevitable encirclement of Faenza, stronghold on the Bologna - Rimini highway. They threw the crack Ninetieth Panzer Grenadiers into the assault, backed up by tanks and self-propelled guns.

There was a fierce struggle south of Celle, which is less than two miles west of Faenza and a mile below the highway. The British forces gave some ground but held at a vital road junction just below the town.

There was bitter fighting on both sides of recently won Caste Raniero, four miles southwest of Faenza.

Meanwhile, Italian patriots operating in the Adriatic coastal areas cleared German troops from Port Corsini, a vital center for barge traffic bringing supplies for the Nazis.

Alexander To Assume New Post Tomorrow

Rome, Dec. 11 (AP)—Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander will assume his new post as Allied commander in chief in the Mediterranean tomorrow, an official announcement said.

He succeeds General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, who has been transferred to Washington as head of the British military mission in the United States.

SFORZA CHARGES BRITISH ASKED SUPPORT OF KING

ROME, Dec. 11 — (AP) Count Carlo Sforza, former minister without portfolio who was omitted from the new cabinet of Premier Ivanoe Bonomi after the British raised objections to him, declared today that Prime Minister Churchill had exerted "strong pressure" on him to accept King Vittorio Emanuele.

In a 500-word statement answering Churchill's charge that Sforza intrigued against the government of Marshal Pietro Badoglio and could not be trusted, Sforza asserted that the Prime Minister's influence in behalf of the Italian king was manifested during a two-hour conference in London on Oct. 11, 1943.

Would Not Support King

He added he had "left no doubts" with Churchill as to his (Sforza's) attitude toward the Italian monarch.

(While there was no official reply in London to Sforza's charge, one British spokesman said Churchill repeatedly had stressed Britain was determined to maintain law and order in all countries where British troops were stationed. Churchill in most instances suggested the best way was under the legal government already established until the people have a chance to decide for themselves, the spokesman said, adding: "Sforza's interpretation of what this meant is his own affair.")

While Bonomi was seeking to reform his cabinet, British foreign Secretary Anthony Eden said Britain did not view Sforza as a happy choice for foreign minister.

Sforza said the whole incident was related to "my beliefs and deeds on matters of domestic Italian politics." It had nothing to do with his "lines of foreign policy," he said.

Not Author of U. S. Letter

Sforza also announced he was "not the author" of a letter to the U. S. State department prior to his return to Italy from America in which his support of the Badoglio government was promised.

"I merely set my signature to it," Sforza said.

He since has claimed he was obliged to oppose Badoglio because Badoglio failed to bolster the Italian war effort and encouraged a new form of Fascism.

Denying any "intrigue whatsoever," Sforza declared it was the Committee of National Liberation in Rome which demanded the elimination of Badoglio.

"Upon returning to Italy," Sforza said, "everything confirmed to my mind the fact that the elimination of Vittorio Emanuele was instrumental for promoting the anti-German war."

"I subsequently suggested to Badoglio," Sforza added, "that the king abdicate, that the child prince of Naples be proclaimed king and that Badoglio himself be regent. . . . but the King refused."

"I consequently had to stand out in opposition as regards the king's position," Sforza concluded.

Sforza Answers Churchill

Rome, Dec. 11 (AP)—Count Carlo

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Sforza declared today that Prime Minister Churchill of Britain had brought "strong pressure" on him to accept King Vittorio Emanuele as the reigning sovereign of Italy.

The former Italian Minister without portfolio—left out of the newly reorganized Cabinet of Premier Ivanoe Bonomi after British voiced objections to him—said Churchill's influence on behalf of the King was brought to bear during a two-hour conference in London October 11, 1943.

Authorship Denied

In a 500-word statement replying to Churchill's charge that Sforza had intrigued against the government of Badoglio and could not be trusted, Sforza said he had "left no doubts" as to his attitude toward the monarchy.

Sforza also declared he was "not the author" of a letter to the United States State Department prior to his return from exile in America promising support to the government of Premier Marshal Badoglio.

"I merely set my signature to it," he said.

Sforza since has contended he was obliged to oppose Badoglio because Badoglio failed to build up the Italian war effort and encouraged a new form of Fascism.

Sforza said the whole incident was connected with "my beliefs and deed on matters of domestic Italian politics" and had nothing to do with his "'lines of foreign policy."

Four Parties Get Posts

In Premier Bonomi's new Italian government the communist Palmiro Togliatti and the Christian Democrat Giulio Dirodino will serve as vice-premiers.

The composition of the new cabinet was announced officially last night. Portfolios were distributed evenly among the Liberals, Christian Democrats, Labor Democrats and Communists—the four parties which decided to support Premier Bonomi. The Socialists and Actionists, the other two parties of the committee of National Liberation decided to stay out.

The new foreign minister is Alcide De Gasperi, a Christian Democrat. The Ministry of Interior was retained by Premier Bonomi.

Premier Bonomi has notified Allied authorities that his Government would keep the armistice terms and not raise the monarchy question until after the war. His first Government which resigned two weeks ago, also made these pledges.

British Silent on Charge

LONDON, Dec. 11 (AP).—Britain maintained official silence today on Count Sforza's assertion that Prime Minister Churchill brought pressure on him to accept King Victor Emmanuel.

Churchill has repeatedly emphasized that Britain was determined to keep law and order in all countries where British troops were stationed, a spokesman said, and the Prime Minister has suggested in most instances the best way was under a legal government already established until the people had a chance to decide for themselves. "Sforza's interpretation of what this meant is his own affair," the spokesman said.

American Officer Killed in Crash

Rome, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Major George Knauer, deputy communications officer of the Allied Control Commission, was killed in the crash of an Army transport plane in October in the Mediterranean between Rome and Sardinia, it was announced today. The bodies of other occupants of the plane were recovered. Major Knauer's body was never found.

Pope's Legate To Tokyo Sees Allied Prisoners

Vatican City, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* today reported that Msgr. Paolo Marella, Apostolic Delegate to Tokyo, visited a camp at Nagoja where several thousand American, Canadian and British war prisoners are interned, and found it in "a salubrious zone which helps to better the prisoners' physical condition." The visit was made November 28.

He was received with honors by Japanese civil and military authorities, the newspaper said, and listened to a report on the condition of the prisoners and the care given them. He also talked with representatives of the prisoners. Details of their condition were not given.

Athens Center Is Shelled By ELAS Troops

Athens, Dec. 11 (AP)—ELAS forces sent mortar shells crashing into the heart of Athens today, setting fires near Constitution Square as RAF Beaufighters returned to the battle, strafing an ELAS concentration reportedly massing for an attack in a suburb a mile from the center of the city.

The ELAS, fighting arm of the left-wing EAM party, was reported to be attempting to stage an all-out attack on central Athens today, having been delayed by heavy rains last night.

Cable Building Cut Off

Dispatches filed abroad by correspondents in the capital were delayed because heavy machine-gun fire had cut off the cable and wireless building.

The mortar bombs which fell in the heart of the city this morning were fired from outlying districts, where the ELAS forces are massed.

The other actions were reported outside the city in addition to the dispersal of one ELAS force by British planes. The first was a dawn attack by Greek regulars, which broke up another ELAS formation and the second ambushing of a British patrol heading southward from Volos.

Scobie Reports Progress

A communiqué issued this afternoon by Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece said:

"Considerable progress has been made in Piraeus (the port of Athens) but the situation generally remains unchanged."

Both the ELAS and the British were reinforced in Athens, ELAS members infiltrating into the city during the night and the British troops pouring in during the day.

The ELAS forces took several buildings and apartment houses without opposition last night. Today they employed a new tactic of dynamiting and setting afire buildings and houses in the city. Numerous casualties were reported when several buildings were blown up in the fashionable quarters of the city.

An impartial source, meanwhile, reported the ELAS leaders were ready to withdraw from Athens and from all the department of Attica in return for guarantees that they would not be prosecuted.

He described the leftist leaders as "realizing now that they will eventually lose" in the armed conflict and "relenting in their demands on the Papandreou Government and in their decision to fight to the end."

Rumors circulated that the ELAS, however, was preparing an offensive against the rightist EDES territory of Epirus on the west coast of Greece.

It appeared that ELAS forces could not bring many more troops into the Athens area without weakening their dispositions elsewhere in the country.

Tanks Aid Mountain

Greek mountain brigades, supported by British Sherman tanks, effected the break-up of the large ELAS concentration in the foothills of Mount Hymettus where the ELAS troops had made the mistake of deploying on open terrain of semi-wasteland, ideal for tank operations.

A New Zealand colonel with the Greek regulars said at least 300 of the ELAS forces had been killed in this neighborhood in the last two days. Two hundred were taken prisoner today when the co-ordinated attack was launched at dawn.

A number of the prisoners were taken in the Greek Red Cross Hospital. Their commander, Major Georgiades, said he was a member of the Communist party and that he and his fellow-officer believed the whole battle would end if a new national government were formed.

Unit Includes Germans

He said his battalion included eighteen Italians and that in other formations there were several dozen Germans who had deserted from the Nazi Army. He said Russians with the ELAS left fifteen days ago when they were ordered to do so by the Soviet mission in Athens.

Meanwhile, measures were taken by British and American relief organizations to distribute food and medical supplies to relieve shortages created by the fighting and the general strike which has prevailed for more than a week.

Calls Four Draft Classes

Premier George Papandreou called up four draft classes, from 1935 to 1938, in the five districts of Athens under Government control.

A British officer pointed out that Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie's forces had not yet gone "all out" against the ELAS, though they employed big Wellington bombers for the first time in smashing at ELAS positions yesterday.

Large numbers of dead still awaited burial, and the strife-torn city was in imminent danger of epidemics. A food shortage was threatened as all unloading of relief ships at Piraeus, port of Athens, remained at a standstill.

Efforts to mediate the crisis appeared to have met little success so far. The British said they had received no peace proposal from the ELAS.

Men Mobilized For Showdown In Greece

DEC 12 1944

Athens, Dec. 11 (AP)—With 10,000 to 15,000 ELAS now believed deployed in the battle for Athens, the Greek Government today ordered all reserve officers and men of four classes in the Athens district to report for military duty not later than tomorrow.

The ELAS are now believed to have a total of 25,000 men, including reserves, in the Athens area. Reinforcements for the ELAS have arrived from the Corinth and Thebes areas west and north of the capital, it was reported.

British troops, who have been battling the ELAS, also were reported being reinforced, apparently for a show-down fight.

Classes Called Up

A Government decree issued by the Minister of War called up Greeks of the classes of 1935, 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Acute food shortages and the imminent danger of epidemics threatened this strife-torn capital as British heavy bombers for the first time in the week-long civil struggle attacked ELAS concentrations around the city.

[After sixteen hours of relative lull—the longest since the fighting began nine days ago—British troops at dawn today began a large-scale sweep against ELAS forces in the eastern suburbs of Athens, Reuter said.]

RAF Wellingtons and cannon-firing Spitfires joined the fighting—already reported to have cost the Leftists 1,500 killed and 2,500 wounded—after an ELAS attack supported by mortars and artillery had been repelled yesterday by British troops using tank and field guns.

Headquarters Hit

Several shells fired from ELAS positions fell near British headquarters on the eastern outskirts of the city. Sniper bullets struck the Grande Bretagne Hotel, temporary seat of the Greek Government on Constitution Square. One 75-mm. shell struck British headquarters. The British replied with artillery and mortars.

Heavy rain curtailed action during the night, but fires started by shellfire still were smoking today on the northern slopes of the Acropolis.

All unloading of relief ships at Piraeus, port of Athens, was at a standstill and UNRRA attempts to organize soup kitchens to relieve the stricken civilian population so far had failed. Large numbers of dead were still awaiting burial.

ELAS Dig In

The ELAS, armed militia of the Left-Wing EAM political party, were well dug-in in the Athens saddium area, in the park around the Zappion Building and east of Hadrian's Arch and the Temple of Zeus. Other ELAS forces were massed west of Piraeus and north and east of Athens.

GREEK AMERICANS

Allied Bloc Is Splintering, Madrid Germans Say

DEC 12 1944

Madrid, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Germans in cafes and night clubs here are looking and acting far happier today than a fortnight ago. The reasons are the British-ELAS clashes in Greece, words spoken in London and Washington, and the silence of Moscow.

Any neutral in this capital need only ask German friends and will be told that the Germans believe the great world alliance against them is splintering.

Nothing in the past year has delighted the Germans more than dispatches from Washington, London and Athens which they interpret as an indication that the Anglo-American powers are determined to block further Soviet expansion in Europe and the silence from Moscow which they say means the Russians are not pleased.

"Only One Master"

Germans here say "we will never have three masters in Germany, but only one." They mean that when German resistance ends the nation must be surrendered to one of its enemies, but not to a Russia, Britain and United States for a divided occupation. Germany, they say, must remain united even in defeat.

The Germans' only hope for a separate surrender is in a break among the United Nations. With or without a formal peace they argue, they could cease fighting on one front while holding the other. This would be done only if the Germans saw a chance to gain thereby.

Pleased By Dispatch

That's why they are delighted here to see dispatches in the Spanish press grouped under such headlines as "American Press Fears Disunion in Allied Camp," "Churchill Opposed to Communist Dictatorship."

The Germans are delighted with anything drawing Allied attention away from the war with Germany. They enjoy reading any news from Washington indicating the Americans are eager to leave Europe and concentrate on Japan. They are pleased with any signs of British distrust of Russian or vice versa, and last week they thought they saw both.

URGE U.S. TO ACT

Delegation Visits State Department And British Embassy

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—A Greek-American delegation today asked the State Department to mediate in the battle between British forces and Greek resistance groups.

The delegation also protested to the British Embassy, calling upon London to "cease its bloody attempt to shackle the Greek people once more with dictatorship."

Stelos Pistolakis, former member of the Greek Parliament, was spokesman for the group. Now president of the Greek-American Committee for National Unity, he said he was expelled from his country in 1939. He said he is a member of the Liberal party there.

Presents Memorandum

In a memorandum presented to the State Department, the delegation expressed its full support of the statement by Edward R. Stettinius, Secretary of State, last week backing the principle of non-intervention in internal politics in liberated countries.

The group asked the State Department "to implement America's active interest in Greek independence until the present crisis which is fraught with danger for the common cause of the United Nations is resolved in the interests of Greek democracy and Allied unity."

"Great Britain's frenzied attack upon the National Liberation Front of Greece helps no one but the Fascists," the memorandum said.

"It corrodes the fabric of the United Nations; it prolongs the war; it jeopardizes the peace."

To Lord Halifax, British Ambasador, the group protested Prime Minister Chuchill's description of

the Greek ELAS.

"Gangsterism and attempts at dictatorship do not stem from the EAM (political group heading the ELAS armed forces)—they stem from armed foreign intervention which backs a small group of native Fascists, reactionaries and quislings collaborators."

The delegation said London vetoed an attempt by Themistocles Sophoulis, aged Liberal party leader, to form a coalition government.

In turn, the protest said Sophoulis turned down a British request that he support Prime Minister Papandreou "declaring if he did it would mean supporting a dictatorship."

Says People Despise King

Pistolakis declared that his group was protesting against "the slaughter in the streets of Athens by order of the British Government."

He said the British Government was bolstering King George. He called the King Fascist and said he is hated and despised by the people.

Pistolakis said the group was quite satisfied with its reception by the State Department which, he added, assured that Stettinius's public statement on a hands-off policy in Greek politics stands. The party did not see Stettinius.

One factor in the Greek picture is Prince Paul, named regent by King George. The King acceded earlier this year to demands that he keep out of Greece until a plebiscite is held on whether he should return.

However, he went to London from the seat of the Greek Government in exile in Cairo and named Paul to act as regent.

Paul remains in Cairo. Informed persons say his entrance into Greece would surely cause even more bitter and widespread hostilities.

Since American entrance in the war, predominant British interest in the Eastern Mediterranean has been recognized. Supreme military authority has always been held by the British.

Committee Formed This Year

Pistolakis said the Greek-American Committee for National Unity was formed early this year as a result of Allied urging that the Greeks unite.

The delegation which visited the State Department and the British Embassy included representatives of the Athenian Society of New York, the Piraikos Society of New York, the Cretan Association, the Omonoia of New York, the Greek Athletic Club, the Greek-American Labor Committee, the Greek-American Committee for National Unity, the committee of the Federation of Greek Societies of New York, the Food Workers Union, AFL Local 6 and 89, the Greek Fur Workers Union, CIO Local 70, and the Greek Seamen's Union.

COLLECTIVE SECURITY URGED TO STOP WARS

NEW YORK, Dec. 11 — (AP) Greek and Italian political disturbances probably could be straightened out now if some sort of machinery for agreement among nations existed, Senator-Elect J. William Fulbright (D.-Ark.) said today.

"The human race isn't going to stand for a world war every 20 years," he told the Bond club of New York in advocating collective security among nations as the best policy for Americans to follow.

Fulbright rejected isolationism and imperialism as policies which might be followed. Concerning the latter, he said we could follow that course in view of our great strength but "by our literature and culture we are not cut out to be such supermen."

"I see no insuperable obstacle in collective security," Fulbright added. "In a sense it is imposing by agreement. I think it is possible to achieve through will and determination but I don't think it can be accomplished next week or even next year."

NEW GAINS IN BURMA

New Delhi, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Lieut.-Gen. Daniel I. Sultan's drive to squeeze the Japanese out of north Burma carried past Naba and Indaw today with patrols fanning out less than 200 miles from Mandalay.

The British 36th Division took Naba, key junction on the Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad, and Indaw, four miles west, in an unopposed operation yesterday. The occupation of Indaw represented a 100-mile advance for the British forces since they took off from Mogaung on August 1.

Allied planes hammered Japanese retreat routes, with R. A. F. Liberators joining in long-range raids on the Burma-Thailand railway and targets at the southern tip of Burma.

JAPANESE DRIVEN FROM KWEICHOW

CHUNGKING, Dec. 11—(AP) The Chinese High command announced tonight that all Japanese forces had been driven out of Kweichow province, easing China's perilous military situation at least temporarily.

The communique said the reinforced Chinese counter-offensive had forced two Japanese columns which penetrated deep into Kweichow back into Kwangsi province, had recaptured Liuchai, just over the border, and had advanced 17 miles beyond.

The twin Japanese drives which were aimed at Kweiyang, Kweichow capital and strategic Burma road city, had at one time penetrated to a point 70 miles inside the province. Capture of Kweiyang would have put the Japanese in a position to strike either toward Chungking, 200 miles to the northwest, or at Kunming, 300 miles southwest.

The Chinese themselves have avoided the term "victory" in their reports on the Kweichow successes but nevertheless are greatly relieved, believing China now may be able to withstand any full-scale invasion of Kweichow. Some predict the Japanese chance to take Kweiyang or Kunming, has been lost.

Capture of the two towns would seriously endanger the soon to be opened Burma-Ledo road planned to feed supplies from India to the Chinese army.

Remnants Mopped Up

The communiqué gave no details of the final push which ousted the enemy from Kweichow, merely announcing that enemy remnants around Lipo, 90 miles southeast of Kweiyang, had been mopped up and Kweichow was now freed.

Reports reaching Chungking indicated the Japanese had planned to take Kweiyang in a bold sweep before the Chinese could organize proper defenses.

However, it appears the Japanese ventured too far with too little and encountered stiffer opposition from reinforced Chinese troops as they penetrated deeper into the province. Chinese units began attacking their flanks and the invaders were faced with being chopped up and annihiliated.

Cold Hampers Japs

The Japanese were clad only in summer uniforms and bitterly cold weather added to their difficulties.

The Japanese retreat has given the Chinese valuable time in which to organize against any new, strong offensive.

There was every indication that Chinese commanders were fully alive to the danger of a renewed assault on Kweichow and that preparations to check any fresh venture by the Japanese were being made.

[Meanwhile, the Tokyo radio reported that Japanese troops, which invaded southern China from French Indo-China had effected a junction with Japanese forces in Kwangsi province and established an overland route from Manchuria to Malaya.]

Kweichow Cleared Of Foe

Chungking, Dec. 11 (AP) — Japanese forces have been expelled completely from Kweichow province and driven back over the Kwangsi border, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

Earlier, the Chinese said one of two Japanese forces invading Kweichow had been swept back across the border by Chiang Kai-shek's forces which recaptured Liuchai, just over the border in Kwangsi.

Force Mopped Up

This action had left only the enemy column along the Yuyun-Ishan trail to be dealt with.

The high command gave no details of the withdrawal of this column along the trail east of the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad which at one time reached a point less than 70 miles from Kweiyang, Burma road capital of the province. The communique only announced that enemy remnants around Lipo, 90 miles southeast of Kweiyang, had been mopped up and Kweichow was now freed.

Driving On Antan

The Chinese continued advancing toward Antan, on the Kwangsi-Kweichow railway about seventeen miles beyond Liuchai. Less than two weeks ago the Japanese were driving into Kweichow toward the Burma Road stronghold of Kweiyang. The Chinese announced yesterday that Hsiasu, a railroad town twelve miles from the Kwangsi border, had been retaken.

14th Air Force Has Big Month

CHUNGKING, Dec. 11 (AP)—American 14th Air Force planes killed or wounded more than 1,700 Japanese troops in November, and sank more than 30,000 tons of enemy shipping, besides six naval vessels and 274 small craft, an American air operational summary said today.

JAP WARSHIP SUNK

Forward United States Air Base in China, Dec. 8 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Brig.-Gen. Clinton D. Vincent's eastern wing of the Fourteenth United States Air Force struck from a mystery base today in a vengeful commemoration of Pearl Harbor.

At Hongkong P-51 fighters sank an Akikaze class destroyer (1215 tons, built between 1917-1920) and a 500-foot transport and probably sank two large freighters and damaged three others.

At Nanking the fighters destroyed at least twenty-five enemy planes in the air and on the ground at Minkukung and Taichaiocahu airdromes and hit two large railway ferries used to haul trains across the Yangtze.

Lend-lease to Go On Until Jap War Ends

Canberra, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Acting Prime Minister Francis E. Forde announced today that provision has been made with the United States for continuance of a substantial measure of lend-lease during the period between the end of war in Europe and the defeat of Japan.

Donald Nelson Visits New Zealand Premier

Wellington, N.Z., Dec. 11 (AP)—Donald Nelson, President Roosevelt's personal emissary, called on New Zealand's Prime Minister Peter Fraser during a brief visit to this country today. He conferred also with Walter Nash, Minister of Finance. Nelson expects to leave for the United States shortly.

Montevideo, Dec. 11 (AP)—Leaders of four prominent Argentine parties organized today a Montevideo junta of the "Patria Libre" underground movement aimed "to fight against the Farrel-Peron dictatorship through all means"

Brooklyn Gunner Is Wounded

OTTAWA, Dec. 11 (AP)—Gunner Michael Dembia, whose father lives in Brooklyn, has been slightly wounded while serving with the Royal Canadian Artillery, an Army casualty list disclosed tonight.

STAMFORD MAN CITED

OTTAWA, Dec. 11 — (AP) Flying Officer J. A. Galbraith, 10 Hawthorne street, Stamford, Conn., and Flying Officer T. S. Hall, Gerritsen Beach, Long Island, N. Y., serving with the R.C.A.F. overseas, have been awarded the Distinguished Flying cross, air force headquarters announced tonight.

Ex-Bulgarian Regents Indicted

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—The former Bulgarian regents, Prince Cyril and Lieut. Gen. Nikola Mikhov, have been indicted for "criminal acts" of collaboration with the Germans along with the third regent, former Premier Bogdan Filov, and other members of Bulgaria's for wartime cabinets, the Sofia radio reported today.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 11, 1940.—British report capture of advance Italian bases at Sidi Barrani, seventy-five miles inside Egyptian border, as fighting increases in intensity. Gen. Pietro Maletti killed in battle.

Self-Seeking Laid To Allies

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP) — The *Army and Navy Journal* says that Russia and Britain have shown "greater preoccupation" in their individual interests in Europe than in "the prompt defeat of Germany."

"The result has been," the unofficial *Journal* continued in its current issue, "that the expectation in Washington that the war in Europe would be over by the Pearl Harbor anniversary this week has not been realized, and in the liberated countries there have been Communistic and British interference and clashing which necessarily affect military operations.

Stettinius's Aims

The *Journal* said that to promote better political relations with our Allies through their precise understanding of our attitude, and to prevent the development of embarrassing military conditions behind our front were the purposes of the new Secretary of State Setettinious in publicly proclaiming this week that liberated countries would be expected to form their own governments on democratic lines inside without outside interference.

"From the time Japan invaded Manchuria and set up the puppet state of Manchukuo, consistently our Government has inveighed against aggression, and it was to put an end to this practice that the American people adopted lend-lease to assist the nations having like purpose and moved to arm even before Pearl Harbor.

Lasting Peace Seen As Object

"Some months ago Prime Minister Churchill said that time would show whether the United Nations could weather good fortune as in their stress they had endured bad, in other words whether with victory in prospect they could submerge their special interests while carrying out the original and common design to defeat our enemies and create a peace that would be lasting.

"Unhappily the fear expressed in the Prime Minister's statement has developed some basis now that the liberation of European states has occurred. Since D-day in France, greater preoccupation has been shown by Russia in her Baltic and Balkan campaigns, intended to insure her security, and by Great Britain in Italy, Greece and Albania, to protect her lifeline through the Mediterranean to India, than in the achievement of the prime objective of our armies—the prompt defeat of Germany and concentration of all possible power to that end."

SENATORS DEFER PALESTINE ACTION

Resolution Asking Unrestricted Entry for Jews Is Shelved by Foreign Relations Group

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Heeding advice of the State Department, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today shelved by a 12 to 8 vote a resolution advocating unrestricted entry of Jews into Palestine.

Similar resolutions had been under committee consideration both in the House and Senate last year, but action was deferred then.

Recent publication of the War Refugee Board's report quoting two eyewitness accounts of how large numbers of Jews had been murdered in Nazi prison camps resulted in renewed agitation among Jewish groups in this country that the United States seek to have Great Britain permit greater migration.

After the committee voted to-

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day to defer action, the State Department issued a statement in which it said:

"The department has the utmost sympathy for the persecuted Jewish people of Europe and has been assisting them through active support of the work of the War Refugee Board in every possible way.

"The department considers, however, that the passage of the resolution at the present time would be unwise from the standpoint of the general international situation and has so informed the Committee on Foreign Relations."

A similar resolution had been before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The War Refugee Board, composed of the Secretaries of State, War and Treasury, was set up to help get people in danger of Nazi persecution out of the danger zone, but necessarily most of its work has been surrounded by a zone of silence.

The resolution rejected by the Senate committee today was coauthored by Senators Wagner, Democrat, of New York, and Taft, Republican, of Ohio. It would have urged the United States to try to obtain free entry for Jews into Palestine with the ultimate objective of creating a Jewish commonwealth there. Entry is now limited under a British agreement with the Arabs.

Britain has not yet issued any statement on the future of Palestine, but has promised, officials said, to confer with all interested parties, including the Jews, before settling on a policy.

Three Zionist leaders called this morning on the State Department to discuss the Palestine question. They were Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Israel Goldstein and Abba B. Hillel Silver.

CHILE AND RUSSIA SET UP RELATIONS

Washington, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—The Chilean embassy announced today the establishment of diplomatic and consular relations between Chile and the Soviet Union. The negotiations were completed by the Chilean Ambassador, Marcial Mora, and the Soviet Ambassador, Andrei Gromyko.

Under Soviet-Chilean relations, the chief of each country's mission to the other will hold the rank of ambassador.

Relations with Russia had already been established by several other Latin American countries including Mexico, Cuba and Colombia.

U-boat War to Increase.

Washington, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill place no stock whatever in reports that Germany has abandoned U-boat construction.

Branding the reports as probably German-inspired and untrue, the two leaders said in their monthly joint statement covering submarine and anti-submarine activity during November:

"On the contrary, improved types of U-boats may at any time be thrown into the battle and retention of our present command of the sea will undoubtedly call for unremitting vigilance and hard fighting."

Germany already has introduced new devices, such as an extensible air intake and exhaust, which enables U-boats to remain submerged for long periods and thus to "penetrate into areas denied to them for the past three years."

Shipping losses in November were described as "very small," and the number of U-boats sunk in proportion "has again been satisfactory."

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 1,237 casualties in the armed forces. Included in the list are the following with their next of kin:

GILLETTE WARNS VICTORY MAY BE LOST POLITICALLY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—(AP) Senator Gillette (D-Iowa) warned today that unless America takes a strong hand, the war will end in a "hollow victory," defeated hopes and a vast spread by totalitarianism.

"As matters now stand," he told the Senate," our hopes for peace and our optimism for the development of relations among the big three toward a general collaboration in the future, give signs of disintegrating before our eyes for want for a firm adherence to moral principles in international relationships."

Term Expires This Month

Gillette's Senate term expires within the month. He told attentive colleagues he did not want it to close without his expressing a deep concern over the trend of international affairs.

Should the trend continue, he said, the assured military victory will be lost politically.

He spoke of news from Europe which he called "tremendously discouraging" to American zeal for creating lasting world peace. Some of our Allies, he said, are openly "extending and consolidating their own assumed spheres of influence" while Americans are dying to destroy Hitlerism.

He decried what he termed a lack of information of the American people on our relations with the Allies. He said Russia had imposed a "news blackout" in eastern Europe, that he had information that for ten months the Office of War Information had been forbidden to mention the Atlantic Charter in any broadcast, and that the Federal Communications commission's foreign broadcast survey of eastern and southern European news are being discontinued.

OWI Director Elmer Davis, on learning of Gillette's statement concerning the Atlantic Charter, said:

Davis Denies Charge

"No directive of OWI has banned either mention or discussion of the Atlantic Charter. As a matter of fact on August 14, the third anniversary of the signing, several of our overseas broadcasts were devoted entirely to that subject."

Other OWI officials said a check of programs since August 14 revealed "a number of references to the Charter."

Great efforts seem to be expended, Gillette declared, in denying the people desperately needed access to the whole truth of the international situation.

"We now confront a situation," he declared, "where the American people themselves are no longer sure of the goal for which they are fighting."

If they are kept in ignorance, he said, they will become "a disunited people."

ASKS MORE OUTPUT TO SAVE U. S. BLOOD

Washington, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Senator Hill (D.-Ala.) called today for "solid action" to increase the flow of munitions and prevent the needless spilling of American blood in this "most critical hour of the war."

"For the first time in this war," he said in a Senate speech, "we are approaching a situation in which American troops may die because our production failed to keep pace with their needs. On us rests the responsibility for seeing that that does not happen."

Mr. Hill, Senate Democratic whip and member of the Military Committee lauded a labor-management agreement to put the tire industry on a seven-day work week and assurances extended by national labor and business organizations of co-operation in meeting munitions shortages.

"But assurances of support kill no Germans and kill no Japs," he said, "unless they are backed by solid action."

BILL AUTHORIZING NEW 5-STAR LEADERS PASSED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—(AP) The Senate passed today and sent to the White House a bill authorizing President Roosevelt to appoint four five-star generals and a like number of five-star admirals.

The five star army officers will have the title of generals of the Army, one grade below that of general of the armies, now held only by Gen. John Pershing.

The new Navy rank will be that of fleet admiral.

The appointees, to hold their new titles until six months after the war, will draw $8,000 a year and subsistence and rental allowances, plus $5,000 a year personal money allowances.

(The new rank for American general will be equivalent to that of the British Field Marshal.

Panama's Foreign Chief in U.S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP).—Foreign Minister Samuel Lewis of Panama arrived here today on an official visit to the United States as a guest of the State Department. He was met at Union Station by representatives of the State Department, the Pan American Union and the Panamanian Embassy and escorted to Blair House, American home for prominent visitors. Mario de Diego, chief of protocol of Panama, is accompanying Foreign Minister Lewis.

3 To Be Brigadier Generals

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—Three marine colonels were nominated today by President Roosevelt to be brigadier generals. They are Cols. John T. Walker, La Jolla, Cal.; Merwin H. Silverthorn, Washington, and Maurice C. Gregory, Philadelphia.

Veterans' Job Bill Signed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP).—President Roosevelt has signed legislation extending from forty to ninety days after discharge the time in which a war veteran may apply for re-employment in his pre-war job. The legislation allows a hospitalized veteran to make application for re-employment within ninety days after his release from the hospital, provided he was not hospitalized more than one year.

FORRESTAL SEES LONG PACIFIC WAR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11—(AP) Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal, emphasizing that a long, tough fight is ahead in the Pacific, called on individual bond-buyers today to meet their five billion-dollar quota in the Sixth War loan.

In a statement he said the U. S. S. Destroyer Frank Knox, paid for by New Hampshire bond-buyers and commissioned in Boston today, is "symbolic of what the sale of war bonds means to your Navy."

"Before our combined operations on sea, in the air, and on land can bring the war lords of Japan to their knees, much additional money and material will be needed," Forrestal said.

As the last week of the four-week drive got under way, the Treasury announced individual sales of $3,345,000,000.

Total sales—already beyond the 14-billion-dollar goal — were announced as $14,930,000,000.

The E-bond figures inching daily into a better position compared with the schedule mapped out in advance but still lagging behind expectations, is $1,319,000,000. The E-bond quota is $2,500,000,000.

Compton Urges Conn. Soldiers Be Returned from So. Pacific

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—(AP) Representative Compton (R-Conn) today pleaded for return to the United States of surviving members of New England National Guard units who have been "marooned in the south Pacific" nearly three years without relief.

In a House speech, Compton called upon President Roosevelt and Secretary of War Stimson to "direct that proper action be taken by our military authorities" to return the few hundred men.

Compton criticized General MacArthur for failure to return "men who for 34 months have been at the front without relief, who have fought the enemy, jungle, muck heat, fever, loneliness, fear, and hunger—yes, hunger for civilization."

The Connecticut representative declared that at his request Secretary Stimson more than a month ago authorized the south Pacific commander to take whatever action he "deemed appropriate to the circumstances."

"Apparently nothing has happened—we have heard nothing—nothing will happen unless we insist that justice to a few men is just as important as justice to the many, if army discipline is to be maintained," Compton told the House.

"I refuse to believe that the continued successful prosecution of the war depends on a handful of men who have already given as much of themselves in the cause of freedom as any other living men."

He complained specifically of the recent action of the War department in returning to this country from the European front for the Sixth War Bond drive a considerable number of servicemen with only a few months overseas service.

"Why bring men from Europe when the south Pacific is the hallowed ground where heroes actually died because of the shortage of guns and ammunition in the early days of the war," he asked. "Why not bring home these few men who have struggled with and endured continued limitations for three years, and in spite of it have done their share of keeping the enemies from our shores."

NEGRO SEABEE TROUBLE AIRED

Officer Says 15 Were Fired After Racial Issues Arose

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—A naval appeals board today reviewed the cases of fifteen Negro Seabees who were discharged from the service.

Heading a legal staff representing the appellants was Arthur Garfield Hays, of New York, who complained that having received other than "honorable discharges" the men were not entitled to all the rights and benefits provided veterans under the GI Bill of Rights.

With five of the fifteen former Seabees present at the board hearing, naval officials noted from case records that the men had gone to Trinidad, West Indies, in the summer of 1943. They were discharged, the officers said, shortly after some of them participated in an "off the record" meeting September 26, 1943, attended by their commanding officer, at which racial questions were discussed.

Some of the men at the meeting protested that they were limited in promotion to certain enlisted grades because of their race and complained of other discriminations.

Records Listed

Lieut. Com. Norman F. Godbe, serving as attorney for the Navy, said the records of the men as a group showed attendance at "seditious meetings," "refusal to obey orders," attempted "sitdown strikes" and "threatened sabotage," but added that the allegations did not all apply to each man individually.

Hays asserted that the discharged men as a group were well educated and of higher than average intelligence.

Isaac Glenn McNatt, former Fayetteville (N.C.) teacher, who now is a law student at St. John's University, Brooklyn, edited the battalion's newspaper. He said the off-the-record meeting was called by the Trinidad commanding officer. He said the men's complaints were made after an invitation to discuss any grievances. He himself made no complaints, he said.

DEBATE ON WATERWAY SCHEDULED FOR TODAY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 — (AP) An agreement was reached in the Senate today to vote tomorrow on

the proposed St. Lawrence hydro-electric power and seaway development estimated to cost between $200,000,000 and $400,000,000.

Senator Aiken (R.-Vt.), who had discussed the project for several days, introduced it as an amendment to the $500,000,000 post-war Rivers and Harbors bill with a promise from Senator Overton (D. La.) that there will be no motion to table it.

New Manpower Order Sent To Draft Boards

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Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—Selective service today notified State draft directors that it will take "immediate action" to put into effect the Byrnes manpower directive.

In telegrams to state officers, Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey said that draft regulations are being amended to provide that when occupationally deferred registrants leave essential jobs they will be "reclassified into a class immediately available for service. . . ."

Only One Exception

The only exception, he said, will be in cases where local boards rule that a change of jobs by men 26 through 37 "is in the best interest of the war effort."

"To accomplish the purpose that registrants 18 through 37 carry their full share of the nation's war effort in order to remain occupationally deferred, local boards will apply present occupational deferment instructions in the light of the immdeiate urgencies for men in the armed forces and the civilian war effort," Hershey said.

Details Due Later

The new regulations outlining detailed procedure will be sent to local boards later this week, selective service said.

Meanwhile, officials expressed confidence that the tighter draft regulations will "go a long way" toward bolstering the war-labor force.

The most important result of James F. Byrnes's directive to selective service, they said, will be to cut down appreciably the huge labor turnover that has been a number one problem in fighting-lagging war production.

The director of war mobilization and reconversion, in instructions to General Hershey, ordered an "increase" in the number of men 26 through 37 called to the armed services.

Replacements Needed

Byrnes said this was necessary to replace men released from the services to fill jobs where their skills are needed. He also directed that consideration be given to drafting occupationally deferred registrants in that age bracket who leave essential industries.

WMC officials pointed out that few men of these ages have been called for several months.

As a result, older registrants have been drifting from munitions benches to peacetime jobs, WMC said.

May Halt Practice

The revised regulations will put a stop to this, manpower officials asserted, and at the same time will send registrants who have left essential jobs hurrying back.

These measures, however, will have no effect on male workers over 37 or on women. And war production has been dependent to an important degree on both these groups.

A large percentage of the 300,000 additional workers needed for critical war programs must come from these classifications. Unless Congress puts "teeth" in the WMC regulations, they must be found and held on a purely voluntary basis.

Meeting Scheduled

The WMC discussion of the situation came with the first scheduled meting at the White House of the new advisory board appointed by President Roosevelt last week to help Byrnes with his tasks.

Chairman of the board, former North Carolina Governor Max Gardner, said the board planned to talk with Byrnes, Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson, Robert Hinckley, chairman of the Board of Contract Settlement, and Maj. Gen. Frank T. Hines, head of the retaining and re-employment operations under Byrnes.

Capt. De Florez Gets Collier Aviation Trophy

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—Capt. Luis de Florez, director of special devices for the Navy's Bureau of Aeronautics, has been awarded the Robert J. Collier Trophy for 1943.

The award is presented by the National Aeronautic Association "for the greatest achievement in aviation in America, the value of which has been demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year."

De Florez was chosen for his part in providing devices which have contributed greatly to the "faster, safer and more inexpensive training of military aviators," an NAA spokesman said. He is 55 and a native of New York city.

Tolley Designated For Food Commission

Washington, Dec. 11 (A. P.).—Howard H. Tolley, chief of the Agriculture Department's Bureau of Agricultural Economics, has been designated as American representative of the United Nations Interim Food Commission.

The appointment by President Roosevelt was announced today by the State Department. Mr. Tolley replaces Paul H. Appleby, who recently resigned.

President Roosevelt also approved the naming of Leroy D. Stinebower of the State Department as American alternate on the commission.

STEEL FIRMS RAP WLB WAGE BOOSTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—(AP) Seventy-three basic steel companies asked the War Labor board tonight to back up on its recent wage decision.

The firms called the ruling "grossly unfair" and asserted it provided wage increasee in violation of the stabilization policy.

They petitioned the Board to reconsider its order made in disposing of demands of the CIO-steelworkers two weeks ago.

The Board exceeded its authority in granting adjustments—such as on shift differentials, vacation pay and rate "inequities," the companies contended. Neither had it the right to make them retroactive, they said.

The adjustments, the petition argued, amounted to wage increases.

John A. Stephens, chairman of the Steel Case Research committee, explained that the provisions are not now effective and will become effective only upon determination by the OPA that they will not require changes in price ceilings; or upon approval by Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson.

"It is unfortunate," Stephens said, "that steel workers believe that the order for wage increases is now effective. Such is not the case.

"The steel companies are very much aware that there is a war and that it has entered vital phases. In view of the war situation, the companies are accepting those parts on the Board's directive which are not dependent on the action of Mr. Vinson."

Among these are provisions for maintenance of union membership and checkoff of union dues, which the companies had asked the Board to discontinue.

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President Roosevelt Is Rebuked By House

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—The House today rebuked President Roosevelt and voted, 178 to 107, to abolish the huge Jackson Hole National Monument in Wyoming, which he created last year by executive order.

Representative Mott (R., Ore.) told the House the vote corrects "one of the greatest usurpations of legislative authority by the Executive." The resolution to outlaw the project now goes to the Senate.

President Roosevelt set aside 221,610 Wyoming acres by executive order on March 15, 1943, and designated it the Jackson Hole National Monument. The order specified that the huge tract be administered by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes.

Congress Juggles Salary Issue

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP) — Congress juggled a legislative "hot potato" today, reluctant to drop it and afraid to grab it.

It deals with the politically dangerous and highly personal matter of an increase in pay for the legislators.

Imminent creation of a Senate-House committee to study the need for overhauling Congressional machinery has thrown the issue to the fore. In fact, a move was made last week to add a pay-raise amendment to an appropriation bill in the House, but it was ruled out of order on a technicality.

Quick Action Probable

The matter is likely to come before the joint legislative study committee early in the new Congress. And it may be acted on quickly, too, on the theory that, even though a pay raise voted by the 79th Congress can't become effective until the 80th comes in in 1947, it might be just as well to give the voters plenty of time to forget before the 1946 Congressional elections.

"Almost all of us are agreed that the present pay of $10,000 a year for a member of Congress is insufficient and doesn't attract the highest-caliber men," commented one veteran House member privately.

"But it's a dangerous and ticklish subject and, like pensions for Congressmen, it will get us into trouble with the people, regardless of its merits.

"People Bound To Take It Up"

"It's just one of those things the people are bound to take up and jump all over us for."

One of the leading advocates for a Congressional pay increase, Representative Celler (D., N.Y.) pointed out that the lawmakers haven't had a raise since 1923, when their pay check was hoisted $2,500, although living costs have skyrocketed in the last few years and the job of being a Congressman has become a year-around occupation instead of the part-time proposition it used to be.

HURLEY FIRM IS DEFENDED

Banker Says Lieutenant Failed To Note Good Jobs

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—A navy officer's complaints of "disastrous" experience with the Narragansett Machine Company was challenged today by a banker who participated in army financing for Robert A. Hurley's old company.

Carl B. Pittman, vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, told the Senate Military Committee that a letter written by Lieut. Stanley Cutter failed to give the Pawtucket (R.I) company credit for its good performances.

The committee is considering the nomination of Hurley, former Democratic Governor of Connecticut, for chairman of the Surplus War Property Disposal Board, and that of Lieut. Col. Edward H. Heller, war finance officer, as another of the three-member board. It plans further testimony tomorrow.

Called "Top Notch"

Most of today was devoted to testimony by a long line of friends of Colonel Heller, wealthy San Francisco business man, who called him a "top notch" business man of unusual integrity.

Hurley resigned as vice president of the Narragansett company when his nomination was sent to the Senate.

Pittman's bank, as fiscal agent for the War Department, helped arrange a $2,000,000 loan for the Narragansett company through the Industrial Trust Company, of Providence, and later took over a second $2,000,000 loan which replaced the first.

He said Heller's performance in connection with the loan was as an army finance officer. He said Heller war largely concerned with verifying the Government's need for the Narragansett company for vital war work. The Boston Ordnance District, he testified, had approved the company, and asked that financing be arranged to enable it to carry out contracts for tank gun mounts, lockers, radar equipment and other work.

"Long, Disastrous History"

"The company has performed well on most of its contracts," he said.

Pittman testified that Lieutenant Cutter wrote a navy superior concerning the cancellation of Narragansett contracts for navy lockers and assertedly poor performance on bomb racks and referred to the "long, disastrous history" of dealings with the company.

The banker said that the company had complained of the Navy's failure to get it top priority on needed materials, and added that the company fell down only on items it was asked to produce for which it was not qualified.

"Despite . . . Being . . . Democrat"

If the concern is allowed to do necessary work for which it can perform efficiently, he said, there will be no loss to the Government on the loans.

Two Republicans were among those giving Heller commendation.

Victor H. Rossetti, president of the Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Los Angeles, said he had telegraphed Senator Taft (R., Ohio) urging confirmation. Fred A. Wickett, former vice president of the New York Life Insurance Company, said the President could not have found a better nominee than Heller, "despite his being a Democrat."

POLL TAX OPPONENTS CONTEST HOUSE SEATS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 — (AP) The Southern Electoral Reform League announced today it would contest the election of representatives from the poll tax states of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee and Virginia.

Formal notices of contest, the league said, have been sent the 79 House members from those states.

The action is based on the grounds that the 14th amendment to the Constitution forbids abridgement of the right to vote in any way except for crime or rebellion.

The league, through Arthur Dunn, of New York city, and Moses A. Plunkett, of Roanoke County, Va., contends the same amendment reduces the members of Congress of any state in proportion to the number of voters denied the right to vote, and that hence the 79 members are not legally seated.

SLATTERY RESIGNS FROM REA TO TAKE FIGHT TO PUBLIC

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—(AP) Harry Slattery, who hitherto had resisted administration efforts to ease him out as rural electrification administrator, resigned today "to carry this fight to the public."

No reasons were assigned in the White House announcement that Slattery had submitted the resignation early last week and President Roosevelt had accepted it Dec. 8.

Hits Wickard Appointment

But Slattery issued a statement saying that Secretary of Agriculture Wickard's appointment of a deputy administrator with "coordinate" authority "bypassed and displaced me as actual administrator." He named William J. Neal as the deputy with "coordinate" authority.

Calling Wickard's action "illegal and contrary to the REA act,"

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Slattery asserted:

"They also jeopardize the repayment of government loans and are dangerous to the welfare and permanent success of REA. I have protested, but to no avail. I decline further to be held even nominally responsible for these illegal acts.

"The President's order forbids federal officials to engage in public controversies. Therefore I have resigned in order to carry this fight to the public."

The row came fully into the open for the first time last Spring in the Senate Committee investigation of efforts to replace Slattery. The administration then said his resignation had been requested by Wickard and by Jonathan Daniels, a presidential assistant.

Wickard told the committee an Agriculture department investigator had reported to him that Slattery's word "couldn't be relied upon." He said dissension within the agency led him to believe it needed a chief of "greater administrative ability."

Daniels Testified

Daniels declined at first to testify, but did so after the committee threatened to subpoena White House files. He said he requested Slattery's resignation after the President requested him to make an investigation of REA.

Slattery testified he believed efforts to oust him stemmed from his refusal to do political campaigning.

Senator Shipstead (R-Minn.), member of a Senate Agriculture subcommittee which investigated REA last spring, said today he did not blame Slattery for quitting Secretary Wickard, the Senator declared, had stripped Slattery of his powers and had continually "by passed" him.

Shipstead said his committee would make "every effort" to have the REA restored as an independent agency.

The committee, formerly under the leadership of the late Senator Smith (D-S.C.), already has recommended such a step, declaring that the REA has been demoralized by "dissatisfaction, controversy and intrigue" in its status as Agriculture department agency.

Slattery was in the Interior department during part of the Wilson administration, and later took part in Senate inquiries on the Teapot Dome and Elk Hills oil reserves. He came back to the Interior department in 1933. In 1939 he moved up from Undersecretary of Interior to head the REA.

The White House said nothing about a successor.

FISH SWAN SONG DIGS AT DEWEY

New York Republican Blames Governor For His Defeat

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—Representative Fish (R., N.Y.) declared today in the House "it took most of the New Deal Administration, half of Moscow, $400,000 and Governor (Thomas E.) Dewey to defeat me."

In a farewell speech, Fish, unseated by Augustus W. Bennet, placed the major blame on the Republican Presidential candidate, saying:

"I am confident that I would have been able to overcome all efforts to purge me if it had not been for Governor Dewey's intolerant and false statement denouncing me as un-American.

"I am convinced," he asserted, "that his stupid and colossal blunder, for selfish political purposes, was the direct cause of my defeat, as well as his own, and may have kept the Republicans from electing a majority in the House of Representatives."

He said Dewey had characterized as un-American his remarks that a "majority of the Jewish people would vote for President Roosevelt and the New Deal." Declaring he "bitterly resented" this characterization, he asked:

"Since when it is un-American to tell the truth or mention the word Jew, any more than the words Christian, Irish, Italian, Pole, or Negro?"

Guild Pacts With UP Are Upheld By WLB

Washington, Dec. 11 (AP)—The War Labor Board today upheld the July 26 order of the Newspaper Commission, granting union security to the American Newspaper Guild in its contracts with United Press Associations.

The United Press had appealed from the order of the Daily Newspaper Printing and Publishing Commission in Chicago, which had granted the standard-maintenance-of-membership provision in conformity with the Harrisburg *Patriot* case.

The maintenance clause provides that those workers who are in good standing in the union fifteen days after the order must continue in that status for the duration of the union's contract with the company. The fifteen-day period is allowed for those employés who desire to leave the union to do so.

Contentions Listed

The UP contended that the order violated the rights of free expression guaranteed under the Constitution and that it violated the National Labor Relations Act. The company further contended that the *Patriot* decision does not apply to wire services.

Further, the UP said, the imposition of any enforced union membership is an infringement on management, which must have the right to select its employés if subscribers were to receive impartial and objective service.

The company also argued that the union had failed to justify any need for maintenance of membership.

Oaks Proposals Backed

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—Support of the Dumbarton Oaks conference preliminary draft as a "proposal for the establishment of a general international organization" was pledged today by the trustees of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace at their semi-annual meeting.

Plan To Rebuild Churches

New York, Dec. 9 (AP)—The National Council of the Episcopal Church has approved a plan to raise between $3,000,000 and $5,000,000 to rebuild church property destroyed in countries which were occupied by the enemy in the war.

RADIO FACES STRIKE THREAT

Platter Turner Jurisdictional Issue Bobs Up Again

New York, Dec. 11 (AP)—Mark Woods, president of the Blue Network Company, said today that James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, had threatened to "order a series of wildcat strikes" against the Blue if the firm did not abide by a previous agreement with the AFM.

Petrillo was not immediately available for comment.

Woods said in a statement that the Blue had negotiated a new contract with Petrillo last January in which it agreed "to employ platter turners who are members of the American Federation of Musicians."

"This agreement was part of a general contract," Woods said, "in which we accepted the AFM jurisdiction over platter turners, in order that a musicians' strike could be averted."

Stilwell in Saratoga Springs

General and Wife Motor From New York to Visit His Aunt

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y., Dec. 11 (AP).—General and Mrs. Joseph W. Stilwell arrived in Saratoga Springs today to visit his aunt, Mrs. George A. Farnham. General Stillwell, who was recently recalled from his Far Eastern command, motored from New York. He will remain overnight for "rest and relaxation," his aide, Major Carl Arnold, said. General Stilwell did not stop at Washington Major Arnold said, but when he leaves tomorrow by plane he will proceed "toward" the capital.

On his trip east from his home at Carmel, Calif., General Stilwell stopped at Abilene, Tex., and Fort Benning, Ga., and visited his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Joseph W. Stilwell jr., at Columbus, Ga. On his way here he visited his brother John at Yonkers. He hopes to return to Carmel by Christmas.

State Associated Press Backs Free News Flow

Indorses Kent Cooper's Work for Universal Liberty

ALBANY, Dec. 11 (AP).—The New York State Associated Press Association gave "unqualified indorsement" today to the principle of free flow of news throughout the world "as an essential to enduring peace."

The association, composed of seventy-four newspapers, adopted a resolution recording "hearty approval" of a projected world tour of a committee of the American Society of Newspaper Editors and of the efforts of Kent Cooper, executive director of The Associated Press, in the interests of a universally free press.

Alan J. Gould, assistant general manager of the A. P., told the association that while there had been "no completely satisfactory solution" of war news censorship problems, considerable progress had been made. He credited the Navy with liberalizing censorship regulations in the Pacific where, he said, conditions were the "toughest" of any war theater. He called the war coverage "the best reportorial job the world has ever seen."

Governor Thomas E. Dewey spoke "off the record" at the evening session.

Fritz S. Updike, managing editor of "The Rome Daily Sentinel," was elected president of the association. Clifford H. Nuhn, editorial director of "The Poughkeepsie New Yorker," was chosen vice-president, and W. Norris Paxton, chief of The Associated Press Albany bureau, was re-elected secretary.

DENIES SMOKES DELAY SHIPS

WSA Says Seamen Don't Hold Out For Cigarettes

Nazis And Snuff

Madrid, Dec. 11 (AP)—The German newspaper *Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* has advised its readers who smoke to change to snuff, "not only because tobacco is short but because snuff clears the head."

Boston, Dec. 11 (AP)—The public relations office of the War Shipping Administration today said it had received no official reports of any ships being delayed in sailing because of "inadequate" supplies of cigarettes.

The WSA said that "absolutely no overseas ships had been held up and that it didn't know of a single coastwise vessel being delayed" because merchant seamen refused to sail until smokes were supplied.

The WSA commented on a recent statement attributed to Harrington Pike, port representative for the recruitment division of the WSA, that men couldn't be expected to "go to sea without cigarettes." Pike said at that time that numbers of merchant seamen had refused to sail until assured smokes while on the seas.

Pike declined to enlarge upon his statement today and referred inquiries to the public relations office.

An executive of the Boston branch of the National Maritime Union said that the organization never heard of any ships being delayed because cigarettes were unavailable, and, he added, "I doubt very much that there is any foundation for the report."

The War Shipping Administration public relations office said that cigarettes were "taken out of bond" for overseas vessels.

SERVICEMEN SEEK TO START AIRLINE

BOSTON, Dec. 11 — (AP) Two members of the Army Air force testified today that 49 servicemen were members of Norseman Air Transport associates, which proposes to operate an airline in New England after the war.

Private William C. Cook, of Winthrop, presently training as a flight engineer in B-29 bombers, told a Civil Aeronautics board examiner that he formerly was a machine tool salesman, and that he was familiar with the difficulties of traveling in New England without private transportation or airlines.

Cook said that Norseman proposes to employ qualified veterans wherever possible, and he added that "each employe will also be a stockholder. . . and will be interested in the success of the venture."

"There will be a common interest which will cause the employer-stockholders to work as a team, just as we have been required to do in the service," Cook said.

The other soldier witness, was S/Sgt. John D. George, of Dallas, Texas, a former employe of an aviation company.

George said that the men of the Army air forces had learned to work toward a common purpose.

"Those who could not do so," he added, "were transferred from the air forces. Because of this ability to work together, I believe a commercial airline operated by former air force and air transport personnel would be likely to succeed."

In announcing formation of the Norseman associates recently, Lieut. Robert G. Averill, of Longmeadow, said that it was a servicemen's post-war plan for their own employment in a business they had learned in the army.

Many of the 49 members are attached to the Air Transport command and are stationed all over the world.

The Norsemen concern proposes to operate short haul lines on 14 routes connecting 77 points over 2,841 miles. Several New York state and Pennsylvania cities also are on their proposed routes.

Destroyer Knox Commissioned

BOSTON, Dec. 11 (AP).—The U. S. S. Frank Knox, one of the Navy's new-type 2,200-ton destroyers, was placed in commission today at the Boston Navy Yard. The first of the world's largest destroyers to be commissioned at the yard, the vessel, named for the late Secretary of the Navy, was launched in September at the Bath Iron Works Corporation, Bath, Me. Mrs. Frank Knox, who sponsored the ship, presented a portrait of her husband to the destroyer.

Inductions To Rise

Cleveland, Dec. 11 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, said today his "guess" was that there would be a ten to twenty per cent increase in inductions in the next few months, "from what I see in the papers about the way the war is going."

Asserting that draft boards are being asked to put more emphasis on the kind of work a registrant does, rather than his age, General Hershey told a press conference: "The Army is getting to the point of taking what it can get, and men under 26 are not so plentiful any more."

OPPONENT OF TAFT DROPS RECOUNT PLEA

CLEVELAND, Dec. 11.—(AP) Recounting of the votes cast in Cuyahoga county (Cleveland) for the office of U. S. Senator was halted today at the request of Democratic County Chairman Ray T. Miller, when retabulation of 300 of the county's 1,183 precincts gave Democrat William G. Pickrel of Dayton a net gain of only about half a vote for precinct over U. S. Senator Robert A. Taft, Cincinnati Republican.

Miller said in a statement "the net gain of Mr. Pickrel at the end of the recount of 300 precincts is about half a vote per precinct. The recount has found no evidence of fraud or gross error."

Ben Schwartz, Pickrel campaign representative in northern Ohio, said he would recommend to the unsuccessful candidate that petitions for recounts in Summit and

Lucas counties be withdrawn, in view of the Cuyahoga results.

Taft defeated Pickrel in the Nov. 7 election by a statewide majority of 17,999. Pickrel carried Cuyahoga county by 96,094 but that was 16,721 votes behind President Roosevelt and 96,102 votes behind Frank J. Lausche, the successful Democratic candidate for governor.

No Need For Labor Draft, McNutt Insists

Miami, Fla., Dec. 11 (AP)—Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission reiterated today his belief that the United States will be able to meet the tremendous worker demands of war plants without resorting to a labor draft.

He was interviewed at the Army Air Forces regional hospital where he has been staying for the past week in an attempt to rid himself of a troublesome sinus ailment before undertaking some unusually heavy duties which he said he cannot now discuss.

"I don't believe a labor draft will be necessary," McNutt said, "even though the manpower demands of the army are becoming steadily heavier."

UNIONS PICKET WARD STORES

Affected Detroit Plants Remain Open, However

Detroit, Dec. 11 (AP)—Pickets marched in a snowstorm today before each of four Montgomery Ward & Co. stores in the Detroit area as members of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employés (CIO) pressed their strike to force the company to accept a War Labor Board directive.

The strikers received the support today of the United Automobile Workers (CIO), whose vice president, Walter Reuther, said half a million UAW-CIO members in the area would lend their aid. Reuther said the Ward company had "defied the Federal Government and set itself up above the WLB."

Open Despite Pickets

The four stores were open despite the picket lines, and a company spokesman said about 80 per cent of their regular personnel was on the job. This was disputed by union officials who claimed approximately 1,500 of some 2,200 employés of the stores had joined the strike.

They said department heads and extra help were keeping the Dearborn store open.

Other stores affected were two in Detroit and one in Royal Oak.

Seek To Enforce Demand

The strikes sought to enforce a demand that the company accept a 1942 WLB directive on union maintenance of membership, dues checkoff, seniority, back pay and arbitration of grievances.

Roy Scoggins, Detroit regional director of the employes' union, said pay increases of $2 to $5 a week ordered by the WLB were to have been retroactive to December 8, 1942, and that the amount involved is approximately $500,000.

The company has carried its opposition to the War Labor Board to the United States Supreme Court, which denied a petition for a review of a suit in which it sought to enjoin the WLB from "exceeding its statutory jurisdiction" in orders issued in labor disputes.

Union Stewards To Meet

In a statement issued tonight in Chicago, Henry B. Anderson, president of Local 20 of the union, said:

"The executive board of Local 20 met and we are calling an emergency steward council meeting on Thursday evening, at which time we will decide what action we shall take.

"The Montgomery Ward workers in Chicago fully support and sympathize with the Detroit workers."

PLANES SPEED VETERANS HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

OAKLAND, Calif., Dec. 11—(AP) Jammed to capacity, Naval Air Transport service planes are landing nearly 100 home-bound combat men a day in an increasing tempo to get them to their homes in time for Christmas.

Capt. James E. Dyer, NATS commander for the West coast, said wounded or able Navy men granted mainland leave have priority second only to munitions cargo.

Twelfth Naval district also announced scores of men bound for their Christmas fireside are being speeded here by surface ship.

VETERANS OF PACIFIC ARRIVE IN SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 11—(AP) One thousand Marines and sailors, 1,600 other veterans of the Pacific warfare, a group of missionaries and Red Cross workers and some Chinese and Australians arrived here today by transport.

The wounded formed one of the largest groups of casualties brought to the West coast in one ship. Most of them were wounded in actions preparatory to the Philippine invasion. Others were returning from India, China, Palau, New Guinea, Australia, the Solomons and the Marianas. A few had fought the Japanese in the Philippines before the islands fell, and others had been at Leyte.

This Christmas will be the first holiday home in three years for Donald O. Couey, 30, radioman from Seattle, Wash., who fought at Corregidor. During the voyage home he exchanged experiences in the Philippines with men returning from Leyte, including Chief Petty Officer Lel[illegible] H. Redfern, 24, Pavo, Ga.

REAR ADMIRAL C.S.DANIEL, WHO WON THE D.S.O. FOR HIS ANTI-SUBMARINE WORK EARLY IN THE WAR, HAS BEEN MADE VICE-ADMIRAL AND PLACED IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATION OF THE NEW BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET. DEC 12 1944

ADD LONDON-CHERCHEN xxAPxITED

ADVICES FROM MOSCOW SAID PART OF BUDAPEST ALREADY WAS IN FLAMES, AND THAT THE GERMANS HAD THROWN IN FRESH TANKS AND SS (ELITE GUARD) UNITS INTO THE BATTLE FOR THE CITY WITH ORDERS NOT TO BUDGE AN INCH.

"BEAUTIFUL BUDAPEST IS GOING THE WAY OF WARSAW," ONE REPORT FROM MOSCOW SAID. "BLACK SMOKE, PIERCED BY RED TONGUES OF FLAME, IS HANGING LOW AND THICK OVER THE CITY. THE NEVER-ENDING ROAR OF BATTLE IS BRINGING SLEEPLESS NIGHTS TO THE CIVILIANS TRAPPED IN THEIR CITY."

ADD LONDON [illegible]

HE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WILL RESIGN AS SOON AS QUEEN WILHELMINA CAN RETURN TO A WHOLLY LIBERATED HOLLAND, HE STATED.

W1122PEV

ADD LONDON [illegible] IT

UNDER THE NEW SET-UP IT WAS BELIEVED THAT FRASER'S FLEET WOULD OPERATE UNDER COMMAND OF ADMIRAL CHESTER NIMITZ IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AND UNDER GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, AS STRATEGY DEMANDS.

THE EAST INDIES STATION WOULD SUPPLY FLOATING POWER TO SUPPORT ADMIRAL LORD LOUIS MOUNTBATTEN'S ADVANCE BACK INTO LOWER BURMA AND MALAYA. DEC 12 1944

THE ADMIRALTY DECLINED TO DESCRIBE THE PRECISE LIMITS OF FRASER'S NEW COMMAND.

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ANOTHER BERLIN BROADCAST SAID THAT A TREMENDOUS SOVIET OFFENSIVE WAS IMMINENT IN SOUTHWEST POLAND, AIMED AT KRAKOW AND RICH GERMAN INDUSTRIAL SILESIA.

THE GERMANS SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS WERE MASSING MEN AND MATERIALS AT THEIR VISTULA BRIDGEHEAD AT BARANOW, SOUTH OF WARSAW AND A LONG DORMANT SECTOR OF THE EASTERN FRONT. THE NAZIS CLAIMED THE RUSSIANS HAVE THREE RIFLE AND THREE TANK ARMIES, 500 BIG GUNS AND 2,300 PLANES IN READINESS, AGAINST WHICH THE GERMANS HAVE CONCENTRATED MEN AND MATERIAL.

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START OF THE OFFENSIVE, ADDED THE NAZI REPORT, "DEPENDS ON FAVORABLE WEATHER."

W323PEW

LONDON, DEC 11-(AP)-THE BRITISH BATTLESHIP HOWE, 35,000-TON DREADNAUGHT OF THE KING GEORGE V CLASS, WILL BE THE FLAGSHIP OF ADMIRAL SIR BRUCE FRASER'S NEW BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET NOW BEING ASSEMBLED IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS FOR THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN.

THE 745-FOOT HOWE, WITH HER TEN 14-INCH MAIN BATTERY AND INNUMERABLE SMALLER GUNS, CARRIES SOME 14,000 TONS OF ARMOR PLATING ALONE. LESSONS LEARNED IN AERIAL WARFARE ARE INCORPORATED IN THE SHIP, COMMISSIONED IN 1942. SHE CARRIES A COMPLEMENT OF 1,500 OFFICERS AND MEN.

ADMIRAL FRASER, THE FLEET COMMANDER, ARRIVED IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, TONIGHT, AND SAID THE BRITISH ARMADA WOULD OPERATE UNDER COMMAND OF ADMIRAL CHESTER NIMITZ.

SB956PEW

LONDON, DEC 11-(AP)-A BRITISH PILOT WHO EVADED CAPTURE BY THE GERMANS MORE THAN TWO MONTHS BY POSING AS A MUTE WAS AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS TODAY.

THE FLIER, G.K.E. MARTIN OF NEW SOUTH WALES, WAS BLOWN OUT OF HIS TYPHOON FIGHTER D-DAY BY A BURST OF FLAK. HE LANDED IN A TREE, BADLY BURNED, HIS LEG BROKEN.

TWO FRENCH BOYS FOUND HIM THE NEXT DAY FLOATING IN A CANAL TO EASE THE PAIN FROM HIS BURNS. THEY WENT TO LISIEUX AND RETURNED WITH A CLERGYMAN WHO GAVE HIM CIVILIAN CLOTHES.

MARTIN POSED AS A MUTE REFUGEE WHO HAD BROKEN HIS LEG AND BEEN BURNED WHEN HIS HOUSE WAS BOMBED. HE LIVED WITH A FARMER AND HIS WIFE NEAR CAEN.

GESTAPO OFFICERS WERE BILLETED NEAR BY. ONE OF THEM BECAME SUSPICIOUS AND WHILE SITTING AT A TABLE WITH MARTIN ONE DAY FIRED A REVOLVER BEHIND HIM AS A TEST. THE PILOT GAVE NO SIGN OF HEARING IT.

MARTIN SPOKE ENGLISH FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN TWO MONTHS WHEN BRITISH TROOPS REACHED THE FARMHOUSE AUG.22. HE WAS OPERATED ON AT A SURGICAL CLEARING STATION NEAR BAYEUX AND FLOWN BACK TO ENGLAND NEXT DAY.

M920AEW

LONDON, DEC 11-(AP)-THE DAILY MAIL SAID TONIGHT THAT FIELD MARSHAL SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER, NEW SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, HAD BEEN SENT TO GREECE "WITH PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL TO END THE FIGHTING THERE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

ALEXANDER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HAROLD MACMILLAN, BRITISH RESIDENT MINISTER TO ALLIED MEDITERRANEAN HEADQUARTERS, THE MAIL SAID.

SB953PEW

LONDON, DEC 11-(AP)-DESPITE ADVERSE WEATHER A FLEET OF MORE THAN 00 U.S.HEAVY BOMBS LOOSED 1,500 TONS OF BOMBS ON RAILYARDS AT OBLENZ AND BINGEN ON THE RHINE YESTERDAY IN A CONTINUING ASSAULT N VITAL GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS SUPPLYING THE WESTERN FRONT.

MORE THAN 650 FIGHTERS ACCOMPANIED THE BOMBERS, WHICH WERE ORCED TO ATTACK BY INSTRUMENT BECAUSE OF HEAVY CLOUDS. TEMPERATURES ANGED DOWN TO 50 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND FROZEN BOMB BAYS HAD TO E CRACKED OPEN BY HAND.

NO ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT IRE WAS DESCRIBED AS MEAGER. THREE BOMBERS AND ONE FIGHTER WERE .ISTED AS MISSING, PRESUMABLY DUE LARGELY TO THE BAD WEATHER.

NEARLY 1,000 SORTIES WERE FLOWN YESTERDAY BY CONTINENT-BASED PLANES OF THE U.S.NINTH AIR FORCE AND THE FIRST AND SECOND TACTICAL AIR FORCES IN SUPPORT OF ALLIED GROUND TROOPS. NO PLANES WERE LOST IN THESE FORAYS.

SATURDAY NIGHT A FORCE OF RAF MOSQUITOS GAVE BERLIN ITS 185TH RAID OF THE WAR.

DEC 12 1944

MK726AEW

— 00532 JONES LONDON, -DR.

ROBERT LEY, NAZI LABOR FRONT LEADER AND PROFESSIONAL OPTIMIST, TOLD SEVERAL VOLKSSTURM MEETINGS TODAY THAT "IT IS BETTER THAN WE FEARED IT WOULD BE THREE MONTHS AGO."

THE GERMAN PROPAGANDA AGENCY DNB QUOTED HIM AS SAYING:

"THE ENEMY, AFRAID OF GERMAN RESISTANCE, TRIES TO OVERWHELM US IN THE SHORTEST TIME BY CONCENTRATING HIS FORCES. THE STRUGGLE FOR TECHNICAL SUPERIORITY HAS STARTED SUCCESSFULLY FOR US. IN SPITE OF INTERRUPTIONS OF COMMUNICATIONS AND STOPPAGES OF VARIOUS KINDS THERE HAS BEEN NO FALL OF PRODUCTION COMPARED TO PREVIOUS MONTHS. GERMANY KNOWS SHE IS A FORTRESS WHICH WILL NEVER CAPITULATE.

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3/THE VOLKSSTURM WILL NOT GIVE A WORSE ACCOUNT OF ITSELF THAN THE GERMAN DIVISIONS DID."

0548/11

LONDON, DEC.11-(AP)-AMERICAN PILOTS RETURNING FROM THE GREATEST BOMBING RAID IN HISTORY SAID TONIGHT THAT THE 1,600 FLYING FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS WHICH HIT RAIL TARGETS NEAR FRANKFURT MET NO OPPOSITION FROM THE LUFTWAFFE, ONLY MEAGER FLAK AND SOME "BABY V-2 ROCKETS" FIRED AT THE FORMATIONS FROM THE GROUND.

"WE SAW THE GROUND ONLY ONCE IN A WHILE OVER THE CONTINENT AND THE EARTH WAS WHITE WITH SNOW," SAID LT.UPTON BROTEMARKLE, 24-YEAR-OLD FORT PILOT OF 1446 BELLVIEW AVE., CAMDEN, N.J., "ABOVE THE CLOUDS THERE WERE FLAK AND ROCKETS."

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A LIBERATOR WAIST GUNNER, SGT.JOHN W.SMITH, 1226 SOUTH FIFTEENTH ST., CHICKASHA, OKLA., DESCRIBED THE 300-MILE-LONG SKYTRAIN AS "REACHING TO THE HORIZON."

"THERE WERE FORMATIONS GOING INTO GERMANY AS FAR AS I COULD SEE IN ALL DIRECTIONS," HE SAID.

"THE WEATHER WAS ONLY FAIR UP TO 30 MINUTES FROM THE TARGET. THEN IT TURNED PLAIN MISERABLE," SAID LT.FRANCIS J.MUSSEAU, 51 BANK STREET, STAMFORD, CONN., A FORTRESS PILOT WITH 30 MISSIONS UNDER HIS BELT.

"WE TRIED TO CLIMB OVER IT WITHOUT HAVING ANY LUCK, AND FINALLY SETTLED FOR SLIPPING BENEATH IT TO GET ON THE BOMB RUN. WE MANAGED TO GET THE BOMBS AWAY IN GOOD FORMATION DESPITE THE WEATHER."

PILOTS OF ONE MUSTANG GROUP, LED BY LT.COL.ELWYN C.RIGHETTI, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF., DROPPED TO WITHIN 50 FEET OF THE GROUND TO STRAFE SIX TRUCKS, EIGHT LOCOMOTIVES AND A NUMBER OF RAILROAD CARS.

"THE GERMANS APPARENTLY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE LOW CLOUDS TO MAKE A DASH TO THE FRONTS WITH THEIR SUPPLIES," RIGHETTI OBSERVED. "WE MET MORE TRAINS THAN WE COULD SHAKE A STICK AT. WE GOT ALL BUT ONE WHILE THEY WERE MOVING AND MET NO FLAK AT ALL. WE GOT LOW ON GAS SO HAD PULL OUT, BUT WE SURELY HATED TO LEAVE THOSE BUCKS."

PSD 40 PEW

SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF DUREN.

ADD PARIS - (REAL MEAT) XXX WREN

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE FIGHTING RAGED IN GEY, WHOSE CAPTURE WAS PREMATURELY REPORTED YESTERDAY. THE GERMANS WERE BEATEN BACK IN AN ATTEMP TO RECAPTURE NEARBY STRASS. GEICH, ALSO REPORTED CAPTURED YESTERDAY, IS NOW REVEALED TO HAVE BEEN BY-PASSED.

DESPITE INDICATIONS OF WEAKENING RESISTANCE, THE NATURE OF THE TERRAIN AND THE FORTIFIED TOWNS IN FRONT OF THEM SHOWED PLAINLY WHY THE AMERICANS' PROGRESS WAS NOT OF A LIGHTNING NATURE.

ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT WILLIAM F. BONI SAID MERKEN WAS TYPICAL OF THE FORTIFIED INDUSTRIAL VILLAGES THROUGH WHICH THE FIRST IS FIGHTING.

THE VILLAGES HAVE BEEN TURNED INTO FORMIDABLE REDOUBTS BY STRENGTHENING CELLARS AND LINKING THEM INTO A SERIES OF UNDERGROUND BASTIONS.

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THE U.S. NINTH ARMY TO THE NORTH SENT OUT AN INCREASED NUMBER OF PATROLS AND PERSISTED IN ITS ARTILLERY DUELS WITH THE GERMANS ENTRENCHED ON THE EAST BANK OF THE ROER AROUND JULICH.

A FRONT DISPATCH, REPORTING THE FALL OF HAGUENAU TO THE SEVENTH ARMY'S 79TH DIVISION, SAID THE GERMANS WITHDREW OVERNIGHT FROM THE VITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPLY CITY 15 MILES NORTH OF STRASBOURG.

THICK FORESTS, HOWEVER, LIE NORTH OF HAGUENAU AND NORTHERN ALSACE IS THREADED WITH NUMEROUS STREAMS ALONG THE ROUTE OF INVASION TO THE BIG GERMAN INDUSTRIAL AREA AROUND MANNHEIM.

ONE FORCE WHICH FOUGHT INTO HAGUENAU FROM THE EAST HAD SKIRTED KALENTENHOUSE, TWO MILES SOUTHEAST.

WITH THE HELP OF DUG-IN TANKS, THE GERMANS STILL WERE RESISTING NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU, HOWEVER.

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STREET FIGHTING WAS IN PROGRESS AT MERTZWILLER, GRIESBACH AND REICHSHOFFEN, FROM FIVE AND A HALF TO NINE MILES NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU.

GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS AGAINST THE THIRD ARMY AGAIN WERE AIMED AT SAARLAUTERN AND DILLENGEN BRIDGEHEADS, INTO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN POURING AN AVERAGE OF 6,000 ROUNDS OF HEAVY ARTILLERY DAILY FOR THREE DAYS.

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LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S TROOPS WERE MEETING THE FIERCEST KIND OF RESISTANCE AS THEY HAMMERED AT THE WEST WALL DEFENSES OF GERMANY'S SECOND RICHEST INDUSTRIAL AREA.

IN ONE OF THE THREE COUNTERATTACKS THROWN AT THE AMERICANS AROUND DILLIGEN, 85 GERMANS MADE A SUICIDE CHARGE IN THE JAPANESE MANNER, YELLING "HEIL HITLER". THEY WERE MOWED DOWN TO A MAN.

THE 90TH DIVISION HELD ON TO ALL GROUND GAINED, AND BROUGHT TANK DESTROYER GUNS ACROSS THE RIVER TO BLAST THE PILLBOXES.

TWO TO THREE MILES SOUTHWEST, THE 95TH DIVISION WAS ENGAGED IN THE TOUGHEST BUILDING TO BUILDING FIGHTING IN SAARLAUTERN AND RODEN AND FRAULAUTERN, A MILE NORTH.

THEY WON CONTROL OF TWO MORE BLOCKS IN FRAULAUTERN, INCLUDING A BIG HOTEL IN WHICH THE BALL ROOM WAS THE SCENE OF PROLONGED FIGHTING. THE GERMANS WERE USING EVERY AVAILABLE BUILDING FOR DEFENSE, AND WERE DIGGING TANKS INTO RUBBLE LEFT BY AMERICAN SHELLS.

THE 95TH YESTERDAY CLEARED 25 PILLBOXES AND 30 FORTIFIED BUILDINGS IN AND AROUND SAARLAUTERN.

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M&W315PEW

ADD PARIS -(KENNEDY) XX RHINE

UMPING OFF IN SIX INCHES OF SNOW, LT. GEN. COURTNEY H. HODGES' FIRST ARMY BENT BACK THE ENEMY'S WHOLE ROER RIVER LINE BEFORE DUREN AND SMASHED FORWARD 4,000 TO 1,[illegible] YARDS IN A RENEWAL OF THE BATTLE OF THE RHINELAND. AT SOME PLACES THE AMERICANS WERE BUT A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE RIVER.

HODGES' [illegible]PTURED FOUR TOWNS AND FOUGHT INTO THREE OTHERS.
THEIR ATTA[illegible]'ED OFF YESTERDAY AFTER 500 MEDIUM BOMBERS AND FIGHTER-
BOMBERS AN[illegible]REDS OF BIG GUNS HAD PULVERIZED ENEMY POSITIONS IN

30. 2r— 21161

THEIR PATH. SO EFFECTIVE WAS THIS PREPARATION THAT ON SOME SECTORS AMERICAN TANKS AND INFANTRY MET LITTLE OR NO ENEMY ARTILLERY FIRE.

THE AMERICANS WERE WITHIN 500 YARDS OF SCHOPHOVEN, A TOWN ALMOST ON THE ROER AND SIX MILES NORTHWEST OF DUREN. SCHOPHOVEN WAS AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE FIRST ARMY'S ASSAULT FRONT.

JUST TO THE SOUTH OTHER UNITS ENTERED THE OUTSKIRTS OF PIER, LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE ROER; ADVANCED A HALF-MILE BEYOND LUCHERBERG AND DROVE NEARLY A MILE OUT OF LUCHEM TOWARD ECHTZ, 2 1/2 MILES NORTHWEST OF DUREN.

THE BIGGEST GAINS WERE ROLLED UP BY A TANK-PACED ATTACK WHICH OVERRAN GEICH AND OBERGEICH, 3 1/2 MILES WEST AND SLIGHTLY NORTH OF DUREN AND WITHIN 2 1/2 MILES OF THE ROER.

THE FOREST TOWN OF MERODE, 3 1/2 MILES WEST OF DUREN, WAS ENTERED. THE AMERICANS ALSO CAPTURED GEY, FOUR MILES SOUTHWEST OF DUREN; OVERWHELMED STRASS, 1,000 YARDS SOUTHEAST OF GEY, AND PRESSED INTO SCHAFBERG, ANOTHER 1,000 YARDS TO THE SOUTH. SCHAFBERG, WHICH IS FIVE MILES SOUTHWEST OF DUREN, WAS AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE AMERICANS' ASSAULT LINE.

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LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S SEVENTH ARMY UNITS WHICH ENTERED HAGUENAU BROKE THROUGH BUNKERS ALONG RAILWAY TRACKS TO THE SOUTHWEST. THE BIG BASE ALSO WAS PRESSED FROM THE SOUTHEAST AS THE AMERICANS CAPTURED KALTENHOUSE, ON THE MAIN HIGHWAY TWO MILES FROM HAGUENAU, REACHED NEARBY MARIENTHAL AND SEIZED OBERHOFFEN ON THE NORTH BANK OF THE MODER RIVER.

ELEVEN MILES NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU PATCH'S MEN CLEARED NIEDERBRONN AND PUSHED ON TO A POINT LESS THAN FOUR MILES FROM THE PALATINATE BORDER, THE SEVENTH ARMY'S CLOSEST APPROACH TO GERMANY FROM THE SOUTH.

IN THE BATTLE FOR GERMANY'S INDUSTRIAL SAAR BASIN, LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S THIRD ARMY ENGAGED IN HEAVY FIGHTING INSIDE THE SIEGFRIED LINE FORTIFICATIONS AROUND DILLINGEN, THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN.

MANY BUILDINGS WHICH LOOKED LIKE HOUSES AND GARAGES IN DILLINGEN WERE ACTUALLY WELL-CONSTRUCTED GERMAN PILLBOXES. INFANTRY-MEN OF THE 90TH DIVISION WERE STRUGGLING THROUGH A MAZE OF GERMAN STRONG POINTS THERE, BUT THE FIRST AMERICAN TANKS AND SELF-PROPELLED TANK DESTROYER GUNS WERE PUT ACROSS THE SAAR RIVER IN THE LAST DAY OR TWO AND WERE EXPECTED TO EASE THE DOUGHBOYS' TASK.

IN SAARLAUTERN THE AMERICANS CAPTURED THE RAILROAD STATION AND CLEARED THE GERMANS FROM A HOTEL STRONGPOINT.

ON THE LOWER PART OF THE THIRD ARMY FRONT THE GERMANS HURLED ASSAULTS AT THE 35TH DIVISION'S SAAR RIVER BRIDGEHEADS NEAR SARREINSMING AND WITTRING, TWO AND FIVE MILES SOUTHEAST OF VIRTUALLY LIBERATED SARREGUEMINES. JUST NORTH OF SARREGUEMINES AMERICAN PATROLS WERE STABBING INTO NEUNKIRCH, LESS

LIBERATED SARREGUEMINES. JUST NORTH OF SARREGUEMINES AMERICAN PATROLS WERE STABBING INTO NEUNKIRCH, LESS THAN A HALF-MILE FROM THE SAAR BASIN BORDER.

IN A ONE-MILE ADVANCE THE 26TH DIVISION OVERRAN GROS REDERCHING, SEVEN MILES SOUTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES AND DROVE TO WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE BASIN.

BZ410AEW

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ADD PARIS -(DINAN) XX COMRADE

LEE PINNED THE BLUE SILVER-STARRED RIBBON AROUND EHLERS' NECK AND REMINDED THE YOUTH TO GIVE HIS REGARDS TO ALL OF HIS FRIENDS IN JUNCTION CITY.

EHLERS ALSO HAS BEEN AWARDED THE SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN STREET FIGHTING IN STOHLBERG, GERMANY.

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JRB 26AEW

BY LEWIS HAWKINS

FRAULAUTERN, IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE, NOV 11-(AP)-THIS KEYSTONE TOWN OF THE FORWARD SIEGFRIED LINE DEFENSES WAS BEING TOWN TO PIECES HOUSE BY HOUSE TODAY AS THE 95TH DIVISION CLAWED DEEPER INTO THE WESTWALL.

WITH PILLBOXES INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF DWELLINGS AND MACHINEGUNS EMPLACED AT ALMOST EVERY CORNER, THE DOUGHBOYS HAVE HAD TO GO THROUGH SOME BLOCKS BY KNOCKING HOLES THROUGH THE WALLS OF HOUSES AND CRAWLING FROM ONE BUILDING TO ANOTHER TO AVOID EXPOSURE IN THE STREETS.

IN RIDING AND WALKING THROUGH SEVERAL BLOCKS OF ITS SOUTHWEST SECTION TODAY I SAW SCARCELY A SINGLE WHOLE PANE OF GLASS AND SCARCELY A HOUSE THAT WASN'T RIPPED IN ONE OR MORE PLACES BY ARTILLERY.

GERMAN ARTILLERY FIRE HERE AND IN THE DILLINGEN AREA TWO MILES NORTH HAS BEEN THE HEAVIEST THE THIRD ARMY EVER ENCOUNTERED, AND IT IS ADDING HOURLY TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THIS ONCE-THRIVING INDUSTRIAL TOWN OF 10,000.

MAJ.GEN. HARRY L.TWADDLE'S VICTORY DIVISION HAS BEEN WORKING ON THE THREE SAARLAUTERN SATELLITES OF FRAULAUTERN, RODEN AND ENSDORD FOR A WEEK, AND COUNTING ITS GAINS BY THE YARDS THROUGH THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSE BELT.

ONLY YESTERDAY AND TODAY DID THE 377TH REGIMENT UNDER COL. FRED A. GAILLARD OF GREENVILLE, TEX., BEGIN TO SEE SOME FAINT SIGNS THAT THE GERMANS IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA ARE BEGINNING TO CRACK UNDER INCESSANT PRESSURE FROM AMERICAN MEN AND GUNS.

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YESTERDAY'S FIGHTING GAINED A COUPLE OF BLOCKS, AND ABOUT THREE MORE HAD BEEN TAKEN WHEN I VISITED THE BATTALION COMMAND POST OF LT. COL. JOSEPH F. BECKER, SELMA, ALA., THIS AFTERNOON.

"I REALLY THINK THE GOING IS GETTING A LITTLE EASIER," SAID THE STOCKY LITTLE BATTALION BOSS, WHO USED TO WORK FOR THE BIRMINGHAM, ALA., NEWS. "WE HAVEN'T HAD A SINGLE COUNTERATTACK SO FAR TODAY. ARTILLERY HAS BEEN A LITTLE EASIER, AND MAYBE WE CAN GET GOING A LITTLE FASTER SOON, AND WE CERTAINLY ARE MOVING BETTER THAN WE'VE BEEN IN DAYS."

GUIDED BY CAPT. WILLIAM M. PATTERSON, SEARCY, ARK., WHO STROLLED ALONG ALMOST CASUALLY IN A STREET WHERE ALMOST EVERYONE MOVED IN DASHES FROM DOOR TO DOOR, WE WENT ON TO ANOTHER BATTALION COMMAND POST UNDER MAJ. ALBION C. MULCOCK, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, AND FOUND HE WAS MOVING UP.

SGT. DAN SPIES, FORMER REPORTER FROM 2429 GODDALE ST., ST.LOUIS, MO., ACTING AS OPERATIONS OFFICER FOR BECKER, SAID:

"AFTER THE PAST FEW DAYS OF SLOW GOING IT SEEMS LIKE A BIG JUMP WHERE WE ARE ABLE TO MOVE A FEW HUNDRED YARDS."

AT AN AID STATION A FEW BLOCKS FROM THE FIRING LINE, CAPT. DOUGLAS AITKEN, CARBONDALE, PA., WAS TREATING A WOUNDED GERMAN JUST BROUGHT IN BY PFC WILLIAM SEKOLA, 2588 ASHTON ST., CLEVELAND, OHIO, WHO HAD HELPED TO CAPTURE HIM A FEW MINUTES BEFORE IN A PILLBOX WELL BEHIND OUR FORWARD ELEMENTS.

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ASKED ABOUT A LACK OF ANY AMERICAN PATIENTS IN HIS LAMP-LIT BASEMENT, THE YOUNG DOCTOR, WHO INTERNED AT JEFFERSON HOSPITAL, PHILADELPHIA, HAD THIS ENCOURAGING REPORT:

"OUR CASUALTIES THROUGHOUT THIS OPERATION HAVE BEEN AMAZINGLY LIGHT CONSIDERING THE TERRIFIC ARTILLERY AND THE STUBBORN OPPOSITION. I SUPPOSE THIS IS BECAUSE AFTER METZ AND THE DRIVE EASTWARD FROM THERE OUR TROOPS ARE BATTLEWISE AND KNOW HOW TO TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES.

"THEIR ARTILLERY HAS BEEN ON A FRIGHTFUL SCALE, BUT FOR SOME REASON IT HAS HIT A SURPRISINGLY SMALL NUMBER OF MEN. THE MEN'S GENERAL HEALTH AS REGARDS COLDS AND SUCH ALSO IS GOOD AND THIS CITY FIGHTING MAY BE TOUGH, BUT IT KEEPS DOWN TRENCH FOOT."

:-05. PETER J. BAKER, CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN OF THE 377TH WHOSE FAMILY

LIVES AT 13 RUTLAND ROAD, BROOKLYN, AND WHOSE CHURCH WAS SAINT KEVINS IN FLUSHING, LONG ISLAND, ALSO WAS IN THE AID STATION AND AGREED THAT CASUALTIES HAD BEEN LIGHTER THAN EXPECTED.

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W1108PEW

FRAULAUTERN, GERMANY, DEC. 11-(AP)-A 20-YEAR-OLD LIEUTENANT FROM LONG ISLAND KNOCKED OUT THREE SIEGFRIED LINE PILLBOXES TODAY WITH HIS TONGUE--AND AN AMAZING AMOUNT OF COOLNESS AND COURAGE.

LT. PETER SKALA, UNARMED, WALKED UP TO THE THREE POINTS WITH HIS HANDS AT HIS SIDE, KNOWING THAT IF THE GERMANS INSIDE WANTED TO THEY COULD CUT HIM TO PIECES IN A SECOND.

RELUCTANT TO TALK MUCH OF HIS FEAT AT THE 377TH REGIMENT'S COMMAND POST LATE THIS AFTERNOON, THIS SON OF A CZECH-AMERICAN FATHER AND A GERMAN-AMERICAN MOTHER, WHOSE HOME IS AT 3919 49TH ST., SUNNYSIDE, LONG ISLAND, N.Y., FINALLY SAID:

"I JUST WALKED UP TO THE FIRST BOX AND CALLED TO THEM, EXPLAINING THAT WE DID NOT WANT TO SHED BLOOD UNNECESSARILY AND TELLING THEM THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE KILLED IF THEY WOULD COME OUT.

"I WAS STANDING A FEW FEET AWAY FROM THE PILLBOX AND THEY SAID THEY COULDN'T HEAR CLEARLY, SO I MOVED UP CLOSE TO THE DOORWAY AND REPEATED IT. IN JUST A FEW SECONDS, ONE OF THEM ASKED IF I WOULD PROMISE NOT TO KILL THEM. I ANSWERED I WASN'T EVEN ARMED AND NO ONE WOULD HARM THEM. SOON THE DOOR OPENED AND THEY CAME OUT.

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"THERE WERE SEVEN IN THE NEXT ONE AND FIVE IN THE NEXT. THAT'S ALL THERE WAS TO IT."

PRESSED AS TO WHY HE DID NOT AT LEAST CARRY A WHITE FLAG ON SUCH A DANGEROUS MISSION, HE SAID SIMPLY, "I JUST DIDN'T THINK THEY WOULD SHOOT AND THEY DIDN'T. I KNEW FROM LISTENING TO THE PRISONERS TALK THAT MANY OF THEM WERE FED UP WITH FIGHTING. SOME HAD BEEN IN THE WAR FIVE YEARS AND WOUNDED THREE OR FOUR TIMES. THEY DON'T WANT TO BE KILLED."

SKALA, WHO IS BOYISH-LOOKING AND MEDIUM-SIZED, WAS A STUDENT AT QUEENS COLLEGE, FLUSHING, N.Y., BEFORE HE ENTERED THE ARMY.

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WE908PEW

TWENTY-FIRST ARMY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, DEC. 11-(AP)-THE GERMANS WHO STARTED THIS FREAK "BATTLE OF THE FLOOD WATERS" AT THE NORTHERN TIP OF THE ALLIED SALIENT IN HOLLAND ARE GETTING WETTER AND COLDER BY THE HOUR.

THE GERMANS BREACHED THE DIKES OF THE LOWER RHINE, RELEASING THE WATERS AGAINST THE CANADIANS.

THEN THE RAF STEPPED IN WITH THOUSAND-POUND BOMBS THAT BREACHED A DAM NORTHEAST OF NIJMEGEN AND SENT WATERS SWEEPING INTO ENEMY POSITIONS. AN ARMY SPOKESMAN SAID THE FLOOD NOW COVERS AN AREA 18 MILES LONG BY A MILE AND A HALF WIDE.

RW1038PEW

SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, DEC. 11-(AP)-SPECIALLY EQUIPP NIGHT-FLYING NINTH AIR FORCE HAVOC BOMBERS HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHING GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS, TROOP CONCENTRATIONS AND AMMUNITION DUMPS FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THEHAVOCS FLEW THEIR FIRST PHOTO MISSION THE NIGHT BEFORE D-DAY, JUNE 6. CREWS CONSISTING OF A PILOT, A GUNNER AND A NAVIGATOR-PHOTOGRAPHER ARE TRAINED IN NIGHT FIGHTER TACTICS AND FLY EVERY NIGHT THAT WEATHER PERMITS.

THE PLANES CARRY 50-CALIBRE MACHINEGUNS AND FLY ALONE. EACH PLANE CARRIES ONE 12-INCH CAMERA WHOSE PICTURES COVER AN AREA EQUAL IN DIAMETER TO 3/4 THE PLANE'S ALTITUDE.

W1121PEW

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BY WILLIAM F. BONI

WITH THE U. S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY, DEC. 11-(AP)-LT. GEN. COURTNEY H. HODGES' FIRST ARMY DOUGHBOYS AND TANKS PUSHED FORWARD AS MUCH AS 2,000 YARDS TODAY TOWARD THE ROER RIVER ALL ALONG THE FRONT.

THE GERMANS APPEARED TO BE FIGHTING CHIEFLY A SCREENING ACTION WHILE MOVING THE BULK OF THEIR STRENGTH TO THE RIVER'S EAST BANK, WHERE THEY ARE KNOWN TO HAVE THREE PREPARED LINES WITHIN 2,500 YARDS OF THE RIVER.

LACK OF ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS IN ANYTHING LIKE CUSTOMARY STRENGTH WAS SUBJECT TO NO OTHER INTERPRETATION.

THERE WERE FRESH GAINS AGAINST VARYING RESISTANCE FROM SCHOPHOVEN IN THE NORTH TO BERGSTEIN IN THE SOUTH, WHERE WE GAINED HIGH GROUND ABOVE THE TOWN OVERLOOKING THE ROER.

BETWEEN SCHOPHOVEN AND BERGSTEIN, FIRST ARMY SPEARHEADS WERE FIGHTING HOUSE-TO-HOUSE IN PIER. THEY CLUNG TO A HARD-WON TOEHOLD IN THE WESTERN EDGE OF MERKEN, WERE A QUARTER OF A MILE EAST OF ECHTZ, HAD CLEARED SCHLICH ALTHOUGH THERE STILL WAS FIGHTING WEST OF IT, WERE IN MERODE, AND STILL WERE ENGAGED IN DRIVING THE ENEMY HOUSE-TO-HOUSE AND CELLAR-TO-CELLAR IN GEY.

AT THE CLOSEST POINT OF ADVANCE TO THE KEY CITY OF DUREN, INFANTRY WAS FIGHTING ONTO A BIG TREE-GROWN SLAG HEAP ABOUT 90 FEET HIGH NEAR KONZENDORF, TWO AND A HALF MILES FROM THE CENTER OF DUREN.

FROM THE TOP FLOOR OF A BUILDING BEING USED AS AN INFANTRY COMMAND POST I HAD A CLEAR VIEW OF DUREN THIS AFTERNOON AS FIGHTER-BOMBERS CIRCLED OVERHEAD BEFORE DIVING ON 88'S WHICH HAVE BEEN HAMMERING AT THE TROOPS TRYING TO FIGHT TO THE TOP OF THE SLAG HEAP.

ARMOR AND INFANTRY WHICH HAS ADVANCED MORE THAN THREE MILES SINCE PUSHING OFF FROM JUST OUTSIDE LANGERWEHE YESTERDAY MORNING ARE BEING SUPPORTED BY AN ARTILLERY BARRAGE OF ALL CALIBERS.

TROOPS ALREADY HAVE PUSHED BEYOND ECHTZ TO WITHIN 1,000 YARDS OF HOVEN, WHICH IS ALMOST ON THE BANKS OF THE ROER.

LT. CARL RUFF, 455 EAST 51ST STREET, NEW YORK CITY, SAID TROOPS IN THIS SECTOR HAVE TAKEN 86 PRISONERS IN THE PAST 24 HOURS.

AMONG THEM WERE 24 YOUNGSTERS--PARACHUTE TROOPS IN NAME ONLY--A FEW ONLY 14 YEARS OLD, WHO WERE DUG FROM THE CELLARS OF GEICH AND OBERGEICH AND OTHER VILLAGES.

THE ATTACK ON MERKEN, WHICH KICKED OFF THIS MORNING, IS TYPICAL OF THE TYPE OF FIGHTING THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR ALMOST A MONTH FOR THESE FORTIFIED VILLAGES, TURNED BY THE GERMANS INTO FORMIDABLE REDOUBTS.

THEY HAVE STRENGTHENED THE CELLARS AND LINKED THEM INTO A SERIES OF UNDERGROUND BASTIONS.

A MESSAGE AT 6:34 A.M. FROM THE UNITS ASSAULTING MERKEN SAID: "C COMPANY HAS A LINE OF HOUSES ALONG THE NORTHWEST EDGE OF TOWN, B COMPANY HAS 11 HOUSES IN THE SAME SECTOR." THE FORMER IS COMMANDED BY LT. JERRY HOOKER, 1599 MOSS STREET, EUGENE, ORE., AND THE LATTER IS UNDER CAPT. ROY GARINO, 5 SCHOOL STREET, PASSAIC, N.J.

BY 8:30 A.M. THEY HAD SHIPPED 85 PRISONERS BACK FROM THE LINES AND HAD CAPTURED ONE MORE HOUSE.

BETWEEN MERKEN AND PIER, COMPANY A UNDER LT. DONALD DUNCAN, 1201 NORTH 23RD ST., BOISE, IDAHO, GUARDING THE FLANK SENT OUT A PARTY OF 18 MEN TO LAY WIRE AND MINES.

AT 9 A.M. THEY WERE SURROUNDED AND CAPTURED BY THE GERMANS IN AN ACTION VISIBLE FROM COMPANY COMMAND POSTS. DUNCAN PROMPTLY CALLED FOR ARTILLERY TO PUT IN HIGH TIME FIRE--AIR BUSRSTS HIGH ENOUGH TO PIN DOWN THE GERMANS BUT ENABLE HIS OWN MEN TO ADVANCE.

A PLATOON UNDER 2ND LT. EDWARD P.ARBOGAST, NORTON, W.VA., SET OUT AND SUCCEEDED NOT ONLY IN RESCUING THE ENTIRE PARTY BUT ALSO SEIZED ITS FORMER CAPTORS.

THE GERMANS IN PIER CARRIER ON STIFF RESISTANCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY AGAINST OUR INFANTRY WITH SOME TANK SUPPORT.

IN THE WESTERN PART OF TOWN OUR COMPANIES WERE FIGHTING UNDER CAPTS. BERNARD C.BARKER, NEW RAYMER, COLO., AND CHARLES GLOTZBACK, PAXICO, KAS., AND LT. JACK J.HARMON, AMARILLO, TEX.

YESTERDAY'S PRISONER TOTAL OF 198 BROUGHT THE FIRST ARMY'S BAG UP TO 210,712 SINCE D-DAY.

FW-SB733PEW

BY EDWARD D.BALL

A U.S. THIRD ARMY REPLACEMENT CENTER, FRANCE, DEC 11-(AP)-THE BIGGEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT SHORT OF GOING HOME FOR GOOD WAS DROPPED TODAY INTO THE FOXHOLES OF PICKED THIRD ARMY COMBAT VETERANS WHO WERE GIVEN 30-DAY HOME LEAVES.

A NUMBER OF G.I.'S AND A FEW OFFICERS, MOST OF WHOM WEAR THE PURPLE HEART AND HAVE WON MULTIPLE CITATIONS, CHOSEN FOR THE UNEXPECTED REWARD, TROOPED INTO THIS REPLACEMENT CENTER TONIGHT STRAIGHT FROM THE FRONT LINES FOR HAIRCUTS, HOT SHOWERS, A DOUBLE ISSUE OF RATIONS AND A CHANGE OF CLOTHES PREPARATORY TO STARTING HOMEWARD.

TO SAY THEY WERE THE HAPPIEST MEN THIS SIDE OF THE OCEAN WOULD BE A GROSS UNDERSTATEMENT.

THEY WERE GREETED HERE BY CAPT.WILLARD KIBBY OF EAST CLEVELAND, OHIO, REPLACEMENT BATTALION EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WHO ASSURED THEM THEIR LEAVES REALLY WERE TRUE. THEN THEY SAT DOWN TO AN ELEGANT DINNER WHILE A BAND PLAYED SWEET MUSIC.

THESE MEN ARE GOING HOME UNDER WHAT THE ARMY CALLS THE "THREE R" PROGRAM--ROTATION, RECOVERY AND REHABILITATION--AND ARE THE FIRST OTHER THAN LITTER CASES TO GO. ACTUALLY, THEY ARE GOING AS A REWARD, SINCE ALL HAVE RECOVERED COMPLETELY FROM THEIR BATTLE WOUNDS.

THOSE RECEIVING 30-DAY LEAVES IN NEW YORK INCLUDED: PFC.LEWIS C. IYERS, DRYDEN; SGT.THOMAS J.ST.JOHN, 80 LISPENARD ROAD, NEW OCHELLE; LT.HARRY C.LINEBURGH, 615 BEDFORD ROAD, SCHENECTADY; ORP.WILSON H.BROWNELL, HOOSICK FALLS; PFC.HUGH FERGUSON, 117 PARK PLACE, BROOKLYN; PFC.TOM L.BRUNELLI, (NO ADDRESS) NEW YORK; VT.THOMAS J.SEERY, 631 77TH ST., BROOKLYN; PFC.JOHN W.MARTIN, JAMESTOWN; PVT.JOHN J.PLUCINSKY, 1423 WILKINS AVE., BRONX; VT.HERBERT J.ROWLAND, 98 SARATOGA AVE., BALLSTON'S SPA; PVT. JOHN J.MCDONALD, 8845 208 ST., BRONX; SGT. STANLEY FUDALA, 170 VE. B, BELAIRE, L.I.

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"I WAS FIGHTING THE JERRIES INSIDE GERMANY UP NEAR LUDWEILER WHEN ORD CAME THAT THE COMPANY COMMANDER WANTED TO SEE ME," SAID SGT. HRIST "GREEK" VERGITZ, STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, OF THE FIFTH INFANTRY DIVISION, WHO WAS WOUNDED AT ANGERS AND AT THE MOSELLE.

"'VERGITZ,'" HE TOLD ME, "'YOU ARE THE LUCKIEST MAN IN THE WORLD. YOU ARE GOING HOME.' I HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE. FOR FOUR YEARS I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THE DAY WHEN I'D SEE MY MOTHER AGAIN. TELL HER I'M ON MY WAY."

PFC. PAUL KNOPP, 18635 SHAFTSBURY ROAD, DETROIT, MICH., GOT THE NEWS ON THE BIRTHDAY OF HIS TWO-YEAR-OLD SON.

"THE FIRST THING I AM GOING TO DO IS TO GET AN ENGAGEMENT RING

FOR MY GIRL, EVELYN," SAID PVT. ADAM SADOWSKI, 6047 MATSON AVE., CHICAGO, WHO HAS BEEN WOUNDED THREE TIMES. HIS GIRL, HE SAID, WAS EVELYN KUPSIK, 2327 CROTEZ, ST., CHICAGO.

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PFC. ROBERT ZIGLER, OF SEVILLE, OHIO, SAID: "SOMEBODY CAME UP AND ASKED ME WHAT STATE I WOULD LIKE TO BE IN RIGHT THEN. I ANSWERED, "WHAT THE HELL! OHIO, OF COURSE. THAT'S THE ONLY STATE IN THE UNION. SO WHAT?"

ZIGLER ADDED, "THEN THEY TOLD ME I WOULD BE THERE BEFORE LONG."

SGT. HAROLD POLZIN, OF GRAND BLANC, MICH., SAID HE THOUGHT HE WAS HEADED FOR AN OFFICIAL DRESSING-DOWN WHEN HIS CAPTAIN SENT A RUNNER INTO THE LINE AFTER MIDNIGHT TO TELL HIM.

BY STATES, THOSE WHO RECEIVED THE 30-DAY LEAVES INCLUDED:

CALIFORNIA--SGT. ACIE W. CLARK, LONG BEACH; PFC. PAUL MUNOZ, VASCO.

COLORADO--PVT. PERRY L. JOHNS, NEDERLAND.

HAWAII--SGT. MANUEL FIGUEIRA, HONOLULU.

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IDAHO--SGT. WILLIAM H. WOOD, BOISE.

ILLINOIS--SGT. WARREN H. LASSEN, 949 NORTH HUMPHREY, OAK PARK; SGT. PAUL E. FRYE, EAST ALTON; PFC. WAYNE BILLMAN, CALEDONIA; SGT. JOSEPH R. MOSLEY, DECATUR; SGT. WALTER E. FREY, WARUAW; SGT. RALPH T. MOESTER, TEUTOPOLIS; SGT. JOSEPH J. CYBOR, 3121 SOUTH MAY ST. CHICAGO; CORP. ALVA MOORE, 3314 WEST FIFTH AVE., CHICAGO;

PFC. CARL F. LAMPP, RFD THREE, ENFIELD; PFC. EDWARD F. WIDUCH, 4834 SOUTH MARCHFIELD AVE., CHICAGO; CORP. IBER D. DESBOROUGH, 6250 NORTH LAKEWOOD, CHICAGO; PFC. CHARLES KULIKOUSKI, 819 SOUTH TROY ST., CHICAGO; CORP. CLARE H. MOEN, 5506 WEST ADAMS ST. CHICAGO; CORP. ROBERT S. HARMON, 103 SOUTH GROVE AVE., OAK PARK.

INDIANA--LT. JOHN M. CROXTON, COLUMBIA CITY; SGT. JOSEPH A. TOFTE, VALPARAISO; SGT. ROBERT P. ANDRES, GENEVA; CORP. EUGENE DE BRUICKER, ATTICA; SGT. ED D. GRAVES, WEST MIDDLETON; SGT. KENNETH C. NEVITT, LEBANON; PVT. GENE L. SHAFFER, CARLISLE; PVT. STANLEY F. KING, KIRKLIN.

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KANSAS--SGT. FERN CATLIN, FRANKFORT; PFC. TRUMMIE M. KEATON, 3012 EAST FIRST ST., WICHITA; SGT. KENNETH FAULKNER, SALINA.

KENTUCKY--SGT. WILLI A. GARNER, WICKLIFFE; SGT. LEO W. CHRISTEN, COVINGTON; SGT. OBIE PORTER, WILLIAMSTOWN; SGT. WOODROW BUGG, DANVILLE SGT. HARRY R. NAGERMAN, 100 WEST WHITNEY, LOUISVILLE; SGT. HILARY T. MITCHELL, 4136 WEST MARKET ST., LOUIUVILLE; CORP. PARIS L. BROCK, WALLINS CREEK; SGT. WILLARD M. CHEEK, CHEWOA; PFC. CHARLES E. WALLER, RFD 3, VERSAILLES; PFC. NICHOLAS G. CARR, JR., 1227 WOOD ST., COVINGTON; PVT. RICHARD C. ANDERSON, RFD 1, PADUCAH.

MARYLAND--SGT. WILLIAM T. KENNY, BALTIMORE; PVT. EDWARD B. DASEY, GLANDALE.

MICHIGAN--SGT. LEO P. CUNNINGHAM KALAMAZOO; SGT. HARLEY E. PALM, ROYAL OAK; PFC. LOUIS C. HAMELIN, 9012 PIERSON AVE., DETROIT; SGT. DONALD E. WARNE, 1417 MARYLAND AVE., FLINT; PFC. JOHN J. BONK, 5100 CENTRAL AVE., DETROIT; PFC. HAROLD H. KRAMER, 1613 CARROLTON RD CARROLTON; PFC. WARREN B. TOTTEN 5172 SEMINOLE AVE., DETROIT; SGT. WILLARD J. HAAG, RFD ONE, SUMNER; PFC. PAUL KNOPP, 18635 SHAFTS RD., DETROIT; SGT. JOHN GINGERELLA, JR., 4364 LAKEVIEW, DETROIT; SGT. HAROLD POLZIN, GRAND BLANC.

MINNESOTA--SGT. WILLIAM D. MURPHY, 565 EAST COOK ST., ST.PAUL;

CORP. JACK M. FREE, MELROSE; PVT. VERNER K. JOSEFSON, RFD 1, PINEWO
CORP. GEORGE W. SHEAR, WHITE EARTH.

MISSOURI--SGT. EARL M. MCFARLAND, 422 WEST LOVE ST., MEXICO; SGT
JOHN R. MORTON, BOONEVILLE; SGT. CLEM E. ARENS, MONTROSE; CORP.
MERAM B. GRIMES, 439 BLAIR AVE., ST.LOUIS; PVT. CHARLES A. SCHUSTE
2833 RUSSELL ST., ST.LOUIS.

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NEW JERSEY--LT. DONALD C. PEAKE, 22D BRAND ST., NEW MILFORD; PVT
JOSEPH KINCHLER, 108D ANNA ST., ELIZABETH; CORP. PAUL L. FETTER,
9 SOUTH MORRIS AVE., ATLANTIC CITY; PFC. MATTHEW DABROWSKI, 13 CLI
ST., SOUTH RIVER; PVT. FRANK BUSHEY, 222 GREEN ST., HACKENSACK;
PVT. H. JOHN MCGOWAN, 22 EVERETT ST., JERSEY CITY; PVT. IRVING
WEINER, 575 EAST 22ND ST., PATERSON.

NEW MEXICO--PVT. JOSE CRESPIN, BOX 12, CUBA.

OHIO--SGT. WERNER C. HOFF, TOLEDO; SGT. JOHN R. REED, ANTWERP;
SGT. GERALD W. HEATH, ELYRIA; SGT. ORVILLE L. SMITH, NEW
MATAMORAS; CORP. GEORGE A. MITCHAELS, CLEVELAND; PFC. VINCENT KROEGER,
CINCINNATI; PFC. LUKE T. SPIELER, CELINA; PFC. WARREN C. CRAIG,
CHESAPEAKE; PFC. JOHN MARAVEC, CLEVELAND; PFC. HARRY K. KRUSE,
CINCINNATI; PFC. MICHAEL KATICH, LOUISVILLE; SGT. A. GATES, 327
PARK AVE., CANTON; SGT. STANLEY MIERNIK, BELLAIRE; CORP. LEROY J.
BRADNER, 1042 FERNWOOD AVE., TOLEDO; SGT. WILLIAM N. BARBUTO, 473
PERKIN ST., AKRON; SGT. DONALD R. MILLER, PORTSMOUTH; PFC. ROBERT A.
ZIGLER, SEVILLE; SGT. CHRIST VERGITZ, STEUBENVILLE; PVT. ANDREW
E. CHISMAR, CANTON; PFC. SHERMAN CUBBAGE, WASHINGTON COURTHOUSE;
PVT. RICHARD J. MESSLAY, 856 ELAINE ROAD, COLUMBUS; PFC. JOHN P.
VARYAN, MCCONNELLSVILLE; SGT. DONALD KOCH, LIMA.

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OKLAHOMA--PFC. EDWARD CURLISS, HARTSHORNE.

OREGON--SGT. HAROLD W. TUCKER, PORTLAND; CORP. ENNIS M. NESTLE,
EUGENE.

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PENNSYLVANIA--SGT. LOUIS J. SULPIZIO, WAYNE; SGT. JAMES S.
MCKEEKIN, DUBOIS; SGT. DONALD C. HOFFMAN, HALIFAX; SGT. CHARLES H.
DISHLER, PITTSBURGH; SGT. STEPHEN SEOKE, READING; SGT. VINCENT W.
MCNILTY, PHILADELPHIA; SGT. WALLACE J. WALTER, SCRANTON; PFC. EVERETT
E. BANKS, PHILADELPHIA; PFC. DAN F. SPELLMAN, FRANKLIN; PFC. JOHN J.
KALAFSKY, INDIANA; PFC. RAY C. WEIST, DORNSIFE; SGT. WILLIAM T.
MENNESSEY, 4360 MANAYUNK AVE., PHILADELPHI; SGT. ARMAND T.
CAMPANELLI, 328 NORTH 63RD ST., PHILADELPHIA; CORP. FRANK KORDASIEWICZ,
3036 LIVINGSTON ST., PHILADELPHIA; SGT. ALEXANDER J. BALTER, 413
MALROSE AVE., PITTSBURGH; SGT. PAUL BLISS, 306 SHINGISS,
PITTSBURGH; SGT. GEORGE J. SOLSKY, HERMINIE; SGT. ARTHUR N. COLAS,
648 KNOX AVE., MONESHEN; PVT. JOSEPH J. RUBERTON, READING; SGT.
THOMAS N. METRICK, HERNDON; SGT. WALTER A. WOLF, HAZELTON; SGT.
HARRY R. KINNELL, MANCHESTER; SGT. CHARLES E. ADAMSON, RFD SIX,
WAYNESBURG; PFC. ENO URBANI, MORGAN; PVT. FRED M. FINKENBINDER,
ROCHESTER; PVT. WILLIAM D. SABO, HOMESTEAD.

TEXAS--LT. GEORGE H. WILLIAMS, WACO; PVT. AUSTIN R. RESENDEZ, 134
EMESTOY ST., SAN ANTONIO.

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WASHINGTON, D.C.--LT. JOHN C. VENUE; SGT. WILFORD GROVE, 3300
MAYLOR ROAD, SE.

WASHINGTON STATE--SGT. ROBERT HANSEN, JR., ROY; LT. JAMES M. SCOTT,
JR., HAY; SGT. EUGENE M. HARRIS, RENTON.

WEST VIRGINIA--SGT. LLOYD M. BROWNING, SOFIA; PVT. FOSTER F. WALKUP, BURGOO.

WISCONSIN--PFC. WALTER W. DUNSE, BARABOO; SGT. HERBERT C. STEINBACH, MEDFORD; SGT. MILO J. FLYNN, SURING; CAPT. JACK S. GERRIE, 221 TYCERT ST., RIPON; SGT. FRANCIS M. METZ, RFD 2, MUKWONGA; SGT. LAWRENCE BRIDSON, BLANCHARDVILLE.

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WJ1046PEW

WITH THE U.S. THIRD ARMY, DEC 11-(AP)-LT.GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON'S BIG GUNS OPENED UP TODAY ON THE SIEGFRIED LINE CITIES OF ZWEIBRUCKEN AND ST.INGBERT, FIVE AND SEVEN MILES DEEP INSIDE THE SAAR BASIN.

ST.INGBERT, 11 MILES FROM THE FRONT, WAS GETTING A TASTE OF THINGS TO COME, PRESUMABLY FROM AMERICAN EIGHT AND TEN-INCH GUNS WHICH ARE HURLING 50 TO 100 PROJECTILES INTO THE CITY.

ZWEIBRUCKEN, EAST OF ST.INGBERT, IS 13 MILES FROM THE FRONT, BUT IT CAUGHT ABOUT 30 ROUNDS IN THE FIRST FEW HOURS.

WHILE THIS LONG-RANGE SHELLING WAS IN PROGRESS, THE 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION ADVANCED A MILE AND REACHED THE SAAR BORDER ON THE BLIES RIVER, THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES, WHILE OTHER ELEMENTS BROKE THE LAST ORGANIZED RESISTANCE INSIDE THE CITY.

THE 35TH ALSO DREW UP NEAR BLIESBRUCK, FOUR MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES, AND UNITS OF THE 26TH INFANTRY ADVANCED ALONG THIS FRONT SO THAT ELEMENTS OF THE THIRD ARMY ARE NOW TWO MILES OR LESS FROM GERMANY EASTWARD FROM SARREGUEMINES.

WHILE THE AMERICANS STILL WERE CLEARING OUT SARREGUEMINES, ONE LARGE GROUP OF CIVILIANS CAME OUT OF A MINE SHAFT WHERE THEY HAD BEEN SHELTERED FOR DAYS AND MOVED BACK INTO TOWN. AT WOLFERDING, MILE NORTHWEST, 6,000 TO 8,000 CIVILIANS REMAINED IN A CAVE AND QUARRY WAITING TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES, MOSTLY IN SARREGUEMINES.

SB801PEW

U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS, DEC. 11-(AP)-BRIG. GEN.OTTO P.WEYLAND, COMMANDER OF THE 19TH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, OBSERVED ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY TODAY WITH A STATEMENT TO HIS MEN ASKING THEM NOT TO GIVE THE ENEMY "A MOMENT'S RELAXATION."

HE COMMENDED HIS GROUP FOR ITS IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF DESTROYING 874 ENEMY PLANES IN THE AIR AND MORE THAN 8,000 RAILWAY CARS AND THOUSANDS OF OTHER GERMAN GROUND TARGETS.

WJ1117PEW

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE, DEC. 11-(AP)-WHEN SGT. CLOYCE KING WAS PINNED DOWN BY GERMAN SNIPERS IN THE ALSATIAN UNDERBRUSH HE JUST PICKED UP A TELEPHONE AND CALLED FOR HELP.

IT SO HAPPENED THAT KING, WHOSE WIFE LIVES IN MANCHESTER, CONN., AND WHOSE PARENTS RESIDE AT CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, WAS CARRYING A TELEPHONE WITH HIM.

HE WAS OUT IN FRONT OF HIS 45TH DIVISION MORTAR SQUAD ESTABLISHING AN OBSERVATION POST TO DIRECT FIRE ON ENEMY ENTRENCHMENTS. HE WAS LAYING WIRE WHEN BULLETS STARTED WHIZZING OVER HIS HEAD.

KING DROPPED INTO THE UNDERBRUSH, THEN SUDDENLY REMEMBERED HIS TELEPHONE.

"MY FINGERS WERE ALL THUMBS AS I CONNECTED THE TELEPHONE TO THE LINE," HE SAID. "SOMEONE BACK THERE GOT BUSY AND DID SOME REAL SHOOTING."

MORTAR SHELLS DROPPED ON THE GERMAN POSITION, SILENCING THEIR GUNS.

W1125PEW

(THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS OF NEW JERSEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN GROUP OF THE 17 MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TOURING THE WESTERN FRONT.)

BY J.PARNELL THOMAS

PARIS, DEC 11-(AP)-AS A MEMBER OF THE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES NOW ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO EUROPE, I CAN FRANKLY STATE THAT I HAVE GAINED AN INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF BOTH MILITARY AND CIVIL CONDITIONS OVER HERE.

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THIS VISIT OF OUR COMMITTEE SHOULD BE OF INESTIMABLE VALUE BOTH TO CONGRESS AND THE PEOPLE BACK HOME.

WHILE MANY OF OUR COMMITTEE SERVED HERE IN THE LAST WAR, NEVERTHELESS WE NOW SEE AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PICTURE. NOT ONLY IS THE WAR ITSELF A VERY DIFFERENT KIND OF WAR, BUT CIVIL CONDITIONS AND LIVING CONDITIONS OVER HERE ARE VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT THEY WERE BACK IN 1918. SO OUR VISIT TO EUROPE TODAY IS A REVELATION.

I ONLY WISH THAT MANY MORE OF OUR CIVILIANS COULD COME OVER HERE AND SEE IT NOW AS I HAVE OVER THE PAST TWO AND ONE-HALF WEEKS. I KNOW THAT I AM GOING HOME WITH THE IDEA THAT TIS WAR IS NO EASY JOB AND THAT IT MAY NOT BE OVER AS SOON AS WE WOULD LIKE IT TO BE OR AS SOON AS WE AT HOME WERE LED TO BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE. THIS WAR HERE IS A TOUGH SLUGGING MATCH.

THE ENEMY IS STILL STRONG. HIS MORALE IS STILL HIGH AND HE MAY HAVE A LOT OF FIGHT IN HIM BEFORE HE GIVES UP. IT MEANS ONLY ONE THING AND THAT IS THAT WE MUST KEEP OUR CHINS UP, THAT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US MUST DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO BACK UP THESE GREAT FIGHTING FORCES OF OURS TO THE VERY LAST ATOM OF STRENGTH. BELIEVE ME, OUR BOYS HERE DESERVE EVERY CONSIDERATION. THEY NOT ONLY HAVE TO CONTEND WITH ENEMY FIRE, BUT WITH THE ELEMENTS AS WELL.

THE WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR MONTHS HAVE BEEN HORRIBLE. MEN IN EVERY SECTOR ARE VERITABLY ENVELOPED IN MUD AND WATER. TRENCHFOOT IS TAKING ALMOST AS HIGH A TOLL AS IS THE ENEMY. FURTHER, THIS WEATHER IS SLOWING UP OUR ATTACK AND IS DOING AS MUCH TO PROLONG THE WAR AS ARE ENEMY DEFENSES.

BUT WITH IT ALL, THE AMERICAN SOLDIER IS RESOLVED TO GET IT OVER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. HE WANTS TO BEAT THE ENEMY. HE WANTS TO GET HOME--AND I DON'T BLAME HIM ONE BIT.

LIKEWISE, HE STILL NEEDS PLENTY OF AID FROM HOME. HE NEEDS MORE HEAVY AMMUNITION, MORE RUBBER TIRES THAN HE IS NOW RECEIVING, MORE HOSPITAL SHIPS, MORE WHOLE BLOOD, MORE CHAPLAIN'S SUPPLIES AND MORE CIGARETTES. HE WANTS TO HEAR MORE NEWS FROM HOME. HE SHOULD HAVE MORE HOMETOWN PAPERS. AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST, HE NEEDS A BETTER BREAK IN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE. ALL OF THESE THINGS G.I.JOE REQUIRES. AND IT IS UP TO US TO SEE THAT HE GETS THEM.

THIS IS THE LEAST WE AT HOME CAN DO. AND, FURTHER, BY GIVING G.I. JOE THESE THINGS IN A HURRY, IT WILL JUST THAT MUCH SOONER BRING JOE BACK HOME.

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B7651AEW

PARIS DEC. 11-(AP)-COL. KIRKE B. LAWTON OF ATHOL, MASS., CHIEF OF THE SUPREME HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION FILM AND PHOTO SECTION, WAS AWARDED THE LEGION OF MERIT YESTERDAY IN PARIS FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN DEVELOPING THE ARMY PICTORIAL SERVICE.

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WAS CONDUCTED BY BRIG. GEN. FRANK A. ALLEN, JR.

KK433AEW

paris, dec. 11--(ap)--edmond de lahaye, one of 12 members of the french gestapo on trial on collaborationist charges, was stricken with a diabetic seizure today as he sat in the defendant's' box.

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delahaye up
a fellow defendant propped ~~him up~~ and gave him frequent sips of medicine as ~~the~~ his lawyer ~~was~~ spoke against the death ~~pen~~ penalty. delahaye was secretary to henri lafonte, chieftain of the group charged with a series of murders, extortions and robberies.

the trial is now in its third week. four lawyers for defendants have still to make their summations. the state has demanded the death ~~pen~~ penalty, with frequent references to chopping of heads.

PARIS, DEC.11--(AP)-- COL. KIRKE B. LAWTON, OF ~~XXXXX~~ ATHOL, MASS., CHIEF OF THE SHAEF PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION FILM AND PHOTO SECTION, WAS AWARDED THE LEGION OF MERIT YESTERDAY IN PARIS FOR OUTSTANDING WORK IN DEVELOPING THE ARMY PICTORIAL SERVICE.

THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WAS CONDUCTED BY BRIG. GEN. FRANK A. ALLEN, JR., COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE SHEAF PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION.

A U.S.EIGHTH AIR FORCE BOMBER BASE, ENGLAND, DEC 11-(AP)-A B-17 FLYING FORTRESS, PILOTED BY 22-YEAR-OLD LT.GENE H.GOODRICK OF ETTERVILLE, MO., WAS TWO MINUTES FROM THE TARGET ON A RECENT RAID ON A BIG GERMAN OIL REFINERY WHEN AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT SHELL CAUGHT IT RIGHT IN THE BELLY.

THE EXPLOSION BOUNCED THE CREWMEN OUT OF THEIR SEATS; WRECKED THE OXYGEN SYSTEM, AND SET THE BIG BOMBER ON FIRE INSIDE AND OUT.

THE CO-PILOT, BOMBARDIER, NAVIGATOR AND ENGINEER JUMPED.

GOODRICK KEPT THE FORTRESS IN FORMATION AND LUTCHED THE EMERGENCY BOMB RELEASE SWITCH.

"I LOOKED BACK AND SAW SMOKE AND FLAMES LICKING OUT FROM BENEATH MY COMPARTMENT AND COMING UP THE SIDES," HE SAID TODAY IN RECOUNTING HIS EXPERIENCE.

GOODRICK RELEASED HIS BOMBS AND DIVED STEEPLY DOWN AND AWAY FROM THE FORMATION.

"IN CASE SHE BLEW UP," HE SAID," I DIDN'T WANT TO WRECK ANY OF THE OTHER FORTS."

THE DIVE BLEW OUT THE FIRES.

GUNNER-SERGEANT LEE PIERCE, 1328 BELLEVIEW, PLAINFIELD, N.J., CRAWLED UP IN THE COCKPIT AND RESTORED GOODRICK'S OXYGEN SUPPLY. HE HAD BEEN WITHOUT IT FOR FOUR MINUTES.

IT WAS DARK WHEN THE SHIP GOT BACK TO BASE. THE HYDRAULIC AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS WERE HAYWIRE. THE LANDING WHEELS KEPT GOING UP AND DOWN. THERE WERE NO LIGHTS. THE AIR BRAKES WERE GONE.

TAILGUNNER WILLARD CLAIRDAY OF ALBANY, IND., CRANKED THE WHEELS DOWN, PIERCE WORKED A HAND PUMP TO HELP REDUCE LANDING SPEED AND GOODRICK SET THE BOMBER DOWN ON THE RUNWAY AT 125 MILES AN HOUR.

THE BRAKELESS BOMBER ROLLED DOWN THE RUNWAY, BUMPED OVER THE GROUND AND OFF INTO A FIELD BUT NO ONE WAS HURT.

THE OTHER TWO GUNNERS WHO STUCK IT OUT WERE SGT. HAROLD ADAMS, SPRING GROVE, ILL., AND SGT FRANK STEPHENS, 1635 DAVNER AVE., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

M1139AEW

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BUCHAREST, DEC. 9-(DELAYED)(AP)-EUGEN RATSIU, HALF-BROTHER OF HORIA SIMA, CHIEF OF THE ROMANIAN EXILE GOVERNMENT SET UP BY THE GERMANS AFTER THE OVERTHROW OF THE ANTONESCU REGIME JUST BEFORE THE RED ARMY'S ENTRY, WAS ARRESTED NEAR ARAD TODAY AFTER PARACHUTING INTO ROMANIA.

RATSIU, WHO WAS CARRYING A RADIO TRANSMITTER, 3,000,000 LEI AND A QUANTITY OF GOLD, ADMITTED HE HAD BEEN SENT TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE UNDERGROUND IRON GUARD NAZI MOVEMENT. A SERIES OF IMPORTANT ARRESTS WAS EXPECTED AS A RESULT OF HIS CAPTURE.

W1148PEW

ADD RUME XXX CONCLUDED

HE ADDED THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED "THE ENGAGEMENTS THEREIN CONTAINED, ALL OF WHICH I HAVE OBSERVED. I COULD, IN FACT, WELL PROMISE MY SUPPORT TO THE MAN BADOGLIO WHO WAS THE AUTHOR OF A MESSAGE BROADCAST ON SEPT. 16 IN WHICH IT WAS STATED OUR FIRST DUTY WAS TO BE THE DEFEAT OF THE GERMANS AND IN WHICH NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THE KING AND, LIKEWISE, NO MENTION OF THE KING WAS MADE IN THE LETTER."

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SFORZA ASSERTED THE LETTER ALSO "ONLY MADE REFERENCE TO BADOGLIO" AS THE MAN WHO WOULD EVENTUALLY DESTROY ANY REMAINING VESTIGE OF FASCISM." #

ADD ROME XXPLEDGES

DIRODINO IS A PRE-FASCISM MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND WAR. BESIDES DIRODINO NEW CABINET FIGURES INCLUDE MANLIO BROSIO, LIBERAL, MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO; VINCENZO ARANZO RUIZ, LIBERAL MINISTER OF EDUCATION; H. CERABONA, LABOR DEMOCRAT, MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION; MENUCCIO RUINI, LABOR DEMOCRAT, MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS; MARIO CEVOLOTTO, LABOR DEMOCRAT, MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELEGRAPH; CARLO SCIAOIA, LABOR DEMOCRAT, MINISTER OF AIR; MAURO SCOCCIMARRO, COMMUNIST, MINISTER OF STATE ADMINISTRATION OF GERMAN-OCCUPIED TERRITORY, A PORTFOLIO DEALING WITH PATRIOT ACTIVITIES, AND ANTONIO PESENTI, COMMUNIST, MINISTER OF FINANCE. #

BY SID FEDER

ROME, DEC. 11-(AP)-MORE THAN 3,000 ASSORTED AMERICAN, FRENCH AND BRITISH GI'S, WACS, NURSES AND BRASS HATS SAW THE FIRST TWO ELIMINATION SESSIONS TODAY OF THE SECOND ANNUAL MEDITERRANEAN INTERALLIED BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS WON SIX STARTS TO LEAD THE BRITISH TOMMIES BY ONE AND THE FRENCH POILUS BY FOUR.

SHARING THE SPOTLIGHT TONIGHT WAS A THREE-ROUND EXHIBITION BOUT BETWEEN HEAVYWEIGHTS BILLY CONN, PITTSBURGH, AND LEO MATRICINI, BALTIMORE. MOST FANTASTIC TOUCH OF THE EVENING CAME AFTER OFFICIALS GAVE FRENCH PRIVATE CHERRIF MAAMAR THE DECISION OVER CLEVELAND "SPIDER" BROWN, CINCINNATI, IN THE LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT PRO DIVISION.

CAPTAIN JACK SULLIVAN, WORCESTER, MASS., MANAGER OF THE FIFTH ARMY TEAM, APPEALED THE DECISION ON GROUNDS MAAMAR WAS NOT PENALIZED FOR VIOLATION OF OLYMPIC BOXING RULES INCLUDING REPEATED "LEADING WITH HEAD." MAJOR A.N. ELLIOTT, BRITISH ARMY RANKING MEMBER OF APPEAL BOARD, TOLD SULLIVAN "WE REALIZE IT WAS A BAD DECISION, BUT CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT BECAUSE IT WAS UNANIMOUS."

THREE DOUGHBOY WINNERS ON TONIGHT'S CARD WERE PVT. JUNIUS WOODS, BUFFALO, N.Y., WHO OUTPOINTED OLIVER WILLIAMS, BRITISH MIDDLEWEIGHT IN AN AMATEUR THREE-ROUNDER; RICHARD BUCKWORTH, POPLAR BLUFF, MO. WHO OUTPOINTED CORP. GEORGE CULBERTSON, BROOKLYN AMATEUR HEAVYWEIGHT. CORP. RICHARD HAMMONDS, CHICAGO, SURVIVED PRO LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT CLASS BY DEFAULT. SAPPER WILLIAM DAUBNEY, BRITISH AMATEUR FEATHERWEIGHT, GAINED DECISION OVER CORP. JEAN SENFT, PALISADES PARK, N.J.

A FRONTLINE DOUGHBOY CHALKED UP THE MOST COMPLETE KAYO IN THE EARLIER BOUTS.

THE DOUGHBOY IS CPL. LEROY JEFFREY OF KANSAS CITY, WHO WAS GIVEN A SEVEN-DAY LEAVE FROM THE 92ND DIVISION TO COMPETE IN THE WEEK-LONG TOURNEY AS A MEMBER OF THE FIFTH ARMY TEAM. HE FOOLED AROUND WITH PVT. GEORGE VROOMAN OF ALBANY, N.Y., FOR ABOUT TWO MINUTES IN THEIR AMATEUR LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT, THEN THREW A SHORT LEFT.

PRIVATE GEORGE WAS ASLEEP FOR THE FULL 10 SECONDS.

JEFFREY AND PVT. FLOYD GIBSON, CINCINNATI MIDDLEWEIGHT, WERE THE ONLY UNITED STATES WINNERS OUT OF THE SEVEN AMERICANS WHO COMPETED ON THE OPENING CARD. GIBSON, LIKE JEFFERY, HAD TO WHIP ANOTHER AMERICAN.

COMPETING IN THE PRO DIVISION OF THE 160-POUND CLASS, GIBSON TOOK A LOPSIDED DECISION FROM SGT. AUTREY BARBES OF CHICAGO. GIBSON

NOW IS AN MP ON THE TYRRHENIAN ZONE SQUAD.

NONE OF THE BRITISHERS HAD TO FIGHT MEMBERS OF THEIR OWN TEAM, AS A RESULT, FOUR OF THE FIVE BRITISH FIGHTERS WON, THREE OF THEM FROM AMERICANS.

PVT.NORMAN TENNANT, STUMPY SCOT AMATEUR FLYWEIGHT, OUTPOINTED PVT. W.C.BENTO OF PROVIDENCE, R.I.; PVT. ERNEST SKCOCK, EIGHTH ARMY AMATEUR BANTAM, FLATTENED SGT.LOUIS BUFFONE OF BROOKLYN IN TWO ROUNDS AND GUNNER FREDERICK MASON OUTPOINTED PVT. VICTOR VIDARO OF MT.CARMEL, PA.

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A TURBANED FRENCH ARMY BAND PLAYED THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS OF ALL THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. THE TOURNEY IS BEING HELD IN A STADIUM WITH A SLIDING ROOF, A GADGET WHICH IS ATTRACTING AS MUCH ATTENTION AS THE FIGHTERS.

ME449PEW

with the u.s. fifth army in italy, dec. 11-(ap)-sgt. jac

delaney of new bedford, ass., received the legion of merit today for his work in ~~the~~ the public relations section of the 88th infantry divisio

delaney formerly worked for the new bedford standard times and is a gradu of georgetown university.

DEC 12 1944

ADD ATHENS - CHANGE ELAS

RAIN CURTAILED THE FIGHTING LAST NIGHT, BUT TODAY DEADLY CLOSE-QUARTER BATTLE WAS RENEWED. FIRES STARTED BY SHELLFIRE WERE SMOKING ON THE NORTHERN SLOPES OF THE ACROPOLIS.

THE ELAS, ARMED MILITIA OF THE LEFTIST EAM POLITICAL PARTY, WERE REPORTED ALREADY TO HAVE LOST 1,500 KILLED AND 2,500 WOUNDED SINCE SERIOUS FIGHTING BEGAN LESS THAN A WEEK AGO.

THE ELAS WERE STRONGLY DUG-IN THE ATHENS STADIUM AREA, IN THE PARK AROUND THE ZAPPION BUILDING AND EAST OF HADRIAN'S ARCH AND THE TEMPLE OF ZEUS. OTHERS WERE MASSED WEST OF PIRAEUS AND NORTH AND EAST OF ATHENS. IT WAS DOUBTED THAT THE ELAS COULD SUMMON MANY MORE REINFORCEMENTS.

BOTH SIDES EMPLOYED FIELD GUNSIAND MORTARS IN ONE BRISK CLASH YESTERDAY. A SHELL STRUCK BRITISH HEADQUARTERS ON THE EASTERN OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY AND SNIPERS' BULLETS NICKED THE GRANDE BRETAGNE HOTEL, TEMPORARY SEAT OF THE HARASSED GREEK GOVERNMENT ON CONSTITUTION SQUARE.

DEC 12 1944

THE ELAS HELD ALL THE HEIGHTS IN THE CITY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO COMMANDING POSITIONS ON THE MONASTERY-TOPPED LYCABETTUS AND THE ACROPOLIS, WHICH WERE IN BRITISH HANDS.

SECTIONS WHICH HAD BEEN CLEARED BY THE BRITISH SAW LONG LINES OF CIVILIANS WAITING OUTSIDE FOOD SHOPS, WHICH WERE TRADING FURTIVELY DESPITE A BAN BY THE EAM. PRICES REACHED FANTASTIC LEVELS, AND THE NEW DRACHMA DEPRECIATED SHARPLY.

DEC 12 1944

KU559PEW

ADD ATHENS XXX ATHENS

MEANWHILE, A SPOKESMAN OF THE EAM, DENYING BRITISH PRIME CHURCHILL'S CHARGES THAT THE EAM SOUGHT TO SEIZE POWER AND TERRORIZE THE COUNTRYSIDE, DECLARED SATURDAY THAT THE PRESENT STRUGGLE WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU RESIGNED.

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS SAID YESTERDAY THAT MAJ.GEN.R.M.SCOBIE HEAD OF ALLIED TROOPS IN GREECE, HAD RECEIVED NO PEACE PROPOSALS FROM THE ELAS.

PAPANDREOU, IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY, DENIED HIS GOVERNMENT

WAS PRO-FASCIST OR THAT THE ELAS HAD RISEN IN DEFENSE OF THE GREEK STATE. HE SAID THE LEFT WING FACTIONS HAD BEEN GIVEN NUMEROUS CONCESSIONS IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN NATIONAL UNITY.

"I APPEAL TO THE DEMOCRATS AND LIBERALS OF THE WHOLE WORLD," HE DECLARED, "AND DEMAND THEIR MORAL SUPPORT BECAUSE MY GOVERNMENT DEFENDS FREEDOM AGAINST THE TYRANNY OF AN ARMED MINORITY WHICH IS FASCIST."

DEC 12 1944

BZ419AEW

ADD FWD. U.S. AIR BASE, CHINA-(FARNSWORTH) xx YANGTZE

THIS WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST DAYS FOR THU 14TH AIR FORCE DESPITE ITS LOSS OF ITS MOST IMPORTANT EASTERN BASES IN CHINA. OPERATION REPORTS CALLED THE RESULTS A "SUPER JACKPOT" ACHIEVED ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF PEARL HARBOR, DEC.8 IN THE ORIENT.

ELEVEN P-51'S, LED BY LT. COL. EDWARD O.MCCOMAS, 502 EAST 12TH ST., WINFIELD, KANS., A SQUADRON CHIEF, TOOK OFF EARLY IN THE DAY AND FLITTED OVER HONG KONG SKIP-BOMBING SHIPS AT ANCHOR. DURING THE ATTACK THEY SPOTTED THE DESTROYER OFF HONG KONG AND PUT IT ON THE AGENDA FOR THE AFTERNOON.

RETURNING TO BASE MCCOMAS AND HIS WINGMAN REFUELED, RELOADED AND WENT BACK FOR THE DESTROYER. MCCOMAS WENT IN FIRST AND SCORED TWO DIRECT SKIP-BOMB HITS AT THE WATERLINE. HIS WINGMAN FOLLOWED WITH ONE HIT. THE DESTROYER EXPLODED.

THE FIGHTERS THEN MADE A REPEAT STRAFING RUN OVER KAITAK AIRDROME.

MEANWHILE, OTHER P-51'S WERE OFF TO NAIL THE IMPORTANT RAIL FERRY AT NANKING. THE FIRST DIRECT HIT KNOCKED OUT AN ELEVATOR USED FOR LOADING AN ENORMOUS TRAIN-CARRYING BARGE, A DIVE-BOMBING P-51 SCORED A NEAR MISS ON A FERRY ON THE NANKING SIDE, WHILE ANOTHER MADE A DIRECT HIT ON ANOTHER FERRY ON THE PUKOW SIDE.

THE FIGHTERS, AFTER SHOOTING DOWN TWO OF FOUR JAPANESE FIGHTERS, REASSEMBLED AND MADE FOR THE TWO AIRFIELDS. AFTER THEY HAD COMPLETED THEIR STRAFING RUNS THE PILOTS COUNTED 25 BURNING PLANES ON THE GROUND.

THE DAY-LONG ATTACKS COST THE 14TH AIR FORCE ONE PLANE AT NANKING.

M951AEW

ADD CHUNGKING xx RETAKEN

NOW THE CHINESE HAVE ONLY TO EJECT A COLUMN WHICH INVADED KWEICHOW ALONG THE YUYUN-ISHAN TRAIL TO RID THE PROVINCE COMPLETELY OF THE JAPANESE. AFTER PENETRATING ABOUT 70 MILES INTO KWEICHOW THIS COLUMN RECOILED TO LIMING, OR DAWN PASS. THE CHINESE ANNOUNCED THAT THESE ENEMY TROOPS HAD BEEN DRIVEN BACK TO WITHIN FIVE MILES OF THE BORDER AND THAT SHANGSU, 82 MILES SOUTHEAST OF KWEIYANG, HAS BEEN RECAPTURED.

30.24— 21171

THE DEEPEST PENETRATION OF THE JAPANESE WAS TO WITHIN 70 MILES OF KWEIYANG, A POTENTIAL SPRINGBOARD FOR DRIVES ON KUNMING, 300 MILES SOUTHWEST, OR CHUNGKING, 200 MILES NORTHWEST.

FORMERLY PESSIMISTIC QUARTERS HERE NOW BELIEVE THE CHINESE MIGHT BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND ANY FULL-SCALE INVASION OF KWEICHOW AND SOME PREDICT THE JAPANESE CHANCE TO TAKE KWEIYANG OR KUNMING HAS BEEN LOST.

BZ627AEW

DEC 12 1944

ADD 21ST BOMBER CMD.-(CHAUGANG) 4 MINUTES

HAYNES SAID THERE WAS NO BLACKOUT ON THE WAY IN, BUT THAT THE CITY BLACKED OUT AS HE APPROACHED. HIS BOMBS STARTED THREE LARGE FIRES AND SEVERAL SMALL ONES.

TOKYO BLACKED OUT WHEN HAHN'S SHIP STARTED SEVERAL LARGE FIRES. SUTTON SAID THE CITY WAS ONLY PARTIALLY BLACKED OUT SUNDAY, BUT WENT DARK INSTANTLY IN AREAS WHERE THE BOMBS FELL.

SUTTON'S CREW INCLUDED FIRST LT.VERNON D.CLARK, (24 NORTH STONE AVE.), LA GRANGE, ILL.; SECOND LT.FRANK DANNA, JR. (633 CRAWFORD AVE) BROOKLYN, N.Y.; STAFF SGTS MARTIN BERKOWITZ (2158 CONEY ISLAND AVE) BROOKLYN, N.Y., DANIEL J.SHEA (1111 NORTH LEAMINGTON AVE) CHICAGO, ILL.; SGTS HOMER W.HIBLER (630 GREENLAW AVE) FORT WAYNE, IND., AND HARRY L.EVANS, JR. (2713 IOWA AVE) GRANITE CITY,ILL.

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HAYNE'S CREW INCLUDED CAPT.IRVIN L.SMITH, LINWOOD, N.C. AND LEXINGTON, N.C.; FIRST LIEUTS.CHARLES M.LAMBACK, CHARLOTTE, N.C., AND AUGUSTA, GA., RALEPH E.PHELPS, SUNBURY, N.C., GLENN B.MULLENS, (262 NORTH 9TH) LARAMIE, WYO., AND OMAHA NEB.; T/SGT ANTHONY F.MIGLIACCIO. SILVER SPRINGS, MD.; STAFFS

SGTS CHARLES R.ALLEMAN, SCHUYLKILL HAVEN, PA., WILLIE NEWTON, CLARKSVILLE, VA.

HAHN'S CREW INCLUDED FIRST LT.HARRY LOWE JR., CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA.; SECOND LTS.EUGENE J.REDINGER (415 RINGWOOD AVE) POMPTON LAKES, N.J., ROBERT C.FEAZIER, WHEELING, W.VA., HERBERT EDMAN (12-9 8 SAUNDERS ST) FOREST HILLS, N.Y.; STAFF SGT LOWELL E.LOVVORN, TALLADEGA, ALA.; SGTS WILLIAM J.KENNEDY, MALDEN, MASS., WILLIAM J.OVERMIRE, JR., GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., CLIFFORD A.MYHRA, FARGO, N.D., CHESTER C.RYAN, CHICOPEE, MASS., JOSEPH F.BAAR (274 NORTH BELLVIEW PLACE) INDIANAPOLIS.

DEC 12 1944

GG11@ ACW

BY MURLIN SPENCER (200)

LEYTE ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, DEC.2-(DELAYED)-(AP)-MAJ. BILL DUNHAM, P-47 THUNDERBOLT PILOT FROM NEZ PERCE, IDAHO, IS CREDITED WITH ORIGINATING THE TECHNIQUE OF MAST-HIGH BOMBING BY FIGHTER PLANES.

THE TECHNIQUE HAS ENABLED PILOTS OF SINGLE ENGINE SHIPS, WITH 500-POUND BOMBS UNDER THEIR WINGS, TO BAG HALF OF THE 100,000 TONS OF JAPANESE SHIPPING DESTROYED IN ORMOC BAY.

PREVIOUSLY USED BY B-17 FORTRESSES, B-24 LIBERATORS AND B-25 MITCHELLS, IT CALLS FOR EXPERT TIMING BY THUNDERBOLT PILOTS AS THEY RELEASE THEIR BOMBS.

DEC 12 1944

THE TINY FIGHTERS GO IN AGAINST THE SHIPS WITH THEIR 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS BLAZING AND THE EXPERT TIMING IS REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF THE PULL OUT AND THE RELEASE OF THE BOMB.

MAJOR DUNHAM COMMANDS THE "BLACK RAMS" UNIT WHICH HAS BEEN IN ACTIVE COMBAT ONLY THREE MONTHS. IN ADDITION TO ITS BOMBING, THE UNIT HAS SHOT DOWN TEN JAPANESE FIGHTERS. DUNHAM BAGGED ONE.

SEVEN "BLACK RAMS" PILOTS IN ONE ATTACK DESTROYED THREE LARGE JAPANESE TROOPSHIPS BY BOMBING AND STRAFING. THEY WERE DUNHAM, LIEUTS.DAVID G.SINGLETON, HAMMOND,IND.; GERALD ECONOMOFF, GARY,IND.; THOMAS SHEETS, HOPEWELL,VA.; SAMUEL DENMARK, JACKSON,MISS.; PAUL MCGUIRE, MANCHESTER,N.H., AND STANLEY STEVENS, DENVER,COLO.

DEC 12 1944

XZ/TJ337ACW

BY DEAN SCHEDLER (210)

WITH THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH DIVISION ON LEYTE, DEC 11 (AP)- EVERY SOLDIER IN THE DIVISION FONDLY CALLS THEM P-77S, AND WHEN ONE FLIES OVER THEY SAY "EVERYTHING'S OK--THERE GOES OUR FIGHTER COVER."

THEY ARE LITTLE CUB PLANES USED FOR ARTILLERY OBSERVATION AND SPOTTING. THEY WERE OVER THE BEACHHEAD DURING THE LANDINGS, AND HAVE BEEN FLYING OVER JAPANESE POSITIONS EVER SINCE.

BUT WHILE THEIR WORK IN OBSERVATION HAS BEEN OF PRICELESS VALUE IN MAKING ARTILLERY SHELLS COUNT, THE PILOTS HAVE NOT BEEN TOO HAPPY. TRAFFIC AND TIDES ALONG THE NARROW BEACH HAVE MADE LANDING AND TAKING OFF SOMETHING NEW EACH TIME.

LT.JAMES MC NULTY, 35 EAST 140TH ST., BRONX, NEW YORK, STARTED TWICE, WALKED BACK FROM HIS TAKEOFF BOTH TIMES. HIS LITTLE CUB HIT A SPOT OF SAND AND EASED OVER ON ITS NOSE. HIS OBSERVER, LT.ALBERT P.STEFFENSON. NORWICH. CONN., STILL HOPED

TO GET INTO THE AIR ON THE THIRD TRY.

LT.FREDERICK REYNOLDS, MANCHESTER, N.H., DID A LITTLE BETTER. HIS SCORE WAS ONE NOSEDVER AND ONE WINGOVER. RAF LT.ALLEN MEON, DECORAH, IA., AND LT.EARLY B.MONTGOMERY, PRESCOTT, ARK., WERE HAVING SOME TROUBLES ON THEIR TAKEOFFS, BUT NO ONE WAS HURT, AND EXCEPT FOR A SHATTERED WOOD PROPELLER, THEIR PLANES WERE UNDAMAGED.

THE ONLY REAL INJURY WAS TO THE PRIDE OF THE MECHANIC, TECH. SGT.MILTON SOLOMON, 12 MICHIGAN AVE., BOSTON, MASS.

BY DEAN SCHEDLER (180)

WITH THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH DIVISION FACING ORMOC, DEC 11 (AP)- THOSE UGLY BUT MUCH RESPECTED AMPHIBIOUS TRACTORS KNOWN TO THE GIS AS "AMTRACS" SHOT FIVE JAPANESE PLANES OUT OF THE SKY ABOVE THIS DIVISION BURING ITS FIRST TWO DAYS ON THE ORMOC BEACHHEAD.

SPEWING CHURNED WATER AND SAND ALL DAY LONG FROM BEACH TO FRONT, THEY CARRIED FOOD AND AMMUNITION, AND EVACUATED WOUNDED. THEN JUST BEFORE DUSK, WHEN SIX ENEMY PLANES SWOOPED LOW OVER THE BEACH-HEAD, THEY TURNED THEIR GUNS SKYWARD WITH TELLING EFFECT.

THREE OF THE PLANES--SINGLE ENGINED FIGHTERS--WENT DOWN IN FLAMES, AND TRACERS LACED THE OTHERS. JUST BEFORE DAWN A LONE BETTY SKIMMED OVER THE WATER, THE AMTRACS LASHED OUT, AND IT WENT INTO THE BAY.

THE JAPANESE TRIED AGAIN. THEY SENT OVER A DIVE BOMBER. IT FOLLOWED THE OTHERS.

"WE DON'T NEED ANY RADAR ON THESR THINGS," JOHN G.BORN, 1308 WALNUT ST., MILWAUKEE, WIS., 20-YEAR-OLD DRIVER, COMMENTED, "IF THOSE JAPS WANT TO KID WITH US WE GOT THE TREATMENT FOR THEM."

GG811ACW

30. 24— 21173

BY AL DOPKING (290)

WITH THE SEVENTH DIVISION ON LEYTE,PHILIPPINES,DEC.10-(DELAYED)-(AP)-BEARDED, HAGGARD DOUGHBOYS OF THE SEVENTH DIVISION FORDED STREAMS AND SCALED WOODED RIDGES TODAY TO TIGHTEN A NOOSE ABOUT THE JAPANESE 26TH DIVISION ON THE WEST COAST OF LEYTE.

(GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR ANNOUNCED IN HIS DEC.12 COMMUNIQUE THAT THE SEVENTH AND 77TH DIVISIONS HAD JOINED AND THE JAPANESE BETWEEN THEM HAD BEEN DESTROYED.)

DESPITE A FRANTIC JAPANESE ATTEMPT TO HALT THE YANK DRIVE WITH AN ARTILLERY BARRAGE, MAJ. GEN. A.V. ARNOLD'S MEN CONTINUED THEIR ADVANCE AND TONIGHT WERE WITHIN TWO MILES OF THE 77TH DIVISION NOW IN ORMOC.

THE FRUSTRATED JAPANESE ABANDONED AMMUNITION DUMPS AND SUPPLIES AS THEY RETREATED, AND SOME OF THEM CAUGHT BEHIND AMERICAN LINES JUMPED INTO THE CAMOTES SEA TRYING TO SWIM NORTHWARD TO REJOIN THEIR FORCES. THEY WERE KILLED OR DROWNED.

THE SEVENTH DIVISION CAPTURED FIVE ENEMY ARTILLERY PIECES. TWO OF THEM WERE BRITISH GUNS MADE IN THE UNITED STATES AND PROBABLY SEIZEI AT SINGAPORE.

TROOPS LED BY MAJ. DELBERT L.BJORK, 577 RIVINGTON AVE., ASTORIA, ORE., A FORMER CHICAGO BEARS PRO FOOTBALL STAR, SPEARHEADED THE ATTACK.

THE SEVENTH'S ADVANCE BEGAN YESTERDAY WHEN JAPANESE RESISTANCE BEGAN CRUMBLING BEFORE THE CONSTANT HAMMERING OF AMERICAN ARTILLERY ANI LIGHT TANKS, FOLLOWED BY INFANTRY BLOWS.

THE SEVENTH DIVISION FIGHT ON LEYTE IS ONE FOR WHICH THE DOUGHBOY CAN CLAIM MOST OF THE CREDIT. HE HAS GONE FORWARD OVER NEARLY 90 MILES OF SWAMPLAND AND MOUNTAIN TERRAIN, FREQUENTLY UNDER AIR ATTACK.

THIS TIME HE HAS MET SOME OF THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY'S BEST--NOT GARRISON TROOPS WHICH HE ENCOUNTERED IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC ATOLL --AND HE HAS LEFT NO DOUBT ABOUT HIS SUPERIORITY AS A FIGHTING MAN.

HE IS FIGHTING UNDER THE STRAIN OF A TERRIFIC SUPPLY PROBLEM. HE IS LIVING IN FOXHOLES FILLED WITH WATER, AND HE IS SLOSHING ALONG IN WET SOCKS AND SHOES. DESPITE ALL THE HARDSHIPS. HE CAN STILL LAUGH.

QD905PPW NM

AMERICAL (CO) DIVISION, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC-(DELAYED)-(AP)-

THEY NUMBERED 43 BATTLE-TOUGHENED MEN AT FIRST, THESE ROY'S RAIDERS, BUT AFTER MONTHS OF JUNGLE FIGHTING ONLY EIGHT OF THE ORIGINAL MEMBERS REMAIN.

LT. RICHARD L. ROY, MT. LAKE PARK, MD., THE SMALL, SLIM MAN WHO FATHERED THE OUTFIT -- CONCEIVED THE IDEA OF A PICKED RAIDING TEAM, TRAINED IT AND LED IT -- IS STILL IN COMBAT.

OF THE OTHER ORIGINALS, NINE ARE DEAD, 24 WOUNDED SO BADLY THEY WERE EVACUATED AND TWO MADE THE ROTATION LIST FOR A TRIP HOME.

STILL WITH THE RAIDERS IS THE ORIGINAL RANKING NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICER, T/SGT. HOWARD P. SIMMONS, OF WHITMAN, MASS. THE OTHER SIX ARE S/SGTS. ROBERT L. EGLER, ROCKFORD, ILL., AND JACK G. MORTON, PORTLAND, ORE.; SGTS. EDWARD GEKOSKY, KULPMONT, PA.; THOMAS F. MARION, CHARLESTON, W.VA., AND HAYWOOD K. NORMAN, COLUMBUS, GA., AND PFC SANTANA GONZALES, SAN ANGELO, TEX.

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ON CHRISTMAS DAY LAST YEAR ROY GOT THE IDEA OF A RAIDING TEAM. THE AMERICAL DIVISION, VETERAN OF GUADALCANAL, HAD JUST HIT THE BEACHES AT EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY ON BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND.

"MY MEN ARE ALWAYS REFERRED TO AS THE 'MOST PATROLLED OUTFIT' IN THE REGIMENT, AND THAT'S SAYING PLENTY FOR THEM," SAID ROY.

"IN EVERY IMPORTANT ACTION IN WHICH OUR REGIMENT TOOK PART, THE RAIDERS DID THE PATROL WORK -- RECONNAISSANCE, SECURITY AND A LOT OF COMBAT MISSIONS. WE GOT OUR SHARE OF THE NIPS. IN ONE BATTLE MY BOYS ARE CREDITED WITH KILLING 30 JAPS IN A SINGLE OPERATION."

ROY, WHO HAS BEEN AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL, HAS BEEN OVERSEAS 13 MONTHS. IN CIVILIAN LIFE HE WAS A WHOLESALE PRODUCE SALESMAN.

XZ331ACW

WITH THE AMERICAL (CORRECT) INFANTRY DIVISION SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC--CPL.WILLIE TAYLOR, OF AUBURN, GA., AND SGT.JOHN C.MULLIGAN, OF TROY, N.Y., BROUGHT IN A JAP PRISONER AT THIS JUNGLE BASE IN A WAY THAT SHOULD MAKE TOJO ADD A NEW PAGE TO THE JAPANESE SOLDIER'S HANDBOOK.

TAYLOR AND MULLIGAN SET OUT ONE MORNING IN THEIR JEEP ON A ROUTINE PATROL ALONG THE BEACH WHEN THEY SPOTTED A JAP. WHEN THEY AIMED THEIR GUNS AT HIM, THE JAP DROPPED HIS RIFLE AND STOOD MOTIONLESS. TAYLOR MOTIONED FOR HIM TO DROP HIS CLOTHES AND GET IN.

THE JAP DID.

"IT WAS AS SIMPLE AS THAT," MULLIGAN SAID.

THE CORPORAL AND THE SERGEANT DROVE THE JAP BACK TO HEADQUARTERS, AN M-1 TRAINED ON HIS BACK.

THE JAP WOULD HAVE BEEN AMAZED TO LEARN THAT THE RIFLE THAT COVERED HIM WASN'T LOADED.

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FOR THAT MATTER, SO WERE TAYLOR AND MULLIGAN.

"WHAT WE DIDN'T KNOW, DIDN'T HURT US," SAID SGT.MULLIGAN RUEFULLY. "THAT GOES FOR THE NIP AND US."

MEXICO C..., DEC. 11-(AP)-OFFICERS WERE ELECTED TODAY FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL BODY TO BE CALLED "JUNIOR CHAMBER INTERNATIONAL," DURING THE FINAL SESSION OF THE FIRST INTERAMERICAN CONGRESS OF JUNIOR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

THE OFFICERS: PRESIDENT, RAUL GARCIA OF MEXICO CITY, EMPLOYED BY COOK'S TRAVEL BUREAU; FIRST VICE PRESIDENT, RAYMOND A.WOLFF, OF MILWAUKEE, WIS., MANAGER OF THE INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, ALBERT FROSTEL AND SONS COMPANY; SECOND VICE PRESIDENT, ELIAS GONZALES OF MEXICO CITY, AND TREASURER, CARLOS JOSEFE. OF MEXICO CITY.

MEXICO CITY, DEC.11-(AP)-JUNIOR CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE OF NINE COUNTRIES IN THE FINAL DAY OF THE FIRST INTER-AMERICAN CONGRESS LAID PLANS FOR EXTENSION OF THEIR ORGANIZATION THROUGHOUT SOUTH AMERICA.

DEC 12 1944

A FORMAL BANQUET TONIGHT WILL END THE MEETING.

EW531PCW

30 24 —— 21175

MEXICO CITY,DEC 11 (AP)-PROFESSOR VICENTE SAENZ, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC UNION, SAYS VIOLENCE HAS CONTINUED IN EL SALVADOR BECAUSE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS HAVE REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THAT COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT IN EXILE.

SAYING HIS ORGANIZATION HAS "ABSOLUTELY TRUSTWORTHY INFORMATION FROM EL SALVADOR," PROFESSOR SAENZ SAID IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS LAST NIGHT "AN INCREDIBLE AND UNSUSTAINABLE SITUATION EXISTS IN EL SALVADOR."

DEC 12 1944

"VIOLENCE AND ANGUISH ARE THE ORDER OF THE DAY THERE, AND ALL THROUGH THE FAULT OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WHICH REFRAIN FROM RECOGNIZING THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF DR.MIGUEL TORRES MOLINA, WHICH IS EXILED IN GUATEMALA," HE SAID.

"OSMIN AGUIRRE COULD NOT HAVE SUSTAINED HIMSELF IN POWER; HE WOULD HAVE FLED THE COUNTRY AND EL SALVADOR WOULD BE ENJOYING PEACE, HAD TORRES MOLINA'S GOVERNMENT BEEN RECOGNIZED.

"EVERY DAY THERE IS FIGHTING IN THE STREETS BETWEEN THE POLICE OF AGUIRRE AND CITIZENS OPPOSED TO HIS REGIME. MANY PEOPLE ARE BEING KILLED AND WOUNDED, PROPERTY IS BEING DAMAGED AND AN INTOLERABLE STATE OF ALARM EXISTS, X X X X X

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"AGUIRRE, DESPERATE AT NOT BEING RECOGNIZED BY STRONG FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS, HAS SET FORTH THE STRANGE DOCTRINE THAT HE, ON HIS PART, IS NOT OBLIGED TO RECOGNIZE THEIR DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

"POLITICAL FUGITIVES WHO SEEK ASYLUM IN THE LEGATIONS AND EMBASSIES ARE TAKEN FROM THERE BY ARMED FORCE.

"ON SATURDAY, DEC.2, THE FRENCH LEGATION IN SAN SALVADOR RESISTED A DEMAND OF AGUIRRE'S POLICE TO TURN OVER ITS 'REFUGIADOS. THE POLICE FIRED UPON THE LEGATION, AND THE LEGATION FIRED BACK. THERE WERE A NUMBER OF WOUNDED ON BOTH SIDES BEFORE THE POLICE SUCCEEDED IN TAKING AWAY THE FUGITIVES WHO HAD OBTAINED ASYLUM."

GCB 56ACW NM

MONTREAL, DEC.11-(AP)-CAMILLIEN HOUDE, FIREBRAND OF MUNICIPAL AND PROVINCIAL POLITICS FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, WAS ELECTED MAYOR OF MONTREAL TODAY, FOUR MONTHS AFTER HE CAME OUT OF INTERNMENT.

MR. HOUDE DEFEATED ADHERMAR RAYNAULT BY ABOUT 10,000 VOTES, MOVING TO THE FRONT IN LATE RETURNS AFTER THE LEAD HAD CHANGED SEVERAL TIMES EARLY IN THE COUNTING.

HOUDE, RETURNING TO THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE'S CHAIR FOR THE FIFTH TIME, DREW MOST OF HIS SUPPORT FROM THE FRENCH-CANADIAN SECTIONS OF THE CITY.

HOUDE WAS ELECTED IN 1938 FOR A TERM WHICH ENDED A FEW MONTHS BEFORE ITS CONCLUSION WHEN HOUDE WAS INTERNED AFTER URGING RESIDENTS OF MONTREAL NOT TO COMPLY WITH NATIONAL REGISTRATION REGULATIONS.

W1227AEW

MONTREAL, DEC.11-(AP)-THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE ANNOUNCED TONIGHT THAT ITS PARIS BRANCH HAD RESUMED OPEN OPERATIONS, AND AT THE SAME TIME SAID THE BRANCH HAD BEEN OPERATING CLANDESTINELY THROUGHOUT THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF PARIS.

SINCE LATE IN 1940, THE FUNCTIONS OF THE BRANCH HAD BEEN CARRIED ON SECRETLY BY MISS AIMEE-ELISE ROMMEL, BRANCH SECRETARY, FROM HER TWO-ROOM APARTMENT, SAID EDWARD J.PHELAN, ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE I.L.O.

W1115PEW

DEC 12 1944

OTTAWA, DEC. 11-(AP)-LT. F.E. KNIGHLY, 2647 EASTWO

AVE., EVANSTON, ILL., SERVING WITH THE RCAF OVERSEAS, HAS BEEN AWA

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED

BROADCAST

NEW YORK, DEC 11--SEVERAL TRAINLOADS OF V-2 BOMBS WERE HIT TODAY BY BELGIAN-BASED ALLIED PLANES IN A CONCENTRATED ATTACK ON THE DUTCH RAILYARDS AT LEYDEN, THE BRITISH RADIO SAID TONIGHT IN A BROADCAST HEARD BY NBC.

(WX) NEW YORK, DEC.11-(AP)-UNDERSECRETARY OF WAR PATTERSON SAID TONIGHT THAT THE PEACETIME MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT MUST REST ON THREE ELEMENTS:

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING.

INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES CAPABLE OF SWIFT MOBILIZATION.

SCIENTIFIC AND ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT SERVING MILITARY NEEDS.

HE OUTLINED HIS VIEWS IN AN ADDRESS PREPARED FOR A MEETING IN CONNECTION WITH THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE.

"NO ORGANIZATION FOR WORLD PEACE WILL BE EFFECTIVE UNLESS THERE IS MILITARY POWER BEHIND IT," PATTERSON SAID. "THE ORGANIZATION MUST BE SUPPORTED BY THE MILITARY POWER OF THE MEMBER NATIONS, MILITARY POWER OF A STRENGTH THAT WILL OVERAWE THE GERMANY AND JAPAN OF THE FUTURE, OR ANY OTHER NATION THAT MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO RESORT TO AN AGGRESSIVE WAR. THE PEACE-LOVING NATIONS CAN NOT AGAIN LET THEIR ARMIES BECOME IMPOTENT."

HE ASSERTED THAT "WE KNOW THAT THE GERMANS ARE ALREADY PLANNING A THIRD WORLD WAR."

CAPT.LAURENCE A. ABERCROMBIE, U.S.N. REPRESENTING SECRETARY OF THE NAVY JAMES V. FORRESTAL, SAID THE JAPANESE ATTACK AT PEARL HARBOR "WAS NOT SO SEVERE A SET-BACK AS IT FIRST SEEMED."

"ACTUALLY," HE SAID, "WITH THEIR SLOW SPEED AND WHOLLY INADEQUATE ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARMAMENT, THE NINE BATTLESHIPS WE HAD IN THE PACIFIC ON DEC. 7, 1941, WOULD HARDLY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO STEM THE JAPANESE ADVANCE, AND THE SUPPORT OF OUR FEW CARRIERS AND THEIR OBSOLETE AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE STRONG JAPANESE AIR FORCE IN THE CONQUERED AREAS."

"WE ARE DETERMINED NOW," HE ADDED, "TO AVOID THE POSSIBILITY OF EVER AGAIN BEING CAUGHT WITH OUT-MODED WEAPONS AGAINST A DETERMINED AND WELL-ARMED ENEMY."

W1119PEW

(ADVANCE) WASHINGTON,DEC 11-(AP)-LT.CMDR.EDWARD J. HUXTABLE OF THE NAVY'S COMPOSITE SQUADRON TEN ATTACKED FOUR JAPANESE BATTLESHIPS, SEVEN CRUISERS AND NINE DESTROYERS WITH ONLY HIS AVENGER'S MACHINE GUNS AND CAME OUT ALIVE.

THERE WAS NO TIME TO LOAD A TORPEDO OR BOMBS AS SHELLS FROM THE JAPANESE TASK FORCE STRADDLED HIS SMALL ESCORT CARRIER OFF SAMAR ON OCTOBER 24. SO HUXTABLE AND HIS FELLOW AVENGER AND WILDCAT FIGHTER PILOTS TOOK OFF ON SIMULATED TORPEDO-BOMBING RUNS OVER THE ENEMY FLEET IN EFFORT TO SCARE THEM OFF.

HUXTABLE AND HIS COMPANIONS REPEATEDLY STRAFED THE LINE OF JAP CRAFT AND PRETENDED THEY WERE GOING TO LAUNCH TORPEDOES OR DROP BOMBS. MIRACULOUSLY, HUXTABLE, WHO MAINTAINS RESIDENCES AT 837 TENTH ST.,DOUGLAS,ARIZ., AND NORTH SHORE POINT, NORFOLK, VA., HIS CREWMEN AND PLANE CAME OUT UNSCATHED.

THE LIEUT.COMMANDER AND HIS AIRMEN ARE NOW IN THE UNITED STATES ON LEAVE.

ENSIGN ROBERT L.CROCKER OF 916 S.WILLIAMS ST., DENVER, HAD ROCKETS ABOARD HIS AVENGER, BUT NO BOMBS OR TORPEDO. HE FIRED TWO ROCKETS INTO A DESTROYER, STRAFED THE CAPITAL SHIPS, AND MADE DUMMY TORPEDO AND BOMB RUNS.

FOUR OTHER AVENGERS TOOK OFF WITH HUXTABLE AND CROCKER. THEY WERE PILOTED BY LT.HENRY B.BASSETT, MONTICELLO,FLA.; LT.JAMES R.JACKSON, FULTON,MO.; ENSIGN EDWIN A.OSTERKORN, 1820 SUMMERDALE AVE.,CHICAGO, AND ENSIGN WILLIAM C.SHREYER, STRASBURG,OHIO STREYER DROPPED THREE BOMBS ON THE STERN OF A HEAVY CRUISER. JACKSON GOT A HIT ON ANOTHER.

AFTER DROPPING THEIR BOMBS THE PILOTS FOLLOWED THE EXAMPLES OF HUXTABLE AND CROCKER IN "DRY" TORPEDO AND BOMBING RUNS.

TWO OF THE AVENGERS WERE BADLY SHOT UP, BUT ALL SIX PILOTS AND THEIR CREWS SURVIVED, LANDING ON OTHER CARRIERS AFTER THEIRS WAS SUNK OR ON THE AIRFIELD AT LEYTE.

BEFORE THE CARRIER'S DECK BECAME INOPERATIVE THREE OVER AGENGERS GOT OFF. THEY WERE PILOTED BY ENSIGN PAUL A.BENNETT, MILNOR, N.D.; LT. (JG) ROVERT E.WEATHERHOLD, AUGUSTA,KANS., AND ENSIGN WILLIAM GALLAGHER, 29 SLADE ST.,BELMONT,MASS., NOW LISTED AS MISSING.

GALLAGHER'S PLANE HAD ONLY 35 GALLONS OF GAS WHEN IT TOOK OFF. THE ENSIGN CHOSE TO USE THEM FIGHTING RATHER THAN FUELING FROM ANOTHER CARRIER. HE PICKED OUT A CRUISER BUT APPARENTLY WAS SHOT DOWN IN HIS BOMBING RUN. CROCKER SAW GALLAGHER'S PLANE SMOKING BEFORE MAKING A FORCED LANDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE JAP FLEET.

BENNETT GOT ONE DIRECT-HIT ON A CRUISER IN A SOLO RUN. HE THEN WAS JOINED BY LT. (JG) CHARLES J.DUGAN, BEND,ORE., FIGHTER PILOT, IN MACHINE GUNNING ANOTHER CRUISER. BOTH SURVIVED.

WEATHERHOLD JOINED WITH ANOTHER AVENGER PILOT IN ATTACKING A BATTLESHIP.

THE BATTLE BEGAN AN HOUR BEFORE DAWN WHEN EIGHT WILDCAT FIGHTERS WERE LAUNCHED AS A COMBAT PATROL OVER LEYTE. LT.JOHN R.STEWARD.

30. 2x — 2177

670 WEST F ST.,CHULA VISTA,CALIF., LED THE GROUP. OTHER PILOTS WERE: ENSIGN WILLIAM W.ABERCROMBIE, 345 E. 19 TH ST.,LONG BEACH,CALIF.; LT.CHARLES A.WICKERSHAM, 1048 N.KEDBALE AVE., CHICAGO; ENSIGN LEE C.GIGER, SARCOXIC,MD.; LT.JAMES F.OLIVER, STURGIS,KY.; ENSIGN JOHN I.TURNER, ROUTE 2, DELTA,COLO.; LT.HERMAN J.HARDERS, 5418 LILIENTHAL ST.,LOS ANGELES, AND ENSIGN DARRELL C.BENNETT, 900 LAKE ST.,HAMBURG,IOWA.

THE FIGHTERS' CARRIER WAS TOO BADLY DAMAGED TO RECEIVE THEM AT THE END OF THE PATROL AND THE FIGHTERS LANDED ON TACLOBAN TO FIGHT OFF JAP AIR ATTACKS FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

TEN MORE WILDCATS WERE LAUNCHED JUST AS THE ENEMY FLEET FIRED ITS FIRST SALVO AT COMPOSITE TEN'S CARRIER. LT.EUGENE W.WEITZ, 3025 CADIZ ST.,NEW ORLEANS, AND WALKERTON,IND., LED THAT FLIGHT.

THE OTHER PILOTS WERE ENSIGN BARHAM F.BILLARD, 104 JONES AVE., GREENVILLE,S.C.; ENSIGN BUGAN; LT.CHARLES R.ELLWOOD, CRETE,ILL., AND 25 HOUSTON ST.,MOBILE,ALA.; LT. (JG) CHARLES F.HUNTING, SAN BERNARDINO,CALIF.; ENSIGN JOSEPH F.LISCHER, DAVENPORT,IOWA; ENSIGN JOSEPH B.MC GRAW, BEWETT,N.Y.; LT. (JG) ROCKFORD L.PHILLIPS, 2205 E.MAIN ST.,DANVILLE,ILL.; LT.RICHARD E.ROBY, 1851 MARSHALL, HOUSTON,TEX., AND ENSIGN ROBERT J.WALLACE, FILLMORE,CALIF.

DEC 12 1944

EACH OF THE PILOTS MADE 10 TO 12 STRAFFING RUNS THROUGH HEAVY ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE, AND EVEN AFTER AMMUNITION WAS EXHAUSTED MADE DUMMY DIVERSIONARY RUNS.

COMPOSITE TEN SHOT DOWN 19 PLANES IN FIVE MONTHS. SOME OF THE ENEMY PLANES WERE SHARED BY THREE OR FOUR FIGHTERS. AS NEARLY AS COULD BE ASCERTAINED THE SCORE WAS: ENSIGN MC GRAW, 4 7/8; ENSIGN BUGAN, 2; LT.HUNTING, 2; LT.ROBY, 2; LT.SEITZ, 2; LT.HARDERS, 1; LT.STEWART, 1; ENSIGN TURNER, 1, AND LT.WICKERSHAM, 1.

DEC 12 1944

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF., DEC. 11-(AP)-GENERAL HENRY H. ARNOLD, DEPLORING NATIONAL OVER-OPTIMISM, TONIGHT DECLARED "I DON'T THINK THE WAR IN EUROPE WILL END UNTIL WE GET TO BERLIN."

"WHAT LIES BETWEEN US AND BERLIN, I DON'T KNOW," THE ARMY AIR FORCES COMMANDING GENERAL TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE. "I NEVER DID KNOW.

"I HATE TO HEAR STORIES THAT GERMAN DEFENSES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE CRUMBLING. I'D LIKE TO KNOW WHERE THEY'RE CRUMBLING. WE HAVE HAD A LONG, TOUGH FIGHT AGAINST THE GERMANS. THEY'RE DARNED TOUGH BABIES.

"GIVEN TIME AND THE NECESSARY AIRPLANES, THE JAP AIR FORCE CAN BE KNOCKED DOWN JUST AS THE GERMAN AIR FORCE HAS BEEN KNOCKED DOWN. THE INDUSTRIAL AREA OF JAPAN IS LARGELY CONFINED TO ONE ISLAND AND IT WILL TAKE LESS TONS OF BOMBS.

"WHETHER THE JAPS CAN TAKE IT THE WAY THE GERMANS HAVE, I DON'T KNOW. THEY WONT BE ABLE TO REBUILD THEIR FACTORIES OR REPAIR THE DAMAGE. THEIR ABILITY TO WAGE WAR IS GOING TO DE-CLINE, I BELIEVE, IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE BOMBING. THE JAPS DON'T HAVE THE EAGER PILOTS THEY HAD SOME TIME BACK AND DON'T SEEM TO HAVE THE SKILL."

PJ1005PPW NM

SAN ANTONIO,TEX.,DEC 11 (AP)-MAJOR GEN.OSCAR U.HERREROS, CHIEF OF THE CHILEAN AIR FORCE COMMISSION IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT A LUNCHEON GIVEN AT KELLY FIELD TODAY BY COL.JOHN A.LAIRD, JR., COMMANDER OF THE SAN ANTONIO AIR TECHNICAL SERVICE COMMAND.

GEN.HERREROS ARRIVED AT KELLY FIELD LAST NIGHT FOR A VISIT DURING WHICH HE WILL PRESENT DECORATIONS TO UNITED STATES AIR FORCE OFFICERS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR ASSISTANCE TO THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MAJOR JUAN ROD RIGUEZ, OF THE CHILEAN AIR FORCE.

DEC 12 1944

CC5J0PCW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:

CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND, U.S. NINTH ARMIES; FRONTS UNCHANGED.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: SEIZES TWO MORE TOWNS, ADVANCES MORE THAN MILE TOWARD ROER IN CLOSING 10-MILE ASSAULT ARC ON DUREN.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: REPULSES GERMAN ATTACKS AT DILLINGEN, SAARLAUTERN.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: BATTLES IN AND NEAR HAGUENAU IN NORTHERN ALSACE.

DEC 12 1944

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: SEIZES THANN, PURSUES GERMANS TOWARD RHINE.

U.S.DIVISIONS

26TH INFANTRY--CAPTURED GROS REDERCHING NEAR SAAR BORDER.

35TH INFANTRY--CLEARED NORTHERN PORTION OF SARREGUEMINES ON SAAR'S EAST BANK.

79TH INFANTRY--FORCES ENTRY INTO HAGUENAU.

90TH INFANTRY--SEIZED ONE-FIFTH OF DILLINGEN.

95TH INFANTRY--CAPTURED SAARLAUTERN RAILWAY STATION.

MK852AEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND, U.S. NINTH ARMIES; FRONTS UNCHANGEI
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U.S. DIVISIONS
35TH INFANTRY--CAPTURED FOLPERSDILLER 1/2 MILE FROM SAAR BORDER.
79TH INFANTRY--CAPTURED HAGUENAU.
FW530PEW

DEC 12 1944

UNDATED CHINESE
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DOMEI NEWS AGENCY, IN A TOKYO BROADCAST TODAY, DECLARED IMPERIAL TROOPS WHICH INVADED SOUTHERN CHINA FROM FRENCH INDO-CHINA NOV.28 HAD EFFECTED A JUNCTION WITH JAPANESE FORCES IN KWANGSI PROVINCE AND ESTABLISHED AN OVERLAND LINK RUNNING ALL THE WAY FROM MANCHURIA TO MALAYA.
THE JUNCTION WAS YESTERDAY IN THE KWANGSI PROVINCE TOWN OF SUILU BY JAPANESE WHO CROSSED THE INDO-CHINA BORDER AT LANGSON, SAID THE BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FCC.
M1030AEW

30. 24— 21179

7th Army Pierces Maginot Line Defenses, 1st Army Is at the Roer, Opposite Duren; Japanese Lose 7 Shi in Battle Off Leyte

DEC 13 1944

30 Towns Fall To Yankees

First Army Fights To Within Half Mile Of Key City Of Duren.

ROER SALIENT IS WIPED OUT

Cologne Only 20 Miles Away Across An Almost Level Plain From Duren.

By Austin Bealmear

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Dec. 12 (AP)—Fighting through the old Maginot Line defenses, the U. S. Seventh Army stormed more than eight miles northward from liberated Haguenau today while the First American Army drove within half a mile of Duren and virtually eliminated the Germans' Roer river salient blocking the route to Cologne.

At the same time the Third Army crossed the Blies river northeast of Sarreguemines, forcing a new wedge across the German border, and the French First Army rolled up new gains in the Vosges foothills at the southern end of the long western front.

Strong Support From Air

The steady advances of the ground forces were strongly supported by Allied planes, which hammered Nazi targets in and behind the battle zone relentlessly throughout the day.

More than 2,300 heavy bombers of both the American and British commands flew from bases in Britain in co-ordinated assaults on the Ruhr. Additionally, nearly 1,000 medium and fighter bombers of the Allies' three continental-based tactical air forces flailed the enemy's advanced positions from one end of the Western Front to the other.

More than 30 towns and villages —at least seven of them inside Germany—fell during the day as Gen. Eisenhower's armies pounded at the last barriers guarding the Reich's three main industrial areas. At some vital points enemy resistance appeared to be slackening, although this might be explained as German withdrawals to previously prepared positions.

Patch Forging Ahead

Battlefront dispatches said Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army was forging ahead at the rate of a mile an hour. These American troops surged through Langensoultzbach and struck farther northward toward Mattstall, 11 miles north of Haguenau. They also thrust within eight miles of the important frontier highway junction of Wissembourg by capturing Merkwiller.

Yanks of both the Seventh and Third Armies spread out to the west and continued to close up to the German border in a great wheeling movement pivoting on Sarreguemines. At one point Patch's troops had reached within 2 1-2 miles of the border.

Defenses Virtually Collapse

In the north German defenses west of the Roer River had virtually collapsed as Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army pushed up to the river on a 1,000-yard front east of Hurtgen Forest.

A staff officer at First Army headquarters declared the war in the west had reached a stage comparable to the breakthrough period last July in Normandy.

He said German prisoners reported a number of their units had been broken up and reformed into local battle groups which in many cases were composed of as much as 50 per cent supply personnel. The officer said many German infantry units were believed to be short of weapons.

As the enemy cracked under the relentless pressure of Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' men and armor, the Yanks crashed through the rubbled towns of Hoven, Schophoven, Pier, Merken, Merode, Gey and Derichweiler, all within a six-mile arc from northwest to southwest of Duren.

Almost Cleared of Enemy

Mariaweiler, only a half-mile northwest of Duren, was almost cleared of the enemy tonight after fierce fighting through its debris-filled streets. It was expected that by dawn American troops would be installed on the Roer opposite Duren, a shattered city of 39,000 whose civilian population has long since been evacuated.

The First Army's spectacular surge after three days of renewed assault appeared to have been made mainly against German screening forces which had been left behind to stem the advance while the bulk of Nazi troops were withdrawn across the Roer into elaborate defenses at and behind Duren.

Cologne is 20 miles across an almost level plain from Duren.

The first troops of Hodges' army to reach the Roer drove almost due east from the town of Hurtgen and established a firm grip on the river bank along the shore of the Ober Maubach Reservoir. The Roer in that sector south of Duren is susceptible to flooding by the opening of several dams.

The U. S. Ninth army, immediately adjoining Hodges' forces on the left, reached the Roer several weeks ago and since has been held up by floods and by the necessity for resting and regrouping before continuing its offensive.

A low overcast and scattered rain hampered air operations over most of the front. Melting snow turned the ground into a quagmire under the First army's infantry and armor, but medium and fighter bombers hammered enemy positions on both sides of the Roer ahead of the attacking troops.

Patch Drives Eight Miles

To the south in Alsace Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army drove eight miles northeast beyond the captured enemy supply base of Haguenau in less than eight hours, broke through the old Maginot line and reached Seltz, four and a half miles from the German frontier and only 15 miles from the major German city of Karlsruhe.

In their plunge through the Maginot line the Yanks met almost no opposition, the Nazis finally having made their long-predicted withdrawal into the Siegfried line defenses. American plans pounded the retreating enemy all the way to the border.

Langensoultzbach, 10 miles north of Haguenau, was entered against moderate resistance. Just north of Haguenau forest the Americans seized Gunstett and cleared nearby Walbourg. At one point Patch's advance units were but two and a half miles from the Reich frontier.

Among the French towns liberated by the 79th Division in its plunge toward Germany were Runtzenheim, Roeschwoog, Leutenheim, Kauftenheim, Beinheim and Kesseldorf.

Clear Rederching

On the western flank the Yanks cleared Rederching, five miles west of Bitche and less than four from the border, after a stiff fight in which the Germans used tanks. Sierstahl, about two miles southeast of Rederching, also was occupied.

(The German radio declared that the Seventh Army had opened a big offensive between Haguenau and Sarreguemines with 15 infantry and several tank divisions and that a "violent tank battle" was raging in the area of Woerth, seven miles from the German Palatinate border.

(Capt. Ludwig Sertorious, a leading Nazi military commentator, declared that the "center of gravity has definitely shifted from the Saar front to the southern front facing the Palatinate.")

On the southern Alsatian plain the French First Army seized several more towns west of Mulhouse and cleared German pockets on the west bank of the Rhine south of Kembs.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army made gains in bitter fighting against Siegfried Line defenses while its artillery, now moved up close behind the infantry, poured heavy fire into the Saar Basin.

Fighting at Saarlautern was confined mainly to the suburban towns of Roden and Fraulautern on the east. A field dispatch indicated the Nazis were abandoning the western part of Fraulautern under steady pressure.

At Dillingen, two miles north of Saarlautern, the 90th Infantry division repusled several determined enemy counterattacks and knocked out seven German tanks. The 26th Division captured Bliesbruck, four and a half miles east of Sarreguemines.

Heavy Losses For Foe

Since the offensive began Nov. 8 the Third Division has destroyed at least 106 enemy medium and light tanks, 39 heavy tanks, 412 artillery pieces and 315 miscellaneous vehicles.

German reports that the battle for the Saar had cost the Third Army between 20,000 and 30,000 men since Dec. 1 drew no comment from Allied headquarters.

It was admitted here, however, that losses had been heavy in the winter offensive. A spokesman said that casualty figures for the first three weeks of the attack would be made public shortly.

Activity on the Ninth Army front between Julich and Linnich along the Roer still was confined to patrols. The Nazis stepped up their flying bomb attacks in that sector after a lull of several days while they apparently were shifting launching platforms.

With the capture of the bloody little village of Merode, 3 1-2 miles southwest of Duren, and the advance to the Roer east of Hurtgen the First Army's doughboys left almost the last of the notorious Hurtgen Forest behind them.

Measured from Duren, the other towns overrun today were, respectively, Hoven, 1 1-2 miles northwest; Pier, five miles northwest; Merken, 3 1-2 northwest; Gey, four miles southwest; Derichweiler, less than two miles west, and Schophoven, six miles northwest.

At points the mud-splattered Yanks were held up temporarily by anti-tank and self-propelled guns concentrated in the ruined villages and by suicide squads of infantry, but in the main the advance was steady and relentless.

A front dispatch said the Germans were throwing even service troops into the front line, as well as air force ground personnel. It added, however, that the Nazis were known to have been holding considerable forces in reserve east of the Ruhr for the final desperate defense of Cologne and the Rhineland.

DEC 13 1944

NAZI LINE CRUMBLES BEFORE U.S. ASSAULT

KENNEDY

Seven German Villages Fall to First Army —Americans Half a Mile From Duren —Patch Cracks Maginot Defenses

DEC 13 1944

Paris, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—German defenses west of the Roer River virtually collapsed today as American First Army troops swept through seven fortified villages, fought to within half a mile of the key city of Duren and pushed up to the Roer on a 1,000-yard front east of the Hurtgen Forest.

As the enemy cracked under the relentless pressure of Lieut.-Gen. Courtney Hodges's men and armor, the Yanks crashed through the rubbled towns of Hoven, Schophoven, Pier, Merken, Merode, Gey and Derichweiler, all within a six-mile arc from northwest to southwest of Duren.

Mariaweiler, only half a mile northwest of Duren, was almost cleared of the enemy tonight after fierce fighting through its debris-piled streets. It was expected that by dawn the Americans would be installed on the Roer opposite Duren, a shattered city of 39,000 whose civilian population has long since been evacuated.

The First Army's spectacular surge after three days of renewed assault appeared to have been made mainly against German screening forces which had been left behind to stem the advance while the bulk of Nazi troops were withdrawn across the Roer into elaborate defenses at and behind Duren.

Meanwhile the American Seventh Army at the center of the western front broke clear through the Maginot Line and advanced more than six miles in eight hours, reaching Seltz, fifteen miles southwest of the Rhine city of Karlsruhe. Seltz is four miles from the Palatinate border and a mile and a half west of the Rhine. A dozen French towns along the Rhine were captured.

In attacks yesterday, the Army took 740 prisoners, [illegible] supply center of Haguenau. The troops encountered little resistance. The few prisoners bagged indicated the Germans finally were making the long predicted retreat to the Siegfried Line redoubts.

In their plunge through the Maginot Line, the Americans were able to travel as fast as fleet trucks could carry them. The Germans simply did not have the personnel to man the old French fortifications, dispatches from the Seventh Army front said. Many civilians were found living in the Maginot forts, secure from the war streaming past them.

[The Germans asserted that the Seventh had opened a major offensive against the Siegfried Line on a forty-mile front between Haguenau and captured Sarreguemines, using fifteen infantry and several divisions—perhaps 250,000 men. The enemy said "at no place was the Palatinate frontier reached" although great tank battles were reported around Woerth.]

Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army fought slowly deeper into the Siegfried Line in the industrial Saarland at Dillingen and beyond Saarlautern which virtually was cleared after nine days of violent combat. Gen. Patton's heavy artillery moved up just behind the infantry to shell the Saarland cities of Zweibrucken and St. Ingbert.

Nearly the whole front had rain and low clouds, preventing much aerial support. Medium bombers operating by instrument struck at Gemund and Harperscheid, sixteen and twenty-three miles south of Duren, and at Manheim, fifteen miles southwest of Duren. Thunderbolts attacked the fortified villages of Steckenborn and Rollesbroich, which form part of the German front south of Duren.

German reports that the battle have been heavy, not only in the Saarland but in the drive to the Roer and to other places. A spokesman at headquarters promised casualty figures for November shortly.

[The Germans said Gen. Patton's Fifth, Ninetieth and Ninety-fifth Divisions "have been badly reduced" and that the initiative "is more and more passing into German hands" in the Saarlautern sector. Several pillboxes were reported recaptured at Dillingen, although Berlin said these were "changing hands many times."]

Merode Taken In Night

The German Army's fight in strong and thick defenses before its vital arsenals was reported in field dispatches to be weakening west of the Roer, inside the Siegfried Line at Dillingen and Saarlautern and in northern Alsace under the battering of three American armies.

Merode, a forest village three and a half miles southeast of Duren, was cleared during the night. The Germans still held out behind heavy walls and in cellars at Merken, Pier and Gey, all within four miles of Duren, the southern bastion of the Roer River line. Two thirds of Merken, almost on the river three and a half miles northwest of Duren, was cleared.

At Roer Below Merode

[An NBC broadcast from the front sai dtoday that the 1st Army had entered Mariaweiler, a mile northwest of Duren.]

Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's 1st Army moved slowly and reached the Roer five miles southeast of Merode after advancing down a hill in the area of Bergstein, captured last week. Snow in that sector had melted, creating a bog that made going harder.

The United States 3rd Army finally captured Sarreguemines, pulled up to the border of the Saarland, and started shelling the important German cities of Zweibrucken and St. Ingbert, five and seven miles inside Germany.

The 3rd cleared out five fortified blocks in Fraulautern, a mile north of Saarlautern, and a similar area in Ensdorf, the same distance east. Both are in the Siegfried Line. It appeared that the Germans were quitting the western end of Fraulautern.

Saarlautern Devastated

The Germans maintained pressure around Dillingen, three miles north of Saarlautern, but attempted no more attacks in Saarlautern itself, a city as devastated as Aachen.

The United States 7th Army captured the Alsace base city of Haguenau, skirted the dense forest to the north and got within 22 miles of the German city of Karlsruhe. Supply dumps were seized at Haugenau. The Americans were within four miles of the German Palatinate above the city.

Farther south below Strasbourg, the 7th and the French 1st Army were within 3½ miles of Colmar; there they were checked more by floods than by Germans. The French cleared eight miles of the Rhine bank from the Swiss frontier to Kembs and faced the formidable German fortresses across the river.

Nazi Roer Line Described

The Germans appeared to have abandoned hope of holding out much longer west of the Roer and to be fighting a screening action while they hauled the rest of their artillery and tanks to the east bank. There the Germans with forced labor have thrown up three lines of narrow trenches and strongpoints stretching from Duren to Julich between the Roer and the Erft River, which flows within eight miles of Cologne.

The Roer front curved around for fifteen miles or more and reached within 21 miles of Cologne.

Before Duren, the Americans were eighteen miles inside Germany in the deepest invasion yet. Duren is just over 300 miles southwest of Berlin and, like the capital, a ruin from Allied bombs. Duren was within plain sight of the Americans.

9th's Guns Open Up

The 9th Army late last month reached the Roer along an eight-mile front between the central and northern river citadels of Julich and Linnich. Considerable German movement was observed east of the river and 9th Army guns opened up on the foe, supreme headquarters announced.

The 3d Army's battle to deepen its wedges in the Siegfried Line remained bitter and slow. The Germans used dug-in tanks and fired from innumerable pillboxes and holes in rubble.

Nazis Make Six Attacks

Northeast of Sarreguemines, t[illegible] 35th Division advanced a mile to the German border on the Blies River. The 28th Division captured Bliesbruck. The 95th Division took six more pillboxes in Fraulautern, where the Germans wearied under week-long pressure. Other troops of the 95th found going slow and difficult north of Saarlautern, where they were mopping up a newly captured brickyard.

The Germans made six small attacks against the 90th Division in and around Dillingen yesterday and began again at 4.30 A. M. today. The division destroyed seven tanks yesterday, giving the Texas and Oklahoma outfit a record of 404 tanks destroyed since it went into action on D-day. The Germans were estimated to be firing 3,000 rounds of shells daily into Dillingen.

Walbourg Entered

The 3rd Army captured 441 Germans yesterday, raising its total to 33,130 since November 8, when the present drive started. In the same period, Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's men have destroyed 14[illegible] tanks, 412 artillery pieces and 31[illegible] vehicles, exclusive of what planes have knocked out.

The 7th Army's capture of Haguenau precipitated an apparent collapse of German defenses in that Karlsruhe corner. North of the Haguenau Forest, Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's troops entered Walbourg and Durrenbach. Other units shot eastward, clearing Schirrhein and Schirhoffen and reached the outskirts of Soufflenheim, 22 miles from Karlsruhe.

At one unidentified point farther west in North Alsace, Patch's shock troops were within 2½ miles of the German frontier.

Army sector.

"The Americans are trying by means of two big spearheads at Rohrbach and Reichshoffen to envelop the extension of the wooded regions of the northern Vosges foothills and the Haguenau forest," Berlin said. "A violent tank battle is raging, notably in the area of Woerth."

Woerth is nine miles northwest of Haguenau and seven from the German Palatinate border.

The Germans asserted that from 20,000 ot 30,000 Americans had been lost in the battle of the Saar and that Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., had failed to achieve a breakthrough.

German retreats on both sides of Duren to the Roer River were announced, and a broadcast added:

"The Americans still are facing their heaviest task at the river itself. At no point has the Roer been crossed. Eisenhower's losses in the last 24 hours are 66 tanks and armored vehicles, 300 prisoners and five fully laden trucks."

Allied Amity Note: Britons Now Get Tea

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, Dec. 12 (AP)—General Eisenhower recently noticed a tiny item of discontent at his advance command post and acted, in the interests of Allied co-operation, to end it. So now:

British troops in the signals communications center have tea with their meals instead of coffee, which American Army rations provided.

7th Army Opens Big New Offensive, Berlin Says

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London, Dec. 12 (AP)—German broadcasts said today that the American 7th Army, using fifteen infantry and several tank divisions, had opened a new major offensive against the Siegfried Line between Sarreguemines and Haguenau, both captured yesterday.

This suggested 250,000 men or more were employed on a 40-mile sector where the Americans were closing hard toward the German frontier. This was more than double the strength identified on the 7th

War Prisoners Are Recaptured

WERNER

Sarreguemines, Dec. 12 (AP)—The first sizable group of actual prisoners of war recaptured from the Germans in the course of the liberation of France was in American hands today.

Nearly 1,000 Russian, Polish, Yugoslav and Italian soldiers were left behind in a prison camp hospital when troops of the United

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pital when troops of the United States 35th Infantry Division threw the Germans out of the battered borderland city. The group included Poles captured in the first battle of Warsaw in 1939.

They welcomed the Americans with cheers and salutes when a company commanded by Capt. Joseph Giacobello, of Mount Union, Pa., took over the place.

The first thing they asked for when a platoon headed by Sergt. Michael J. Pagliaro, of Chicago, burst open the gates to the barbed-wire inclosure was American coffee. It was delivered.

This afternoon the liberated prisoners were carrying out their dead—a number were killed by shelling and German sniping which was still intermittent.

Impersonated Women To Escape Germans

U.S. 3d Army Headquarters, Dec. 12 (AP)—Military police of the 6th Armored Division encountered a new type of patriot today—a 20-year-old youth who became a female impersonator in order to facilitate hiding out from the Germans.

He was a ringleader in a group of 73 young men who hid in the woods near a now liberated village in order to escape being drafted into the German Army.

He let his hair grow long and lived in a cave. Whenever he emerged to arrange for new food supplies for his fellow hideouts, he impersonated a woman.

He told the military police his group carried on considerable sabotage while awaiting liberation.

Nazi Official Assassinated

Strasbourg, Dec. 12 (AP)—Robert Wagner, Nazi party *Gauleiter*, German Government representative of Alsace and Baden and district *Volkssturm* (people's army) leader, was assassinated by Frenchmen in his apartment here last week, say reports widely circulated. The accounts say his throat was cut.

Ex-Neighbor of Dodgers Good Fielder in Battle

Nazi Shell Pierces His Tank and Lands in His Hands

WITH UNITED STATES 4TH AMORED DIVISION, Dec. 12 (AP).—Any one living on Flatbush Avenue, not far from the home of the Brooklyn Dodgers, ought to be an authority on fielding—and Corporal John J. Nelson is.

In a recent battle between this division and a German armored outfit, a German shell had just slammed against the turret of this red-haired driver's medium tank, Bottle Baby.

"I looked back and saw smoke behind me," he said. "I was just thinking of getting out when, blam! and I'll be damned if I didn't have a German armor-piercing shell right in my hands.

"I came right through from in front of me, and must have had just enough force to get through the armored plate and drop in my lap.

"I looked at it—it was so hot it burned through my gloves. But I didn't look long. In two seconds I got out of that drivers' compartment and did some fast crawling until I got into a building where I could take time to find out I wasn't hurt."

17 U. S. PRISONERS FREED IN EXCHANGE

Nozay, French Atlantic Front, Nov. 30 (Delayed) (A. P.).—French Marines have secured the release of seventeen American prisoners of war who were shot down in a troop carrier plane last October 28 off the Port of La Rochelle, which still is in German hands. The exchange was made November 23, but the Americans did not reach Nozay until last night. Fourteen were infantry replacements en route to Italy.

The big C-47, flying blind, ran into concentrated anti-aircraft fire while trying to find a landing ground in a fog.

"Tracers began to cut the ship to pieces," said Corporal Eugene Westhovern, crew chief, of Compton, Cal. "The tail was shot away and almost simultaneously the left motor was torn loose and fell into the sea."

The pilot, who was killed a few moments later, managed to bring the ship down at sea, about a mile off shore. German craft immediately pulled up to them and hauled the struggling men from the water.

"But before they would touch us they asked if we were English or American," said Private Ray Tanner of Binghamton, N. Y. "We all yelled, American. Later I asked the guard why they asked if we were Americans, and the guard replied: 'If you'd been English, they'd have machine-gunned you in the water.'"

Private Tanner said the Germans held a machine pistol to each man's head as they asked whether he was American or British.

Europe Troop Burden Held Okay With U.S.

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—The United States appears to be satisfied with the sharing of Allied fighting strength on the Western front.

On that front, where the world's greatest battle of attrition has developed, the United States apparently has committed more men and material than the other Allies in the theater.

Asked about this recently, Secretary of War Stimson replied that he is "convinced that all the Allies are contributing to the full measure of their resources."

Chiefs Of Staff Decide

The allocation of forces is a matter decided upon by the combined chiefs of staff of the United States and Great Britain. The War Secretary declined to discuss percentages of allocation, but available information today gives an indication.

On the Western front there are four American armies, one British, one Canadian and one French.

The situation in Italy, however, is reversed. There, Prime Minister Churchill reports, three quarters of the forces are British or British controlled. In Southeast Asia the number of American combatant troops is definitely in the minority. The heavy weight in the Pacific war is American.

One reason for the heavy preponderance of American forces over British forces in western Europe primarily is one of populations, military men say. The population of the United States is about 131,000,000, that of the United Kingdom about 46,000,000. The United Kingdom has provided about 4,500,000 or more than half of all the British Commonwealth's armed forces. United States armed forces now total about 11,000,000.

The recently published British White Paper reported that more than one third of all British men between 14 and 64 are in the armed forces. The proportion for the the same age group is less than one fourth.

A second reason is to be found in the fact that the Western front provides the closest and largest area to which United States forces can be sent.

More Casualties Expected

Because the United States has the greatest number of men deployed along the Western front, it is quite possible that this country will have the greatest number of losses in that grinding battle.

In five years of war, Britain's battle casualties total 563,000. In three years of global fighting, United States battle casualties are about 534,000. American casualties thus are overtaking the British casualties at an accelerating pace.

Nazi Defense Breaking? Where? Arnold Queries

Beverly Hills, Cal., Dec. 12 (AP)—Gen. Henry H. Arnold says he hates to hear stories that German defenses are crumbling.

"I'd like to know where they're crumbling," the Army Air Forces commanding general said at a press conference yesterday.

"We've attacked German factories, marshaling yards, canals, ballbearing plants, synthetic rubber and both natural and synthetic gasoline plants," he added.

"Darned Tough Babies"

"We've kept their force down to such small numbers that for months at a time some of our formations saw no planes at all. Meanwhile, thousands of our planes were in action.

"In spite of all this, the Germans still keep on fighting and they're darned tough babies. I don't think the war in Germany will end until we actually get to Berlin."

Predicts Long Jap War

Arnold assailed at national overoptimism and warned of a long fight against Japan. However, he said, "given time and the necessary planes, the Jap air force can be knocked down just as the German air force has been knocked down."

Japan's industrial area, he said, is concentrated mainly on one island, making it easier to bomb.

Flyers Drop In on Patton and Get Bronze Star

A United States Eighth Air Force Bomber Base, England, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Flying Fortress crews on a mission to Germany usually drop their bombs on the target and come right home. Lieut. Horace L. Spencer of Austin, Tex., and his men were different.

They stopped in for breakfast with Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr., picked up a Bronze Star apiece, and then came back—in the general's private plane.

German ack-ack had ruined two of the bomber's engines on the way to the target. The big fort circled out of formation a few miles behind the battle lines in German territory. The bombardier, Lieut. Harry J. McCrossen of Dallas, Tex., spotted a large German Army warehouse, called for a bomb run and scored a bull's eye. This lightened the load a little but the fort kept losing altitude. The navigator, Lieut. S. J. Abelman of Clearwater, Fla., decided to get back across the battle front and crash-land in friendly territory.

Sputtering along a few hundred feet off the ground, the bomber swooped over German front lines and drew a hail of pistol, rifle and machine gun fire.

The other two engines died and there was a scramble to bail out. Every one escaped but the 'chutes drifted down squarely between the American and German lines.

Sometimes running, sometimes crawling, the crew worked toward the American lines until they bumped into a Third Army patrol sent out to rescue them.

——morning the men had ——st with Gen. Patton, who decorated each with the Bronze Star for blowing up the Nazi storehouse and sticking it out until they reached the safety of American lines.

They were flown to their base in England a few hours later in the General's plane.

Other members of the crew were Lieut. Paul K. Ruth, co-pilot, of Santa Monica, Cal.; Gunner Sergts. Tom E. Jenkins, Cherry Valley, Ark.; John Houk, Riverside, Cal.; Jack Spratt, Cincinnati, Ohio; John Hensley, Springdale, Ark., and Leslie Spillman, Brownsville, Ky.

Nine Frenchmen Sentenced To Die

Paris, Dec. 12 (AP)—The famous Paris guillotine may be uncrated for the execution of Charles Bony, Henri Lafont and seven other French members of the Gestapo who were sentenced to death today for working for the Germans during the Nazi occupation.

Previously idle because of transportation difficulties while executions were carried out by firing squads, the guillotine may be used on the nine defendants who were accused of a series of murders, kidnapings, tortures, extortions and robberies in the guise of political activity. Some of them were accused of working for the Nazis in German uniforms.

One Accused Died In Prison

Twelve men were accused. The two youngest defendants, both aged 20, were given life imprisonment at hard labor. The twelfth, Edmond de le Haye, died today in Fresnes prison of an acute attack of diabetes just a few hours before the climax of the trials.

The newly established second collaboration court sentenced Amar Kheder, an Algerian, to hard labor for life for collusion with the Germans. Long an anti-French agitator, Kheder was interned in 1940 but released by the Nazis. He was accused of circulating pro-Nazi propaganda among North Africans in France.

9 FRENCHMEN TO DIE

Paris, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Nine members of the French Gestapo were sentenced to death today for collusion with the Germans, and two 20-year-old defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor.

The nine condemned men included the ringleaders, Henri Lafonte and Charles Bony. A twelfth defendant, Edmond Delahaye, secretary to LaFonte, died in Fresnes Prison this morning a few hours before the verdict was announced. He had suffered an acute attack of diabetes in court yesterday.

The twelve prisoners were among a group of Frenchmen who worked for the Germans, some in German uniform, and throughout the occupation carried out a series of murders, kidnapings, tortures, extortions, and robberies under the guise of police activity.

Nazis Hint New Weapon Is Firing on Belgian Cities

Suggest Shorter and Thicker Projectiles May Be 'V-3'

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP).—The German radio hinted tonight that a new secret V-weapon—perhaps "V-3"—was being fired at Belgian cities.

The broadcast quoted "weel informed circles in Berlin" as stating that "the projectiles fired at Antwerp and Liege are noticably different from the flying bombs fired at London. They are said to be shorter and thicker and are thought to be a completely different weapon."

Berlin has hinted several times that "V-3" was ready for use, and New York was mentioned as a possible target. The broadcast may be manufactured propaganda, or a search for information.

Anti-aircraft guns on England's east coast threw out a barrage so terrific tonight that windows miles away vibrated. Several flying bombs were seen to explode.

Pastor Led Paratroops In Hymns In Normandy

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—A knapsack full of hymnbooks slung over his shoulder, the Rev. J. Fraser McLuskey parachuted into France deep behind the enemy lines soon after D-day, it was revealed here today.

The 6-foot-2-inch British pastor went among groups of special air service troops who also were operating behind the enemy lines and conducted services with men singing loudly in safe areas, and in whispers elsewhere. The favorite was "Stand Up for Jesus."

Except to say that the parachuting padre was specially trained for his mission, the Royal Air Force released no other details.

Nazi Party Property To Be Blocked: 'Ike'

New York, Dec. 12 (AP)—General Eisenhower said today in a proclamation broadcast to Germany that "the Allied Military Government proposes to block all property of the Nazi party, its leading officials and supporters," so that questions of ownership might be determined in an orderly manner.

This was the ninth in a series of proclamations directed to the Germans, explaining Allied plans for occupied Germany.

Promising that the property of the United Nations and their nationals would be protected, the statement said, present holders of blocked properties, "are required to hold and preserve them, subject to the instructions of the Military Government."

It added that attempts to conceal such blocked property or hinder the Military Government in preserving it for determination of its future use would result in severe penalties.

Von Rundstedt 69 Years Old Today

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—The Berlin radio sent greetings today to Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt, supreme commander of the German armies in the west, on the occasion of his 69th birthday and referred to him as "Gen. Eisenhower's great opponent."

Reich Rail System Is Held Devastated

Stockholm, Dec. 11 (AP)—The Allied air offensive against railways in western Germany has caused such widespread devastation and confusion that authorities have been obliged to requisition workers to keep supplies moving, an informant said today.

The battle of transport, however, now has turned against Germany to such an extent that Production Chief Albert Speer has admitted that it is vital to clear the skies of Allied aircraft.

"None of the makeshift methods by which the German *Reichsbahn* has been functioning so far is sufficient to meet the new crisis," the informant said. "The Allies are striking too often at too many vital railway points for the Germans to keep up with the damage.

Canal Loss Damaging

"The draining of the Dortmund, Ems and Mittelland canals through bombing attacks threw new burdens on the railways and the great battles on the Western front have demanded an increased flow of war goods.

"The desperate situation has resulted in an order to use streetcars in Berlin and other big cities for shunting freight between local stations."

THE MILEAGE TO BERLIN

By Associated Press.

Western Front: 301 miles (from near Duren).

Eastern Front: 304 miles (from north of Warsaw).

Hungarian Front: 420 miles (from near Budapest).

Italian Front: 551 miles (from north of Ravenna).

7 Ships Smashed At Leyte

Four Transports And Three Destroyers Caught on Way To Island.

50 JAP PLANES SHOT DOWN, TOO

Other Vessels Badly Damaged—U. S. Loses Eight Planes—Ormoc Position Being Consolidated.

By C. Yates McDaniel

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Wednesday, Dec. 13 (AP)—Three Japanese destroyers and four transports of an 11-ship convoy attempting to run reinforcements to beleaguered Nipponese troops on Leyte island, were sunk by American planes and PT boats Monday and Tuesday, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today.

One other enemy destroyer and two freighter-transports were so severely damaged in the 36-hour running fight they may have sunk. They were left dead in the water and burning, the communique said. Fifty Japanese planes were destroyed in the battle. The Americans lost eight.

Only One Escaped Unscathed

Only one Nipponese vessel, a destroyer, escaped unscathed from the fury of the Army Lightning fighters, Marine Corsairs and the speedy hard-hitting Navq PT boats. The battle occurred off the northwest coast of Leyte.

The convoy will be sadly missed by the Japanese ground troops who are being pushed into the northwest corner of Leyte island by American troops.

Some 30 Japanese planes attacked an American convoy returning from a supply run to Ormoc at dawn Sunday, but were met by Marine fighter planes which downed 11 of the enemy. The American supply ships suffered some damage, the communique said.

Late reports from western and northern Leyte showed little change in the ground war situation.

Americans Mopping Up

The Seventh and 77th U. S. divisions were mopping up and consolidating their positions around Ormoc, the west coast port town captured by the Yanks Sunday.

The 32nd division at the northern approaches to Ormoc valley was maintaining a steady, heavy pressure against tough artillery-backed Japanese opposition.

The Japanese convoy was first attacked at dawn Monday, as it was moving toward Leyte through the Visayan Sea.

By nightfall American bombs had sunk three of the six transports and two of the five escorting destroyers, after fighting off relays of enemy fighter planes which hovered over the ships throughout the day. The destroyed vessels were of 10,000, 5,000 and 4,000 tons.

American Sea Attack Resumed

The remaining enemy vessels were off the enemy's secondary reinforcement port of Palompon, northwest of fallen Ormoc, and were, in that harbor yesterday morning when the American attack was resumed.

The Navy PT boats caught and sank a 5,000-ton enemy cargo-transport out of the convoy Monday night.

Although troops were seen aboard the enemy vessels, the Americans believed that supplies and equipment bulked large in the cargoes. The Japanese had all night to unload the vessels which had survived the initial phase of the attack, but fliers over the scene yesterday saw little evidence either of men or materiel on the beach.

This was the ninth Japanese convoy to be intercepted and smashed by American planes and naval surface craft during the battle for Leyte. In these actions the enemy has lost a total of 39 transports and 28 escort vessels, mostly destroyers.

The communique also told of harassing American Liberator raids on Manila shipping Monday, and another blast by Liberator bombers at Borneo oil fuel and port areas Sunday.

Driven from their former supply base at Ormoc and deprived of the aid intended from the smashed convoy, the Japanese troops on Leyte face the concentrated pressure of American divisions seeking to eliminate the last enemy organized resistance on the island.

In front of the enemy force at its rear and on its eastern flank Yank spearheads were driving in for the kill. To the west was mountainous terrain, stretching for several miles to the coast.

Thus hemmed in, the Nipponese fought desperately, their supply port of Ormoc in American hands, its garrison wiped out, and a force of several thousands of Japanese annihilated south of Ormoc.

The remaining enemy force—except for isolated units scattered in the mountainous central backbone of Leyte—was jammed into the Ormoc corridor, the valley leading northward. In Ormoc and pressing northward to take the northern segment of the Yamashita defense line from the rear were the American 7th and 77th Infantry Divisions.

The 77th landed south of Ormoc less than a week ago, quickly seized Ormoc, destroyed its entire garrison in fighting of "the most desperate character" and effected a junction with the 7th, which had been advancing up Leyte's western coast.

Many Thousands Annihilated

Annihilated as it was trapped between the two divisions was a body of Japanese referred to by headquarters as "many thousands strong."

The 32nd Infantry Division surged southward in the corridor while units of the First (dismounted) Cavalry and other elements of the 24th Army Corps closed in on the enemy's eastern flank.

There was no estimate of the size of the Japanese force battling for its life in the corridor. Before Ormoc was sealed off, however, 35,000 enemy reinforcements had been sneaked into Leyte through that gateway. These were not enough to replace casualties, estimated by headquarters on Nov. 20 to have passed 45,000.

How long the Japanese can hold out in the corridor probably will be determined by the weather. Continuing tropical rains have made ground conditions almost impassable. Under normal conditions these storms should be lifting.

There was a possibility that the enemy could receive help through the port of Palompon, on the western coast of the island shoulder. However, Leyte-based American planes have been bombing and strafing the port for several weeks, blasting installations and sinking or damaging enemy shipping. A winding, mountain road connects the port with the Ormoc corridor.

Fresh Air Assaults

MacArthur's Wednesday communique told of fresh air assaults on airdromes and shipping in the central Philippines and as far away as Rabaul, with airdrome runways effectively cratered and two small freighters sunk.

For the second straight day heavy bombers struck petroleum installations at Tarakan and Borneo. Seventy-two tons of bombs were dropped on tank farms, and great fires and explosions resulted. Storage tanks at Miri also were hit, as well as Borneo waterfront facilities at Brunei Bay.

The heaviest bomb load, 129 tons, was planted on Mandurriao airdrome on Panay Island in the central Philippines.

Crack Jap Unit Wiped Out

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 12 (AP) — Japan's bloody but vain defense of Ormoc took on the proportions of an annihilation today as headquarters reported thousands of crack imperial troops wiped out in a deadly trap just south of the Leyte Island port city.

Doughboys of the 77th and 7th Infantry Divisions effected a junction just south of Ormoc on Monday and eradicated the 26th Nipponese Division, hopelessly trapped by Yank landings on the coast below Ormoc on Thursday.

Garrison Destroyed

Other units of the 77th meanwhile destroyed the entire garrison at Ormoc, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

Annihilation of the Japanese in the Ormoc sector eliminated the southern segment of the Yamashita Line. While MacArthur did not specify the number of enemy troops wiped out, he said that "many thousands" were in the narrowing pocket.

Great stores of equipment and supplies were captured.

Reinforcement Base

Ormoc, which the 77th Division entered Sunday, was an important base of reinforcement for Japanese fighting in the Ormoc corridor to the north, where bloody engagements have continued for weeks.

With Ormoc taken, the Americans turned more power to the task of clearing the enemy from the mountainous northwest shoulder of Leyte Island.

Terrain still was virtually impassable, but MacArthur reported his 32d Division was "slowly surging forward" against enemy positions in the rugged corridor, which runs from Ormoc to Carigara Bay.

Found Well-Entrenched

[NBC Correspondent George Thomas Folster said the 77th and 7th divisions found the Japanese well entrenched at Ormoc. He broadcast:

["The enemy had automatic weapons at street intersections, snipers on rooftops and sharpshooters hidden under houses. Taking Ormoc was not the easy matter that taking Tacloban on the east coast was."]

Associated Press Correspondent Alva N. Dopking, who was with the 7th Division, wrote that the Japanese abandoned ammunition dumps and supplies as they retreated.

Some Of Best Troops

Dopking said the Japanese in the trap between the 7th Division and the 77th were "some of the Japanese imperial army's best—not garrison troops encountered in Central Pacific atolls."

"Meanwhile, American bombers scored effective sweeps of the Central Philippines and beyond, cratering airdrome runways and blasting harassed shipping.

The most spectacular single strike was the 79-ton bombing of petroleum installations at Tarakan and Balikpapan on Borneo, where direct hits burst pipelines and storage tanks, flooding the area with flaming oil. A freighter was sunk offshore.

Patrol planes made a night harassing raid on Japanese shipping in Manila harbor.

M'Arthur Presents C.M.H. To Bong

An American Airbase on Leyte, Dec. 12 (AP)—America's ace fighter pilot, Major Richard I. Bong, of Poplar, Wis., was presented the Congressional Medal of Honor today by Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Standing alongside an airstrip in a downpour of rain, MacArthur pinned the nation's highest award on the 24-year-old flyer.

Credited With 38 Planes

The fighter ace now has 38 planes destroyed to his credit.

In making the presentation, MacArthur said: "Of all military attributes, that one which arouses the greatest admiration is courage. It is the basis of all successful military ventures. Our forces possess it to a high degree and various awards are provided to show the public's appreciation.

"The Congress of the United States has reserved to itself the honor of decorating those among all who stand out as the bravest of the brave.

"Noble Category"

"It's this high and noble category, Bong, that you now enter as I pin upon your tunic the Medal of Honor. Wear it as a symbol of the invincible courage you have displayed so often in mortal combat.

"My dear boy, may a merciful God continue to protect you is the constant prayer of your old commander in chief."

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Seventh Has No Illusions That Leyte Fight Is Over

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By Alva N. Dopking

With the 7th Division at Leyte, Dec. 11 (*AP—Delayed*)—In a relentless ground push, closely coordinated with artillery fire, the 7th Division gave the Japanese no rest today as its elements forged a link with the 77th Division south of Ormoc.

However, these seasoned fighters are not lulling themselves into the belief that the battle of Leyte is over. Most of them still think that the Japanese has one good scrap left in him here.

Japs Leaving Artillery

During the past three days, Maj. Gen. A. V. Arnold's hard-fighting doughboys have advanced nearly six miles to the north and now they are so close behind the enemy that he is abandoning artillery pieces as he retreats.

A unit led by Lieut. Col. Francis T. Pachler, of Tampa, Fla., overran a Japanese artillery position in the foothills, capturing nine of his heavy guns. The Japanese left so hurriedly they did not have time to take their horses

Waist-Deep Streams

Today's fighting was tough. The 7th Division pushed on in a driving rainstorm, fording streams sometimes waist-deep and so swift that infantrymen were almost swept downstream toward the Camotes Sea.

Twice in the past two days, the Japanese have attempted to make a stand, but each time their defense has crumbled under infantry and artillery pounding.

The enemy dead are piled high in Gungab, a coastal village seven miles south of Ormoc, where artillery batteries of Brig. Gen. Leroy J. (Jake) Stewart caught Japanese in a surprise night barrage. Five hundred enemy dead were counted in this little village of nipa and frame huts, which was practically leveled.

A patrol of the 7th Division made contact with the 77th Division late last night after a three-mile hike through country which only a few hours before was held by the enemy. Strong elements secured the link.

Japs Seek To Escape Trap

More ammunition and supply dumps were found today, indicating that the prime objectives of the remnants of the 26th Division of the Imperial Japanese Army is to escape being trapped between the two American forces and to rejoin other enemy forces, probably for a last stand in the peninsula in the western part of the island, north of Ormoc Bay.

The fighting continues to be pocket by pocket and from ridge to ridge inland within the shadows of mountains covered with rain and forests. These veteran 7th Division men fought in Attu and Kwajalein.

A CHICAGO BEAR LED ATTACK

With the Seventh Division on Leyte, Philippines, Dec. 10 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Troops led by Major Delbert L. Bjork, of Astoria, Ore., a former Chicago Bears football player spearheaded the attack of the Seventh Division in tightening the noose on the Japs near Ormoc.

Counterattack Reported

San Francisco, Dec. 12 (*AP*)—Japanese troops in the Ormoc sector "are carrying on a fierce counterattack against enemy forces which since the morning of December 9 advanced northwestward from Ipil along the coast of Ormoc Bay," the Japanese Domei news agency asserted today. The dispatch was without Allied confirmation.

Planes Again Hit Iwo Jima

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 12, (*AP*)—Liberator bombers of Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's newly organized strategic air force struck Iwo Jima island in the Volcanos Saturday and Sunday, maintaining the heavy aerial pressure on that enemy base 725 miles north of Saipan.

The Liberators, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported today, ran into moderately intense anti-aircraft fire Sunday and eight were damaged. Al lreturned, however, to Saipan, which is the Marianas base that mounts superfortress raids on Japan.

Two enemy interceptors were seen in the air but they did not press an attack.

Saturday's raid was made by a single Army bomber.

Navy search planes struck at harbor installations at Chichi Jima, in the Bonins onrth of Iwo, on Saturday. Other aerial action included an attack by Marine fighters and bombers the same day on the airstrip and other installations on Babelthuap island inthe Palaus, Western Carolines.

Tokyo Says Bombs Hit Palace Grounds

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 13—A Tokyo home broadcast recorded in Melbourne, Australia, said today that bombs had fallen recently in the Imperial Palace grounds, damaging a manor house.

Only a few days ago photographs taken from United States Superfortresses and published in the United States disclosed that the B-29's had flown squarely over the palace, but there was no indication that it was a target for bombing.

The precincts of the palace of Emperor Hirohito, never open to sightseers, consist of an inner enclosure and outer gardens, the inner enclosure being jealously guarded against intrusion by unauthorized persons.

DEC 13 1944

Japs Report Tokyo Raids

(By the Associated Press)

Another incendiary bomb attack on Tokyo Tuesday night (Japanese time) by American Super fortresses was reported by the Nippon radio as other Axis sources said evacuation of non-essential workers from the city was proceeding.

The Tokyo broadcast, picked up by the Federal Communications Commisison and lacking American confirmation, said "one or two" B-29s from the Marianas islands (Saipan) roared over the city at 7:00 p. m. (5 a. m., Tuesday, EWT) unloaded incendiaries "in two or three places" and then "fled toward the southeastern sea."

Prior to the actual bombing the Japanese said other B-29s were over Japan three times between midnight Monday and 5 a. m. Tuesday (Japanese time). Tokyo claimed all these planes "fled southward apparently without dropping any bombs." These flights it added, were over the Tokaido district and Shizuoka prefecture. The latter region was hit by earthquake and tidal wave last week.

The Tokyo evacuation report, broadcast by the German radio, said 20,000 persons—old, infirm, children and expectant mothers, were due to leave the city Tuesday. Evacuation of non-essential residents from Tokyo began last Summer.

B-29's Drop Incendiaries On Tokyo, Japs Say

San Francisco, Dec. 12 (*AP*)—Tokyo Radio reported American Superfortresses dropped incendiary bombs "in two or three places" tonight (Japanese time.)

Recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, the broadcast said it was the fourth incursion over Tokyo by the Superforts today.

Between midnight and 5 A.M., Superfortresses from the Mariana Islands made three incursions into Japan, Radio Tokyo's earlier announcement said.

The earlier broadcast said that "all the planes fled southward, apparently without dropping any bombs."

After Radio Tokyo reported to the Japanese people that "a small number of B-29's" had "raided the Japanese mainland in several waves," it added:

"About midnight, one or two planes appeared off the mainland and another plane came over the Tokaido district.

Single Planes Reported

"In addition, shortly after 3 A.M. a single plane appeared over the Shizuoka Prefecture area and shortly after 5 A.M. another single plane came over the Tokaido area."

The Shizuoka area was badly shaken up by last week's earthquake and a resultant tidal wave which covered houses with water. Hence the flight may have been for photographic purposes to get information on the damage.

No mention was made of any Japanese fighter interception.

108½-Hour-Week

A dispatch from Domei, Japanese news agency, told how, in an effort to increase war-goods production, Japanese workers at a Tokyo war plant have pledged to work 108½ hours weekly—from 7.30 A.M. to 11P.M., seven days a week.

The dispatch, recorded here, added that the workers had set themselves to increase production by 80 per cent.

Wooden Boring Machines

Hampered by a shortage of iron, Japanese industrial engineers "have hit upon the idea of producing wooden boring machines" and their experiments have been rewarded with "amazing success."

Domei, reporting a description of the machine, said "the greater part of the body and pulleys of this wooden boring machine is made of hard wood. Iron is employed only for the shaft and the chucks."

Colonists For Manchuria

Air-raid costumes are being worn as wedding outfits by couples being married en masse at Tokyo before being sent to occupied Manchuria to take up farming as "colonists," another Japanese radio report recorded here declared.

The broadcast said that twelve couples were united at the third mass wedding, held December 6.

There will be no decree limiting the use of electricity on the main island of Honshu during December, the Japanese radio announced in another broadcast. Heavier-than-normal rainfall was the reason electricity was not limited, the broadcast said.

TOKYO STARTS CIVIL EXODUS

Berlin Report Says War Workers Must Remain

R. WHEELER

London, Dec. 12 (*AP*)—The Japanese have started a mass evacuation of nonessential civilians from bombed and blacked-out Tokyo, the Berlin radio reported today.

There was no confirmation directly from Tokyo, but a broadcast from the Japanese capital declared American Superfortresses dropped incendiary bombs tonight (Japanese Time) in the fourth appearance of the sky giants over Tokyo in one day.

A German Transocean dispatch from Japan said 20,000 persons had been ordered to leave the capital today.

Aged And Infirm First

The dispatch added that measures were "progressing according to plan" for evacuation of Tokyo, which is being bombed by Saipan-based Superfortresses.

First to go were the aged and infirm, children and expectant mothers, Berlin said. There was no indication whether Emperor Hirohito and his household would flee to safer quarters, or whether changes were contemplated in plans for a meeting of the Japanese Diet in Tokyo December 24.

"No workers in war industry, transport and press may leave Tokyo, however, as special permits are required by the police," Transocean said. "Neither can workers in the essential industries (gas, water and electricity, doctors, chemists and nurses). The civil defense forces must also stay."

"Battle Of Japan"

The Japanese capital, bombed first by Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle's raiders April 18, 1942, had been under almost incessant attack from Saipan since November 25, when the Superfortresses opened "the battle of Japan." The Saipan base was cleared of the Japanese only last July.

Since November 25 scarcely a day has passed without United States or Tokyo reports of Superfortresses attacking the Tokyo area by day or night.

The first raids found the city brightly lighted, but Japanese quickly ordered their capital blacked out, and the Tokyo radio said intensified measures were being studied to enable the Diet to continue functioning without interruption "under all circumstances."

Fund For Workers

A later Tokyo domestic broadcast said the Japanese Munitions and Welfare Ministries have established a "guaranteed allowance" for war workers whose families suffer casualties during air-raids. War workers with such protection, Tokyo said, could "forge ahead for production without anxiety about their homes."

The allowances will cover "air defense, money for condolence for the dead, a sympathy sum for the wounded."

DEC 13 1944

20,000 Set To Leave Jap Capital Today, Berlin Says

DEC 13 1944

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Berlin radio said that evacuation of nonessential workers from Tokyo was proceeding, with a contingent of 20,000 planning to leave the city of 7,000,000 today.

Plans to evacuate several districts had been announced previously by Tokyo.

"Measures for the evacuation of Tokyo are progressing according to plan," the Berlin radio asserted. "Twenty thousand persons will leave the capital on Tuesday, especially the old and infirm, as well as children and expectant mothers."

"No workers in war industry, transport and press may leave Tokyo, however, as special permits are required by the police. Neither can workers in the essential industries (gas, water and electricity, doctors, chemists and nurses). The civil defense forces must also stay."

The broadcast, quoting a Transocean dispatch, said that American bombers had appeared over Tokyo again today, apparently from the Marianas bases, but had dropped no bombs. A second group of bombers was reported over the capital tonight, dropping incendiary bombs.

Sea And Air Role In Pacific Seen For Britain

DEC 13 1944

Melbourne, Dec. 12 (AP)—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander of the new British Pacific Fleet, indicated here today that Britain's contribution in the war against the Japanese in the Pacific would best be confined to sea and air support.

The British admiral, who commanded the British fleet units that sank the German battleship Scharnhorst, made his comment in reply to a question in an interview whether British soldiers were coming to the Pacific.

View In England Quoted

He said the view in England was that the best contribution Britain could make would be a navy supported by air, that supply arrangement would become too complicated if troops were sent, too.

He expressed the belief that a concentration of fleets in the Pacific would have considerable effect on shortening the war because Japan is dependent on sea power and aircraft.

One effect of this marshaling of sea power in the Pacific probably would be that the Japanese Navy would not seek to engage the Allied warships but would retire and retire, the admiral said.

"But if she does retire," Sir Bruce continued, "he (Japan) will still be dependent on transport and his supply problems will become more acute. He has got to supply his army in Burma."

To Work Under Nimitz

Sir Bruce said all his future arrangements depended upon his seeing Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, American Pacific Fleet commander, under whose jurisdiction he would operate.

"I've got to see what he wants to do," the admiral said. "He may say he'd like to have me detach forces to support General MacArthur or he may say detach the whole fleet for that purpose. Administration and command of the British Pacific Fleet will come under me."

He asserted that one of the main reasons the British fleet was in Australian waters was to make contact between the British and Australians. Another was that the Japanese fleet has retired from the Indian Ocean and, therefore, the British fleet must move closer to the enemy.

Battleships And Carriers

Admiral Fraser said his fleet would include heavy battleships, aircraft carriers and necessary equipment for supporting landings.

[Giving further details about his fleet, Admiral Fraser disclosed that it would include four "N" and two "Q" destroyers manned by Australians, men from his old home fleet and his former Eastern command, and mine sweepers made in Australia and manned by Australians, Reuter reported.]

The new British fleet was put into operation later than originally planned, Fraser declared, because of congestion arising from manpower difficulties in England and the need for concentrating on repair and maintenance of landing craft used in the invasion of France.

Commenting earlier on the arrival of the Royal Navy ships in the Pacific zone, a ranking admiral representing Admiral Fraser said Australia will be the British Pacific Fleet's base as Pearl Harbor is America's.

Demands On Australia

He said that heavy demands would be made on Australia for the British Pacific Fleet's support.

That support, he said, will be dock and depot facilities and food. Approximately $41,000,000 will be spent by June on services and supplies for the fleet, he said.

As well, important capital works costing another $41,000,000 will be available, including the Sydney graving dock which when completed soon will be the biggest and most modern in the Southern Hemisphere.

Howe Is Flagship

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—One of this nation's most powerful warships—the 35,000-ton battleship Howe—has been assigned as flagship of Britain's new Pacific fleet now being assembled in Australian waters for action against Japan.

The Howe, commissioned in 1942, carries a main battery of ten 14-inch guns and is heavily armored. Lessons learned in aerial warfare early in the war were incorporated in her construction.

Mars Makes New Record

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Navy's gigantic flying boat Mars flew more than 23,600 miles in November, breaking all its previous records, the Pacific wing of the Naval Air Transport said today.

Seven round trips between San Francisco and the Hawaiian Islands were made during the month, and more than 300,000 pounds of cargo were carried.

DEC 13 1944

New Zealand Offers British Orphans Refuge

Wellington, New Zealand, Dec 12 (AP)—New Zealand would consider sympathetically any plan for the migration of British war orphans here, Prime Minister Peter Fraser told the House of Representatives today.

He said New Zealand has opened discussions of the matter with the British Government.

Jap Premier Prays For Leyte Victory

By The Associated Press

The Japanese agency Domei said in a Tokyo radio broadcast today that Premier Kuniaki Koiso visited Nippon's famous Ise shrine and offered special prayer for victory in the battle of Leyte.

Domei quoted the premier as saying the Leyte battle "will decide the fate of the Greater East Asia war." He added, "We will certainly win the war. . . . I, Koiso, will march ahead toward the successful consummation of the war and reaffirm my faith in our ultimate victory."

The broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said the premier visited the shrine to pray on the anniversary of Emperor Hirohito's 1942 trip to Ise, at Ujiyamada, almost 200 miles southwest of Tokyo.

Nimitz Moving To Guam?

New York, Dec. 12—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, United States Pacific Fleet commander, "will soon move his headquarters from Pearl Harbor to Guam, which will be the headquarters for the future offensive against Japan," the Australian radio reported today in a dispatch from Guam, CBS recorded the broadcast.

Tokyo Claims Prisoners Hit

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Tokyo radio said today some bombs dropped in an American Superfortress raid on the Mukden area of Manchuria on December 7 fell on a prisoner-of-war camp, killing sixteen American and British prisoners and fatally wounding eighteen more. Twenty-three others were reported hurt.

The broadcast was without Allied confirmation.

JAP RADIO TALKS OF 108-HOUR WEEK

In an effort to increase war goods production Japanese workers at a Tokyo war plant have pledged to work 108½ hours weekly—from 7:30 A. M. to 11 P. M., seven days a week— Japanese News Agency Domei said today. The dispatch, intercepted by the Federal Communications Committee, added that the workers had set themselves to increase production by 80 per cent.

Hampered by a shortage of iron, Japanese industrial engineers "have hit upon the idea of producing wooden boring machines" and their experiments have been rewarded with "amazing success," Demei reported. A description of the machine said that "the greater part of the body and pulleys of this wooden boring machine is made of hard wood. Iron is employed only for the shaft and the chucks."

There will be no decree limiting the use of electricity on the main island of Honshu during December, the Japanese radio also announced today. The Federal Communications Commission also recorded their broadcast which said that heavier-than-normal rainfall was the reason for no limit on electricity.

Japan Radio Predicts Poor U.S. Christmas

San Francisco, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Japanese-controlled Singapore radio said Tuesday that "rich" America will have a very poor Christmas because of liquor, cigarette and sugar shortages.

The broadcast, reported by OWI, pictures Americans as experiencing cigaretteless days and added "girls who used to smoke a lot are now obliged to resort to chewing gum."

Nazi Line Northeast Of Budapest Opened

Russians Capture Rail Fortress of Godollo—Vanguards Reported in Eastern Suburbs Of Capital—Sajoszentpeter, Road Junction, Taken.

DEC 13 1944

By W. W. Hercher

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 13 (AP)—The Red Army ripped open a wide gap in the enemy's defense lines northeast of Budapest yesterday with the capture of the rail fortress of Godollo, while bayonet-fighting Russian vanguards were reported fighting the Germans in the eastern suburbs of the bombed, shell-torn capital.

Bulletin Supplement

The supplement to the Soviet war bulletin said the swiftly-retreating Germans abandoned 400 dead on the approaches to Godollo, 10 1-2 miles from the capital and the last major enemy bastion controlling the entrances from that direction.

The communique did not confirm the entrance into the Budapest suburbs, reported in earlier Moscow dispatches. A German military commentator admitted a "great breach in our lines," but claimed it had been sealed off later.

Besides the announced advance in that direction, however, it also listed the capture of Sajoszentpeter, important road junction 10 miles north of Miskolc, 85 miles northeast of Budapest, and named 10 other towns captured in that area.

These included Berente, only 11 miles from the border of central Slovakia; and indicated a drive northwest up the Sajo river, outflanking the big bastion of Kassa, leaving it behind on the northeast.

Hegymeg Falls

This drive also toppled Hegymeg, 16 miles north of Miskolc and 31 miles southwest of Kassa. The northern offensive, coupled with the push to the Slovak border north of Budapest, gave rise to reports that the entire liberation of Czechoslovakia was high on the Russian agenda.

The Soviet government newspaper Izvestia declared, "complete liberation of the Czechoslovak republic is near," and Lt. Col. Alfred von Olberg, military analyst for the German news agency Transocean, commented that the Russians had not given up their aim to capture Slovakia "very soon."

There has been no mention in the Moscow communiques recently of action on Gen. Ivan Petrov's Fourth Ukraine Army front.

The Russians captured Locz, 36 miles northeast of Budapest, as they lengthened their front along the Slovak frontier in that sector to more than 27 miles. Locz was

(Continued on Page Five)

captured in a four-mile advance from Varsany that also took in Rimocz.

Nazis Captured

The communique said that Sunday and Monday Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army captured 1,850 German and Hungarian officers and men, bringing the total for the seven days from Dec. 5-11 to 7,450 in the fighting in the Budapest area and to the north.

The Russians said they destroyed or disabled 43 German tanks Monday, and brought down 32 enemy planes, indicating the ferocity of the clashes between Soviet and Nazi armored tanks and planes in the battle for Budapest.

The violence of the attack and the gloomy tone of German broadcasts indicated that the Hungarian apital's hours were numbered. There was no direct evidence as yet that the Germans were abandoning the city, which is under assault from three sides.

A war reporter for the German Transocean agency declared that Soviet guns had been pumping shells into the capital for the last 36 hours.

"They fall on hotel terraces, houses and squares and into the Danube," he said. "Flames color the gray December sky blood red."

Paris Radio

The Paris radio reported violent fighting in the Kispest suburban district just southeast of Budapest.

German broadcasts said Soviet planes were dropping bombs on the center of the city. Previous Russian and American air attacks had been aimed at the industrial outskirts.

A broadcast Moscow report by a correspondent for the Soviet Army newspaper Red Star declared that a breach through which the Russians were pouring into the industrial area northeast of Budapest "is like a gate cut in a compact wall of defenses."

Now that the Russians had rammed through the defenses, "all these empty fortifications stretch out dejectedly in the rear," the correspondent added. He said enemy losses were heavy as the Germans were forced to use tactical reserves.

Moscow said the Germans had built a rigid anti-tank ring around the city on the east bank of the Danube, anchored in Ujpest on the north and stretching to the town of Csepel at the tip of the Danube island of Csepel on the south.

Hungarians Fight

Archduke Robert, brother of the pretender to the Austro-Hungarian throne, said in London that according to reports reaching him from Budapest, patriot forces were battling the Germans in various sections of the capital.

Unconfirmed Stockholm advices quoting arrivals from Budapest said patriots held sections of the working class districts of the city.

While the battle raged for the Hungarian capital, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army also spread a trap for German and Hungarian formations still in the hills to the northeast.

His troops advanced north of the captured rail junction of Miskolc northeast of Budapest, and north of Budapest to the central Slovak frontier. These operations threatened Germans fightir / in eastern Slovakia and pointed toward the Slovak capital of Bratislava and Vienna itself.

BULLETIN.

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Russian storm troops have seized Godollo, last big railway junction and fortified town northeast of Budapest, ten and one-half miles from the Hungarian capital, Moscow announced tonight.

DEC 13 1944

Russian Tank Forces Battle Into Suburbs of Budapest

GILMORE

Another Red Column Smashes Toward Vienna and Bratislava in Drive North of Flaming Hungarian Capital.

Moscow, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Russian tanks battled into the northern suburbs of Budapest today, while another powerful Soviet column drove westward past the great bend of the Danube above the city toward Bratislava and Vienna, Russian dispatches said.

The main body of motorized Russian infantry driving down the Danube upon Budapest was declared within full view of the capital, and tank units ranged on ahead.

Hastily-reinforced German garrisons suffered high casualties in embittered, short-range fighting, and there were increasing bayonet clashes in the outer anti-tank zone, it was announced.

The Soviet communique announced total gains of three miles and capture of the towns of Veresegyhaz and Szada, both eight and one-half miles northeast of the capital, by Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army.

Other Red Army troops edged in toward the capital from the east, south and southwest.

[The Paris and Algiers radios said the Russians had penetrated Budapest, but this report appeared without any foundation.]

DAY

Slovak Front Extended.

Marshal Malinovsky's northern army swept around the great bend north of Szob. In gains of up to seven miles, the Russian front along the central Slovak border was extended to almost thirty miles. These advances put the Red Army troops within eighty-five miles of Bratislava, the Slovak capital, and 116 miles from Vienna.

On this front the Russians captured Hont, three miles west of the rail junction of Dregelypalank, taken Sunday, and also seized Varsany, eight and one-half miles southeast of Balassagyarmat, previously captured.

Front reports indicated that while the Budapest fighting was in the final stage there still would be much resistance. The Germans are said to have thrown up virtually the same kind of anti-tank ring about Pest, the part of the city east of the Danube, as they did around Sevastapol. On the north it hinges on the big suburban town of Uj Pest and on the south on the town of Csepel on the island of the same name.

LUCE

Polish Group Plans Regime To Carry Out Land Reform

Moscow, Dec. 12 (AP)—Boleslaw Berut, peasant-born president of the Polish National Council, predicted today that the new year would be ushered in by the formation of a provisional government of Poland dedicated to satisfying the land hunger of 8,000,000 landless peasants.

[The Soviet Government has sponsored the development of Berut's council with its seat at Lublin, Poland, and recent Moscow dispatches have indicated that a move to make it the provisional government of Poland was under way. Such a development probably would end all chance of an agreement between Lublin and the Polish Government in Exile in London.]

Major Task Of Council

Berut said the construction of the provisional government would be the major task before the 120 deputies at the next session of the National Council.

Weighing his words carefully, the 52-year-old leader of the Lublin régime answered every question put to him in an interview in a modest room in a downtown Moscow hotel. Small, round-faced, with thin, blondish hair brushed back in a straight pompadour from his high forehead, Berut spoke forcefully of Poland's future.

"We are gathering forces for a new liberation offensive in Poland in which the Red Army will be aided by Polish troops, and especially by the Polish 1st Army, which already has had valuable battle experience," he said.

[He referred to the Polish force under Maj. Gen. Zygmunt Berling, which was raised, trained and outfitted in Russia and has fought beside the Red Army.]

Hope To Free West Poland

"We hope that western Poland will be freed from the Germans in the next few months," he said.

Asked whether he saw any possibility of the Poles of the London exiled Government resuming relations with Russia, broken since 1943, Berut replied:

"They hate the Soviet Union because they represent the Polish landowners and nobility under Raczkiewicz (Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, president of the London régime), who bases his authority on the 1935 constotution which set up a dictatorship.

This nobility once possessed large estates in Soviet territory of the Ukraine, White Russia and Lithuania. (Prewar Poland included areas which Soviet Russia has now incorporated into those three Soviet Republics.) They wish to get back these lands and therefore will intrigue constantly for a future war against the Soviet Union."

Depends On Mikolajczyk

I asked Berut whether Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, who resigned recently as Premier of the London Polish régime, would be welcomed back to Poland under the prospective provisional government.

"Everything depends on Mr. Mikolajczyk himself," he replied. "We have met and talked together twice in Moscow. He assured me often he agreed with the policy and work of the Polish Committee of National Liberation, [illegible] group), but still felt himself incapable of breaking with the 1935 constitution because of certain obligations it imposed on him.

"He also said that agrarian reform, which is a most important matter, should be put into effect not now but after the war.

Did Not Accept Offer

"He was offered the post of Premier in our Government but he did not avail himself of this offer. On the contrary, friends of Mikolajczyk and sympathizers of the exiled Government have waged a violent struggle in Poland against the Committee of National Liberation."

Although much of Warsaw now is destroyed by the Germans, Berut declared it would again become the capital of Poland as soon as the section on the west bank of the Vistula is liberated.

Berut said redistribution of the land was the paramount task of Polish leadership along with intensifying the war against the enemy still occupying Polish territory.

Peasants 70 Per Cent

"The Polish peasants—70 per cent of the population—have been promised land reform since 1920, but only the Committee of National Liberation actually made a start toward this objective," he declared. "That is why our committee won the confidence of the masses, the peasants as well as the workers and the intelligentsia. Lack of land was the historical cause of Poland's poverty and her meager industrial development.

"There were 8,000,000 peasants who were landless or had only insignificant holdings. Peasant fathers had no land for their sons. The sons had to emigrate or beg for work in the cities. Poverty was severe. Poland was a backward country.

"Land reform now is being made the basis of future prosperity and progress."

Allied Planes Hit Industrial, Rail Targets

CHAMBERLAIN

U. S. Bombers Raid Frankfurt With 3,000 Tons.

DEC 13 1944

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 13. (AP)—The Allied air assault on Germany continued round-the-clock yesterday and last night, with the RAF joining American bombers from both Britain and Italy in a series of powerful blows at communications and industrial targets.

More than 3,000 tons of explosives were dumped by the U. S. Eighth Air Force alone on battleline rail facilities in the Frankfurt area during the day in a massive operation from which nine bombers and nine fighters were reported missing Most of the fighters were believed to have landed in friendly territory, however, and the day's loss was described as the smallest of the war for an attack in such strength—more than 2,100 bombers and fighters.

Last night a strong force of RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes blasted the great armament center of Essen and squadrons of Mosquitoes bombed Osnabruck, another steel center of the Ruhr.

Improved Weather

Improved weather permitted practically all the Allied air forces to go into action today, approximately 3,300 planes striking from bases in Britain, about 1,000 medium and fighter bombers operating from bases on the continent and an unknown number striking from Italian bases.

The RAF night armada comprised about 600 bombers and it also dropped an estimated total of 3,000 tons of explosives.

An RAF spokesman, stressing the importance of the attack on Essen, last hit by the RAF on Nov. 28, said the city still was a vital German supply base and communications center. He said the bombs were aimed particularly at the section of Essen south of the Krupp armament works which have been totally destroyed in previous attacks.

Italy-based bombers and fighters of the U. S. 15th Air Force flew through bad weather and attacked the huge synthetic oil refinery at Blechhammer in Southern Silesia.

During the afternoon a powerful force of RAF Lancasters, escorted by Mustangs, attacked the Ruhr industrial and railway city of Witten.

Flak Meager

Flak was meager, and except over Witten the Luftwaffe did not challenge the big bombers or their escorts. Mustangs guarding the RAF heavies there reported destruction of six enemy interceptors and damaging of others without loss to themselves.

An Air Ministry official said, "Witten, with a population of 70,000, is the only industrial city of any size in the Ruhr which has not been previously bombed by the RAF. It is now particularly important for military traffic to the front as it is a junction of two routes which the enemy will be using to bypass the main devastated areas."

The Allied fighters sighted some jet-propelled planes but they made no attempt to intercept the raiders.

Part of the huge U. S. Eighth Air Force formation of more than 1,250 Flying Fortresses and Liberators and their escort of 900 fighters continued to Merseburg, 125 miles northeast, after attacking the rail facilities feeding the Saar basin battle line at Frankfurt and Hanau, Darmstadt and Aschaffenburg, situated in a semicircle around Frankfurt. The great Leuna synthetic oil refinery is situated at Merseburg.

The bombing at Merseburg was by instrument but rail targets were bombed visually.

Second Day

It was the second successive day that the massed weight of Allied aerial strength in Europe has been hurled at Germany. Monday the Eighth Air Force sent out 1,600 bombers and more than 800 fighters in attacks on Frankfurt and Hanau. At the same time more than 500 bombers and 350 fighters from Italy bombed targets in Austria and the R. A. F. hit objectives in the Reich.

During the night Mosquitos bombed Hanover, Hamburg and targets in Western Germany.

The huge raids are part of the Allied strategy to break the back of the German war machine by wrecking its transport and fuel facilities.

"Our job now is to keep hitting them and destroying repairs as fast as the Germans make them," an air force staff officer said.

As the terrific bomb-loads smashed into their targets an air force spokesman said every synthetic oil plant in the Ruhr had been crippled and every main rail route to German defenses in the west had been severed in the past month's heavy bomber offensive.

In addition to the raids by the heavy bombers and their escorting fighters, the Allied tactical air forces in Western Europe and Italy attacked front line objectives in immediate support of the Allied armies.

ALLIES CONTINUE AIR OFFENSIVE

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Almost 1,300 American heavy bombers from Britain battered three German railheads and the Leuna synthetic oil plant at Merseburg today, while flying fortresses from Italy raided Blechhammer, site of a huge German synthetic fuel plant.

The Eighth Air Force heavyweights, escorted by strong fighter formations, hit railyards at Hanau, Aschaffensburg and Darmstadt.

The Fifteenth Air Force Fortresses from Italy bombed their oil target at Blechhammer in southern Silesia by instruments. It is the largest source of enemy synthetic oil production within range of the Fifteenth Air Force, and last was hit December 2.

The attack followed up a record assault by 4,000 bombers and fighters yesterday.

It was the ninteenth attack of the war on Merseburg's leading oil plant, the Leuna refinery Eighteen of them have been made in daylight by American heavy bombers. Today's attack was by instrument due to heavy clouds. All the rail targets were in the open and were hit visually.

All the bombers and most of the Mustang-Thunderbolt-Lightning fighter escort were from the Eighth Air Force.

All three heavy bombardment air forces participated in yesterday's assault with 10,000 tons of bombs—climaxing a campaign which has crippled synthetic oil production in the Ruhr and severed main rail routes to German defenses in the west.

"Our job now is to keep hitting them and destroying repairs as fast as the Germans can make them," a staff officer said.

15th At Work

Simultaneously, heavy bombers swept into Austria, Berlin said, indicating activity by the Italy-based United States 15th Air Force.

The two American battle fleets were still emptying their bomb bays when a third formation was reported entering western Germany, probably RAF Bomber Command Lancasters or Mosquitos.

Record Attack Yesterday

The Britain-based 8th sent 1,600 bombers aloft yesterday and, with an escort of 800 fighters, they smashed rail yards at Frankfurt, Hanau and Giessen. It was the largest single bomber fleet ever put in the air—twice the size of Germany's peak aerial effort in September, 1940, when 800 planes attacked London.

A force of 500 American heavy bombers from Italy hit an oil refinery and rail yards in Vienna and 500 British bombers attacked three fuel plants and a rail center in the Ruhr.

Mosquitos Return To Reich

Mosquito bombers returned to western Germany last night with blockbusters. Continent-based fighters and bombers got in 800 sorties against tactical targets before dark yesterday.

Allied air spokesmen announced that every synthetic-oil plant in the Ruhr had been crippled and every main-line rail route to German defenses in the west severed in the past month's heavy bomber offensive.

DEC 13 1944

Airmen Concentrate On German Routes

LONDON, Dec. 12, (AP)—The U. S. Eighth Air Force is now concentrating its attacks on principal southern routes now used by the Germans to bolster their western front positions, an air force staff officer said today.

Repeated heavy bombing attacks on Ruhr rail centers have forced the Germans to push nearly all their western front traffic from the industrial areas of central and northern Germany over the southern routes, he explained.

Traffic shunted around to the north of Hanau and Frankfurt must pass through Giessen, already hit twice this month by the Eighth. Traffic shunted to the south of Hanau must pass through Aschaffenburg and Darmstadt, today's targets. Both have relatively large railyards, and Darmstadt has the most extensive locomotive and railroad car repair facilities in that part of Germany.

"Attacks on these objectives, coupled with the successful attack on the rail hub of Stuttgart three days ago," added the staff officer, "immediately affect the supply and reinforcement of German forces facing the First and Third American armies."

U.S. Planes' Vapor Forms Rainbow

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—The huge American air fleet that blasted Germany yesterday left an odd straight-line rainbow in the sky as it returned to British bases.

Watchers near the Strait of Dover saw the phenomenon formed by vapor trails caught in the sun's rays.

V-Bombs Downed

LONDON, Dec. 12. (AP)—Coastal anti-aircraft batteries and night fighter planes teamed up to night to bring down several flying bombs over the east coast.

New Robot Barrage Hits England

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—The Germans launched another barrage of flying bombs against southern England during the night and the Government announced today that damage and casualties were caused.

Diplomats Discuss Germany's Control

DEC 13 1944

American Proposals for Abolition of War Industries and Regulation of Future Economy Before European Advisory Commission.

By John A. Parris, Jr.

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—American proposals for "complete and ruthless" abolition of German war industries and strict control of the country's future economy were reliably reported tonight to be under discussion by the European Advisory Commission as a part of a tough Allied plan to suppress Germany's aggressive powers forever.

American Proposals

U. S. Ambassador John G. Winant was understood to have presented to the commission two or more memoranda containing the American proposals for controlling future German industry, foreign and domestic trade.

Great Britain also was said to have presented her plans in the same field, but neither Russia nor France has submitted corresponding proposals. Moscow however, was understood to have given much study to the subject.

It was believed that France was waiting until Gen. De Gaulle had finished digesting his talks with Marshal Stalin before submitting plans so that they could harmonize with those of the Soviet Union.

Submission of the American proposals, which Winant was believed to have discussed with President Roosevelt and the State Department during his recent visit to Washington, marked the first time that any of the big powers formally had put forward any plans for future German economy.

Inter-Allied Committee

The Inter-Allied committee, composed of all the smaller United Nations, however, submitted proposals early this year for controlling and liquidating German economy.

In connection with the American proposals, U. S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius, appearing before a Senate caucus in Washington today, asserted that one of America's major objectives was to take effective steps to prevent Germany and Japan from again acquiring power to wage war.

Meanwhile, there was a growing belief in diplomatic quarters that Russia's proposals when presented to the European advisory commission would suggest that several million Germans be sent to the Soviet to help in the reconstruction of the country.

Understandably, the informant said, American proposals called for:

1. "Complete and ruthless" abolition of German war industries.
2. Wiping out the German aviation industry.
3. Control of German industries so that they could not dominate European economy.

General Feeling

There was a general feeling that the American proposals did not go nearly so far as the reported plan of Secretary Henry Morgenthau virtually to wipe out German industry and make Germany largely dependent upon its agriculture, a plan which coincided with that suggested by the Inter-Allied committee.

The Americans were believed to have suggested that it should be made impossible for German chemical industries to manufacture poison gas or similar weapons.

The proposals specified, however, that civilian requirements of medicines and drugs should be allowed. They added that the whole question of Allied control of the chemical industry, as in all other branches of industry, should be settled jointly by the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France.

American Plan

The American plan was said to grant a much greater latitude in Germany's future textile industries, since production would be for civilians.

Less is known about potential Allied control of Germany's foreign trade, but the American proposals were understood to favor "drastic supervision" of German imports, with a view to preventing Germany buying abroad raw materials adaptabile to strategic uses.

In this connection, it was recalled that the European advisory commission for several months has had under consideration plans for controlling German finance, both at home and abroad.

It was emphasized that all plans for dealing with postwar German economy must be extremely tentative until the physical condition of German factories is known at the end of the war.

Ending Nazi War Industry Called Goal Of U.S.

PARRIS

London, Dec. 12 (AP) — United States proposals for control of Germany were said by a reliable informant today to call for "complete and ruthless" abolition of German war industries and the wiping out of the Reich's aviation enterprises.

Other German industries would be controlled so completely that the Reich could never again dominate European economy.

Ambassador John G. Winant was reported reliably to have presented the European Advisory Council two or more memoranda containing the American proposals as part of the Allies' plan to prevent Germany from ever again waging war. Winant was believed to have discussed the data with President Roosevelt and the State Department during his recent visit to Washington.

Chemical Industry Control

The Americans were believed to have suggested that it should be made impossible for Germany's chemical industries to manufacture poison gas or similar weapons.

The proposals specified, however, that civilian requirements of medicines and drugs should be allowed, the informant said.

It was reported additionally provided that the whole question of Allied control of industry should be settled jointly by the United States, Britain, Russia and France.

Latitude For Textiles

The American plan was said to grant latitude in Germany's future textile industries, since production would be for civilian consumers.

The feeling here was that the American proposal did not go nearly so far as the plan of Secretary Morgenthau, which would have virtually wiped out German industry and made the country dependent largely upon agriculture.

Britain was understood to have presented her plans covering German industry, foreign and domestic trade.

No Russ, French Views Yet

Neither Russia nor France has submitted views. France was believed waiting until General de Gaulle finished digesting his talks with Premier Marshal Stalin, so as to harmonize French proposals with those of the Soviet Union.

The European Advisory Council was understood already to have started discussions on the American and British plans.

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Axis People Held Guilty For Leaders

J-K+NG

British Labor Party Declines Stand on German Dismemberment.

LONDON, Dec. 12. (AP)—Britain's powerful Labor Party hedged today on taking any stand on possible dismemberment of Germany after the war, but demanded that the German and Japanese people as a whole share the responsibility for the crimes of their war leaders.

A motion to place the party on record against cutting up Germany was sidetracked after Hugh Dalton, member of the Churchill coalition government, reminded the delegates that Marshal Stalin had "made it very clear that Russia was looking forward to certain readjustments in the east."

The tenseness turned to laughter when Dalton, who is president of the British Board of Trade, said, "All I ask this conference to do is not at this stage to line up against the views of Stalin on this point."

Russia Suggests

Russia has suggested that Poland be given part of East Prussia and access to the Baltic under a compromise agreement whereby the Soviet boundary would carry to the Curzon line.

Stalin has also indicated he would support French hopes for neutralizing the industrial German Ruhr and Saar under international control.

Earlier today, Britain's Laborite Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee personally moved adoption of the resolution serving notice to peoples that they would not escape "all responsibility for the crimes committed in their name". He demanded that they pay as much reparations as possible.

With the disarmament of Germany and Japan, Attlee said the keeping of the peace would be entrusted to a world security organiaztion built on close cooperation among the British Commonwealth, Russia and the United States but "embracing small as well as great nations."

Showdown Fight

Behind the scenes a showdown fight was shaping up on British policy in Greece and other liberated lands—a policy already challenged by several of the party's largest trade unions and due to be threshed out on the convention floor tomorrow.

A sharply worded resolution describing the British policy as "disastrous' was offered today by the Amalgamated Engineering Union, while the party's executive committee debated behind closed doors the draft of the motion it put forward.

The executive committee an-

nbounced the resolution it would sponsor tomorrow calls upon the British government "to take all necessary steps to facilitate an armistice without delay."

It urges "resumption of conversations between all sections of the people who have resisted the Fascist and Nazi invaders with a view to the establishment of a provisional government" which will hold a free general election as soon as practicable.

While the Laborites already have committed themselves to stay in Churchill's coalition government until victory in Europe was achieved, some delegates are demanding that the party wash its hands of the Churchill-proclaimed "intervention to keep peace" policy.

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'People Share War Guilt'

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Britain's Labor party declared today that the German and Japanese peoples must share responsibility for their leaders' crimes. The annual party conference voted this resolution despite some delegates' warning against any threat of vengeance that would stiffen Nazi resistance.

Lord Strabolgi, while supporting the convention's stand that "neither the German nor Japanese people as a whole can be acquitted of all responsibility," urged a more moderate Government policy "for the sake of quick victory."

"If you keep harping on unconditional surrender, you play right into the hands of Himmler and Goebbels and the rest of the Nazi leaders," he said. "You must give the German people some hope for the future."

Clement R. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the Labor party, led the fight for the resolution and contended it was "just and right" that the Germans and Japanese "should make what reparations and restitution possible."

Leaders blocked a motion to put the party on record against dismemberment of Germany.

Warns Against Stand

Hugh Dalton, president of the board of trade in the Churchill Government, cautioned against taking any such stand.

"Stalin has made it clear that he looks forward to certain adjustments in the east," Dalton said. "Are we quite sure that that is wrong?"

Murmurings were heard among some delegates and Dalton went on:

"Some are and some are not. All I ask this conference to do is not at this stage to line up against the views of Stalin at this point."

This was greeted with general laughter.

Asserting "we cannot and do not acquit the German and Japanese people of all responsibility," Mr. Attlee told the Labor party's annual conference:

"We believe that both these nations must be disarmed and deprived of power to start new wars, but if this is to be done effectively there must be an organization with power to enforce it."

Tito And Subasic Agree On Election

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Agreement on the formation of a united provisional Yugoslav government and for elections to a constituent assemby was announced tonight by the Yugoslav radio.

A communique said the agreement between Marshal Tito, commander of the National Army of Liberation, and Dr. Ivan Subasic, the Yugoslav Premier, was reached following talks in Belgrade.

The new Government will consist of representatives of all peoples and of all the federal units of Yugoslavia, the communique said.

The task of the new Government, the communique said, would be to organize the civic authorities throughout the country as soon as possible, to take steps for an economic revival and to prepare and conduct elections to a constitutional assembly.

No announcement was made of the composition of the provisional régime to be set up in the transitional period prior to the elections. There also was no reference to King Peter, whose return to the throne hinges on postwar elections.

TRI-POWER TALK PLANS UNDER WAY

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Without elaborating, a foreign office commentator said today that arrangements were being made for a new Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference. There are no plans for a meeting of the three countries' foreign ministers, he said.

German-Held British Islands to Be Supplied

LONDON, Dec. 12. (AP)—The Germans have granted safe conduct to relief ships carrying supplies to the British channel islands, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison said today.

Between 60,000 and 70,000 persons on the German-occupied islands are short of food and medical supplies.

The islands were bypassed when the Allies invaded the continent.

German, Jap Leaders Vow To Fight To End

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Messages in which the Foreign ministers of Germany and Japan vowed "to fight to the end" were exchanged yesterday on the third anniversary of the tripartite military pact.

The German radio, over which the messages were read, quoted Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop as admitting the Axis was hard-pressed, but declaring: "The Allies may throw fresh forces into the fray, but one day we are bound finally to break this onrush."

Foreign Minister Mamoru Shigemetsu said "our enemies are attacking with all their might—we all vow to fight to the end."

Benito Mussolini was quoted by the Berlin radio as saying he counted upon German aid "to defend Italy's skies now dominated by the Allies."

British Businessmen Make Trips To France

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Harcourt Johnstone, Government secretary for overseas trade, said today 519 British business men had formally applied for authority to go to France and 23 already had made the trip under visas issued by the French consulate. Of the remainder, Johnstone said his department had approved permits for 225 fa

Leaders Named Within Poland

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, president of the Polish republic, appointed tonight an acting deputy premier and three cabinet ministers inside Poland as the exiled, trouble-torn government here sought from the homeland's underground army a new guide on policy to strengthen its shaky standing.

A communique issued by the Polish government said the deputy premier and three cabinet ministers, whose names were not disclosed because of security, already were peforming their duties, and that all were well-known members of the underground movement.

The statement said the acting deputy premier was known in the Polish underground under the pseudonym of "Sobolewski," and the three ministers as "Opolski," "Walkowicz" and "Traugutt."

Sobolewski also was deputy premier and government delegate in Poland in the Mikolajczyk regime.

The ministers represent three main parties which form the council of national unity in Poland—Peasant, National and Socialist.

The deputy premier, a member of the Christian Democratic Labor party, became a non-party member when he assumed his duties, it was stated."

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Some British Coastal Towns Relax Blackout

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—For the first time since the start of the war, blackout restrictions were relaxed last night at Dover, Folkestone, Hythe, New Romney, Lydd and other coastal towns and adjoining rural areas.

The modification was similar to the half-light, or "moon-glow," now general in London.

Convalescent Veterans Help Speed Troop Mail

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Convalescent veterans of the fighting in France and Germany are helping speed Christmas mail to American soldiers in the European theater.

More than 3,000,000 packages were handled in a recent 30-day period and 1,100 freight-carloads of mail were dispatched to troops in England and on the Continent.

Evacuees Plan Return But Homes Are Lacking

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Permission by the Ministry of Home Security for evacuees from England's "shell-fire corner" around Dover to return home brought no plans for happy homecomings today.

"There is no place for the 18,000 evacuees to come to," said a Dover official, "The 20,000 who are here now occupy damaged houses which are repaired almost daily as new damage comes to light. Ninety-eight per cent. of Dover's homes were struck by shells, bombs or splinters."

Franco Gives Audience To Lord Templeton

Madrid, Dec. 12 (AP)—Lord Templeton, retiring British Ambassador to Spain, was received by Gen. Francisco Franco at the Elpardo Palace at noon today.

Lord Templeton, the former Sir Samuel Hoare, is to return to London by plane tomorrow. The matters he discussed with Franco were not announced. His successor has not been named.

American Ambassador Carlton J. H. Hayes is expected to have an audience with Franco soon.

Gangway! Janis Is Coming Home From the War

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Look out Broadway—Janis Thompson is coming home and she's going to be f-e-m-i-n-i-n-e. She spelled it out herself, and she's got a new Paris creation and a lot of fine French perfume to help along her ambition.

"I've been in battle-dress so long I can't remember how a woman's dress looks, or feels," she sighed. "But look out, Broadway. . . ."

If you don't know who Janis Thompson is, you might ask about a million G. I.'s in Alaska, the Aleutians, the Caribbean, Newfoundland, England, Belgium, Holland and France. They'll tell you she's a dancer with a U. S. O. unit who has been hitting the battlefront circuit since Pearl Harbor. Her present tour started in November, 1943, and brought her through Iceland to England and on to the continent.

"Ive lived about half of the last six months in or near foxholes," she says. "I've had shells pass overhead while I danced. Once a building we had just left after a show was blown up by a bomb.

"I've been overseas so long that when the boys ask me what's it like back home, I have to get them to tell me.

"Once I waited for a colonel I was to meet only to learn he had been killed by a sniper two days before. There are things like that, and wounded men and men with hands blown off by booby traps or legs by mines. It makes you hate the Germans.

"And now I'm going home. I'm going to give Broadway a good look, and a good look at me. I'll try to get down to Miami Beach. Then I want to go to the Pacific. I'm a U. S. O. dancer for the duration. I want to get back among the troops."

Miss Thompson was named Janis for Elsie Janis, popular entertainer of the last war. Her home is with her mother, Mrs. Joseph H. Thompson, at 30 Daniel Low Terrace, St. George, Staten Island.

River Flood Stalls Drive On Faenza

Only Patrol Action Is Reported in Vicinity Of Lamone Bridgehead.

ROME, Dec. 12. (AP)—The Eighth army offensive aimed at the north Italian road-hub town of Faenza was brought to a standstill today as floods from the Apennines turned the Lamone river into a raging torrent. Capture of Faenza would unlock the entire German defense system behind the river.

Recent heavy rains have raised the Lamone to a depth of from seven to eight feet and created a current of from eight to 10 miles an hour.

Only patrol action was reported in the vicinity of the Lamone bridgehead south and west of Faenza following heavy fighting that preceded the floods. Last night's operations weer limited to patrol activity north of Ravenna and along the Lamone above Highway Nine and south to Faenza.

Patrols Active

Patrols also were active in the hills southwest of Faenza, where the Allied bridgehead is now more than five miles deep.

It was officially announced that four enemy planes probably were shot down over the Fifth army front Sunday night and early Monday when the Luftwaffe reappeared on the Italian front.

The German planes inflicted damage and some casualties as they dropped incendiary and anti-personnel bombs and strafed Allied lines of communication.

Units of the Fifth army patroled the hill regions south and southeast of Bologna yesterday and engaged the Wehrmacht in a series of heavy battles. To the west German artillery fire was unusually heavy all day along the Tyrhennian coast.

One enemy attack was repulsed with losses four miles northwest of San Clemente, southeast of Bologna.

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Nazi Air Force Back In Italy: Yanks Raked

Rome, Dec. 12 (AP)—The German air force has returned to the Italian battle areas, swooping down over the 5th Army front, bombing and strafing troops and communications, Allied headquarters announced today.

As the Nazi airmen made these attacks yesterday the Lamone River rose to a depth of seven or eight feet, after a week of heavy rain, slowing down 8th Army operations in eastern Italy to patrols north of Ravenna and above Faenza.

React To Thrust

The Germans reacted strongly to 5th Army patrol thrusts south and southeast of Bologna and made several small-scale counterattacks during the day.

German artillery was strongly active along the west coast and central fronts. In one fifteen-minute period their guns poured more than 700 rounds into one region of the 5th Army sector. At about the same time six or eight enemy aircraft zoomed over Highway 65 leading into Bologna, strafing the Lolano area.

Vienna Area Bombed

Medium forces of escorted United States 15th Air Force heavy

bombers attacked an oil refinery, an ordnance depot and railway yards in the Vienna area yesterday and other heavy bombers attacked railway yards at Graz.

In all the Mediterranean Allied Air Force flew approximately 1,900 sorties, from which 25 planes failed to return. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed. The operations included attacks against tactical targets on the 8th Army front and road and rail traffic in Yugoslavia.

Eight Italian Spies Exectued By Allies

Rome, Dec. 12 (AP)—Eight Italian spies ranging in age from 20 to 27 have been executed after conviction by Allied military courts, it was announced today in a statement describing spy schools set up by Germans in occupied Italy.

The Germans use promises of large rewards, threats of blackmail and clever propaganda to hire spies, the announcement said, but disguise the danger of the work.

"The Germans are well aware from the numbers of their agents who do not return that Allied countermeasures are effective and take a heavy toll," it said.

Baltimore Soldier Advances In Interallied Ring Tourney

DEC 13 1944

By SID FEDER

Rome, Dec. 12 (AP)—Three of four defending titleholders showed their stuff tonight in the second annual inter-Allied boxing tournament and there appeared little reason to believe they couldn't go right on being bosses.

After Marcel Cerdan, flailing French sailor, put his professional middleweight opponent to sleep in 70 seconds on the afternoon card, Private Larry Cisneros, Los Angeles, frontline infantryman and a ringer for Tony Canzoneri, became the big hit of the night session by outpointing Private Dixie Fleming, Las Vegas (Nev.) Negro, to reach the pro welterweight semi-finals. Cisneros' performance was the standout of the night show.

The third defending champ, Gunner Rene Pons, of the French Army, had an easy time taking a decision over British Corporal James Connolly in the pro featherweight class.

Pons reached the finals along with Corporal Henry Jones, rugged Detroit Negro, in the pro heavyweight division, and Corporal Melvyn Pullen, Dayton, Ohio, in the amateur bantamweight class. Jones outpointed Sergeant Major George Markwick, a big Britisher. Pullen knocked out Private Alphonse Johnson, Washington, in the second round.

Private Leon Atkins, Baltimore, outpointed A. M. Jakes, British Army, to reach the amateur middleweight semi-finals, while Private Richard Ward, Philadelphia, advanced to the amateur lightweight semi-finals by default.

Gen. Scobie Informs Elas Leader of Peace Terms

DEC 13 19

By Stephen Barber

ATHENS, Dec. 12 (AP)—While heavy fighting raged in sections of Athens, Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, informed an emissary of the EAM-Elas forces today that they must cease hostilities and surrender their arms before any settlement could be reached in the civil strife.

Representative of EAM

These conditions were handed to Miltiades Porphyrogenis, representative of the EAM (National Liberation Party), a Communist and former minister of labor in the cabinet of Premier George Papandreou, who was brought to the British headquarters in a British Army vehicle.

The Leftists' peace feeler which resulted in the meeting between Scobie and Porphyrogenis came shortly after the British commander had conferred with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and British Minister of State Harold MacMillan, who arrived in Athens yesterday.

Alexander, Allied commander in the Mediterranean, left the city this morning.

Scobie, it was announced officially, said that as soon as the conditions were fulfilled he would inform Alexander, who would take the steps necessary to end the turmoil in Greece and restore democratic liberties, "the first step to

(Continued on Page Five)

which must be the disbandment of all private parties."

No Subsequent Report

Porphyrogenis returned to his headquarters with the British requirements for restoration of peace and there has been no subsequent report of further negotiation.

There has been no let-up in the hostilities which continued with increased ferocity during the morning. The Elas (fighting arm of the EAM) sent the heaviest shellfire yet into the center of the city.

Elas snipers returned to some sections from which they previously had been driven by the British and Greek regulars. The latter were slowed by mines as well as the snipers. Several large fires started by Elas' dynamiting and incendiaries burned unchecked.

Shortly after his meeting with the EAM delegate, Scobie drove through the sniping, standing upright in the front seat of a scout car, to inspect the British forward positions. He wore his red-banded general's cap and his medals.

A communique from his headquarters said "the general situation has improved little."

GREEK LEFTISTS GET PEACE TERMS

London, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander arrived in Athens today and will take the necessary steps to end the fratricidal strife there as soon as the ELAS—armed forces of the EAM, or National Liberation Front—have evacuated the Athens-Piræus area and laid down their arms, the British Foreign Office announced tonight.

These terms were submitted by Major-Gen. R. M. Scobie, commanding the British troops in Greece, to an EAM representative, Milciades Porphyronyennis, former Communist member of Premier George Papandreou's Government:

1. ELAS troops must remain under Gen. Scobie's orders.

2. All ELAS supporters in the Athens-Piræus area must hand in their arms and evacuate the area.

3. Once this is done, Field Marshal Alexander will "initiate the necessary steps to put an end to the present turmoil in Greece and restore to all Greeks, whatever their opinions, the peaceful enjoyment of their democratic liberties, the first step of which must be the disbandment of all private armies."

Earlier today a British communique admitted heavy fighting in progress in Piraeus.

Heavy fighting in Piraeus was acknowledged in a British communique today even as Prime Minister Churchill's two envoys—Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and Cabinet Minister Harold MacMillan—arrived in Athens in an attempt to end the Greek dispute.

Major-Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, commanding the British forces in Greece, announced: "There has been no slackening of rebel resistance and, although some progress has been made in Piræus and several sectors of the city, the general situation has improved little. British reinforcements have landed and some progress has been made during the last twelve hours against heavy resistance. Elsewhere in Greece the position is generally uneasy."

British Losses Small In ELAS Clashes: Eden

London, Dec. 12 (AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told Commons today he understood that British casualties in the present fighting against the ELAS in Athens were "happily, very small." He had no detailed figures.

In fighting to free Greece and Crete since the beginning of the war British imperial forces suffered 40,000 casualties and lost nearly 500 aircraft, he said.

Most of the casualties were incurred in 1941, when the British launched an unsuccessful expedition into Greece.

The Royal Navy, Eden said, had suffered heavily—losing five cruisers, thirteen destroyers, three submarines, one sloop and 47 minor vessels. Three battleships were among vessels badly damaged.

"It must be remembered that in those days we were all alone against a victorious Germany and Italy and in dire peril," Eden explained.

Rebels Shell Athens.

Athens, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Continuing their all-out efforts to break into the center of the city, the Left Wing ELAS forces today sent shells crashing into Athens. The ELAS, the armed militia of the Leftist EAM political party, began the attempt to drive into the heart of Athens last night, and at dawn today British planes shot up ELAS reinforcements moving on the capital from Anoliosia, five miles to the northwest.

Later on today several shells fell near the center of Athens, some near British Headquarters, and flames swept through numerous buildings. Fires in the market place threatened to get beyond control. Water supplies were cut off in large sections of the city.

British troops installed in the Post Office and ELAS forces occupying the Town Hall fought a three-hour battle during the night. A tank intervened, firing on the Town Hall's upper stories and starting a fire. But this morning the ELAS reoccupied the rest of the Town Hall and the adjacent streets.

Yesterday ELAS mortar shells damaged a barracks used by enlisted men of the American Air Transport Command, but there were no casualties.

[In a second broadcast from Athens today NBC reported that "two more Americans have been injured." The British radio said in a broadcast picked up at New York by CBS that a British patrol in Thessaly fell into an ambush south of Volo and suffered losses.]

An impartial source described leaders of both the leftist political party, the EAM, and its militia arm, the ELAS, as "realizing now that they will eventually lose" the bloody conflict with British and regular Greek troops.

Alexander In Greece

Declaring the Le wing leaders were now "relenting in their demands" that the Government of Premier George Papandreou make way for another in which they would have control, this source said the ELAS troops would withdraw from Athens and all the Department of Attica in return for guarantees that none would be prosecuted.

[In London, the *Daily Mail* said Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, new supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean, had been sent to Greece with personal instructions from Prime Minister Churchill "to end the fighting as quickly as possible, provided this can be done with the full assurance of future peace and co-operation among the political parties."

[The *Mail* said Alexander was accompanied by Harold MacMillan, British resident Minister to Allied Mediterranean headquarters.]

Regency Urged

The possibility of a peace, or at least a truce, also was strengthened by publisher Dimitri Lambrakis, who has been working overtime as a negotiator. It reported EAM leaders as mu ore conciliatory than they wer eek ago.

Lambrakis ed that establishment of a would help Greece emerge from the tragic impasse she is in." He declared that "it is imperative" that King George II "accept the setting up of a regency as suggested by political leaders."

The fighting is costing both sides heavy in casualties. No official figures have been issued on the British side, but they are mounting. It is estimated that the ELAS have lost 4,500 killed, wounded and captured. This is believed to be nearly ten per cent of the whole ELAS strength.

A British soldier was killed near British headquarters in central Athens by ELAS shellfire yesterday. ELAS mortar shells damaged a barracks used by enlisted men of the American Air Transport Command, but there were no casualties.

Eyewitness Accuses Greeks.

The British are holding back to a great extent for fear of causing unnecessary damage, but the same cannot be said for the Greeks. The hatred that exists between the Partisans of the Greek Left and Right is causing lies, accusations and expressions of bitterness to fly about more thickly even than the bullets.

Stephen Barber, a seasoned observer and war correspondent of the Associated Press, writes: **"Hospitals and churches have been turned into military objectives. The Red Cross has been fired on by the ELAS, and, in fairness, I must say that I have seen the Red Cross abused by the Greek civil police also. The British Tommies, who cannot be accused of political bias, have told me that hospital nurses have been discovered with grenades secreted in their blouses,** supposed patients have been found covered with fake bandages, and food baskets have been stuffed with ammunition.

"Some authoritative persons think there is more than one German agent at work here. One captured ELAS officer told me that the Russians with the ELAS left fifteen days ago, when they were ordered to do so by the Soviet mission in Athens."

'Lies Fly Thick In Greece'

By Stephen Barber

Athens, Dec. 11 [AP—*Delayed*]. The hatred that exists between the Partisans of the Greek Left and Right is causing lies, accusations and expressions of bitterness to fly about even more thickly than bullets in the battle for Athens.

The British are holding back to a great extent for fear of doing unnecessary damage, but the same cannot be said for the Greeks.

Hospitals and churches have been turned into military objectives. The Red Cross has been fired on by the ELAS and, in fairness, I must say that I have seen the Red Cross abused by the Greek civil police.

Nurses With Grenades

British tommies, who cannot be accused of political bias, have told me that hospital nurses have been discovered with grenades secreted in their blouses, "patients" have been found covered with fake bandages, and food baskets have been stuffed with ammunition.

As I write this dispatch mortar bombs are exploding with depressingly increasing accuracy around the pressroom near the British headquarters and temporary Government seat—the Grande Bretagne Hotel.

"Nobody can throw mortars like that but Jerry," opines our public relations dispatch rider, Teddy Evans. Some authoritative quarters think there is more than one German agent at work here.

Russians Leave ELAS

One ELAS officer who was taken prisoner, a Major Georgiades, told me his battalion included eighteen Italians and that in other formations there were several dozen Germans who had deserted from the Nazi army. He said that Russians with the ELAS left fifteen days ago when they were ordered to do so by the Soviet mission in Athens.

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Crucial Athens Battle Seen

New York, Dec. 12—Guthrie Janssen, of NBC, broadcasting from Athens today, said a decisive battle appeared to be in the making and "I don't know how long I can go on sending you these broadcasts—communications may be cut at anytime."

"The rest of Greece is under ELAS control," the reporter said, "except for the lower half of the Piraeus Peninsula, where the British made some advances yesterday.

"ELAS is co-ordinating and will doubtless try to force a decisive battle within the next few days, before more British reinforcements can arrive."

British Near Jap Burma Stronghold

Southeast Asia Headquarters, Ceylon, Dec. 12 (AP)—British 14th Army troops driving south along the Kalewa-Yeu road in western Burma have advanced toward Shwegyin with East African units battering their way within 500 yards of that Japanese stronghold.

A communiqué from Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters also announced that a series of heavy air assaults had forced the enemy from hill positions 5 miles east of Kalewa.

Allied Troops Near Shwegyin In Burma

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 12 (AP)—East African troops battering the Japanese southward along the Kalewa-Yeu road in the western Burma jungles have driven to within 500 yards of the enemy stronghold of Shwegyin, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters announced today.

His communique said repeated heavy air attacks had forced the Japanese to withdraw from hill positions five miles east of Kalewa.

Chinese Push Dozen Miles Into Kwangsi

CHUNGKING, Dec. 12, (AP)—Chinese troops, advancing a dozen miles into Kwangsi province down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway, captured the railway town of Nantan and the nearby town of Mangling today, the Chinese high command announced.

The Japanese, now ousted from Kweichow after an ambitious invasion of that province, are retreating toward Hochih, 25 miles farther down the railway, the Chinese said, after having suffered heavy losses.

An American communique said close air support was being given to the advancing Chinese, with the enemy being bombed out of strong points and then strafed in the open.

While the Chinese took heart from their continuing successes on that southern front, they were pulling in troops from the north to meet an anticipated massive renewal of the Japanese effort.

These fresh troops, whose exact origins were not disclosed, possibly were drawn from the area where they have been keeping watch on the Chinese communist forces.

Their passage through Chungking created great enthusiasm and they were showered with gifts of food and clothing.

Meanwhile the northward flight of refugees in Kweichow province continued. Deaths from hunger and exposure were reported increasing.

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Chinese Troops Go Southward

Chungking, Dec. 12 (AP)—Chinese troops from the north streamed southward today through Chungking as other Chinese drove down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway in pursuit of Japanese retreating from Kweichow province, the high command said.

The high command appeared intent upon full preparation for any new Japanese assault upon the province. The sight of the troop movement southward spread relief throughout this wartime capital. The populace showered the marching soldiers with gifts.

Rail Town Taken

On the fighting front the Chinese took the rail town of Liuchai, just inside the Kwangsi border and pushed onward toward Nantan, 120 miles northwest of fallen Liuchow, former site of a United States air base. At last reports from the field the Chinese were only a few miles from Nantan.

There was no indication whether the troops from the north were drawn from the ranks of those who have been held down by the communists, but it seemed likely.

Soldiers Given Food

Organizations presented the soldiers soap, toothbrushes and cotton-padded vests. Peasants offered pickled vegetables, and some luckier troops even received live pigs.

At the same time long trains of refugees continued a miserable flight northward from Kweichow in all manner of vehicles.

United States 14th Air Force flyers gave close support to the Chinese infantry on the Kwangsi front.

Chinese General, Staff Escape From Japanese

CHUNGKING, Dec. 12 (AP)—Gen. Fang Hsien-Chueh, commander of China's 10th Army, who was taken prisoner when Hengyang fell after a 47 days siege last August, has arrived here safely with several of his staff officers after a dramatic escape from the Japanese, it was announced today.

Fang called on Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek yesterday to report on the battle of Hengyang and describe his escape, details of which have not yet been made public.

New Armed Insurrection Reported In Salvador

San Jose, Costa Rica, Dec. 12 (AP). Dispatches received today from Guatemala indicated that an armed uprising has broken out in the Salvadorean province of Ahuachapan near the Guatemalan border.

Rebel forces rising against the Government of President Osmin Aguirre Salinas were reported engaged in "violent encounters" with the Salvadorean national guards.

Representatives of the Salvadorean Government in exile at Guatemala were quoted as saying an "invasion" of Salvador by Salvadorean revolutionists appeared "imminent." They were quoted as saying that Dr. Thomas Miguel Molina, head of the Government in exile, plans to establish a government on Salvadorean territory.

Greater Power Urged For World Assembly

Mexico City, Dec. 12 (AP)—Mexican Foreign Minister Ezequiel Padilla suggested yesterday that the Dumbarton Oaks plan for a world security organization be revised to give greater authority to the assembly, to which all member states, large and small, would belong.

The limited authority granted the assembly by the Dumbarton Oaks plan "is equivalent to complete control" by the council of great powers in all essential matters, he declared.

Montreal Elects C. Houde Mayor For Fifth Time

MONTREAL, Dec. 12 (AP)—Montreal, Canada's largest city, has voted itself three years of government likely to provide frequent clashes with both the Quebec provincial government and the Dominion administration in Ottawa.

In Camillien Houde, a political firebrand chiefly of local significance, the city on Monday elected for the fifth time a mayor who is a lone wolf in politics with great popular appeal to the average French-speaking citizen of this predominantly French-speaking metropolis.

Although Houde was interned for four years—he was released only four months ago—after urging as mayor that Montreal citizens refuse to comply with national manpower registration regulations, his reelection by a comfortable majority has little bearing on the English-French racial rift which flared into the recent Dominion-shaking conscription crisis.

Houde is a local phenomenon whose significance cuts across strictly English-French issues. He is a long-time personal foe of Maurice Duplessis, present Quebec premier who was elected on a platform of opposition to the Liberal party government in Ottawa. On the other hand he is a bitter opponent himself of the Ottawa regime under Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 12, 1940—Marquess of Lothian, British Ambassador to United States, died in Washington. British planes bomb Mannheim, Calais and Boulogne.

Expected Fireworks Fail to Develop—Stettinius Outlines Goals of State Dept.—Each Of Six Appointees Testifies.

By Douglas B. Cornell

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The much-advertised fireworks failed to go off today as Secretary of State Stettinius led six chosen aides before inquiring senators and declared his aim is a "liberal foreign policy."

Fierce Questioning

Fierce questioning had been forecast ever since the Senate sent the nominations of four of the men back to committee for study. Senators had complained that some of the nominees were too close to "Wall Street" and, conversely, there were murmurs that Archibald MacLeish was perhaps a bit too leftish and unequipped for the job of assistant secretary.

But today, as the foreign relations committee heard statements form Stettinius and the nominees, questions were few and far between. And when the questioning led into areas that Chairman Connally (D-Tex) considered improper, he flagged the questioners down.

For example, Senator Murray (D-Mont) demanded to know whether British Prime Minister Churchill was forcing the United States to "play second fiddle" to Britain in Greece. Connally remarked that it was of "very doubtful propriety" for Senators to seek a State Department official's interpretation of Churchill's "back stairs views" on such a subject.

Connally later predicted prompt Senate confirmation of the six—Joseph C. Grew, named to be under secretary; and Will L. Clayton, Nelson Rockefeller, James C. Dunn, Brig. Julius C. Holmes and MacLeish, prospective assistant secretaries.

Chandler Unhappy

Senator Chandler (D-Ky), who is not a member of the committee, wasn't exactly happy about not being invited to question the witnesses today.

"This was not the way to get any information about these fellows," he said. "I had a lot of questions ready to ask them but I didn't get a chance. However, I expect to take some time in the Senate to discuss this matter."

Stettinius, who became secretary of state a fortnight ago, gave his first detailed enunciation of the policies which will guide him. They were devoid of gaudy innovations.

"We need a state department," he said, "which can carry out in the interests of the United States a liberal and forward-looking foreign policy with level-headed and businesslike effectiveness."

He thus epitomized the revamped state department's goals.

"(1) The fullest possible support in the conduct of our foreign relations for our armed forces, so that the war may be won at the earliest possible moment.

Effective Steps

"(2) Effective steps to prevent Germany and Japan, after victory by the United Nations, from again acquiring the power to wage aggressive war.

"(3) Establishment at the earliest possible moment of a United Nations organiaztion capable of building and maintaining the peace—by force if necessary—for generations to come."

"(4) Agreement on measures to promote a great expansion of our foreign trade and of productiveness and trade throughout the world, so that we can maintain full employment in our own country and—together with the other United Nations—enter an era of constantly expanding production and consumption and of rising standards of living.

"(5) Encouragement of all those conditions of international life favorable to the development by men and women everywhere of the institutions of a free and democratic way of life, in accordance with their own customs and desires."

Stettinius asked for Senate endorsement of his program through confirmation of the six aides.

Caucus Room

The hearing was held in the austere, marble-walled Senate caucus room, where the legislators sat at glistening mahogany tables.

Spectators had waited nn long lines for the doors to open, then filled all the 500 esats. Diplomats and dowagers turned up and mingled with Senators' wives and plain people.

There was a fleeting flash of drama when aged Senator Johnson (R-Calif), who helped block American entry into the League of Nations, asked Dunn in a low, quavering voice what had become of the Atlantic charter and the four freedoms.

America, Dunn said, still adheres to the principles of the charter, as well as all her principles and policies. The four freedoms, he added, were not part of the charter.

Stettinius, still a relative newcomer to the State department, exhibited a measure of diplomatic skill in ducking out of the way of some barbed questions without offending the questioner.

He would be "delighted," he said, to discuss exhaustively at a closed committee session "what he considers the foreign policy of the United States should be." That was in answer to Senator Shipstead (R-Minn).

Britain's Lead

Senator Guffey (D-Pa) wanted to know whether it was departmental policy to follow Britain's lead in European affairs and the Far East.

Stettinius replied that he believed policies of the President and former secretary Cordell Hull had worked very well up to the present.

From none of the nominees did the committee obtain anything but cautious generalities on the troubled Italian and Greek situations.

Sharp interrogation had been expected for MacLeish and Clayton. Clayton may get some tomorrow morning, when he is due to be questioned but MacLeish was quizzed today only by Senator Clark (D-Mo).

The librarian of Congress, who will take over public and cultural relations for the State department, if the Senate approves him, declared himself "strongly against communism."

"I have always fought it in this country," he said. "I am against it in any society in which I live."

Clayton may have headed off some trouble for himself by asserting in his formal statement today that "nothing could be farther from the truth" than that he believed in cartels.

Denounce Cartels

Slated to head up economic activities in the department, the former cotton merchant said there was a tendency in some places to denounce cartels when they involve things we buy and favor

Senators Examine F.D.R.'s Nominees

them, under a different name, on what we sell. He added:

"A cartel smells the same to me by whatever name it may be called or for whatever commercial purpose it may be organized."

He said he subscribed without reservation to Hull's views on international economic matters—views which embrace a reciprocal trade agreements program.

Grew, a green tie providing a bloc of color between gray suit and gray mustache, asserted that the main objective when American troops get to Tokyo will be to "render it impossible for Japan again to threaten world peace." For a decade before Pearl Harbor he was ambassador to Tokyo.

"We shall have to take specific measures to demilitarize Japan, both physically and intellectually," he said. "This will obviously include, among other things, the destruction of the Japanese military machine and the destruction of their tools of war and the paraphernalia for making those tools of war in the future."

Decision On Hirohito

A decision on what to do with Emperor Hirohito also must wait until American fighting men march into the Nipponese capital, he asserted. Furthermore, he said, he had never held the belief nor stated that the emperor should either be retained or eliminated after the war.

The nominations of Grew and the others encountered a protest from the Congress of Industrial Organizations that they "do not provide a balanced team for the conduct of our foreign affairs in the crucial years immediately ahead."

President Philip Murray sent the foreign relations committee a statement asking for a careful scrutiny of each appointee.

Hirohito's Fate To Wait Until War Concluded

Grew Tells Senators Best To Wait for Nipponese Reaction.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (AP)—Uncle Sam will wait and see what develops before deciding the post-war fate of the Japanese emperor.

This American policy toward the focus of the Japanese military spirit—emperor worship—today appeared to crystallize in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations committee.

Joseph C. Grew, last American ambassador to Japan and the choice of President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius for the job of under-secretary of state, told senators considering his appointment that the United States had better put off until American troops get to Tokyo a decision on what to do with Emperor Hirohito.

It was assumed that he spoke with the approval—if not the complete agreement—of both the President and Stettinius, and that therefore his aspect of American policy toward post-war Japan is pretty well decided for the time being.

Statement Ready

Grew had his statement all ready to read when Senator Guffey (D-Pa) asked about the emperor.

He testified that no one can tell now whether, after Tokyo is taken, it would be wise to keep the emperor on because there's no way of knowing now what Japanese reaction to defeat is going to be.

The main job, Grew added, will be to see that Japan never again can menace the peace.

The preponderant Chinese view on what to do with the Japanese emperor, as reported in Chungking dispatches, is that he must be eliminated in order to provide no foundation on which future Japanese militarism can build again.

Those who disagree cite what happened in Germany after the last war when the Kaiser was deposed but German militarism rose again.

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Stettinius's Statement to Senators

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP).—Following is the text of the statement read by Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today:

May I, first of all, express my deep appreciation for the generous confidence which this committee and the Senate placed in me when confirming my nomination by the President as Secretary of State. I assume the duties of this office with a full realization of the grave responsibilities that have now passed to me in this challenging period of our history. I am strengthened for the task by the example of my predecessor, Cordell Hull—who is one of the truly great statesmen of our times and whose principles and objectives will continue to be guiding posts for our foreign policy in the days ahead. It was one of the most inspiring experiences of my life to serve under Cordell Hull during the last year and I hope and believe that his health will soon permit me to have the continuing benefit of his wisdom and counsel in the days ahead.

The task before our country is a very great one. Together with the other United Nations we must carry through to complete and final victory the great war in which we are now engaged. Together with the other United Nations we must, at the same time, continue building the foundations of a secure and lasting peace in which there will be wider freedom and opportunity for our own people and for all peoples. This is a task which can be accomplished only in full co-operation with the Congress and with the participation, understanding and support of the whole American people.

In the months and years ahead the United States will have far greater responsibilities in world affairs than ever before in our history. We have great moral and material power, which we must exercise in the long-range mutual interests of our own people and of the peoples of other nations.

Major Objectives Listed

Our major objectives may be stated very briefly, as follows:

(1) The fullest possible support in the conduct of our foreign relations for our armed forces, so that the war may be won at the earliest possible moment.

(2) Effective steps to prevent Germany and Japan, after victory by the United Nations, from again acquiring the power to wage aggressive war.

(3) Establishment at the earliest possible moment of a United Nations organization capable of building and maintaining the peace—by force if necessary—for generations to come.

(4) Agreement on measures to promote a great expansion of our foreign trade and of productiveness and trade throughout the world, so that we can maintain full employment in our own country and—together with the other United Nations—enter an era of constantly expanding production and consumption and of rising standards of living.

(5) Encouragement of all those conditions of international life favorable to the development by men and women everywhere of the institutions of a free and democratic way of life, in accordance with their own customs and desires.

These are the major objectives toward which the Department of State is working, under the President's direction and in close co-operation with the Congress. We shall not achieve them over night. Their achievement will require months and years of constant and effective work by all of us.

With the wise guidance of Cordell Hull we have made a beginning on these tasks. But we have much more to do and we have no time to lose.

Among our first requirements is to build up the strength of the Department of State so that it will be able to meet the much heavier responsibilities which it must from now on assume. We need a State Department which can carry out in the interests of the United States a liberal and forward-looking foreign policy with level-headed and businesslike effectiveness. That is the kind of a Department of State we all desire.

During the last year the first steps have been taken to strengthen the department. We have improved our organization and have brought in new men to work with the existing staff. Now that the Congress has approved creation of two additional posts of Assistant Secretary of State, we are ready to take further steps in this direction.

Our plan calls for six Assistant Secretaries of State in addition to the Secretary and the Under Secretary. The operations of the department will be regrouped under these assistants and this new organizational framework will then make possible further strengthening of the department down the line on a continuing basis. However, we cannot carry through this program until the men who will work on it with me are established in office.

At your invitation, the team which the President and I have chosen to assist me in directing the Department of State is with me here today. The nominations of six of them are now before you for confirmation. I welcome this opportunity to present them to you and to discuss with you their qualifications for the positions to which they have been nominated. Each of them is, in my opinion, wholly qualified by character, experience and abilities for the responsibilities he has been asked to assume. Each of them, I believe, wholeheartedly supports the principles and objectives of the foreign policy of the United States as they have been expressed by the President, by Mr. Hull, and by the Congress.

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Our choice for Under Secretary of State is the Honorable Joseph C. Grew. He has devoted forty years to serving our country with great distinction and honor in the conduct of our foreign relations in all parts of the world. He has served three years as Under Secretary of State and nine years as Ambassador to Japan. He knows at first hand both Fascism and aggression and hates them both. As Under Secretary he would be a strong right arm in the tasks of building now for a more democratic world after victory and of making peace secure.

Under our reorganization plan, Dean Acheson, who has served the Department with distinction as Assistant Secretary of State for the last four years, will continue in that capacity, but with a new assignment. I want to tell you about it, even though his name is not before you for confirmation. He will be in charge of Congressional relations and international conferences. He will seek to keep the Congress currently informed of all developments in our foreign relations and generally to maintain the strongest and closest possible working relationship between the Department, the Foreign Relations Committee and other committees of Congress. I regard this as of the utmost importance and I know that you will agree with me that Mr. Acheson is ideally suited to the task. His responsibility in connection with international conferences is a new departure and is made necessary both by the greatly increased importance to us of our participation in international conferences and by the imperative need of keeping in close touch at all stages in the work of these conferences with the members of Congress.

The geographical divisions of the department will be regrouped, under the reorganization plan, under two Assistant Secretaries of State—one for all countries except the Americas, and the other for American republics affairs. For the first position the President has nominated James C. Dunn and for the second Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Mr. Dunn was one of Mr. Hull's most valued lieutenants in the State Department throughout his twelve years as Secretary of State. He served as his special assistant, as adviser on political relations and as director of the Office of European Affairs. He was Mr. Hull's political adviser at Moscow, when the Moscow four-nation declaration was agreed upon. In the work of preparing for and carrying through to success the Dumbarton Oaks conference Mr. Dunn was of great value to me. I have the highest confidence in his ability to fill the post of Assistant Secretary with distinction and with benefit to our country.

Mr. Rockefeller has served as Co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs since 1940. Before that he was president of Rockefeller Center in New York. As co-ordinator Mr. Rockefeller has done much in the last four years to develop better understanding and closer relations among the American republics in support of the Good Neighbor policy and of the war effort. He knows intimately both the governments and peoples of our neighbor republics. As Assistant Secretary of State he would be, I believe, unusually well qualified by a combination of experience, energy and judgment to contribute much to further strengthening of inter-American relationships in the days ahead.

For the post of Assistant Secretary of State in charge of foreign economic affairs the President has nominated William L. Clayton. Before entering the government in 1940 Mr. Clayton had been engaged for more than twenty-five years in the cotton business in many parts of the world. He has thus had a long business experience in foreign trade. Since 1940 he has served the government with distinction as Deputy Federal Loan Administrator, then as Assistant Secretary of Commerce and finally as Surplus War Property Administrator. He was a member of the United States delegation at the Food and Agricultural Conference at Hot Springs. He has worked closely with the department on many matters involving foreign economic affairs. I believe he would bring to the department great executive ability, practical experience and wholehearted support for the liberal economic objectives of our foreign policy.

The post of Assistant Secretary of State in charge of public and cultural relations is a new one in the department. It covers current activities and future problems of great importance to our foreign relations. To this position the President has nominated Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress since 1939. I believe that the new problems involved in making a secure peace require that much fuller information about United States foreign policy should be made available through the established press, radio and other media both to the people of this country and the people of other countries. I also believe that further advances in the co-operative exchange of scientific, technical and professional knowledge among all peoples and the promotion of freedom of information throughout the world are of equal importance for the same reason. Mr. MacLeish has been a soldier, lawyer, editor, writer and—as Librarian of Congress—a proven executive whose experience and abilities ideally qualify him in my opinion to take up these responsibilities under my direction.

For the other Assistant Secretaryship, the President has names Brigadier General Julius C. Holmes. He would be in charge of administration and management for the Department of State and the Foreign Service. General Holmes was in the Foreign Service and the State Department from 1925 to 1937,

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when he entered private business. In this war he has served with General Eisenhower in the Mediterranean theater and on the European continent. He is now deputy chief of staff for civil affairs in the European theater. General Eisenhower and the War Department have reluctantly consented to release him for this highly important task.

Would Expand Service

I look forward to an invigorated and enlarged foreign service and Department of State in which there will be new and greater opportunities for able men from all walks of life to serve their country, including returning members of the armed forces, whose experience we shall need in the field of foreign relations after the war. General Holmes has been chosen in order to carry forward under my direction the strengthening of the department and the foreign service toward these objectives.

With your approval, I have been given the responsibility of running the Department of State under the President's direction. These are the men whom the President and I have chosen to assist me in that job. They have been chosen only for the abilities which we believe they can contribute to the work of the State Department and to the conduct of a progressive and vigorous foreign policy which will express as nearly as possible the will of the whole American people.

They are here today to speak for themselves and to answer any questions that you may care to put to them.

We have a tremendous job ahead. I am naturally anxious to put into effect as rapidly as possible the program for reorganization and strengthening the Department of State. The war will not wait, nor should we delay in carrying forward the planning essential for the peace. We must move effectively and rapidly now to meet our responsibilities to the men in our armed forces and to their families.

But I also believe that it is only by understanding each other and working together that we can achieve that unity based on democratic processes of give and take which is one of the fundamental strengths of our country. This hearing is a part of our democratic processes at work. In that spirit these men welcome the opportunity to appear here, as I do.

Bill Doyle Applauds Again And Sure Enough, Out He Goes

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Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—The State Department on parade drew a capacity house before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today and Bill Doyle got thrown out on his ear again.

Bill does it all the time but he doesn't usually have such select company.

He always is applauding when he is supposed to keep quiet and the *gendarmes* take over.

Bill was part of the big crowd on hand to hear Edward R. Stettinius, Secretary of State, and his new staff testify about their qualifications to hold their jobs.

Attendance High

It was the best attendance the said old Senate caucus room could boast since the day the midget was placed on J. P. Morgan's astonished knee.

The crowd arrived early, stood in a queue for an hour to get in. The police finally had to take over and start inquiring why you wanted in.

Mr. Bill Doyle, of Washington, D.C., dressed nattily as usual, got his place early, standing right behind Senator Hiram Johnson. He just likes to go to Senate committee hearings.

He was good a long time. Chairman Connally (D., Texas) had to remonstrate only in a general way with the crowd about showing any favoritism.

Then He "Breaks Down"

Bill stood it through Stettinius and Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes, who boarded a plane for Europe right after he finished. Something about Joseph Clark Grew, the newly appointed Under Secretary, rang the bell. As he completed his statement, Bill rocked the place with applause.

"There's Bill again," chuckled Senator Clark (D., Mo.), "He does it all the time."

The police invited Bill to leave at this point, using one of their special arm-grabbing inducements.

Areas' Requests

Freed Nations Seek Help In Restoring Shattered Economies.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The liberated countries were notified today that Allied war needs must take priority over their appeals for materials to restore their shattered economies.

Urgent pleas for "everything from horseshoe nails for Sicily and fish hooks for the Greeks to water-pumping machinery for The Netherlands" have been received, the combined production and resources board and the combined raw materials board reported.

"This indicates that even as the United States, Britain and Canada are reaching the peak of their military and war production effort, they are being called upon to give help to again start industry within the liberated areas," the joint statement of the English-American-Canadian boards said.

Allocations Made

"Although allocations are being made and shopping licenses issued, the amount that can be delivered to liberated areas is severely limited by other demands on United Nations' shipping and by limitations of port facilities and inland transportation in Europe. Military needs must inevitably come first."

The appeals to the relief and rehabilitation section of the twin boards include requests for 700 steam locomotives for military transportation in France, 60,000 railway freight cars for liberated Europe, coal-mining machinery for Spitzbergen, highway repair machinery for Italy, and diesel and steampower generating equipment for several areas, the statement said.

Raw cotton, to be converted in French mills to tent duck for Allied armies, has also been sought, along with such odds and ends for foreign use as sewing needles, postoffice forms for the Balkans, ration book covers, pesticides, water-supply purifiers and dental equipment.

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War Needs Put Over Liberated

Rivers and Harbors, Flood Control Bills Pass Senate

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Senate completed work on two big water-use programs today but rejected the controversial St. Lawrence seaway project.

Approves Report

Concurring in earlier House action, the Senate approved a conference report on a $1,000,000,000 flood control authorization and sent it to the White House.

A $500,000,000 rivers and harbors bill was passed and returned to the House for agreement on changes.

Among the biggest authorizations of their kind on record, the bills call for postwar construction of flood control, navigation, reclamation, hydro-electric power and other works throughout the country.

Carrying no appropriations, they are projected as part of the country job-creating program when peace comes.

The flood control bill embraces a giant program for development of the Missouri River Valley by the Army engineers and the reclamation bureau as recommended by President Roosevelt. A proposal to set up an administrative au-

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thority like the Tennessee Valley Authority was left for the next Congress to consider.

Missouri Program

The Missouri program calls for an initial authorization of $400,000,000, half for the Army engineers and the remainder for the reclamation bureau.

The rivers and harbors bill limped through the Senate battered by nearly two weeks of bitter debate, mostly about the St. Lawrence Seaway, estimated to cost from $200,000,000 to $400,000,000. It was rejected by a vote of 56 to 25.

A last-minute boost for the seaway from President Roosevelt failed to turn back the opposition. It came in the form of a telegram to Senator Aiken (R-Vt) who read it to the Senate just before the vote.

The message, answering an inquiry from the Vermont senator, said:

"Of course I want action as soon as possible on the St. Lawrence seaway. It is logical and inevitable. The quicker the better."

By Voice Vote

With the St. Lawrence amendment beaten, the Senate passed by voice vote the bill authorizing navigation, reclamation, hydroelectric power and other works. The measure already has passed the House but because of differences it goes now to a joint Senate-House conference committee which will work out its final form.

Today's vote disposed of the St. Lawrence seaway issue for this session, but it is expected to come up again in the new Congress convening in January.

Aiken presented the seaway amendment last week when the bill was about ready for a vote. With other ardent advocates, he discussed the proposal hour upon hour, declaring that opponents employed delaying tactics in the interest of big utility companies which did not want a waterway from the Great Lakes to the sea.

Opponents based their argument primarily on opposition to authorizing the project as an executive agreement with Canada rather than as a treaty, which would require approval by a two-thirds Senate vote.

International Arrangements

Senator Overton (D.-La.), floor manager of the rivers bill, declared that the amendment would sanction a theory that international arrangements were to be "determined solely by the method of their submission by the executive department."

If this theory is correct, he added, "then grave and important international arrangements that lie almost immediately ahead of us will be handled either as executive agreements or as treaties according to the whim or political maneuvering of the President."

Broad technical provisions similar to those in a postwar flood control bill passed a week ago were placed in the rivers and harbors bill.

These give state governments the right to review federal projects, give irrigation preference over navigation works in arid states, and authorize disposition of surplus electricity at government dams by the Interior Department.

Two big projects were eliminated, the $66,000,000 Tennessee-Tombigbee waterway and the $33,500,000 Beaver-Mahoning canal, in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Larger Authorization

Among larger authorizations in the bill are the $25,000,000 Santee-Congaree river deveopment, N. C. and S. C.; the $58,000,000 Snake river, Ore., Wash., and Idaho, program, the $60,000,000 Alabama-Coosa navigation program, Ala. and Ga., and the $25,000,000 Illinois waterway and Indiana harbor canal, Ill.

Senate action on the flood control conference report came after Senator Aiken (R-Vt)) warned that he would fight any attempt to build one large reservoir at the Williamsville site in Connecticut instead of eight smaller reservoirs in the West river basin.

He contended that the bill left the way open for the Army engineers to change the plans but agreed finally to passage of the conference report when colleagues assured him that changes would be subject to review by state officials.

Major projects in the flood control bill are $30,000,000 for the Connecticut river basin, $36,140 for the Roanoke river basin, $350,300,000 necticut river basin,, $36,140,000 for 000,000 in the lower Mississippi river, $11,080,000 for the Blakely Moutnain Dam, Ark.; $35,000,000 for general flood control in the Arkansas basin; $15,000,000 for Red Dock dam on the Des Moines river, $70,000,000 for the Ohio river basin; $24,822,000 for the Kentucky river basin, and $50,000,000 for the Sacramento river basin.

Rep. Vinson Proposes Pay Raise for F. D. R.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—An increase in the President's salary from $75,000 to $100,000 yearly was urged today by Rep. Vinson (D-Ga).

He also proposed in a bill that $20,000 yearly be paid to the vice president, House speaker and cabinet members and $15,000 yearly to congressmen.

Vinson told the House taxes and living costs had increased so much the raises were necessary. He said the President actually gets only about $27,000 a year now.

The House voted last week to provide $3.000 more yearly to each member for clerical hire, but shunted aside another plan to boost congressional salaries.

LAYS RED BAITING TO CHURCHILL

DEC 13 1944

Washington, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—Senator Kilgore (D.-W. Va.) voiced the hope today that a way will be found "to insure that American-made munitions will never be used against the liberated peoples of Europe."

Referring to the troubled situation in Greece, the Senator said in a statement that Prime Minister Churchill has attempted to create the impression that the resistance forces in Greece are communists.

"The fact is," Mr. Kilgore added, "that the EAM in Greece is a coalition group. Here in America we have had some recent experience with this type of red-baiting. An attempt was made in the recent election to smear the President and the Democratic party. The people of America were not fooled. . . .

"This war is not being won, the peace will not be won, if we permit reactionary regimes which do not have the support of their own people to be imposed in liberated areas."

CITATION FOR SUBMARINE

Presidential Award Goes to the Rasher for Sinking Jap Ships

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Navy announced today the award of a Presidential unit citation to the submarine Rasher for the sinking or damaging of "thousands of tons" of shipping in Japanese controlled waters.

The commanding officers of the Rasher in the citation were:

Lieut. Comdr. Benjamin E. Adams Jr., aged 30, whose wife lives at 415 Dock St., Wilmington, N. C.; Capt. Edward S. Hutchinson of Philadelphia, whose wife now lives at 174 South Church St., Paris, Tex.; Comdr. Willard R. Laughon of Princeton, W. Va., whose wife lives at 30 Martin Farms, Seaford, Del., and Comdr. Henry G. Munson of Manila, whose wife lives at 238 Ridgeland Ave., Waukegan, Ill.

Caribbean Offers Postwar Preview

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Foreign Policy Association asserted today that Great Britain and the United States have shown in the Caribbean area that "it is possible to adjust common problems on a regional basis."

The Caribbean, said a survey prepared for the association by Olive Holmes, its Latin-American expert, is one area of the world which "offers a preview of the structure of the postwar order, as well as an example of practical international planning."

Great Britain and this country, the survey said, have "demonstrated, by concrete measures, that when several powers have a direct concern in a backward area through territorial, economic or strategic commitments, it is possible to adjust common problems on a regional basis. . . ."

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 1,540 United States Army casualties. Included in the list are the following with their next of kin:

18 Captured Italian Envoys To Be Returned

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—Eighteen Italian diplomatic and consular officials and their servants captured in North Africa are to be sent back to Italy.

This was learned at the State Department today. They have been interned at New Market, Va.

Held For Two Years

The Italians were caught in November, 1942, when the Allies landed in Morocco and Algeria and brought to this country with the idea that they could be exchanged for Americans held in Italy.

The State Department explained informally that the fall of the Italian Government overruled exchange possibilities, so the diplomats are now being returned.

Approves Appointments

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (AP)—The Senate today confirmed the appointments of three navy officers as temporary vice admirals. They are Samuel M. Robinson, Willis A. Lee, Jr., and Theodore S. Wilkinson. It also approved the retirement of Wilson Brown with the rank of vice admiral.

War Minors' Babies Citizens

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP).—The House passed a bill today to safeguard the American citizenship of children born to service men of minor age as the result of marriage overseas. The bill provides that children born of an American father, who is over eighteen years old shall be United States citizens. The present legal minimum is twenty-one years. Representative Samuel Dickstein, Democrat, of New York, told the House more than 1,400 servicemen under twenty-one, have married Australian girls.

Manship Completes Censorship Duties

DEC 13 1944

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—Charles P. Manship, associate director of censorship, who has functioned in London for the last six months, has returned to the United States, his assignment abroad completed.

Manship, editor and publisher of the Baton Rouge (La.) *State-Times* and *Morning Advocate*, took charge of the London office June 1. Just before invasion of the Continent, and acted as liaison between British censorship and Supreme Allied Heaquarters. After a series of conferences here, Manship will return to active management of his Baton Rouge newspapers.

Senators Hear Navy Story On Narragansett

Connecticut Witnesses Recommend Hurley For Surplus Disposal Board.

DEC 13 1

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—An account of the Navy's experiences with the Narragansett Machine Company, including cancellation of a contract for failure to make deliveries, was related to the Senate military affairs committee today.

The testimony concerning the Pawtucket, R. I., firm was given by Navy officials during the committee's hearing on nominations of former Gov. Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut and Lt. Col. Edward H. Heller to the new Surplus War Property Board.

Hurley, before being named to the board, was a vice president of Narragansett. Heller, as war finance officer, passed upon War department loans to the firm.

The Navy's contract with the company for 1,572 lockers was terminated, Lt. J. M. Orr told the committee, because the company failed to make deliveries as scheduled on Feb. 1, 1944.

Navy Investigation

An investigation by Navy officials a month later, he said, disclosed that the company had completed only one locker—which was rejected as not up to Navy specifications. Nine others had been partly completed.

Everan Woodland, civilian engineer in the Navy's Bureau of Ships, testified the locker doors fitted poorly and the lockers were badly warped and poorly welded.

Both witnesses said, in response to questioning by Senator Austin (R.-Vt.), that the company had been given ample priorities to obtain materials for the lockers. Woodland said that when he and Orr visite dthe plant March 3, the company had material for about 600 lockers.

The company earlier had had some difficulties with priorities for another order for lockers, but the Navy made allowances for delays resulting from thelack of priorities, Lt. Robert Brown told the committee.

Falls Behind

Brown, who is attached to the office of general counsel for the Navy, said that the first locker contract—placed prior to the time Hurley joined the firm in January, 1943—was completed and accepted by the Navy. He said, however, that the company fell behind in deliveries and that onedelivery was 102 days behind schedule.

William L. Mooney, retired insurance executive of Hartford, Conn., appeared in behalf of Hurley's nomination. He said he had known him several years and felt that hewas the best possible man for thejob.

Several other witnesses added their endorsement of Hurley and Heller, and Price Administrator Chester Bowles sent the committee a letter describing Hurley as "a man of high patriotism and complete honesty."

Heller Praised

Attorney General Robert Kenney of California told the committee that Heller's selection as a board member was the "best that could be made from the West." Heller is a former California business man.

Another witness for Hurley, Headmaster A. N. Sheriff of Cheshire Academy, Cheshire, Conn., described him as "extremely loyal, vigorous, forceful and entirely honorable."

Austin sought to find out from Sheriff whether Hurley or Connecticut state employes aided the academy in rebuilding a hall destroyed by fire in 1941. The new hall was named for Hurley, an academy alumnus.

Sheriff said Hurley had devoted three or four hours to advising school officials about the building and the Connecticut public works commissioner also had given advice on construction of the hall. Sheriff said nothing was paid for the consultations and advice.

Another Witness

Another witness, F. C. Hesselmeyer of Stamford, Conn., attorney for the academy, declared that the academy received no help from the state on the construction job except for advice.

Harold Conroy, Hartford, Conn., machine operator and secretary of the New England district council of the CIO United Electrical Workers, said the New England CIO favored Hurley for the surplus property job.

Noah MacDowell, New London, Conn., war plant operator, praised Hurley's work in averting labor strikes in the state during the war. Leon Riscassi, Hartford, Conn., lawyer and majority leader of the Connecticut State Senate, said that Hurley had put through more "sound legislation" during his tenure as governor than the state ever had before.

PREDICTS 700 M. P. H.

Washington, Dec. 12 (A. P.).—The speed of sound soon may be attained by Navy fighter planes, Rear Admiral D. C. Ramsey, chief of the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, reported today. This would mean that Navy fighter planes would exceed 700 miles an hour, far in excess of the top speed of any known enemy planes.

The highest speed of fighter planes now is approximately 400 miles an hour although a few months ago one plane approached the speed of sound in a power dive.

"It is anticipated," said Admiral Ramsey in a report to the House Naval Committee, "that in the near future the top speeds of fighter aircraft in service will approach the sonic range, and be accompanied by further marked increases in rates of climb and service ceilings."

Scientific research has shown that the sonic range—varying according to density of the atmosphere—is, in temperate zones, 763 miles an hour at sea level. The speed of sound decreases as altitude increases.

ARMY TO FREE TEXTILE MEN

Shortage Of Heavy Duck Cited As Reason

DEC 1319

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Army will release skilled textile workers from its forces in this country because of the critical shortage of heavy duck for tents, Senator Maybank (D., S.C.) said tonight.

The South Carolina Senator also said the Office of Price Administration has agreed to leave to the Army the question of ceiling prices on duck it buys. This might mean a boost in price to stimulate production.

Meets With Senators

Lieut. Gen. Brehon. B. Somervell, chief of the Army Service Forces, met with senators from the large Southern cotton-cloth producing States—North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee—late today to discuss the "extreme shortage of cotton duck."

Malbank reported that Somervell asked the Senators to wire the Governors of those States for full cooperation in recruiting workers so that the mills can run three full shifts.

Manpower Priority

Somervell asked the Senators to confer with War Manpower officials and said duck-producing areas are to have high manpower priority, Maybank said.

Production of cotton duck for tents has gone from "bad to worse for a year," Maybank said.

He added that thousands of workers will be needed to speed up the production and that he hopes "the people will join in to help get these things needed for our boys in the armed services." He said he believed the number "to be released temporarily from the Army" would be comparatively small.

Draft Official

Urges Broader War Work Plan

Col. Keesling Believes Byrnes' Order Doesn't Go Far Enough.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12. (AP)—A broad extension of the administration's war work edict, including the application of community pressure upon 4-F's, was advocated today by a high ranking selective service official.

Col. Francis Keesling, selective service legislative officer, told the Senate War Investigating Committee's manpower inquiry he favored:

1. Broadening the prohibition against men 18 to 37 quitting war plants without draft board approval to cover men 38 to 45.

2. The authorization of pressures "upon certain of the 4-F's, if necessary, to engage in war work."

Praises Byrnes

Praising War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes for what he called the latter's "courageous" action in utilizing the selective service organization to reduce turnover by requiring consent for leaving jobs, Keesling testified to belief it did not go far enough.

He said that the whole program, which he felt would provide the 300,000 men now needed to fill manpower shortages, could be accomplished with "very simple additional legislation."

The selective service already has put into operation Byrnes' order requiring men 18 to 37 deferred for occupational reasons to get draft board permission before leaving their jobs or face induction into the armed forces.

Turnover Prohibition

Keesling would extend the turnover prohibition to groups not eligible to armed force induction by utilizing the local draft boards in an effort to "induce or compel" sufficient numbers to fill vacancies in war industry.

If war needs and selective service records show vacancies can be filed in that way, he said, "the local boards can activate community pressure and proper educational publicity," and couple their appeals with a request from selective service for men to engage in work "within a certain period of time in any of the plants listed as having shortages."

It is for the few persons who would not cooperate that Keesling said he advocated "very limited legislation establishing a penalty for failure to comply with the program.

NEWSPAPER AID PRAISED

Treasury Cites Support of Sixth War Loan Drive

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Newspaper support of the Sixth War Loan has been "truly magnificent," Ted R. Gamble, National War Finance Director, declared here today.

"In the busiest season of the year," he said, "in spite of paper shortage and other operating handicaps, newspapers have continued to give freely of their valuable space in support of this vital program.

"This intensified effort has been greatly needed to help attain our Sixth War Loan goal. There is a close parallel in the amount of newspaper support and war bond sales throughout the country, and the Treasury sincerely appreciates the cooperation of the nation's press."

The Treasury official also complimented merchants who, he said, had provided "excellent cooperation" with war bond advertising.

"In the closing days of the drive," he added, "the support which newspapers and retailers have maintained so superbly thus far will be of inestimable value in helping us reach our war bond sales quota for individuals."

Frank E. Tripp, chairman of the Allied Newspaper Council, made the following statement

"Daily and Sunday newspapers carried 1,871,075 lines of front-page news and editorial support of the Sixth War Loan drive from Nov. 13 through Nov. 21. This represents an increase of 13.3 per cent over the outstanding newspaper record for the corresponding period of the fifth drive.

"Weekly newspapers are giving excellent cooperation, and their news and editorial support will also show a substantial increase over the fifth drive. Many daily and weekly newspapers devoted their entire front page on the opening day of the drive to war bond news."

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Strong Labor Department Urged by Miss Perkins

She Would Give It W.L.B. and N.L.R.B. Work After War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP).—Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, called today for a powerful post-war Labor Department, to include work now done by the War Labor Board and the National Relations Board.

"Fixing of wages and prices should be abandoned as soon as possible and the various activities of the government in prevention of industrial disputes or their settlement should be permanently attached to the Department of Labor," said Miss Perkins in a speech prepared for the national conference on labor legislation.

Secretary Perkins herself has been reported as being ready to quit if the President can find a successor suitable to the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organization. Her resignation is understood to have been before Mr. Roosevelt for a long time.

"Adult education, in so far as it affects working people, should be lodged in the Labor Department and a strong working conditions service should be developed there," Miss Perkins said.

"Various functions relating to labor matters now scattered through many agencies of the government, should be consolidated in the United States Department of Labor after the war," she continued, "including those of the employment service and the apprenticeship and occupational training service of the War Man-Power Commission and the labor planning-for-production program of the War Production Board."

Missouri May Have To Wait

Washington, Dec. 12 (AP)—Missouri may have to wait awhile before it has a street in the nation's capital named for it.

The National Park and Planning Board said today that District of Columbia officials had reported unfavorably to Congress on legislation to change the name of Nichols avenue in Anacostia to Missouri avenue.

In view of the District commissioner's opinion, the board said it had informed congressional committees that while it had no objection itself to the change, it believed that some other street should be considered.

Nichols avenue is one of the main avenues in Southeast Washington.

Nationwide Ward Strike Threatens

DEC 13 1944

WLB Summons Company, Union Officials To Hearing on Walkouts at Four Detroit Stores —Union Committee to Consider National Situation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—A threat of strikes at Montgomery Ward stores throughout the nation was raised tonight as the War Labor Board summoned company and union officials to a hearing on strikes at four Detroit stores.

Emergency Session

Samuel Wolchok, president of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes of America (CIO), announced that the Montgomery Ward organizing committee had been called into emergency session in Washington Thursday at 10 a. m. (EWT).

Wolchok said the purpose was "to determine policy regarding the current strike situation in Detroit as it affects Montgomery Ward workers throughout the country."

A union source said that the policy conceivably could be a request for supporting strikes.

The WLB summons to company and union officials was the latest development in a long series of actions involving Montgomery Ward.

The board, it was asserted, will seek to determine why its orders have been ignored. The company has refused to accept board orders directing maintenance of membership, arbitration, checkoff of union dues, seniority and back wages. The hearing will be held Thursday at 2:30 p. m.

Fails to Comply

The board, in scheduling the "show cause" hearing in the Detroit strike of 1,000 workers, also said it had directed the huge mail order house, headed by Sewell Avery of Chicago, to explain Friday at 10:30 a. m., why it failed to comply with orders in six other cities.

The other cases involve Montgomery Ward stores or plants in Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., St. Paul, Minn., Chicago, Denver, and Jamaica, N. Y.

The action followed the board's usual pattern of procedure in non-compliance cases, leading to seizure by the armed forces if the order is not thereupon carried through.

The WLB proceeded in this way last May before the Army moved into Ward's big Chicago plant, forcibly removing Avery from his office.

The issue in that strike was the company's refusal to put into effect maintenance of membership for the same mail order union. The company contended then that the Union lacked a majority in its plant and forced a National Labor Relations Board election which the union subsequently won.

Board's Telegram

The board's telegram to the principals in the Detroit strike called for a hearing here to show cause "why the directive orders of the National War Labor Board dated August 20, 1943, and May 22, 1944, should not be complied with and why the terms and conditions of employment set forth in said directive orders should not govern the relations between the parties until further order of the board or such date as the parties may mutually agree upon, and why the work stoppage presently in existence should not be terminated and full and continuous production resumed."

The Detroit strike began Saturday and won the backing of the CIO Auto Workers, whose secretary-treasurer, George Adde, earlier today appealed to the White House for government seizure of the Montgomery Ward properties.

Linked with the Detroit case are those involving 260 employes at the Denver plant and 250 workers at Jamaica, N. Y. The issues at those two branches are the same as at Detroit except for minimum weekly rates which the board set to correct alleged substandards.

Hearing Friday

Telegrams to the Montgomery Ward officials and the unions involved at the six other cities, in addition to Detroit, called for a hearing here Friday morning at 10:30 to explain why orders dating back several months have not been complied with.

The telegrams were similar to the one sent in the Detroit case except that they did not refer to work stoppages.

The number of employes and issues and date of the board order in the other cases:

Portland—450 employes, represented by AFL Teamsters, maintenances of membership and wage rates; regional board directive affirmed by National Board October 30, 1943.

San Rafael—52 employes, AFL Retail Clerks, San Francisco regional board on May 1, 1944 directed maintenance of membership, wage rates, overtime, vacations, no-strike, no-lockout clause and minor issues.

St. Paul

St. Paul—1,091 employes, CIO International Longshoremen's Union, March 14, 1944, Chicago regional board directed seniority promotions, 7.5 cent hourly increase and minimum rate of 50 cents per hour.

The National Board also directed maintenance of membership April 11, 1944 and on November 21 the union reported no compliance.

Chicago—175 employes in printing department and display factory, June 16, 1944, directive order five-cent hourly increase for employes with company since October 2, 1942 and three cents for those hired after that date, maintenance of membership, seniority and grievance machinery.

In a telegram to President Roosevelt, Addes, acting president of the UAW-CIO in the absence of R. J. Thomas, described Montgomery Ward's refusal to accept WLB directives as "this contemptuous Fascist challenge to our country."

Meanwhile, the four Detroit stores remained open today. A union spokesman, asserting 1,500 of 2,200 employes joined the walkout, said only "bobby soxers, working part time, remained at work." A company spokesman claimed a majority of regular personnel was on the job.

Halifax to Present Stone to Princeton

Princeton, Dec. 12.—The Earl of Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, and Admiral Sir James Somerville, R. N., senior British officers in this country, will present to Princeton University on Saturday a piece of stone from the bombed House of Commons.

The stone, gift of his Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, is being presented as a token of appreciation of the contribution the university has made to British-American understanding through its week-end courses for British commonwealth service men and women.

Museum Displays First U. S. Flag To Fly in Japan

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12, (AP)—The first American flag to fly over Japan is on display here.

It was 91 years ago that Commodore Matthew C. Perry planted the 13-starred relic at Gori-Hamma, near Tokyo, when he landed with 200 U. S. Marines and sailors on a formal visit to Japan.

Records show that the historic banner was shipped to a fair here in 1864, sponsored by President Lincoln to raise hospital funds for the Union Army. It disappeared after the fair and was discovered recently in a storage chest by Edgar R. McCorkle of nearby Chestnut Hill.

McCorkle was a friend of the late W. W. Long, noted collector of historica litems. Miss Frances Long, 77, daughter of the collector, said she "believed it possible" that one of the many sea captains who visited her father may have given him the flag.

The flag was found wrapped in a yellowed but untorn July 10 1865, copy of the Philadelphia Inquirer.

Although a bit tattered, the prized relic may again fly over Japan. The Board of Trustees of the Atwater Kent Museum, now displaying the flag, is considering a suggestion that it be sent to Gen. Douglas MacArthur to be carried by U. S. forces when the invasion of Japan proper begins.

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Capt. F. E. Huhlein Dies Of Pneumonia In Italy

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 12 (AP)—Capt. Fred E. Huhlein, administrative officer of the Psychological Warfare Bureau in Italy since early summer and a native of Louisville, died of pneumonia in an Italian hospital November 11, relatives here were notified today.

Huhlein, 49, was former assistant manager of the Social Security Board in New York and was in the consular service in South American and European capitals from 1924 until he became associated with the Social Security Board.

Army, Navy Said Selling Plane Space

Civilian Passengers Carried at Commercial Rates, Newspaper Says.

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 12 (AP)—The Miami Herald said tonight that both the Army and Navy quietly have started selling seats on their world-girdling air routes at about the usual commercial rate of 13 cents a mile.

Civilian passengers can get bucket seats on oceanic transports tagged with their names, the Herald reported, if the trips are deemed to be "in the best interest of the country and they can't reasonably be carried by a regular airline."

So far passengers mostly have been business men on important war missions, the Herald continued, but rumors persist that the Air Transport Command of the Army Air Forces is preparing a schedule of fares for its entire network, and that the fare-paying passenger business may be expanded about Feb. 1.

The Herald quoted ATC officials in Washington as saying the plan for carrying fare-paying civilians was set up after the way was cleared by a presidential order.

Under the President's directive, the Herald said, the State department was added to the War and Navy departments as being authorized to grant priorities to civilian passengers to be carried by ATC and the naval air transport command on a cash basis.

St. Louis Honors Negro Flyer

St. Louis, Dec. 12 (AP)—This is Capt. Wendell O. Pruitt Day.

A military parade will honor the young Negro pilot who enlisted in the Army Air Forces in April, 1942, after watching a demonstration for Lieut. Com. Edward H. (Butch) O'Hare, Naval air ace now missing in the Pacific.

The 24-year-old aviator was sent to Italy with an all-Negro fighter squadron nine and a half months ago. He flew 70 missions in his P-51 Mustang without injury, shot down three enemy planes, accounted for eight more on the ground, helped sink a German destroyer and won the Distinguishe Service Cross and the Air Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He returned home last month on 21-day leave.

Praised By Mayor

In setting aside this day for Captain Pruitt, Mayor A. P. Kaufman said, "You have done your best. You are typical of the fine young Negro men from St. Louis and all parts of the country who have gone to war."

The son of Mrs. Melanie C. Pruitt, of St. Louis, the young flyer attended Lincoln University at Jefferson City. After the war he plans to marry Miss Alice Charleton, of Detroit.

World Council Urged

Chicago, Dec. 12 (AP)—President Edward A. O'Neal of the American Farm Bureau Federation advocated today a world organization to maintain peace "by force, if necessary."

Depicting the United States as a nation catapulted by fate into a commanding position of world leadership, O'Neal said, "I am firmly convinced that we in this country must undertake a completely new appraisal of international relations." He continued:

"Of course we must have some sort of a world organization dedicated to mainting peace. It has been demonstrated that it is simply impossible for our nation to remain aloof from world conflicts, therefore it would seem to be the part of

wisdom to assume active leadership in world programs to prevent them.

Band Together, He Says

"Plain common sense indicates that the only course that offers any hope whatever for permanent peace is for peace-loving people everywhere to band together in a pact that proclaims to the world that they are prepared to maintain peace, by force if necessary."

However, he continued at the opening of the Federation's twenty-sixth meeting:

"No force will be necessary if our world security organization will insist that all nations come in with clean hands, renouncing forever all national selfishness, all unwarranted territorial ambitions, spheres of influence and puppet governments—all of which have been in the past potent causes of war.

Free Trade Urged

"No force will be needed if the victorious nations will adopt policies which will permit all nations to rebuild their shattered economic structures, and if defeated nations are encouraged to mend their ways so that they may eventually take their places as honored and respected members of the fraternity of free nations."

O'Neal said encouragement of international trade "is all-important," that "currencies will have to be stabilized as between nations" and that "the only possible way" to maintain postwar employment in the United States and service the national debt "will be through creating an economy of abundance."

Tariffs Assailed

"If the latter is true for one nation, it applies with equal force to the entire world. Restriction, scarcity, monopolies, unemployment and eventually war, are the certain fruits of excessive tariffs."

O'Neal pictured agriculture as enjoying "the biggest income in history," business generally in the black and labor better off than at the start of the war and said that "now that approximately fair balance has been attained among the groups, the big job will be to maintain it."

"Agriculture," he said, "is in a position to challenge all other groups to go with us on a program of abundant production, because we have always produced abundantly."

Baptist Group Plans Big Postwar Budget

CHICAGO, Dec. 12. (AP)—A $10,000,000 budget for foreign missions and veteran rehabilitation, and a $3,600,000 unified budget for home work will be presented to the annual Northern Baptist convention, the convention's general council decided today. The figures are tentative and subject to approval by the full convention which will meet in Grand Rapids, Mich., May 21-27.

The $10,000,000, spokesmen said, is intended primarily for postwar work in Europe and Asia, but it will also be used for the rehabilitation of veterans, and for chaplains. Edwin A. Bell, of New York City, will direct the European work.

The council also authorized appointment of four new delegates to the World Council of Churches.

German Prisoners Put On Bread And Water

Fort Sheridan, Ill., Dec. 12 (AP)—All German prisoners of war at Fort Sheridan were placed on a fourteen-day bread-and-water diet today for a mass refusal to perform assigned tasks, Col. George H. Cushman, post commander, disclosed.

Major E. R. Schuelke, commander of the POW camp, reported that a prisoner leader was taken off his job yesterday for refusing to do his work and that last night a prisoner spokesman notified the camp commander that the entire group would not go back to work until the leader was restored to his job.

Langlie Names Magnuson To Fill Senate Vacancy

Lets Washington Senator-Elect Take Post a Month Early

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 12 (AP).—Republican Governor Arthur B. Langlie appointed Representative Warren G. Magnuson, Democrat, today to serve the unexpired term of Senator Homer T. Bone, Democrat, of Washington, who resigned Nov. 13 to take a Federal judgeship.

Magnuson was elected Nov. 7 to succeed Bone and would have taken office as Senator next January in any event.

Langlie said the appointment was "based entirely upon possibility" that his state would benefit through putting Magnuson ahead of other new Senators in seniority for committee appointments. He said "an appointment of a worthy Republican would be an empty honor" at this time.

ADD LONDON XX A PLANNED

A MEMBER SUGGESTED THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS HAD TAKEN BY FAR THE GREATER PART IN THE LIBERATION OF GREECE.

"I DON'T THINK THERE HAS EVER BEEN ANY QUESTION OF THAT ANYWHERE," REPLIED EDEN.

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ADD LONDON XXA CONSTRUCTION

ADMIRAL SIR BRUCE FRASER, COMMANDER OF THE PACIFIC FLEET, SAID LAST NIGHT UPON HIS ARRIVAL IN MELBOURNE THAT THE ARMADA WOULD OPERATE UNDER THE OVERALL DIRECTION OF ADMIRAL CHESTER W.NIMITZ. HE SAID HE EXPECTED TO SEE NIMITZ SOON.

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ADD LONDON XX UNEASY

NBC CORRESPONDENT GUTHRIE JANSSEN, BROADCASTING FROM ATHENS, SAID MACMILLAN AND SIR HAROLD, ALLIED COMMANDER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, CONFERRED WITH SCOBIE THIS AFTERNOON.

(A BBC BROADCAST FROM ATHENS DECLARED "AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SAYS THE PURPOSE OF THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S VISIT WAS TO CONSULT WITH GEN.SCOBIE AS TO THE STEPS NECESSARY FOR HIM TO COMPLETE HIS TASK.")

A BRITISH ARMY CAR BROUGHT AN EAM EMISSARY TO SCOBIE'S HEADQUARTERS EVEN WHILE SHOOTING CONTINUED OUTSIDE, THE NBC REPORTER SAID, AND SCOBIE TOLD HIM THE EAM ARMY MUST WITHDRAW FROM ATTICA IMMEDIATELY.

THE EMISSARY WAS IDENTIFIED AS MILCIADES PORPHYRONYENNIS, FORMER COMMUNIST MINISTER IN PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU'S GOVERNMENT.

JS113PEW

~~PERSONS~~ ADD LONDON XX PERSONS

TWO BRIDGES, ONE OF WHICH IS POPULARLY CALLED NIJU-BASHI (DOUBLE BRIDGE), AND A PONDEROUS GATEWAY DEFEND THE ENTRANCE TO THE FRONT WING OF THE PALACE. THE PALACE ITSELF IS A LABYRINTHINE COLLECTION OF TEMPLE-LIKE BUILDINGS.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS ALLOWED TO APPROACH THE PALACE ONLY AS FAR AS THE END OF THE FIRST BRIDGE OUTSIDE THE GATE, FROM WHICH POINT SOME OF THE ROOFS OF THE PALACE BUILDINGS ARE VISIBLE.

MQ130AEW

LONDON, DEC 12-(AP)-A MOVE WAS OPENED IN COMMONS TODAY TO GIVE BURMA A PLEDGE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT WITH DOMINION STATUS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE WAR. BOTH CONSERVATIVES AND LABORITES URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO MAKE THE BRITISH POSITION CLEAR TO THE BURMESE.

MT959AEW

LONDON, DEC 12-(AP)-THE EUROPEAN WAR HAS PASSED ANOTHER MILESTONE HAVING LASTED EXACTLY ONE YEAR LONGER THAN THE FIRST WORLD WAR. WORLD WAR ONE ENDED IN FOUR YEARS, 14 WEEKS AND TWO DAYS--THE LAST SHOT BEING FIRED JUST SIX HOURS AFTER ARMISTICE TERMS WERE SIGNED AT 5 A.M. ON NOV.11, 1918. THE CURRENT WAR WAS WAS' FIVE YEARS, 14 WEEKS AND TWO DAYS OLD YESTERDAY.

BZ628AEW

BY JOHN A.PARRIS, JR.

LONDON, DEC 12-(AP)-FIGHTING BETWEEN HUNGARIAN PATRIOTS AND GERMAN SOLDIERS THROUGH THE BARRICADED STREETS OF BUDAPEST WAS REPORTED HERE TODAY AS SOVIET FORCES HAMMERED AT THE GATES OF THE CAPITAL.

ARCHDUKE ROBERT, BROTHER OF THE PRETENDER TO THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN THRONE, SAID THE ADVICES REACHING HIM FROM HUNGARY DESCRIBED BUDAPEST AS "A CITY OF CHAOS, WITH PATRIOT FORCES EMERGING FROM UNDERGROUND AND BATTLING THE GERMANS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE CAPITAL."

UNCONFIRMED STOCKHOLM REPORTS QUOTED RECENT ARRIVALS FROM BUDAPEST AS SAYING PATRIOTS HELD SECTIONS OF THE WORKING CLASS DISTRICTS IN THE CITY.

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30 24 — 21195

A BERLIN BROADCAST OF A GERMAN WAR REPORTER'S DISPATCH FROM BUDAPEST SAID THE CAPITAL HAD BEEN UNDER HEAVY RUSSIAN ARTILLERY FIRE FOR 30 HOURS.

THE NAZI-CONTROLLED HUNGARIAN RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT ARRESTS AND EXECUTIONS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT AGAINST MEMBERS OF THE RESISTANCE FORCES.

AN ADMISSION THAT HUNGARIAN ARMY OFFICERS WERE DESERTING AND JOINING THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT ALSO WAS MADE BY THE HUNGARIAN RADIO IN REPORTING THE EXECUTION OF LT.GEN.JANOS KISS, COL.JENO NAGY AND THREE OTHERS. THE RADIO SAID KISS HAD DIRECTED THE ORGANIZATION OF THE HUNGARIAN FRONT MOVEMENT ON MILITARY LINES.

A GERMAN BROADCAST SAID BARBED-WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS HAD BEEN ERECTED THROUGHOUT BUDAPEST, "AND THE MAILED BOOTS OF THE SENTRIES RING OUT ON THE ASPHALT."

ARCHDUKE ROBERT SAID "THE BEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION I HAVE GIVES THE ORGANIZED PATRIOT STRENGTH IN THE CAPITAL AT ABOUT 15,000 TO 20,000."

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DN749AEW

BY WILLIAM FRYE

LONDON, DEC. 12-(AP)-WITH FIELD MARSHAL SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER AND MINISTER OF STATE HAROLD MACMILLAN BOTH IN ATHENS, THE GREEK EAM-ELAS FIGHTERS THREW OUT A PEACE FEELER TODAY BUT WERE TOLD THAT SURRENDER OF ARMS AND A HALT IN HOSTILITIES WERE PREREQUISITES TO A SETTLEMENT OF THE CIVIL STRIFE.

WHILE FIGHTING RAGED ON GRIMLY IN ATHENS AND PIRAEUS, AND BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS ARRIVED, THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE ANNOUNCED THAT THE BRITISH TERMS HAD BEEN HANDED TO MILTIADES PORPHYROGENIS, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EAM (NATIONAL LIBERATION PARTY), BY MAJ.GEN. RONALD SCOBIE, BRITISH COMMANDER IN GREECE.

PORPHYROGENIS, COMMUNIST FORMER MINISTER OF LABOR IN THE CABINET OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU, WHICH THE BRITISH ARE SUPPORTING, WAS TOLD THAT THE ELAS--FIGHTING ARM OF THE EAM--MUST OBEY BRITISH ORDERS AND THAT THE FORCES IN ATTICA PROVINCE, WHICH INCLUDES ATHENS, MUST LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AND CEASE RESISTANCE.

"AS SOON AS THESE REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN FULFILLED," SAID AN ANNOUNCEMENT WHICH THE FOREIGN OFFICE MADE PUBLIC HERE, "GEN.SCOBIE UNDERTOOK TO INFORM FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER (IN THE MEDITERRANEAN) WHO WOULD INITIATE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO PUT AN END TO THE PRESENT TURMOIL IN GREECE AND RESTORE TO ALL GREEKS, WHATEVER THEIR OPINIONS, PEACEFUL ENJOYMENT OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES, THE FIRST STEP TO WHICH MUST BE THE DISBANDMENT OF ALL PRIVATE ARMIES."

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THE EAM EMISSARY, APPARENTLY NOT AUTHORIZED TO MAKE TERMS, RETURNED TO HIS ORGANIZATION'S HEADQUARTERS TO REPORT. THERE WAS NO INDICATION THAT HE OR ANY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE RESISTANCE GROUP HAD YET SEEN ALEXANDER OR MACMILLAN, BOTH OF WHOM WERE REPORTED IN ATHENS TRYING TO END THE CONFLICT.

EVEN AS THE EAM DELEGATE WAS TAKEN TO SCOBIE'S HEADQUARTERS IN A BRITISH ARMY VEHICLE, SHOOTING CONTINUED OUTSIDE, THE ATHENS RADIO SAID, AND A BRITISH COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED:

"THERE HAS BEEN NO SLACKENING OF REBEL RESISTANCE, AND ALTHOUGH SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN PIRAEUS AND SEVERAL SECTORS OF THE CITY, THE GENERAL SITUATION HAS IMPROVED LITTLE."

THE ELAS RESUMED SHELLING ATHENS WITH THEIR 75-MILLIMETER GUNS, CAUSING A NUMBER OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES, AND SNIPERS INFILTRATED HEAVILY INTO SECTIONS OF ATHENS WHICH BRITISH TROOPS PREVIOUSLY HAD CLEARED.

ATHENS DISPATCHES SAID SEVERAL FIRES BURNED IN THE CITY, FIREMEN BEING UNABLE TO COPE WITH THEM.

WITH THE AID OF REINFORCEMENTS LANDED DURING MONDAY NIGHT, THE BRITISH MADE SOME GAINS IN OTHER SECTORS AGAINST STRONG RESISTANCE, BUT THEIR PROGRESS WAS IMPEDED BY MINES ALONG ALL MAIN ROADS AS WELL AS BY SNIPERS ON ALL HIGHWAYS RADIATING FROM ATHENS.

ALEXANDER AND MACMILLAN WERE REPORTED TO HAVE GONE TO ATHENS ON PERSONAL ORDERS FROM PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL TO SEEK TO SETTLE THE GREEK AFFAIR AND ALLEVIATE CONCERN WITHIN BRITAIN OVER THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT POLICY OF ARMED INTERVENTION.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE LABOR PARTY NOW BEING HELD IN LONDON WILL TAKE UP TOMORROW A RESOLUTION SPONSORED BY THE PARTY'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHICH CALLS FOR REFRAINING FROM SPECIFIC CRITICISM OF THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IN GREECE BUT URGING THE CABINET TO "TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO FACILITATE AN ARMISTICE."

A MORE SHARPLY WORDED RESOLUTION, TERMING THE GOVERNMENT POLICY "DISASTROUS," WAS OFFERED TODAY BY THE AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION, AND THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT OTHER GROUPS IN THE PARTY, NOT CONTENT WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S RESOLUTION, MIGHT PRECIPITATE A SHOW-DOWN FIGHT ON THE QUESTION TOMORROW.

JS543PEW

LONDON, DEC. 12-(AP)-QUEEN ELIZABETH TODAY ADDED A NEW TITLE TO THOSE SHE ALREADY HOLDS. SHE WAS MADE A BENCHER OF THE INN.

IN A 10-MINUTE TRADITIONAL CEREMONY, THE QUEEN ENROLLED AS A STUDENT IN THE MIDDLE TEMPLE (LAW COURTS), WAS CALLED TO THE BAR, AND WAS CALLED TO THE BENCH. IT TAKES AN EXCEPTIONAL LAW STUDENT YEARS TO FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE.

THE QUEEN BECAME THE FIRST WOMAN BENCHER OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE. QUEEN MARY IS A BENCHER OF LINCOLN'S INN, KING GEORGE OF THE INNER TEMPLE, THE DUKE OF WINDSOR OF THE MIDDLE TEMPLE, AND THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER OF GRAY'S INN.

THE TRADITIONAL DINNER WHICH FOLLOWS THE QUEEN'S CALL TO THE BENCH WAS OMITTED BECAUSE OF BOMB DAMAGE TO THE LAW COURTS.

MQ1123PEW

LONDON, DEC 12-(AP)-DIPLOMATS HERE EXPECT MOMENTARILY AN ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SOVIET RUSSIA HAS RECOGNIZED THE LUBLIN POLISH COMMITTEE AS THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF POLAND.

THIS SOVIET-SPONSORED GROUP, FORMALLY THE POLISH COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION, IS IN OPPOSITION TO THE EXILED POLISH GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED HERE AND RECOGNIZED BY THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN.

(A MOSCOW DISPATCH, SUPPORTING THE LONDON FORECAST, SAID REPORTS FROM POLAND PUBLISHED IN MOSCOW TOLD OF "INCREASED AGITATION AMONG POLES FOR QUICK TRANSFORMATION OF THE POLISH COMMITTEE INTO A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.")

MT925AEW

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LONDON, DEC.12-(AP)-LT.PERCY C.O'QUINN, DAISETTA, TEX., WAS FORCED TO "DITCH" HIS CRIPPLED THUNDERBOLT FIGHTER IN THE CHANNEL OFF DUNKERQUE TODAY AND WAS RESCUED BY AN RAF AMPHIBIAN PLANE WHICH RISKED A LANDING AND TAKE OFF AMID SEVEN-FOOT WAVES.

JP117AEW

LONDON, DEC. 12-(AP)-SOME OF THE BEST BOMBING RESULTS OF THE WAR WERE RECORDED TODAY BY AMERICAN CREWMEN OF FLYING FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS IN RUNS OVER THREE IMPORTANT GERMAN RAIL TARGETS IN THE FRANKFURT AREA.

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"CONDITIONS FOR BOMBING WERE PERFECT AND WE TOOK FULL ADVANTAGE OF THEM," SAID LT.FREDERICK THESFELD, IRVINGTON,N.D., A LEAD BOMBARDIER IN A FORMATION WHICH ATTACKED DARMSTADT.

"OUR EGGS WENT RIGHT TO THE BUTTON AND NO NAZI SUPPLIES WILL ROLL THROUGH DARMSTADT TO THE FRONT RIGHT AWAY," ADDED CAPT.MARVIN D.VICK, RIPON, WIS.

A PILOT OF A THUNDERBOLT GUARDING THE BOMBERS ALSO WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE RESULT.

"IT WAS SOME OF THE BEST TARGET HITTING I'VE EVER SEEN," DECLARED LT.CHARLES F.BURMAN, 3618 EDMONDSON AVE., BALTIMORE, MD. "FLAMES AND DENSE CLOUDS OF SMOKE POURED UP. A PALL OF SMOKE SHOT ABOUT 9,000 FEET HIGH."

MAJ.EUGENE E.RYAN OF DARIEN, CONN., WHO LED A MUSTANG GROUP IN THE HANAU AREA, REPORTED "SCARCELY A SINGLE BOMB MISSED ITS MARK."

"THE WEATHER WAS PERFECT--JUST WHAT WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR," RELATED LT.ROBERT F.SCHADALE, 989 STERLING PLACE, BROOKLYN,N.Y., LIBERATOR BOMBARDIER, "AFTER WE DROPPED OUR LOAD, WE SAW SMOKE SPIRALING UP TO 8,000 FEET."

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VISIBILITY AT ASCHAFFENSBURG CLOSE BY WAS DESCRIBED AS EXCELLENT.

"WEATHER BROKE JUST RIGHT AND WE PUT OUR EGGS IN THE RIGHT PLACE, STARTING FIRES AND RAISING CLOUDS OF SMOKE," SAID ST.COY C. WELLS, 200 N.CLEVELAND ST., SAPULPA OKLA. A RADIO OPERATOR.

RQ532PEW

ADD PARIS - (KENNEDY) X X 1ST FRONTIER

HAGUENAU IS THE LAST IMPORTANT FRENCH COMMUNICATIONS CENTER IN THE RHINE VALLEY INVASION ROUTE LEADING TO THE AREA OF LUDWIGSHAFEN AND MANNHEIM, WHERE THE GERMANS HAVE BUILT PROBABLY THE WORLD'S LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF CHEMICAL PLANTS.

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ON THE SEVENTH ARMY'S LEFT FLANK LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S AMERICAN THIRD ARMY BROKE STUBBORN GERMAN RESITANCE IN SARREGUEMINES AND LANCED THREE MILES NORTHEAST TO THE BORDER OF THE SAAR BASIN.

OTHER THIRD ARMY UNITS FOUGHT IN THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE BASIN, AND AMERICAN OFFICERS SAW SOME SIGNS THAT THE GERMANS WERE WEAKENING IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE OUTPOST TOWN OF FRAULAUTERN, IMMEDIATELY ABOVE SAARLAUTERN.

AROUND DILLINGEN, A MILE FARTHER NORTH, 85 GERMANS MADE A SUICIDE CHARGE, YELLING "HEIL HITLER." THEY MOWED DOWN TO A MAN.

IN ITS DRIVE TOWARD COLOGNE, THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY WAS REPORTED CLOSING IN UPON MARIAWEILER, ONLY A MILE AND A HALF FROM BATTERED DUREN, KEY TO THE ROER RIVER LINE, AND UPON HOVEN, WITHIN 500 YARDS OF THE WEST BANK OF THE ROER TO THE NORTH.

LT.GEN.COURTNEY H.HODGES' TROOPS HAVE OVERRUN SCHLICH, ECHTZ AND DHORM, IN THE CENTER OF THEIR 15-MILE ASSAULT ARC ABOUT TWO AND ONE-HALF MILES FROM DUREN, AND SCHAFBERG, FIVE MILES SOUTHWEST OF DUREN.

THE FIRST ARMY WAS FIGHTING TO OPEN A PATH TO THE RHINELAND AND THE RUHR, HOUSING THE REICH'S GREATEST INDUSTRIAL CONCENTRATION. SCORING GAINS OF UP TO THREE MILES DURING THE PAST TWO DAYS, HODGES' UNITS NOW WERE 17 MILES INSIDE GERMANY FOR THE DEEPEST ALLIED PENETRATION OF THE REICH.

THE AMERICANS WERE DIGGING THE GERMANS FROM PIER, MERKEN, MERODE AND GEY IN HOUSE TO HOUSE FIGHTING. MERKEN IS ALMOST ON THE ROER AND IS THREE AND A HALF MILES NORTHWEST OF DUREN. SOME OF THE AMERICANS WERE AROUND THE TOWN A QUARTER OF A MILE TO THE EAST AND WERE 21 AIRLINE MILES FROM THE WESTERN EDGE OF COLOGNE.

WHILE THE SEVENTH ARMY WAS TAKING HAGUENAU--THE GREATEST BASE LEFT TO THE GEMANS IN FRANCE--ONE COLUMN SPEARED INTO THE MAGINOT LINE TOWN OF WOERTH, EIGHT MILES TO THE NORTHWEST AND SEVEN MILES FROM GERMANY. THE ABSENCE OF ANY ARTILLERY OR MORTAR FIRE FROM THE FOREST JUST NORTH OF HAGUENAU MAY SHOW THAT THE GERMANS HAVE NO INTENTION OF MANNING THE MAGINOT LINE FORTS VERY STRONGLY IN THAT SECTOR, A FRONT DISPATCH SAID.

ONCE IT REACHES THE REICH BORDER, HOWEVER, THE SEVENTH ARMY STILL FACES THE SIEGFRIED LINE, AND THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER ALLIED ARMIES INDICATES THAT THE GERMANS WILL DEFEND THAT SYSTEM BITTERLY. A MILE AND A HALF NORTHEAST OF ROHRBACH THE AMERICANS REACHED THE VILLAGE OF PETIT-REDERCHING AND WERE A LITTLE LESS THAN FOUR MILES SOUTH OF GERMANY.

STORMING TO THE SAAR BASIN BORDER FROM THE SOUTH THE THIRD ARMY CAPTURED FOLPERSVILLER AND REACHED THE BOUNDARY ON THE BLIES RIVER, THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES. ZWEIBRUCKEN AND ST. INGBERT, FIVE AND SEVEN MILES INSIDE GERMANY, WERE POUNDED BY THE THIRD ARMY'S BIG GUNS.

IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO ERASE THE LAST ENEMY POCKETS WEST OF THE RHINE AMERICAN SEVENTH AND FRENCH FIRST ARMY TROOPS BATTLED FLOODS AS WELL AS THE GERMANS. STORMING THE VILLAGES OF KIENTZHEIM AND SIGELSHEIM THEY EDGED TO WITHIN THREE AND ONE-HALF MILES OF COLMAR, WHICH THE GERMANS ARE DEFENDING TO PROTECT WITHDRAWALS ACROSS THE RHINE.

BZ444AEW

ADD NOZAT- (TUCKER) XXBRITISH

ONE OF THE MEN DROWNED AND ANOTHER LATER DIED OF WOUNDS.

PVT.ROBERT L.STUFFLEBEAM OF CORRY, PA., SAID HE WAS INTERROGATED BY A GERMAN CAPTAIN WHO ONCE LIVED IN PHILADELPHIA AND WHOSE WIFE AND MOTHER STILL LIVE THERE.

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"HE TOLD ME THINGS ABOUT PENNSYLVANIA I NEVER HEARD OF AND SPOKE BETTER ENGLISH THAN I DO," STUFFLEBEAM SAID.

CPL.ROBERT EQUI OF PASADENA, CALIF., WHO WAS RADIO OPERATOR ON THE PLANE, SAID THAT WITHIN FIVE MINUTES AFTER THE TAKEOFF THE TRANSPORT WAS FLYING BLIND. RADIO INSTRUCTIONS CAME THROUGH WELL FOR A WHILE, BUT THEN FAILED. THE PLANE WAS FORCED TO DESCEND IN A FOG AND THAT WAS WHEN IT RAN INTO ENEMY FIRE.

"WE MUST HAVE HIT THE WATER AT EXACTLY 25 MINUTES OF ELEVEN BECAUSE THAT'S WHERE MY WATCH STOPPED," EQUI SAID.

THE MEN WERE IMPRISONED IN A CAGE SIX MILES OUT OF LA ROCHELLE. THEY SAID THE FRENCH HAD TAKEN THE LEAD IN FORCING THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE, AND HAD HANDED OVER GERMAN PRISONERS FOR THEIR RELEASE.

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THE FOLLOWING AMERICANS WERE EXCHANGED:

PFC.BERNARD TIMMS, 614 SOUTH CORTEZ ST., NEW ORLEANS; PVT. ROBERT W.TOOSLEY, 7648 SOUTH MAPLEWOOD AVE., CHICAGO; CPL. EUGENE WESTHOVEN, 1301 NORTH PEARL ST., COMPTON, CALIF.; PFC.THOMAS F. THOMAS, 142 CLARK PLACE, MEMPHIS, TENN.; PFC.LEO JURCZAK, 1516 EMILY ST.,SAGINAW, MICH.; PFC.FREDERICK TEMPLE, BOX 817, MILWAUKEE, WIS.; PFC.ANDREW STUKA, 386 WARSAW ST., SAWYERVILLE, PA. (NOT LISTED IN POSTAL GUIDE); PVT.ALTON H.MC FALL, ESOM HILL, GA.; PVT.CAROL G.SWACKHAMMER, 1308 E. 5TH ST., CLOVIS, N.M.; PVT.ROBERT L.STUFFLEBEAM, 1345 WEST MAIN ST., CORRY, PA.; PVT. TOMMY TRETHEWAY, 605 JACKSON AVE., MUSKEGAN, MICH.; PFC.HUGH E. THOMPSON, 1438 HIATT ST., INDIANAPOLIS; PVT.W.RAY TANNER, 17 SCHILLER ST., BINGHAMTON, N.Y.; PVT.NED V.THOMAS, ROUTE 2, WEATHERFORD, OKLA.; PFC.JOE TOLOME, 1106 WEST STATE ST., ABERDEEN, WASH.. AND THE CO-PILOT, SECOND LT.BERNARD O.HINKLE, MAUD, OHIO.

B1246PEW

30.24 — 21197

BY FRANKLIN BANKER

DEC 131944

A U. S. PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE BASE IN FRANCE, DEC. 11-(DELAYED)-(AP)-USING POWERFUL FLASH BOMBS 8,000 TIMES AS BRIGHT AS THE FLASH BULBS OF NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS, DARING NINTH AIR FORCE FLIERS HAVE BEEN PHOTOGRAPHING TACTICAL TARGETS BY NIGHT EVER SINCE D-DAY, IT WAS DISCLOSED TODAY.IN FLYING FROM DUSK TO DAWN IN TWIN-ENGINED MEDIUM BOMBERS, "NIGHT FOCUS CATS" TAKE OVER WHERE THE DAYTIME AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS LEAVE OFF, THUS PUTTING THE ARMY'S AERIAL PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE ON A ROUND-THE-CLOCK BASIS AND LEAVING THE GERMANS NO TIME AT ALL IN WHICH TO MOVE TROOPS, ARTILLERY OR SUPPLIES IN SECRET.

THE NEW TECHNIQUE WAS PUT TO DRAMATIC USE AT THE VERY OUTSET OFN THE INVASION WHEN LT. EDWARD LENTSCHER OF 4253 SOUTH HOWELL AVENUE, MILWAUKEE, TOOK OFF FROM A BASE IN BRITAIN AT 11 P.M. ON JUNE 5, FLEW OVER THE FRENCH COAST AND RETURNED WITH VITAL PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING THE GERMANS WERE UNAWARE THAT THE INVASION ARMADA ALREADY WAS UNDER WAY.

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PARTICIPATION OF NIGHT PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE PLANES IN THE INVASION OPERATIONS WAS MADE POSSIBLE WHEN DR. HAROLD EDGERTON OF MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WAS SUMMONED FROM ITALY ONLY TWO WEEKS BEFORE D-DAY.

EDGERTON, INVENTOR OF A DEVICE WHICH PERMITS PHOTOGRAPHING OF FACT MOVING OBJECTS, REMAINED WITH THE NINTH AIR FORCE UNTIL HIS RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES TWO WEEKS AGO, PERFECTING NIGHT AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNIQUE WHICH PREVIOUSLY WAS IN AN EXPERIMENTAL STAGE.

HE FITTED THE RECONNAISSANCE PLANES WITH LAMPS SIMILAR TO THOSE USED BY PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS, ONLY MANY TIMES LARGER AND MORE BRILLIANT. THE ILLUMINATION THUS PROVIDED IS SUPPLEMENTED BY FLASH BOMBS DROPPED BY ACCOMPANYING PLANES.

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THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST NIGHT PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON WAS 29-YEAR-OLD LT. COL. JOE GILLESPIE OF SAVANNAH, GA., AND ORLANDO, FLA. GILLESPIE RECENTLY SNAPPED A CONCENTRATION OF 700 FREIGHT CARS AT SAARBRUCKEN WHICH PROMPTLY WAS BATTERED BY 400 RAF HEAVY BOMBERS.

GILLESPIE'S NAVIGATOR--AN IMPORTANT JOB BECAUSE MUCH INSTRUMENT FLYING IS REQUIRED--IS LT. WILLIAM MCSLENDON, 506 SECOND AVENUE, FRANKLIN, VA.

LT. FLOYD VERKET, 1422 WINNEBAGO ST., LA CROSSE, WIS., PILOTED A NIGHT PHOTO PLANE WHICH SNAPPED A LARGE GERMAN VEHICLE CONCENTRATION SOUTH OF THE LOIRE RIVER, RESULTING IN THE SURRENDER OF 20,000 GERMAN TROOPS.

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OTHER VETERAN NIGHT PHOTO CREWMEN INCLUDE:

LIEUTENANTS WILLIAM RANKE, 358 CLEVELAND AVE., ONEIDA, N.Y.; GEORGE MONTGOMERY, JR 1414 (CQ) WAKEDON ST., DETROIT, MICH.; ROBERT SCHALIT, 1522 ROSEWOOD ST., HOUSTON, TEXAS; DAVID THON, 160-37 TWELFTH ROAD, BEACHHURST, N.Y.; SOLOMON BRAKESHOULDER, 305 MALLORY ST., ORLANDO, FLA.; JOHN E. WILLIAMS, DANVILLE, GA.; CONDLY ANDERSON JR 03 EAST JEFFERSON ST., ORLANDO, FLA.; EDWARD BIELENSKY, 3025 SOUTH QUINN ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

(LONG LINE IN ABOVE, READ X X X MEDIUM BOMBERS, THESE "NIGHT, ETC.)

CLIFFORD MACKIE, 347 HIGH ST., NEWBURYPORT, MASS.; RAY SCOTT, JR., MOLOPAW, FLA.; THOMAS STARMONT, 307 GREENVILLE, S.C.; VERNON L.RED, BOX 282, OKLAHOMA CITY; DOUUGLAS M.HARDY, 1911 MAIN ST., LUBBOCK, TEXAS; LETUS SMITH, BUTLER, ILL.; KENNETH M.T.FREDERICKSON, 263D JACKSON ST., MINNEAPOLIS; NELSON B.HUGGINS, 2801 BRATTON ST., COLUMBIA, S.C.; JOHN KEZZIAH, 304 BROAD ST., KANNAPOLIS, N.C.; ROBERT M.RAWLS, BOX 90, MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS.

SERGTS.ANTHONY CONDRUUKY, 608 STERLING ST., WEST WYOMING, PA.; JACK HOLDEN, 1123 NORTHWEST 22ND ST., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS; WILLIAM G. MCKEON, ROUTE ONE, DARLINGTON, WIS.; CLAUDE M.WHITEMAN, ROUTE ONE, PLYMOUTH, IND.

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FW/BZ722AEW

BY FRANKLIN BANKER (210)

U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, DEC. 12-(AP)-DAREDEVIL THUNDERBOLT PILOTS TOLD TODAY HOW THEY WRECKED ONE-FOURTH OF THE TANK STRENGTH OF A GERMAN ARMORED DIVISION--THE BIGGEST BAG OF TANKS SINCE THE ST.LO BREAKTHROUGH--IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.

THE THUNDERBOLTS CAUGHT 52 TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES NEAR EUSKIRCHEN, 22 MILES SOUTH OF COLOGNE, AS THEY WERE BEING ROLLED UP TO THE FRONT YESTERDAY ON TWO TRAINS IN A DESPERATE NAZI ATTEMPT TO STOP THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY'S ADVANCE TOWARD THE ROER RIVER. THE FACT THAT THE GERMANS WERE USING FLATCARS TO HAUL TANKS SO CLOSE TO THE FRONT WAS CITED AS ANOTHER INDICATION OF THE ENEMY'S GASOLINE SHORTAGE.

DESTRUCTION OF THESE JUICY TARGETS WITH BOMBS, ROCKETS AND MACHINE-GUN FIRE WAS THE WORK OF TWO SQUADRONS IN P-47 GROUPS COMMANDED BY LT.COL.CLURE SMITH OF SKELLYTOWN, PA., AND LT.COL. FRANK PEREGO OF CANANDAIGUA, N.Y.

ONE SQUADRON, MAKING THE BEST OF BAD WEATHER, WENT "HUNTING" AND SPOTTED THE FIRST TRAIN THROUGH A HOLE IN THE CLOUDS. BRAVING A BARRAGE OF FLAK, THESE PILOTS FIRST BOMBED THE TRACK IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN TO MAKE SURE THEIR PREY WOULDN'T ESCAPE.

THE SECOND TRAIN WAS SIGHTED BY A THIRD SQUADRON WHICH BROKEN-HEARTEDLY REPORTED THAT IT WAS OUT OF BOMBS AND AMMUNITION. A SQUADRON WITH A FULL LOAD OF HIGH-VELOCITY ROCKETS WAS DIRECTED TO THE SCENE IMMEDIATELY BY GROUND CONTROL RADIO.

IN THE RUN ON THE FIRST TRAIN, LT.DONALD DEWYKE OF BONNER SPRINGS, KANS., SAID, "I JUST GOT THE TRAIN IN MY SIGHTS, PULLED THE THROTTLE A LITTLE WAY UNTIL I JUST COULDN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER AND DROPPED MY

BOMBS. I PULLED AROUND AND SAW THE EXPLOSION."

LT.LOWELL EMMACK, 318 OBISPO AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CALIF., SAID HIS PROPELLOR GOVERNOR WAS OUT AND HE HAD TO CONTROL IT MANUALLY ON THE BOMB RUN. THE PROP "RAN AWAY" AFTER HIS DIVE, BUT HE RETURNED SAFELY.

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LT.JAMES CAMPISI, 441 IRVING AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CALIF., SAID, "I SAW A BUNCH OF FLAME AND SMOKE GOING UP WHEN I LOOKED BACK. FLIGHT OFFICER JOHNSON TOLD ME MY BOMBS HIT JUST BEHIND THE ENGINE."

FLIGHT OFFICER DAVID JOHNSON, JR., LIVES AT 1810 FIFTH AVENUE, POMONA, CALIF.

"I CAME DOWN THE LINE OF 25 FLATCARS AND SPRAYED THE WHOLE TRAIN WITH STEADY BURSTS," RELATED MAJ.RICHARD LEARY OF ANNAPOLIS, MD., OF THE ATTACK ON THE SECOND TRAIN.

"I SAW THAT THERE WERE COVERS AND CAMOUFLAGE OVER THE TANKS AND TRUCKS, SO I CALLED THE BOYS WITH ROCKETS. ONE CAR BURST INTO FLAMES AS I STRAFED."

LT.WILLIAM OLDEN, 1439 VAN KIRK, PHILADELPHIA, PA., SAID, "I SAW THREE DIRECT HITS FROM MY SALVOES OF ROCKETS EXPLODING AMONG THE COVERED TANKS. THEY ROCKED THE TRAIN AND BLEW THE COVERING AND CAMOUFLAGE AWAY IN FLAMES."

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OTHER PILOTS PARTICIPATING IN THE KILL WERE LTS.ROBERT GOFF, OGDEN AVENUE, ASHLAND, N.J.; ROSS GIBSON, 2014 BELMONT BOULEVARD, NASHVILLE, TENN.; EDWIN MCDONALD, 2548 KENT AVENUE, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.; JOHN PICTON, 640 DLAINSE STREET, PEORIA, ILL.; CHARLES BENNETT, 1248 JACKUON STREET, JANESVILLE, WIS.

FRED KEYS, WEST MONROE, LA.; LESLIE LEAVOY, ROSEVILLE, MICH.; DALLAS CLARK, 711 NORTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.; CARL W.UTERHART, OSTERVILLE, MASS.; JAMES E.HUTCHERSON, EAST AKRON, O.; HENRY F.ARPS, 234 GREER, DEFIANCE, O.; FREDERICK STOLL, 4921 SIMON ROAD, YOUNGSTOWN, O.; GEORGE BAUER, 8 RIVER STREET, DUNDEE, ILL.; WILLIAM LEWIS, 905 MARYLAND, PITTSBURGH, PA.

EDGAR BAKER, 509 EAST 21ST STREET, CHARLOTTE, N.C.; BENJAMIN APOLESON, RATHDRAM, IDAHO; CAPT.LOWELL SMITH, 1554 EAST PHOENIX, BERKELEY, CALIF.; FLIGHT OFFICER SANFORD ROSS, 1333 SOUTH MANSFIELD, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

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JP133AEW

A U.S.FIGHTER BASE IN FRANCE, DEC 12-(AP)-WHEN THE AIR FORCE ND ARTILLERY GOT THROUGH WITH THEIR ONE-TWO PUNCH THERE WASN'T UCH LEFT TODAY OF ONE GERMAN TRUCK WHICH HAD BEEN OPERATING ON THE HIRD ARMY'S FRONT.

MAJ.BERRY CHANDLER, 5101 DENVER DRIVE, GALVESTON, TEX., A THUNDER-OLT PILOT, SAID "A TRUCK WE HAD JUST FINISHED STRAFING WAS STARTING O BURN WHEN ONE OF OUR ARTILLERY SHELLS HIT THE SAME TRUCK AND BLEW T ALL TO HELL."

DYS/APEW

BY EDWARD D.BALL AND LEWIS HAWKINS

WITH THE U.S.THIRD ARMY, DEC 12-(AP)-RIVER-HOPPING DOUGHBOYS OF THE 134TH INFANTRY REGIMENT OF THE 35TH DIVISION STORMED INTO GERMANY NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES TODAY AFTER FORCING THEIR THIRD MAJOR WATER BARRIER IN EIGHT DAYS.

NOT A SINGLE MAN HAS BEEN LOST IN THEIR RIVER-CROSSING OPERATIONS.

TAKING TO ASSAULT BOATS BEFORE DAWN, TROOPS UNDER CAPT.WILLIAM M. DENNY OF CLAYTON, MO., AND CAPT.HENRY A.GRIFFIN OF ASHEVILLE, N.C., NEGOTIATED THE 60-FOOT-WIDE BLIES RIVER AND WERE MOVING INTO THE GERMAN TOWN OF HABKIRCHEN, THREE MILES FROM SARREGUEMINES, BEFORE THE ENEMY KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON.

THE HAZARDOUS CROSSING OF THE SWIFT, FLOOD-CHOCKED BLIES, WHICH FORMS THE BORDER BETWEEN GERMANY AND LORRAINE HERE, WAS MADE AT A POINT SELECTED BY LT.COL.DAN CRAIG OF NORTH PLATTE, NEB., WHO HAD NEVER SEEN THE RIVER IN DAYLIGHT. HE CARRIED OUT RECONNAISSANCE LAST NIGHT AND TOLD THE DOUGHBOYS, "HERE'S THE SPOT."

"THAT'S WHAT I CALL LEADERSHIP OF THE FIRST WATER," SAID COL. BUTLER B.MILTONBERGER, COMMANDER OF THE 134TH, WHO ALSO COMES FROM NORTH PLATTE.

THE 134TH'S QUICK SERIES OF RIVER CROSSINGS STARTED WHEN IT JUMPED THE FLOODED MADERBACH IN THE PUTTELANGE AREA AND THEN WENT ON TO NEGOTIATE THE SAAR, THE ENTIRE REGIMENT SPANNING THE LATTER IN AN HOUR AND ONE-HALF.

AN ENGINEER UNIT UNDER COL.CHARLES KELLER, JR., NEW ORLEANS, LA., GAVE THE 134TH A LIFT IN TODAY'S OPERATION ALONG THE BLIES.

"WHEN THE GERMAND DID FIND OUT WHAT WAS UP, THEY PLASTERED THAT

RIVER GOOD AND PROPER WITH MACHINEGUNS AND MORTARS," SAID LT. JOHN S.PARKER OF LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

THEY KEPT IT UP THROUGHOUT THE DAY, SHOOTING BLIND WITH HEAVY STUFF WHICH SGT.ALEX LUDIWITZ, 588 TINTON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, FIGURED WAS COMING IN AT THE RATE OF 300 ROUNDS AN HOUR.

DURING THE DAY, OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE 35TH DIVISION WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW FROM BLIESBRUCK, A MILE AND A HALF SOUTHEAST OF HABKIRCHEN, AND LATER THE 19TH TACTICAL AIRFORCE BOMBED THE TOWN.

THE 90TH DIVISION REPULSED SEVERAL COUNTERATTACKS IN THE DILLINGEN AREA IN HARD FIGHTING.

THE 26TH DIVISION FOUGHT HALF A MILE CLOSER TO THE GERMAN BORDER TO THE NORTHEAST, APPROACHING OBERGAILBACH, SIX MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES. THESE TROOPS HAD ABOUT A A MILE MORE TO GO TO REACH THE FRONTIER.

CLEAR WEATHER GAVE THE AIR FORCES A RARE OPPORTUNITY AND, UP TO EARLY EVENING, 212 SORTIES HAD BEEN FLOWN, MAINLY IN CLOSE SUPPORT OF TROOPS AND AGAINST COMMUNICATIONS IN THE ZWEIBRUCKEN, SAARBRUCKEN, SAARLAUTERN AND DILLINGEN AREAS.

IN ONE OF THE LIVELIEST AIR CLASHES IN WEEKS, AMERICAN FIGHTER-BOMBERS CLAIMED 11 FW-190'S AND ME-109'S IN A SCRAP NEAR KAISER-LAUTERN. FOUR AMERICAN PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN.

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DY920PEW

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE, DEC 12-(AP)-ENEMY TRANSPORTATION IN THE LANDAU AND KARLSRUHE AREAS OPPOSITE THE SEVENTH ARMY WERE ATTACKED BY AMERICAN FLIERS TODAY AND TWO GERMAN PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN IN THE RAIDS.

LT.JACK KING OF CORPUS CHRISTIE, TEX., DESTROYED ON WHILE LT. FRANCIS T.EVANS, JR., OF ALEXANDRIA, VA., F/O ROBERT L. MARKS OF ENGLEWOOD, CALIF., LT.ROBERT GRIFFITH OF WOODLAND, CALIF., AND LT. RUSSELL MARTIN OF HANNIBAL, MO., SHARED CREDIT FOR THE OTHER.

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Z1033PEW

BY THOBURN WIANT (330)

AN AMERICAN ARTILLERY OBSERVATION POST OVERLOOKING KEHL, GERMANY, DEC. 12-(AP)-THE AMERICANS AND GERMANS ARE LOOKING DOWN EACH OTHER'S THROATS ON OPPOSITE BANKS OF THE RHINE HERE.

AT BATTALION HEADQUARTERS MAJ. KENNETH WALLACE, MODESTO, CALIF., SAID "YOU WON'T NEED GLASSES TO SEE THE GERMANS FROM THE OBSERVATION POST."

LT.SEYMOUR C.WRIGHT, TAMPA, FLA., WARNED "THEY DON'T NEED GLASSES TO SEE YOU, EITHER, SO KEEP LOW."

LT.PAUL J.DELANEY, JR., 1645 WEST MENTOR ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA., LED THE WAY BEHIND BUILDINGS AND UP ALLEYS AMID AN UNNERVING DIN OF ARTILLERY TO THE POST, ONLY A FEW FEET FROM THE BANK OF THE RHINE.

THERE ONE COULD SEE THREE DESTROYED BRIDGES, ONCE LINKING STRASBOURG AND KEHL. THE RHINE IS ABOUT 750 FEET WIDE AT THIS POINT AND WELL CANALIZED BETWEEN SLANTING ROCK WALLS.

DIRECTING ARTILLERY FIRE ON THE GERMANS JUST ACROSS FROM US WAS LT. LAWRENCE HAW, 16574 SARRENTO AVE., DETROIT, AIDED BY PFCS. HENRY FURSTENBERG, FLEMINGTON, N.J., MAX ROBINSON, NEWCOMERSTOWN, OHIO, AND PVTS. ARTHUR RENNERT, 1662 GRAND AVENUE, BRONX, N.Y., AND LESLIE GRESS, MCHENRY, N.D.

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ONE SHELL LANDED SMACK INTO A WAREHOUSE CONTAINING SOMETHING MIGHTY INFLAMMABLE BECAUSE THE FLAMES SHOT UP A COUPLE OF HUNDRED FEET.

SOME BRASH GERMANS CAME OUT OF THE SIEGFRIED PILLBOXES WHICH ARE SPACED ABOUT 50 YARDS APART IN THIS AREA. SHAW TELEPHONED GUNNERS MILES BEHIND US.

SECONDS LATER SHELLS EXPLODED RIGHT WHERE THE GERMANS WERE, THEN WEREN'T.

A KRAUT MACHINE GUN OPENED UP FROM A BUILDING ON ONE OF OUR INFANTRY POSITIONS ON THE BANK OF THE RHINE.

"WE'LL FIX HIM," SHAW PROMISED.

30. 24 — 21201

THREE DIRECT HITS SILENCED THE MACHINE GUN.

DOWN IN FRONT OF THE OBSERVATION POST TWO MORTAR CREWS GOT BUSY. THEY INCLUDED S./SGT. WILLARD SITES, HUMMELSTOWN, PA., CPLS. ELBERT WRIGHT, HAMPTON, ARK., MURPHY NEELY, HUNTSVILLE, ALA.; PFCS. RAYMOND KRUGER, WOODLAND, MICH.; GLEN TAYLOR, ELIZABETH, N.J.; ALBERT FORD, LEWISTOWN, ILL.; ARTHUR BRANNON, NEWVILLE, ALA.; PVT. SALVADOR HERNANDEZ, MARATHON, TEX.

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THE RACKET WAS DEAFENING.

"YOU SHOULD BE HERE WHEN IT'S REALLY NOISY," WRIGHT SAID.

T Z1040PEW

(EDITOR'S NOTE--THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN ESPECIALLY FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE SPARKMAN OF ALABAMA, ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TOURING THE WESTERN FRONT.)

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BY JOHN J.SPARKMAN

PARIS DEC 12-(AP)-BEFORE COMING ON THIS TRIP MEMBERS OF OUR COMMITTEE HAD BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SEE IN THE UNITED STATES RAW MATERIALS BEING CONVERTED INTO WAR MUNITIONS AND RAW RECRUITS INTO WELL TRAINED SOLDIERS. WE HAD SEEN BOTH SOLDIERS AND MUNITIONS TRANSPORTED TO PORTS, LOADED ON SHIPS AND SENT TO VARIOUS THEATERS OF WAR.

NOW WE HAVE SEEN THESE UNLOADED OVER HERE AND WORKED FORWARD TO THE VERY FIGHTING FRONTS. WHAT WE HAVE SEEN HAS CONFIRMED THE PRIDE WE ALREADY HAD IN A JOB WELL DONE.

IN THE TWO WEEKS WE HAVE SPENT IN FRANCE WE HAVE SEEN GREAT SHIPS STANDING IN HARBORS BEING UNLOADED BY AMPHIBIOUS DUCKS WHEN DOCK FACILITIES ARE NOT AVAILABLE, OR LYING AT PIERS DISGORGING THEIR LOADS 24 HOURS A DAY. WE HAVE SEEN A CONSTANT STREAM OF HEAVY TRUCKS ROLLING AWAY FROM THEIR SIDES DAY AND NIGHT TO SUPPLY THE BATTLE AREAS. SHIPS LIGHTENED TO MORE SHALLOW DRAFT GO UP RIVERS TO BE UNLOADED AS FAR INLAND AS POSSIBLE.

THIS JOB OF SUPPLY IS NOT GLAMOROUS, BUT ITS IMPORTANCE CANNOT BE OVEREMPHASIZED. WITH ONLY THE BEACHHEADS AT FIRST TO SUPPLY THE FAST MOVING FIGHTING FORCE, IT SOON ASSUMED TREMENDOUS PROPORTIONS.

THE SUPPLY LINE BECAME DARINGLY LONG--500 MILES OR MORE--BUT THE INGENUITY, INITIATIVE AND ENERGY OF THE AMERICAN ARMY KEPT THE MUNITIONS OF WAR PILED UP WHERE THEY WERE NEEDED.

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IT HAS BEEN A MAGNIFICENT PERFORMANCE--ALL THE WAY FROM THE FACTORY TO THE BATTLE LINES--AND ONE OF WHICH WE CAN ALL BE PROUD.

I HAVE DEALT PRINCIPALLY WITH THE SUPPLY OF MATERIALS AND MUNITIONS. OUR MEN CANNOT FIGHT UNLESS THEY ARE FURNISHED THE THINGS WITH WHICH TO FIGHT. I DO NOT WISH TO MINIMIZE THE FINE DRIVING JOB DONE BY THE MEN AT THE FRONT. THEIR VICTORIES ARE WELL KNOWN.

WE HAVE TALKED WITH MANY OF THESE FELLOWS AT THE FRONT, BACK IN REST AREAS AND IN HOSPITALS. WE SAW FLIERS IN ENGLAND PREPARING FOR RAIDS OVER GERMANY, WE SAW THEM TAKE OFF IN GIANT BOMBERS AND FAST FIGHTERS. WE WATCHED THEIR COMRADES BACK AT THE BASE FOLLOW CAREFULLY THE COURSE OF THEIR FLIGHT. THEN WE SAW THE RETURNING CREWS INTERROGATED AS TO THE SUCCESS OF THE RAIDS.

THE ATTITUDE OF ALL IS THE SAME. THEY ALL ARE OUT TO DO A JOB AND THEY WANT IT DONE WELL. THEIR ONE THOUGHT IS TO GET IT OVER WITH, BUT NOT TO QUIT UNTIL THEY KNOW IT IS DONE THOROUGHLY.

MORALE IS UNIFORMLY GOOD. ALWAYS WHEN ASKING US TO DELIVER A MESSAGE TO HOME FOLKS SOLDIERS TOLD US TO ASSURE THEIR FAMILIES THEY WERE DOING ALL RIGHT. REGARDLESS OF MUD, RAIN, COLD OR OTHER HARDSHIPS OUR G.I.'S INVARIABLY SHOWED MORE CONCERN ABOUT THE FOLKS AND CONDITIONS BACK HOME.

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THEY WANT TO GET BACK HOME. IT'S PATHETIC TO HEAR THESE WAR-HARDENED MEN WHO LEFT HOME AS BOYS TWO AND ONE-HALF YEARS AGO TELL HOW BADLY THEY WANT TO GET THIS JOB OVER WITH AND GET HOME.

THERE IS ONLY ONE DARK SPOT OF IMPORTANCE, AS I HAVE SEEN THE PICTURE. THAT IS SHORTAGES.

THERE ARE SHORTAGES OF WHOLE BLOOD FOR THE TREATMENT OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS IN NEED OF TRANSFUSIONS. EVEN SOLDIERS HERE ARE DONATING BLOOD TRYING TO MAKE UP THE SHORTAGE THAT SHOULD BE SUPPLIED BACK IN THE UNITED STATES.

THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF AUTO TIRES AND TIRE RECAPPING AND PATCHING MATERIALS. THIS IS A MOTORIZED WAR. SUCH A SHORTAGE, IF LONG CONTINUED, MAY WELL SLOW DOWN OUR PROGRESS.

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THE WORST SHORTAGE OF ALL IS OF HEAVY CALIBER AMMUNITION. FOR A LONG TIME HEAVY AMMUNITION HAS BEEN RATIONED TO OUR ARTILLERYMEN IN FAR TOO LIMITED AMOUNTS. HEAVY SHELLS HURLED AT ENEMY POSITIONS SAVE AMERICAN LIVES.

FROM GEN.EISENHOWER, GEN.BRADLEY, GEN.PATTON AND FROM SOLDIERS IN THE FRONT LINE WE HAVE HEARD APPEALS FOR MORE HEAVY AMMUNITION. WITHOUT IT THE WAR MUST BE PROLONGED AND THE COST IN BATTLE CASUALTIES MUST BE GREATER.

KK645AEW

By Joseph Dynan

PARIS, DEC. 12 -(AP)- A MODEST LINEN SHOP PROPRIETOR AND HIS WIFE WHO DID AN ESTIMATED $15,000,000 BUSINESS IN THREE YEARS BY COOPERATING WITH THE GERMANS TODAY FACE CHARGES OF COLLUSION AND ARE LIABLE TO [redacted] A MAXIMUM FINE OF $20,000,000.

HENRI MARQUER AND HIS GERMAN-BORN WIFE, WHO DID THEIR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS WITH THE NAZIS AT 33 PERCENT PROFIT ARE IN PRISON AWAITING DISPOSITION OF A CASE WHICH THE SEINE CONFISCATION COMMITTEE BEGAN EXAMINING LAST AUGUST. ALTHOUGH ONLY APPOINTED OFFICIALLY OCT. 16, THE COMMITTEE HAD SEIZED THE MARQUER APARTMENT [redacted]ROOMS AND DISCOVERED EXTENSIVE FILES AND PHOTOGRAPHS WHICH NOW ARE BEING USED AS EVIDENCE.

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BY MANUFACTURING UNIFORMS, OVERCOATS, BLANKETS AND LINENS FOR THE LUFTWAFFE, MARQUER WAS ABLE TO BECOME A LEADING CLOTHIER WITH A SWANK QUAI D'ORSAY APARTMENT, A STABLE OF 30 HORSES, MOTOR CARS AND A CHATEAUX. HE ALSO SHIPPED $800,000 IN GOLD ABROAD.

HIS MODERNISTIC PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OVERLOOKING THE SEINE BOASTED A ROTUND BAR, [redacted] A LENGTHY CLASSIC DINING ROOM, AND BEDROOMS

WITH QUBLTS OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE FURS. MARQUER'S WIFE ACQUIRED MANY DIAMOND RINGS, BROOCHES, PENDANTS, BRACELETS AND SIX DIAMOND-STUDDED WRIST WATCHES. HE HIMSELF COULD CHOOSE FROM AMONG 13 WATCHES AND A HALF DOZEN BEJEWELLED CIGARETTE CASES. MARQUER HAD TAKEN THE PRECAUTION TO HAVE PHOTOGRAPHS MADE OF EVERY PURCHASE FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES.

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FINANCE MINISTER RENE PLEVEN AND MEMBERS OF THE SEINE COMMITT HAVE HELD MARQUER UP BEFORE THE PARIS PRESS AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE MANY OCCUPATION-ERA PROFITEERS WHO MUST ACCOUNT FOR THEIR FORTUNES.

THE COMMITTEE, INVESTIGATING WHAT IT CALLS "PROFITEERS OF DISTRESS", SAID APPROXIMATELY 2,000 CASES NOW UNDER EXAMINATION INVOLVE A TOTAL OF $100,000,000 IN ALLEGED ILLICIT GAINS --- MADE EITHER THROUGH DEALINGS WITH THE NAZIS OR IN THE [redacted] BLACKMARKET. DEC 131944

PLEVEN SAID SIMILAR COMMITTEES IN EIGHTY FRENCH DEPARTMENTS HAVE INSTITUTED PROCEEDINGS [redacted] AGAINST MORE THAN 3,000 PERSONS.

GJP / PREWI .. DYNANS 11620 / 230PEW

ON THE ROAD TO DUREN, GERMANY, DEC. 12-(AP)-IN A BATTLE COMMUNICATION POST JUST 200 YARDS BEHIND ADVANCING AMERICAN INFANTRY TODAY A GROUP OF AMERICAN OFFICERS HAD FRIED CHICKEN FOR LUNCH.

"WE GOT 63 PRISONERS YESTERDAY--AND THREE CHICKENS," EXPLAINED FIRST LT. EUGENE V. WELSH, 53 MAPLE AVENUE, MORRISTOWN, N.J., AS HE BIT INTO A DRUMSTICK. "ONE OF OUR INTERPRETERS USED TO BE A BUTCHI HE CLEANED THE CHICKENS AND SENT THEM UP."

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PW/VARBROUGH/MP-445PEW

PARIS, DEC. 12 -(AP)- ZULPICH ---THE TOWN WITH THE LOV NAME---HAS BEEN BLASTED SO OFTEN BY FIGHTERBOMBERS IT'S BEGINNING TO SHO MARKED EFFECTS. JUST TAKE IT FROM 1ST LT. ABNER H. RAINBOW --- WHICH IS ALSO QUITE A NAME --- THAT ZULPICH IS RAPIDLY BEGINNING TO LOOK LIKE ANOTHER [redacted] AACHEN. RAINBOW, WHO LIVES AT 230 CHESTNUT STREET, SEWICKLEY PA., WAS ONE OF THE PILOTS [redacted] PARTICIPATING IN THE THIRD RAID ON THE GERMAN TOWN YESTERDAY. ZULPICH IS BETWEEN DUREN AND EUSKIRCHEN.

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GJP/ KENNEDYS 01710/ 247PEW

PARIS, DEC. 12-(AP)-A RUMOR IN LEGISLATIVE CIRCLES HERE SAID TODAY THAT ONE ITEM OF THE FRANCO-SOVIET AGREEMENT NEGOTIATED BY GENERAL DE GAULLE AND PREMIER STALIN WAS RECOGNITION BY FRANCE OF THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AS THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF POLAND.

IT ALSO WAS REPORTED WITHOUT CONFIRMATION THAT THE MILITARY ACCORD BETWEEN FRANCE AND RUSSIA PROVIDED EVENTUAL STANDARD-IZATION OF ARMAMENTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.

NO DEFINITE INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE PACT HAVE BEEN RELEASED, HOWEVER, PENDING DE GAULLE'S RETURN TO PARIS.

JS514PEW

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 12-(AP)-TWO SELF-STYLED GERMAN POLITICAL REFUGEES NOW IN SWEDEN--COUNT ANTON KNYPHAUSEN AND EDVARRD SCHAPER--HAVE BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH FOR "TREASON" BY A BERLIN COURT, A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN REICHS UND STATS ANZEIGER SAID TODAY.

BOTH FORMERLY WERE HELSINKI CORRESPONDENTS FOR GERMAN NEWSPAPERS WHO ARRIVED IN SWEDEN SOME MONTHS AGO ON "ALIEN PASSPORTS," THE REPORT SAID.

RW1020PEW

BY SID FEDER

ROME, DEC. 12-(AP)-MARCEL CERDAN, FRENCH MIDDLEWEIGHT WHO WAS REGARDED AS THE YOUNG MAN MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED IN LAST YEAR'S MEDITERRANEAN THEATER BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS, BOWED INTO A SECOND ANNUAL INTER-ALLIED NOSE

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MASING AFFAIR TODAY

BEFORE A CROWD OF SOME 1,500.

THE FRENCH SAILOR WHO WON THE PROFESSIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CROWN A YEAR AGO, FEATURED THIS AFTERNOON'S CARD BY FLATTENING SGT.CLINTON PERRY, A LONG, LANKY BOSTON NEGRO, IN EXACTLY ONE MINUTE AND TEN SECONDS WITH A LEFT AND RIGHT BARRAGE. PERRY NEVER LANDED A PUNCH.

UNITED STATES SWATTERS CHALKED UP FOUR VICTORIES IN THIS OPENING SESSION OF THE SECOND DAY OF THE WEEK-LONG TOURNEY. IN THE BEST FIGHT OF THESE, PVT.MURRAY CAIN, FORMER NEW YORK GOLDEN GLOVES BOXER, OUTPOINTED PVT.THADDEUS LEE OF BATON ROUGE, LA., IN THREE-FAST MOVING ROUNDS IN THE LIGHTWEIGHT PROFESSIONAL DIVISION.

THE NORTH AFRICAN ZONE TEAM'S AMATEUR LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT, HAROLD SAMMIS, A TALL SAILOR FROM LONG ISLAND, TOOK AN EASY DECISION OVER CORP.HARRY MOY OF THE BRITISH ARMY AFTER THE BELL SAVED MOY AT THE END OF THE SECOND ROUND. SGT.JOHNNY EBARE, STURDY OAKLAND, CALIF., HEAVY WHO BOXED BOTH JOE LOUIS AND BILLY CONNON THEIR TOURS HERE, WAS AWARDED THE DECISION OVER SGT.PAUL FAVORS, VETERAN DETROIT NEGRO PROFESSIONAL ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A LARGE DIFFERENCE OF OPINION ON THIS VERDICT.

IN THE PROFESSIONAL HEAVYWEIGHT CLASS, PVT.ELLIS LANGRANGE,JR., AN M.P.FROM NEW IBERIA, LA., WON THE NOD OVER PVT.CHARLEY MIEGEL, KANSAS CITY INFANTRYMAN. IN THE AMATEUR HEAVYWEIGHT BRAWLING, CORP. MIKE ZAMFINI, ARTILLERYMAN FROM PAINESVILLE, O., OUTPOINTED SAPPER JOHNNY MORKUS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

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RQ317PEW

ADD ATHENS - (BARBER) XX ATHENS

GENERALLY, THE PRISONERS THAT I HAVE INTERVIEWED SEEMED COWED, BEWILDERED AND FULL OF MISINFORMATION--PRESUMABLY PUMPED INTO THEM TO MAKE THEM FIGHT.

MANY ASSERTED THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE TO ENGAGE GERMANS OR SECURITY BATTALIONS AND BLAMED THEIR LEADERS FOR THE WHOLE AFFAIR.

JP547AEW

ATHENS, DEC 12-(AP)-PARATROOPS RAIDED THE ATHENS RADIO STATION, DEEP IN ELAS TERRITORY LAST NIGHT, REMOVED THE EQUIPMENT AND WITHDREW, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

DY735PEW

ADD SEA XX KANDLA

EASTERN AIR COMMAND PLANES BLASTED A JAPANESE CAMP AND STORES IN NORTHERN BURMA, POSITIONS IN THE CHINDWIN AREA AND A SUPPLY DUMP ON THE MANDALAY-RANGOON RAILWAY. OTHER ALLIED PLANES STRAFED AIRFIELDS AT MEIKTIALA AND THEDAW.

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(MEANWHILE, IN LONDON CONSERVATIVES AND LABORITES BEGAN A MOVEMENT FOR A DEFINITE PLEDGE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT WITH DOMINION STATUS FOR BURMA BY URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN TO THE BURMESE THAT BRITISH TROOPS HAD RETURNED TO BURMA AS LIBERATORS.)

DY947PEW

WITH THE U.S. 41ST INFANTRY DIVISION, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (DELAYED)-(AP)-A SECURITY PATROL OF THE 41ST INFANTRY DIVISION, COMBING A PACIFIC ISLAND FOR JAPANESE REMNANTS, RECENTLY CAPTURED A SOLDIER OF NIPPON WHO THOUGHT HE WAS IN FLORIDA.

DURING HIS INTERROGATION THE JAPANESE WAS QUITE EMPHATIC--HE WAS

IN FLORIDA BECAUSE HIS COMMANDING OFFICER HAD TOLD HIM SO; HE DIDN'T LIKE THE PLACE A BIT AND FIGURED IT WAS NOT WORTH MUCH. HIS TOTAL IGNORANCE OF GEOGRAPHY AND WHAT WAS GOING ON IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD AMAZED HIS YANK QUESTIONERS. DV647PCW

WITH THE U.S. 41ST INFANTRY DIVISION, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (DELAYED)-(AP)-WHEN YOU GO FISHING IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC THESE DAYS YOU MAY CATCH MOST ANYTHING---INCLUDING JAPANESE SOLDIERS.

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AN AMERICAN "J" BOAT CREW, OUT TO CONTACT A PATROL, DECIDED TO FISH A BIT IN A SMALL BAY WHILE AWAITING THEIR BUDDIES ASHORE.

THE FISH WERE BITING FINE BUT THE PARTYWAS BROKEN UP WHEN A CREWMAN NOTICED SOMEONE WAVING FROM THE BEACH WITH A PIECE OF WHITE CLOTH. THE GLASSES SHOWED HE WAS A JAPANESE SOLDIER---ONE OF MANY STRAGGLERS MAROONED ON THE ISLAND.

BEFORE THE DAY WAS OVER THE "J" BOAT WAS ALMOST SHIPPING WATER. IT HAD ABOARD 29 JAPANESE FIGHTING MEN WHO BRAVED THE SURF AND SWAM OUT TO THE LITTLE SHIP TO SURRENDER. ONE WAS AN INFANTRY OFFICER. THEY SAID THEY HAD HAD ENOUGH OF THEJUNGLES, ENOUGH OF CONSTANT PURSUIT BY YANK PATROLS, AND WERE HUNGRY.

EW830PCW

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BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ

AN AMERICAN AIRBASE, LEYTE ISLAND, (DELAYED)-(AP)-A GLEAMING SILVER JAPANESE FIGHTER PLANE AND AN AMERICAN KITTYHAWK TWISTED AND TURNED THROUGH AMAZING AERIAL ACROBATICS. TIME AFTER TIME THEY WERE SQUARELY ON EACH OTHER'S TAIL.

NOT A SHOT WAS FIRED AND THE TWO PLANES LANDED PEACEABLY SIDE BY SIDE. FOR THIS JAPANESE PLANE WAS FLOWN BY AN AMERICAN, MAJ. ROBERT V.MCHALE, HARRISONBURG, LA., AND WAS THE PROPERTY OF THE BATTLING "BLACK SHEEP" UNIT, NOW ROAMING PHILIPPINE SKIES FROM LEYTE BASES.

THE UNIT WAS THE FIRST IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC TO RECONSTRUCT AND ACTUALLY TO FLY AN ENEMY PLANE IN A COMBAT AREA.

THIS IS THE STORY AS TOLD BY CAPT.D.A.PAPPAS, INDIANAPOLIS, IND., AND SECOND LT.R.J.HEYLIGER, JERSEY CITY, N.J.:

AT THEIR DUTCH NEW GUINEA BASE SOME TIME AGO THEY FOUND A WRECKED JAPANESE PLANE--A NEW TYPE RADIAL ENGINE FIGHTER. THE YANK PILOTS DECIDED TO REBUILD IT TO SEE WHAT IT COULD DO.

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF SECOND LT.EDWARD T.BAZAN, ENGINEERING OFFICER (4418 BROOKLYN AVE.) CLEVELAND, O., STAFF SGT. HOWARD B.GOYER, (RFD 2) NEW HAVEN, IND., BEGAN WORK ON THE BODY.

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SGT.HARVEY J.WATSON (980 CAPITOL WOOD DR.) ATLANTA, GA., REPAIRED THE ENGINE. PARTS WERE SALVAGED FROM OTHER WRECKED JAPANESE PLANES. BAZAN AND T/SGT.BRUNO TOPIK (12901 BUFFALO ST.) DETROIT, MICH., WORKED HARDEST, PROBABLY, TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THE JAPANESE DIAL MARKINGS MEANT.

EVEN THE SEAT HAD TO BE REDESIGNED--AMERICAN PILOTS ARE LARGER THAN THE NIPPONESE. AND T/SGT.ARTHUR H.NELSON, LOGAN, IA., BUILT A CANOPY OVER THE COCKPIT WHILE M/SGT.CHARLES A.MICKEY (104 BELEW ST.) WINSTON SALEM, NG.C., INSTALLED SYNCHRONIZED 12.7 MILLIMETER GUNS. AFTER 16 DAYS OF LABOR THE ENGINE WAS STARTED AND HOURS OF CHECKING AND INSPECTING BEGAN.

MAJ.GEN.ENNIS WHITEHEAD TERMED THE REBUILT PLANE "A VALUABLE PIECE OF EQUIPMENT," AND PLACED A 24-HOUR GUARD AROUND IT.

THE TAKEOFF WITH MAJOR MCHALE AT THE CONTROLS WAS EFFORTLESS. HIS MOCK COMBAT WAS AGAINST A KITTYHAWK FLOWN BY MAJ.ROBERT A. MCDARIS (711 TENNESSEE ST.) TALAHASSEE, FLA. THE TWO PILOTS ARE VETERAN FIGHTERS WITH A TOTAL OF 1,000 HOURS OF COMBAT.

EW/DV&PCW

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MEXICO CITY,DEC.12-(AP)-THE MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC CORPS GAVE A BANQUET LAST NIGHT IN HONOR OF DOCTOR JUAN MANUEL CARBONELL, UNTIL RECENTLY CUBAN AMBASSADOR AND DEAN OF THE CORPS, WHOSE RESIGNATION WAS ACCEPTED BY HIS GOVERNMENT A FEW DAYS AGO.

THE BANQUET WAS PRESIDED OVER BY THE NEW DEAN OF THE CORPS, PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR LUIS FERNAN CISNEROS, WHO, ON THE PART OF HIMSELF AND COLLEAGUES, ADDRESSED A FAREWELL SPEECH TO DR.CARBONELL.

IN IT HE EXPRESSED THEIR KEEN REGRET AT DR.CARBONELL'S DEPARTURE FROM THEIR MIDST AND THEIR "GRADITUD MUY HONDA POR LA CORDIALIDAD, FATIGABLE NON QUE SABEIS HAGER DE VUESTRA ACTIVADAD UNA FECUNDA CAPTACION DE SIMPATIAS Y UNSENUELO CONSTANTE PARA QUENOS OS RODEAN."

DR.CARBONELL MADE A BRIEF BUT ELOQUEN REPLY AND TOASTS WERE DRUNK "POR CUBA, POR AMERICA Y POR LA PAZ Y LA HERMANDAD EN EL MUNDO."

ORCHIDS WHICH DECORATED THE BANQUET TABLE WERE SENT TO MRS. CARBONELL.

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JWS 47ACW

SAN JUAN, P.R., DEC 11-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE FINEST SURGICAL SKILL AND EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE WERE BROUGHT INTO USE OVER THE WEEKEND TO SAVE THE LIFE OF "DUCHESS," ONE-YEAR-OLD CANINE PET OF A U.S. NAVY SHIP.

"DUCHESS," BORN ABOARD A DUTCH PATROL BOAT AND ADOPTED BY AN AMERICAN CREW WHEN THREE DAYS OLD, WAS ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH TO PUPS AT SEA WHEN HER CONDITION BECAME SERIOUS.

THE SHIP MADE PORT IN SAN JUAN AND LT. (JG) W.W.CARR, OF WORCESTER, MASS., THE SHIP'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER, DISPATCHED PHARMACIST'S MATE, SECOND CLASS, BRUCE E.WEBSTER, OF CLARKSDALE, MISS., AND COXSWAIN MANNY SILVERSTONE, OF BROOKLYN, N.Y., TO FIND HELP.

THEY ARRANGED FOR A CAESARIAN OPERATION BY TWO NAVY DOCTORS, WITH ANOTHER SRVING AS ANAESTHETIST. ASSISTING WERE PHARMACIST'S MATES, FIRST CLASS, C.M.FRIESEN, GLENDALE, CALIF., AND ARCHIE J.FREEMAN, OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

"DUCHESS" AND HER FOUR PUPS NOW ARE DOING FINE.

ADD MONTREAL XX KING

THE MAN HE DEFEATED MONDAY, 62,917 TO 48,134, ALSO IS FRENCH-SPEAKING. THE AVERAGE VOTER FOR HOUDE MAY HAVE FELT AS HE CAST HIS BALLOT THAT THE OPPONENT, THE PRESENT MAYOR ADHEMAR RAYNAULT, WAS INCLINED TO COOPERATE WITH THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULACE TOO MUCH, BUT IN GENERAL THE SUPPORTERS OF HOUDE WERE VOTING FOR HOUDE THE INDIVIDUAL RATHER THAN FOR A MAN REPRESENTING FRENCH-CANADIAN NATIONALISM.

HOUDE DID NOT BASE HIS CAMPAIGN ON THE ENGLISH-FRENCH ISSUE. IN A STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER HIS RELEASE FROM INTERNMENT FOUR MONTHS AGO HE DECLARED THAT HE WAS INTERNED NOT BY THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE OF CANADA, BUT RATHER BY THE LIBERAL PARTY POLITICAL ADMINISTRATION IN OTTAWA--AN ADMINISTRATION WHICH ATTRACTED ALMOST ALL OF QUEBEC'S SUPPORT IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

HOUDE, WHO WAS ELECTED FOR TWO-YEAR TERMS AS MAYOR OF MONTREAL IN 1928, 1930, 1934 AND 1940, RESIGNED IN 1936 FOUR MONTHS BEFORE EXPIRATION OF HIS TERM DECLARING THAT HE AND DUPLESSIS, THEN NEWLY-ELECTED PREMIER OF QUEBEC, COULD NOT AGREE. HE WAS INTERNED SOON AFTER BEGINNING OF HIS 1940 TERM.

RAYNAULT DEFEATED HIM IN 1938, AND HE WON EASILY AFTER HOUDE'S INTERNMENT AND AGAIN IN 1942. THE MAYORALTY TERM WAS TENDED TO THREE YEARS IN MONDAY'S VOTING.

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HJ643PEW

MONTREAL, DEC. 12-(AP)-ALL NEWSPRINT ORDERS FROM UNITED STATES CUSTOMERS IN DECEMBER WILL BE CUT 15 ER CENT, IT WAS ANNOUNCED HERE TONIGHT BY THE NEWSPRINT ASSOCIATION OF CANADA. THE REDUCTION WAS MADE ON REQUEST OF THE U.S. WAR PRODUCTION BOARD WHEN ORDERS FROM U.S. POINTS WERE REPORTED 28,000 TONS IN EXCESS OF THE MONTHLY QUOTA.

THE 15 PER CENT REDUCTION WILL APPLY ONLY ON ORDERS OF MORE THAN 150 TONS.

MQ1158PEW

DEC 131944

TORONTO, DEC 12-(AP)-ADDRESSING THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE IN TORONTO TODAY, S.H.LOGAN, PRESIDENT, SAID THAT CANADA'S PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY WAS BEYOND THE NEEDS OF HER PEOPLE AND THAT WORLD MARKETS MUST BE FOUND FOR THE SURPLUS.

THE PRESENT UNPRECEDENTED PEAK OF PRODUCTION AND EMPLOYMENT WAS DUE TO ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF GOODS GOING TO EVERY THEATRE OF WAR, HE SAID. ADDING THAT THESE GOODS WERE NOT TRUE EXPORTS.

SOME COUNTRIES WHICH WOULD BE GOOD CUSTOMERS LATER, MIGHT NEED CREDIT FOR CANADIAN GOODS AT THE OUTSET, HE SUGGESTED. CANADIANS WOULD ALSO HAVE TO ADJUST THEMSELVES TO THE FACT THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO IMPORT IF THEY WERE TO EXPORT, HE ADDED.

JJ331PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 12-(AP)-JACK NICHOLS, VICE PRESIDENT OF TRANS-CONTINENTAL & WESTERN AIR, INC., SAID TONIGHT THAT BY EXCLUDING NEWFOUNDLAND FROM THE AGREEMENTS REACHED AT THE RECENT INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO, GREAT BRITAIN HAD RETAINED A "POSSIBLE STRANGLEHOLD" OVER THE ATLANTIC AIRWAYS.

NICHOLS, SPEAKING AT A MEETING OF THE EXPORT MANAGERS CLUB OF NEW YORK, SAID NEWFOUNDLAND WAS EXCLUDED BY AN UNPUBLICIZED NOTATION TO THE CHICAGO AGREEMENTS MADE BY LORD SWINTON, HEAD OF THE BRITISH DELEGATION.

NICHOLS SAID THE RIGHT OF FREE PASSAGE AND LANDING IN IN NEWFOUNDLAND WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR ECONOMIC AND PROFITABLE TRANSATLANTIC FLIGHT OPERATIONS.

MQ102AEW

DEC 131944

NEW YORK, DEC 12-(AP)-BURWOOD V.SANDIFER, ACTING CHIEF OF THE TATE DEPARTMENT'S DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND GANIZATION, SAID TONIGHT THAT THERE MUST BE A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING MONG THE PEOPLE OF THE DUMBARTON OAKS PROPOSALS.

ADDRESSING THE NEW YORK CITY BAR ASSOCIATION, SANDIFER ADDED THAT HE PROPOSALS THEMSELVES MUST BE COMPLETED AND CLARIFIED TO ASSURE HE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PLANNED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HE ASSERTED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT.

"THAT CONVICTION MUST BE REINFORCED," HE SAID, "AND TRANSLATED INTO THE IRRESISTIBLE FORCE OF AN INFORMED PUBLIC OPINION. ONLY ON SUCH AN OPINION CAN WE REST OUR HOPES FOR ACHIEVING THE ESTABLISHMENT

3o 24 — 2,207

OF AN ORGANIZATION TO GIVE US PEACE AND SECURITY, AND ONLY THE UNFLAGGING EFFORTS OF US ALL CAN BRING THIS TO PASS."

FREDERIC R.COUDERT, SR., CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES FOR A WORLD ORDER, SAID THAT "NO FRIEND OF PEACE CAN FAIL TO BE GRATIFIED AT THE RESULT OF THE DUMBARTON OAKS CONFERENCE."

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HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT THE CAUSE OF PEACE IS ENDANGERED BY THOSE "WHO CHERISH THE ILLUSION THAT ANY BLUEPRINT, EVEN IN THE FORM OF A SOLEMNLY SIGNED TREATY, CAN ASSURE PERMANENT PEACE."

BY1226AEW

NEW YORK, DEC 12-(AP)-JAMES A.FARLEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE COCA-COLA EXPORT CORPORATION, SAID TONIGHT THAT AMERICANS SHOULD DROP WHAT HE CALLED A TENDENCY "TO TALK DOWN TO OUR NEIGHBORS TO THE SOUTH."

SPEAKING AT THE 26TH ANNUAL GUADALUPE DAY ANNIVERSARY DINNER SPONSORED BY THE MEXICO PILGRIMS, THE FORMER DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIRMAN SAID:

"WITH THE REALIZATION THAT PEOPLE ARE THE SAME THE WORLD OVER, WE SHOULD DROP THAT ATTITUDE AND CEMENT THE TIES BETWEEN NATIONS WITH THE FRIENDSHIP."

MEXICO PILGRIMS, AN ORGANIZATION OF 500 BRITISH AND AMERICANS PREVIOUSLY OR PRESENTLY DOING BUSINESS IN MEXICO, HEARD FARLEY STRESS NEED FOR LAND REHABILITATION IN MEXICO.

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BY1229AEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.12-(AP)-THE BELGIAN EMBASSY HERE DISCLOSED TODAY THAT BARON ROBERT SYLVERCRUYS, 51, HAS BEEN NAMED AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON FROM BELGIUM.

AMBASSADOR IN CANADA SINCE 1936, HE IS EXPECTED TO TAKE OVER HIS POST IN WASHINGTON AT THE END OF JANUARY, COMING DIRECTLY FROM OTTAWA.

BARON SYLVERCRUYS VISITED LIBERATED BELGIUM A SHORT TIME AGO. HE SERVED IN WASHINGTON AS ATTACHE IN 1918-19 AND LATER AS CHARGE

D'AFFAIRES.

THE PRESENT AMBASSADOR, COUNT ROBERT VAN DER STRATEN-PONTHOZ IS RETIRING, THE EMBASSY SAID, BECAUSE HE HAS REACHED THE AGE LIMIT. WHEN HIS SUCCESSOR ARRIVES, HE IS EXPECTED TO GO TO ARGENTINA BECAUSE HIS WIFE IS ARGENTINE AND HIS CHILDREN ARE MARRIED TO ARGENTINES AND LIVE THERE.

FR1216PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.12-(AP)-REP.DILWEG (D-WIS) IS ON HIS WAY TO EUROPE ON AN "UNDISCLOSED MISSION."

HE EXPECTS TO VISIT ENGLAND, FRANCE AND PARTS OF GERMANY.

THE WISCONSIN CONGRESSMAN WENT TO MONTREAL, CANADA, TODAY BY TRAIN AND WILL FLY FROM THERE TO LONDON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

DILWEG SAID HE WILL RETURN TO THIS COUNTRY BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH, ADDING THAT NO OTHER DETAILS OF THE TRIP CAN BE DISCLOSED AT THIS TIME.

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EG956PEW

(ADVANCE) WASHINGTON,DEC 12-(AP)-AIRMEN OF THE NAVY'S AIR GROUP 60 ARE HOME ON LEAVE AFTER HELPING TURN BACK THE JAPANESE BATTLESHIP TASK FORCE OFF SAMAR, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, OCT.24, THE NAVY DISCLOSED TODAY.

IN THE SAMAR BATTLE, WHICH CLIMAXED 13 MONTHS IN THE PACIFIC, AIR GROUP 60 SCORED SIX TORPEDO HITS ON BATTLESHIPS AND HEAVY CRUISERS AND FOUR DIRECT AND TWO PROBABLE BOMB HITS ON CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS.

SKIPPER OF THE GROUP IS LT.CMDR.HARVEY O.FEILBACH, 2740 N. 44TH ST.,MILWAUKEE,WIS.

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THE NAVY RELATED THAT LT. (JG) QUINN B.LA FARGE,JR.,DEWITT, ARK., LED SIX HELLCAT FIGHTER-BOMBERS AGAINST A JAPANESE HEAVY CRUISER WHILE LT.CMDR.FEILBACH'S DIVIUION TOOK ON THE ENEMY DESTROYERS. TWO DIRECT HITS SLOWED DOWN THE CRUISER AND A DIRECT HIT AND THREE DAMAGING NEAR MISSES WERE INFLICTED ON THE DESTROYERS.

LT.DONALD R.KNAPP, 1137 COAST HIGHWAY, SANTA BARBARA, CALIF., AND ENSIGN PAUL W.LINDSKOG, 3655 HUNTINGTON AVE., MINNEAPOLIS, BOTH FLYING HELLCATS, STRAFED AN ENEMY BATTLESHIP IN SUPPORT OF A TORPEDO ATTACK BY SIX AVENGER TORPEDO PLANES LED BY LT.CMDR.WARREN C.VINCENT, 952 B AVENUE, CORONADO,CALIF. FOUR TORPEDOES HIT THE LEAD BATTLESHIP.

ANOTHER GROUP OF TORPEDO BOMBERS, LED BY LT.ROBERT P.CHASE, 1005 BRYANT ST.,PALO ALTO,CALIF., WENT AFTER A FORMATION OF 15 TO 20 JAPANESE WARSHIPS AND GOT ONE SURE AND ONE PROBABLE TORPEDO HIT ON A BATTLESHIP.

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BESIDES THEIR BOMBING AND STRAFING ATTACKS OF OCT.24, GROUP 60'S HELLCAT AIRMEN DESTROYED 30 ENEMY PLANES IN THE AIR, WITHOUT A SINGLE LOSS. LT. (JG) KENNETH M.MONTGOMERY, 4534 CHESTNUT ST.,PHILADELPHIA, GOT FOUR PLANES AND DESTROYED A FIFTH ON THE GROUND. LT. (JG) ROYCE A.SINGLETON, 914 NORTHEAST 19TH ST.,OKLAHOMA CITY, WAS CREDITED WITH THREE AND A QUARTER IN THE AIR AND TWO ON THE GROUND.

LT. LA FARGE ALSO WAS CREDITED WITH TWO AND A HALK ENEMY PLANES DESTROYED IN THE AIR AND SIX ON THE GROUND.

AFTER THEIR LEAVE, THE NAVY SAID, GROUP 60'S AIRMEN WILL RETURN TO COMBAT OPERATIONS.

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 9 A.M.,EWT.,TUESDAY,DEC.12)

MY453AEW

PORTLAND, ME., DEC 12-(AP)-IF GERMANY HAD STARTED USING THE ROBOT BOMB A YEAR AGO, CAPT. GILL ROBB WILSON DECLARED TONIGHT, "THEY WOULD HAVE WON THE WAR WITH IT."

THE NATIONAL AERONAUTIC ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT RECENTLY RETURNED FROM EUROPE TOLD THE PORTLAND EXECUTIVE CLUB THAT THE GERMANS HAD

ERECTED 400 ROBOT LAUNCHING PLATFORMS IN THE PAS DE CALAIS AREA IN THE BELIEF, CREATED BY DIVERSIONARY BOMBING BY THE ALLIED AIR FORCES, THAT IT WAS THE MOST LIKELY SPOT FOR THE INVASION OF FRANCE.

WILSON SAID THAT "THE INVASION FORCE WOULD HAVE BEEN CUT TO PIECES BY ROBOTS FIRED INTO THE CONVOYS" IF THEY HAD NOT LANDED IN NORMAND INSTEAD OF ON THE PAS DE CALAIS.

THE GERMAN V-1 WILSON DESCRIBED AS "A VERY EFFECTIVE" WEAPON WHICH IN HIS OPINION, WAS BETTER THAN THE V-2, OR "FLYING TELEGRAPH POLE." THE V-1, HE SAID, HAD GREATER DESTRUCTIVE POWER.

SM1155PEW NM

FORT LOGAN,COLO.,DEC.12-(AP)-AMERICAN AIR FORCE COMBAT CREWS IN ITALY DONATED BLOOD FOR GROUND TROOPS UNTIL PLASMA ARRIVED FROM THE UNITED STATES, A CONVALESCENT AERIAL GUNNER DISCLOSED TODAY.

TECH.SGT.CHARLES E.MILLER, BAYONNE,N.J., SAID GROUND CREWS WERE ASKED TO DONATE BLOOD, AND AIR COMBAT CREWS TOLD THEM THEY WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONTRIBUTE.

"THEY PROTESTED SO STRONGLY THAT THEY WERE ALLOWED TO," HE SAID.

MILLER SAID HE WAS A BLOOD DONOR HIMSELF.

DV1009PCW NM

UNDATED---FIRST ADD NIGHT LEAD UNDATED JAPANESE 329S XXX LAST SUMMER.

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A LATER TOKYO DOMESTIC BROADCAST SAID THE JAPANESE MUNITIONS AND WELFARE MINISTRIES HAVE ESTABLISHED A "GUARANTEED ALLOWANCE" FOR WAR WORKERSWHOSE FAMILIES SUFFER CASUALTIES DURING AIR RAIDS. WAR WORKERS WITH SUCH PROTECTION, TOKYO SAID, COULD "FORGE AHEAD FOR PRODUCTION WITHOUT ANXIETY ABOUT THEIR HOMES."

THE ALLOWANCES WILL COVER "AIR EFENSE, MONEY FOR CONDOLENCE FOR THE DEAD, A SYMPATHY SUM FOR THE WOUNDED."

EW728PCW

VUNDATED BILIRAN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY ASSERTED TODAY THAT JAPANESE PLANES HAD "ATTACKED ENEMY FORCES ON THE WESTERN COAST OF BILIRAN ISLAND."

THE REPORT WAS WITHOUT CONFIRMATION BY ALLIED SOURCES.

BILIRAN ISLAND IS NORTH OF LEYTE, SOME 13 MILES WIDE AND 22 MILES LONG.

THE DISPATCH, INTERCEPTED BY FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID THAT THE ATTACK HAD BEEN MADE ON THE AFTERNOON OF DEC. 10 AND THAT THE JAPANESE RAIDERS HAD "HEAVILY DAMAGED TWO ENEMY MOTOR VESSELS

NO ALLIED REPORT HAS INDICATED THAT ALLIED TROOPS HAVE LANDED ON BILIRAN ISLAND.

WW741APW NM

TNIGHT LEAD UNDATED ISE (150)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EMPEROR HIROHITO, WHOSE JAPANESE HOMELAND IS UNDER ALMOST DAILY ATTACK OF AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESSES AND WHOSE ARMIES HAVE SUFFERED FRESH REVERSES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND ON SOUTH CHINA, PRAYED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) AT THE FAMED ISE SHRINE AT UJIYAMADA "FOR THE VICTORY OF THE EMPIRE."

ANNOUNCING THE VISIT OVER TOKYO RADIO TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE, TAKETORA OGATA, PRESIDENT OF NIPPON'S BOARD OF INFORMATION, SAID SIGNIFICANTLY:

"WE, THE 100,000,000 SUBJECTS OF THE EMPEROR, MUST RELIEVE THE GREAT THOUGHTS OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY BY CRUSHING THE ENEMIES, AMERICA AND BRITAIN."

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RECORDED THE BROADCAST.

EARLIER IN THE WEEK THE SHRINE WAS VISITED BY JAPAN'S PREMIER, GEN.KUNIAKI KOISO, WHO OFFERED A SPECIAL PRAYER FOR JAPANESE VICTORY AT LEYTE. KOISO SAID THAT PHILIPPINES BATTLE -- NOW GOING PROGRESSIVELY IN FAVOR OF THE AMERICANS -- "WILL DECIDE THE FATE OF THE GEA (GREATER EAST ASIA) WAR."

HIROHITO MADE HIS VISIT ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS FIRST TO THAT SHRINE IN 1942.

EA935PPW NM

UNDATED JAPANESE ISLAND (100)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO RADIO SAID LAST (TUES.) NIGHT A JAPANESE FORCE "COMPLETELY OCCUPIED" PONSON ISLAND IN THE CAMOTES SEA EARLY LAST FRIDAY MORNING AND THUS "FRUSTRATED AN ENEMY PLAN TO USE THAT ISLAND AS A BASE FOR HIS TORPEDO BOATS." THERE WAS NO ALLIED CONFIRMATION.

PONSON IS A MERE TINY DOT OF LAND IN ORMOC BAY, WHICH NOW IS UNDER AMERICAN CONTROL. THERE HAS BEEN NO INDICATION OF AMERICAN TROOPS EVER HAVING TAKEN THE ISLET.

THE BROADCAST IN ENGLISH TO NORTH AMERICA WAS RECORDED BY THE FEDERALCOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

EA11PPW NM

DEC 13 1944

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S. 9TH ARMIES: FRONT UNCHANGED.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: REACHED ROER BELOW MERODE; SAGGED GERMAN DEFENSES WEST OF THE RIVER.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: REACHED SAAR BORDER BEYOND SARREGUEMINES; SHELLED GERMAN TOWNS; FOUGHT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE IN SAARLAUTERN AREA.

U.S. SEVENTH: STRUCK TOWARD GERMAN PALATINATE FROM CAPTURED HAGUENAU.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

--DASH--

U.S. DIVISIONS

35TH INFANTRY: ADVANCED TO SAAR BORDER BEYOND SARREGUEMINES.
79TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): DROVE TOWARD PALATINATE.
90TH INFANTRY: HAMMERED AT WESWALL IN SAAR BASIN.
95TH INFANTRY: FOUGHT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE IN SAARLAUTERN SECTOR.
26TH INFANTRY: CAPTURED BLIESBRUCK, BEYOND SARREGUEMINES.

MT929AEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (120)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S. 9TH ARMIES: FRONT UNCHANGED.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: REACHED ROER BELOW MERODE; SAGGED GERMAN DEFENSES WEST OF THE RIVER AND CAPTURED SIX TOWNS.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: CROSSED SAAR BORDER BEYOND SARREGUEMINES; SHELLED GERMAN TOWNS; FOUGHT HOUSE-TO-HOUSE AN SAARLAUTERN AREA.

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DY738PEW

HODGES ARMY OPENS TWO PRONGED DRIVE, YANKS SMASH AGAINST NAZI FLANK AT DUREN

GERMANS CLEARED FROM ROER BANKS FOR FIVE MILES

Americans Smash Ahead for Two Miles in New Offensive Movement.

NAZIS BLAST BRIDGES

Patton's Men Measure Advances in Yanks Against Foe's Pillboxes.

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, Paris, Dec. 13.—(AP) A long awaited assault by the U. S. First army against the left wing of German defenders of Duren smashed two miles eastward on both sides of the Roer river in the Monschau area today while farther north troops of the same army drove the Germans from a five-mile stretch on the west bank of the Roer just south of Duren itself.

The new offensive has two prongs, both pushing eastward from points east and southeast of Rotgen, first German town captured by American troops. This drive along the Roer is south of the Hurtgen forest.

The five-mile stretch on the west bank of the Roer was not clearly defined by dispatches from the front, although Hodges' troops were reported to have come within less than 3,000 yards of Gurzenich southwest of Duren and cleared the village of Gey, farther south.

Today's action extended the First army's front to 25 miles.

On the south end of the western front, meanwhile, the spectacular drive of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army toward the German palatinate was checked by blown bridges across the wide Seltzbach river east of Haguenau and by jarring enemy counterattacks south of the border city of Wissembourg.

Between the First and the Seventh armies, Lt. Gen George S. Patton's Third army measured its gains in scores of yards as it fought through a maze of pillboxes and fortified houses of the Siegfried line on the outskirts of Saarlautern. Although the Third's artillery continued to blast Saarbrucken, there were no reports of gains against the Saar capital.

For weeks Hodges has had troops stationed south of Monschau on the east side of the Roer, which flows from Belgium past Monschau and northward past Duren, Julich and Linnich before bending west again to join the Maas in Holland.

While other armored and infantry units slugged their way steadily toward Duren on both sides of the Aachen-Cologne highway, these doughboys today jumped off in a surprise attack that might turn the whole left flank of the German defenders of the Cologne plain.

The First army's new attack was launched from the vicinity of Lammersdorf, east of Rotgen, the first town captured by American troops in Germany, and about 13 miles southwest of Duren.

By mid-afternoon Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First army troops had cleared the villages of Rollesboich, Bickerath and Simmerath, the latter a sizable road junction two miles southeast of Lammersdorf.

Another Yank spearhead thrust eastward from Monschau, five miles south of Lammersdorf, and advanced two miles before encountering strong resistance from a series of enemy pillboxes. This was the only point where the Americans were reported checked. The Nazis appeared to have been surprised by the attack, which began at 6 a.m.

Virtually the only Germans still fighting on the west bank of the Roer in the entire First army sector were entrenched in the tiny village of Schophoven, six miles northwest of Duren.

Supported by tanks, they were putting up a desperate fight. For two days and nights they had been under direct attack, but had yielded only about a third of the ruined village. The bridge across the Roer at Schophoven still was intact.

One American company was cut off last night in Mariaweiler, a mile northwest of Duren, but was rescued.

The entire sector before Duren became extremely quiet late today, front dispatchers said. A dark haze hung over the area, eliminating air support for Hodges' troops.

Third army forces advanced a half-mile into Germany from their new invasion point east of Sarreguemines and made another crossing of the Blies river in that sector. They were reported meeting a new type of German "dungeon" defense as they hit the outposts of the Siegfried line.

Bloody house-to-house fighting was in progress in the German border hamlet of Habkirchen, northeast of Saareguemines. The Germans were battling from cellars interlinked by passages which ran the length of the community.

The buildings over the underground fortifications were described as innocent-looking cottages, but attacking doughboys found they were treacherous, tough fortifications to subdue.

"Hand grenades won't do in this kind of fighting," an American officer said. "A group of our boys, thinking they had the Germans cornered in one cellar, called to them to come out. Before our boys knew it the Germans had slipped through passages, come out topside three houses away and begun chunking potato mashers."

Fort Jeanne d'Arc, the last remaining German pocket in the Metz area, finally capitulated after the front had moved 30 miles beyond that fortress city.

Reach Niederroedern

Tank-supported 7th Army troops pushing eastward from Haguenau reached Niederroedern, 2½ miles west and slightly north of Seltz, but blown bridges there and at Seltz slowed the advance after yesterday's 8-mile sprint almost to the Rhine.

Enemy resistance continued very strong on the Alsace Plain south of Strasbourg, where the French 1st Army made only slight progress. The Germans made a heavy counterattack at Selestat, north of Colmar.

Only patrol action was reported from the 9th American and 2d British Army fronts at the extreme northern end of the front. American tactical planes heavily bombed the German-held town of Julich facing the 9th Army.

FIRST ARMY LAUNCH CLEARS 5 MILES O

KENNEDY

Fresh Drive Aimed at Bonn Gains 2 Miles—Third Edges Deeper Into Saar Towns—Seventh Slowed by Mud and Ruins.

Paris, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—American First Army troops cleared the Germans from five miles of the west bank of the Roer River today. In a new drive southwest of besieged Duren they advanced up to two miles and captured three villages.

The American Seventh Army was slowed by blown bridges, boggy roads and difficult terrain, but the troops advanced to within three miles of the Palatinate and seven of the French fortress gateway town of Wissenbourg.

Opposite Seltz, fifteen miles southwest of Karlsruhe, the Germans blew up a Rhine railroad bridge to Restatt and exploded two others across the wide and deep Seltzback River near the border.

The Third Army had slow and painful progress in its Siegfried Line wedges in the Saarland at Dillingen and Saarlautern.

The new First Army drive was south of the Hurtgen Forest and appeared aimed toward the Rhine city of Bonn, fifteen miles upriver from Cologne. A new German Fifth Panzer Army was disclosed to be arrayed against the First.

Villages Are Seized.

The villages seized in the drive widening the First Army front to twenty miles or more were Rollesbroich and nearby Bickerath and Simmerath, the latter a road junction about two miles southeast of Lammersdorf. Generally, the Germans appeared to have been taken by surprise.

At Rollesbroich, the Americans were thirteen miles southwest of Duren and thirty-five west of Bonn. They were two and a half miles from the upper Roer and seven from the Hasepfeld Dam, in the sweeping eastward bend of the stream. Another advance of nearly two miles was made southeast of Monschau to a road junction where German pillbox fire checked the advance.

Around Duren itself the First Army cleared the suburban village of Mariaweiller and chased infiltrated enemy troops from Hoven. Virtually the only Nazis left on the west side of the Roer north of Duren were troops putting up a bitter stand in the tiny village of Schophoven. By late afternoon the First Army had a third of the place.

The Third Army advanced another half mile into the rich German Saarland east of Sarreguemines and encountered a new type of underground defenses. The flooded Blies River was crossed again in the Bliesbruck area, where the advance was made.

In Habkirchen and other border villages, the Americans found Germans battling from cellars and dungeons linked by passages running the length of whole communities. The toughest kind of fighting was required to flush the Germans.

Riflemen Advance.

In less than three hours, Lieut.-Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's muddy riflemen had advanced more than a mile and entered the village of Rollesbroich, thirteen miles southwest of Duren and thirty-five west of Bonn.

The advance was between the Hurtgen and Monschau forests and was four and a half miles east of Rotgen, first German town conquered by American armies. A little farther north, other units of the First Army, now opposed by the new German Fifth Panzer Army, were within twenty-eight miles of Bonn (population 101,000). Bonn lies fifteen miles southeast of Cologne.

Three Armies Gain.

The First Army was drawn up to the swift and high Roer on

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both sides of Duren. In the center of the Western Front the American Seventh Army trained its artillery on large sections of the German defenses inside the Bavarian Palatinate, while the Third Army fought slowly deeper into the Siegfried Line inside the industrial Saarland.

St. Jeanne d'Arc, last holdout fortress in the Metz area thirty miles behind the front, surrendered during the day.

Between them, the First and Third armies captured 1,521 Germans yesterday, swelling the total of four American armies and one French Army in the current campaign to 78,860. Since D day nearly 765,000 have been caged.

The new drive by the southern wing of the First Army doubled its offensive front to twenty miles. At Rollesbroich, the Americans were two and one-half miles from the Roer. The river winds through western Germany for 125 miles before joining the Meuse at Roermond, opposite which the British Second Army has held a front for several weeks.

At Seltz, fifteen miles southwest of Karlsruhe, and at nearby Nieder-Roedern, which also was reached, the Germans blew bridges over the deep and wide Seltzbach River. The enemy shelled Seltz, a village of 1,600, from the north and east. Overnight the Germans destroyed the railroad bridge across the Rhine south of Seltz to Rastatt in Germany.

A small German force counterattacked from the French border fortress of Wissembourg in the area where Lieut.-Gen. Alexander Patch's forces are nearest the Palatinato. The Americans killed twenty-five.

Another division drove into Soultz, seven miles south of Wissembourg, where the first important battle of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870 was fought. The Germans made virtually no use of the Maginot Line forts through which the Americans drove.

Third Joins in Street Battles.

The Third Army reported new gains in house fighting in the three suburbs of Saarlautern—Roden, Fraulautern and Endorf. Close range fighting continued also in Saarlautern itself.

In the Siegfried Line penetration area at Dillengen, the Ninetieth Division beat back repeated counterattacks, usually made with 200 or so infantrymen supported by a tank or two.

The general picture of the Roer front, bending within 21 miles of Cologne and the Rhine, was this:

The United States 9th Army had cleaned up all pockets west of the river in its sector and was poised on the river bank for eight miles between Julich and Linnich. Lieut. Gen. William H. Simpson's troops have not yet made an effort to cross. Tactical air forces heavily bombed Julich.

First Army Blocked

The 1st Army at its northern end was blocked by a German concentration of self-propelled guns and armor at Schophoven, a mile west of the Roer. At Pommernich, a little to the south, fighting was heavy.

At Hoven, the 1st Army was within a quarter mile of the Roer, but at the Duren suburb of Mairaweiler fighting continued. The Germans in these fortified towns clung to a defensive arc to hold the Americans back from Duren as long as possible. In the Derichweiler and Gey area, troops were about two miles from the river.

The New Nazi Army

The new 5th *Panzer* Army that the Nazis have pitted against the United States 1st Army on the Cologne Plain is commanded by Gen. Hasso Eckardt von Manteuffel, 47, a veteran of the siege of Bizerte in North Africa. His army includes armored units, regular infantry and *Volksgrenadier* troops.

The 3rd Army crossed the German border at a new place, spanning the flooded Blies River and capturing Habkirchen, three miles northeast of Sarreguemines.

Near Obergailbach

Americans have also advanced within a mile of Obergailbach, 6½ miles east of Sarreguemines, supreme headquartesr announced.

It may now be disclosed that the Germans have pitted their new Fifth Panzer Army against the First Army on the Cologne plain. The commander is Gen. Hasso Eckardt von Manteuffel, 47, veteran of the siege of Bizerte, in North Africa. His army includes armored units, regular infantry and Volksgrenadier troops.

The last infested cellars west of the Roer were being cleared by the First Army. A few Germans during the night filtered back into Derichweiler, Gey and Mariaweiler, virtually suburbs of Duren, and these were being blasted from the cold mud, one by one.

Patch Worries Nazis.

Virtually all the Germans except sacrificial units had been driven behind the Roer, which normally is only about 120 feet wide at Duren. Most of that ruined industrial city lies east of the river.

Troops at Mariaweiler were virtually in the outskirts of Duren and were eighteen miles inside Germany and twenty-one short of Cologne. One American company was cut off in Mariaweiler during the night but reestablished contact before dawn.

Below Duren the Hurtgen Forest had been left behind after a lengthy blood bath which started in mid-October.

German broadcasts continued to reflect concern about Lieut.-Gen. Alexander M. Patton's drive toward the Palatinate, the western twelfth of Bavaria, west of the Rhine. The Seventh Army closed within eight miles of the French border town of Wissembourgh (population, 8,000), natural gateway to the province.

The Maginot Line, partly inhabited by French civilians, was passed, but the whole Siegfried Line was ahead. In this area, German frontier breaks sharply westward from the Rhine.

The drive combined with that of the Third Army on Genn. Patch's left to squeeze the Siegfried Line from west and south. In this section, however, the line is thickest, being fortified up to thirty-mile depths to the Rhine.

Some thirty or more towns were swept up yesterday, eight or more of them inside Germany. Behind the German lines Allied air power hit again and again in operations suggesting an attempt to isolate the Germans in the whole central and northern sections of the western front.

A few miles north of Dillingen, the 3d Army knocked out a particularly troublesome little fort, equipped with a revolving turret that could be raised or lowered to shell troops on any side.

The 90th Division at Dillingen destroyed four more tanks in a series of small counterattacks late yesterday. Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., continued to build up his armored firepower inside the Siegfried Line wedge at Dillingen.

Swift advances by the Seventh Army in the Karlsruhe corner brought the German frontier within sight at many points and placed great sections of the Siegfried Line works within short artillery range. Vanguards were within fifteen miles of Karlsruhe.

Six miles inside the industrial Saarland the Third Army shouldered its way through another 700 yards of Fraulautern, winning half that town a mile north of Saarlautern. Repeated counterattacks were broken three miles north at Dillingen and additional Nazi pillboxes were captured.

The Third Army moved across the German frontier anew, spanning the flooded Blies River and capturing Habkirchen, three miles northeast of Saareguemines.

Instruction On Surrender

London, Dec. 13 (AP)—The United States Army today broadcast instructions to German troops on how to go about surrendering to Allied forces.

Pointing out that 700,000 German soldiers, including 39 generals, have surrendered to the Allies since the landings in Normandy June 6, the broadcast said all prisoners of war were under full protection of the Geneva Convention, would receive good treatment and the same food as the Allies.

"It is better to be a prisoner of war than to die uselessly and senselessly," Germans were told.

UNDERGROUND PLANT CAPTURED BY YANKS

WITH THE U. S. 3RD ARMY, Dec. 13.—(AP) A large underground factory captured near Sarreguemines is believed by 26th Division engineers to have been in limited use manufacturing liquid oxygen for jet-propelled planes and robombs.

The plant, located outside Wittring southeast of Sarreguemines, is spread over an area roughly one by two miles in an old limestone quarry. It's tunnels, corridors and rooms had sufficient floor space to house a full infantry division with all its equipment.

Work records showed the factory had been active up to Dec. 4, but before leaving the Germans removed the ertical parts of all machinery and blasted shut all seven entrances.

An exploring party headed by Lt. Col. Richard H. Free of Arlington, Va., found offices, living quarters, kitchens, restaurants and first aid stations as well as manufacturing units. The whole layout was well supplied with electrical wiring and plumbing.

Residents of the area said some frost-covered railroad cars thought to have been loaded with liquid oxygen had been seen leaving the cave via the rail spur.

FORT JEANNE D'ARC CAPTURED BY YANKS

By WADE WERNER

FORT JEANNE D'ARC, France, Dec. 13.—(AP) This German stronghold, last of the Metz network of forts holding out after Lt. Gen. George W. Patton's Third army took the city three weeks ago, fell to American troops today.

The capture of Jeanne d'Arc followed the taking of Fort Driant, toughest in the Metz griddle, and nearly 30 satellite forts. Metz now is really liberated.

Until today the guns of Jeanne d'Arc still menaced some approaches to the city. The great underground steel and concrete fort went out of action this morning after weeks of long air and artillery bombardment.

American troops began taking over shortly before noon. By midafternoon, 502 prisoners, officers and enlisted men, had been counted. Later, at least 50 more were rounded up and sent to cages in the rear. This number included 17 wounded men.

Many truckloads of prisoners passed me as I rode in a jeep toward one of the entrances to the fort near the summit of a hill. They said their food supplies were exhausted before resistance ceased. Most of them, however, looked fairly well nourished, neat and well equipped.

U. S. AND GERMANS SWAP PRISONERS

Near St. Nazaire, Nov. 29 (Delayed) (A. P.).—A group of American prisoners of war whose exchange was arranged by a Red Cross representative were swapped today for a group of German prisoners on a rank-for-rank basis. Andrew Geron Hodges, senior field director of the Red Cross with the United States Ninety-fourth Infantry Division, arranged for the transfer after parleying for hours with four high ranking German officers at Nazi headquarters in St. Nazaire.

The Birmingham, Ala., man and the Germans sealed the agreement over glasses of brandy. The Americans exchanged included:

Lieut. James Silva, Lexington, Mass.; Sergt. James Ianone of 1920 73d street, Brooklyn; Sergt. Harold S. Thompson, Mobile, Ala.; Corporal Donald Nelson of Galesburg, Ill.; Corporal Albert I. Masters, Marietta, Ohio; Pfc. Emmit Harris, Hartford, Ky.; Private Howard Arrington, Woodbridge, Va.; Pfc. Michael Malik, Bridgeport, Conn.; Pfc. Marco Ventresea, Portland, Me.

Pfc. William C. Gogarty, 530 Sixth avenue, Brooklyn; Pfc. John Speer, 6667 79th street, Middle wn, L. I.; Pvt. Michael Danchise, 6815 Durham avenue, North Bergen, N. J.; Pvt. Ernest Fuller, Covington, Tenn.; Pvt. William J. Coyne, Philadelphia;

Cpl. Roland S. Bauer, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Cpl. Rodger E. Bush, Ogden Utah; T/Sgt. Louis Milke, Ol ham Road, RFD. 4, Paterson, N. J.; Pfc. Donald T. McAllister, Riverside Drive, Little Falls, N. J.; Pfc. Gene Owen, Temple, Tex.

Underground War Of Five Years Seen

By J. W. Gallagher

Aldsdorf, Germany, Dec. 13 (AP)—Information from inside Germany indicates that Adolf Hitler's close followers have prepared for five years of underground warfare against the Allies after the German Army collapses.

This is the picture of the master plan for the struggle of Heinrich Himmler, Gestapo chieftain, as pieced together from information now available from various sources:

Himmler started laying the plans for underground warfare in the last two months of 1943 and these plans now are being carried out inside Germany.

Threefold Plans

The plans are threefold, embracing (1) open warfare directed from Hitler's mountain headquarters; (2) sabotage and guerrilla activity conducted by Partisan bands organized by districts, and (3) propaganda warfare to be carried on by some 200,000 Nazi followers in Europe and elsewhere.

Already picked S.S. (Elite) troops have been established in underground strongholds and hospitals in the Austrian Bavarian and Italian Alpine area and it is the plan of Nazi leaders to flee to that region when the Germany military collapse comes. Only true and tried party members will be allowed to enter the strongholds.

The Nazi party already has concentrated food and munitions in the Alpine area sufficient to carry on for a long period.

Partisan Activities Planned

S.S. men and party members unable to reach the Alpine strongholds would be assigned to directing Partisan activities from such places as the Black Forest or out-of-the-way villages. Himmler academies now are training both men and women in sabotage tactics which would be employed by Partisan bands.

In order to hinder Allied police in running down party members during the occupation, Himmler has in the past few months instituted a widespread program to establish double identities for his henchmen. Identity cards of soldiers killed at the nt, or of civilians killed in a aids, have been given to S.S. men and Nazi women.

The idea is to create as much confusion as possible in Germany and give the Allies a tremendous task in unscrambling official records.

Propaganda Campaign Lines

The propaganda campaign will be carried on along the same lines which the old Nazi party followed when it was illegal in Germany. Nazi followers have been instructed to join all political movements and use them as loud-speakers for Nazi ideas. Funds have been cached around Germany to support this campaign.

Every effort will be made to play the Allies one against another. A head propaganda office will be established from which orders will go out to Nazi followers in other European countries and in South America. The main object will be to create a state of chaos and distrust within Europe which will keep the Allies occupied.

One of the main propaganda themes will be to build a legend around the name of Hitler and to convince the German people that some day he will come back.

BUILD GERMAN DEFENSES

Captured Americans Forced to Work, Our Prisoners Report

WITH THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY, in Germany, Dec. 13 (AP)—American prisoners of war are being made to work on the construction of German defenses between

the Roer and Rhine Rivers with Polish and Russian captives, German prisoners have reported.

The captured Germans said that the Americans received slightly better treatment than the others —"they are not beaten and they are not shot on the slightest provocation"—but often they had to work eighteen hours a day. They get the same rations as the others. These consist of 300 grams [illegible] and a bowl of soup and [illegible]

NEW NAZI DEVICES DRIFT OVER REICH

Paris, Dec. 13 (AP)—As the Allied armies made new gains on the Western Front today, the Germans were disclosed to have thrown a new "device" into the war—mysterious silvery balls which float in the air.

Pilots report seeing these objects, both individually and in clusters, during forays over the Reich.

The purpose of the floaters was not immediately evident. It is possible that they represent a new anti-aircraft defense instrument or weapon. This dispatch was heavily censored at Supreme Headquarters.

French Girl's Recovery Laid To Army Penicillin

Paris, Dec. 13 (AP)—Pencillin was credited today with saving the life of an 18-year-old French girl shot through the temple by a stray bullet in the liberation of Paris last August.

A French surgeon removed the bullet, but infection set in and the girl, Nicolle Duchaillut, failed rapidly.

Two United States Air Force officers, Lieut. Col. Alexander Hunter, of Springfield, Mass., and Major Robert Osborn, of McAllen, Texas, overheard the story in a French Red Cross club and arranged for a 24-hour supply of penicillin.

Six weeks later the girl was able to eat normally and was continuing to improve.

'Stars and Stripes' Starts 4-Page Post-War Section

Aviation, Radio, Education and Housing Are Featured

PARIS, Dec. 13 (AP).—The Army newspaper "Stars and Stripes" has started a weekly four-page supplement entitled "Tomorrow" and devoted to post-war topics.

The first issue, appearing yesterday, led off with an article on post-war civil aviation. The section also featured departments on radio, housing, farming, education and an article on women war workers at home.

A full page was devoted to letters from soldiers. One suggested an outright $10,000 discharge bonus for each soldier to solve all education and employment problems. Another expressed the view that a guaranty of "your old job back" smothered initiative, and declared that any one who could not find himself a job was not worth worrying about.

THE MILEAGE TO BERLIN

By Associated Press.

Western Front: 301 miles (from near Duren).

Russian Front: 304 miles (from north of Warsaw).

Hungarian Front: 400 miles from north of Szob).

Italian Front: 551 miles (from north of Ravenna).

RUSSIANS DRIVE NEARER BUDAPEST

Kisalag, Seven Miles from Capital, Captured by Soviet Troops.

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 14. — (AP) Red army armored columns, smashing through strong Nazi defenses northeast of Budapest yesterday, captured Kisalag, seven miles from the Hungarian capital, Moscow announced.

In addition they seized the railway town of Isaszec, 10 miles directly east of Budapest, as the Russians increased their pressure from that direction and hammered the northeast and southeast entrances to the city with artillery and aerial blows.

Isaszeg was captured in a five-mile push south from Godollo, which fell Tuesday.

The supplement to the Moscow communique said today Kisalag fell after tank-supported infantry had smashed a German counterattack and moved forward "step by step" against fierce opposition.

Moscow emphasized that the drive on Budapest from the northeast was encountering the hardest resistance.

"Stubborn fighting continues as the Germans unceasingly reinforce and strengthen their troops defending the capital's approaches," the supplement declared.

Blast Pillboxes

In taking Isaszeg the Russians had to blast the desperately resisting Germans out of blockhouses and pillboxes. There the Russians said they wiped out two battalions of German infantry, destroyed eight tanks, nine big guns and 28 mortars.

The broadcast Moscow communique also announced the capture of seven other towns farther northeast of Budapest, including Szurdok-Puspoki, 12 miles north of the Russian-occupied rail junction of Hatvan and on the rail line leading north from Hatvan to Losonc in Slovakia.

The Soviet advance in that sector engulfed more strongpoints in the steady push toward the Slovak frontier above Budapest, threatening to cut off the Germans fighting in eastern Slovakia and to extend the front toward the Slovak capital of Bratislava and Vienna on the west.

In addition the Moscow communique listed the capture of 12 towns and villages north and northwest of Miskolc, 85 miles northeast of Budapest, in a push continuing an outflanking operation on the eastern Slovak stronghold of Kassa (Kosice).

Towns captured included Abod, 19 miles north of Miskolc and 12 miles from the Slovak border.

The communique mentioned only action by Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army, which has been capturing more than 1,100 prisoners a day since Dec. 5. The bag Tuesday was 1,700, it was announced, raising the total since Dec. 5, to 9,150.

The communique said 29 enemy tanks were knocked out and 11 planes shot down in Tuesday's fighting.

The push towards Kassa was developing between the Bodva and Hernad rivers above Miskolc. At Abod the Russians were only three miles from the large town of Szendro, and 17 miles south of Szepsi (Moldava), a three-way road junction on the Bodva, 13 miles southwest of Kassa.

Another Soviet column striking along the Sajo river killed 300 German soldiers and knocked out six enemy tanks, Moscow said. These troops advanced seven miles from Sajoszentpeter and captured Barcika, 12 miles from the Slovak border.

Other activity along the Eastern front, including East Prussia, was limited to reconnaissance patrols, the communique supplement added. Ships of the northern Soviet fleet were credited with sinking two submarines.

The Russian army newspaper Red Star declared that the Germans already were moving their military depots and war plants into the Reich from frontier districts of Austria menaced by the current Soviet offensive.

The Moscow advices said heavy artillery duels were being waged in the area of suburban Ujpest, upstream from Budapest, and on Csepel island and the west bank of the Danube south of the capital. The enemy airfield on Budaors, on the Nazi escape rail line leading from Budapest toward Austria, was reported neutralized by Soviet guns.

More Artillery Fixed Before Budapest

Moscow, Dec. 13 (AP)—Russian assault forces pointed toward Budapest today from newly captured Godollo, ten and a half miles to the northeast, while artillery drew up in close formation at the northern and southern outskirts of the Hungarian capital.

Despite the close approach of the Red army siege semi-circle, no front dispatches mentioned anything about the fall of the Hungarian capital being "imminent."

Garrison Digs In

The city's inhabitants have fled westward by the thousands and the German garrison was said to have dug in, apparently determined to hold out until full destruction of the metropolis.

From the Russian positions many fires could be seen inside the city.

The fall of Godollo ripped a wide gap in the enemy's defense lines northeast of Budapest. An important rail junction, it was the last major enemy bastion controlling the approaches from that direction. A Soviet communique said the Germans lost 400 killed in its fall yesterday.

The Moscow communiqué also announced capture of Sajoszentpeter, ten miles north of Miskolc, and ten other towns in the Central Slovakia border area.

New Operations Predicted

These advances appeared likely to be linked eventually with the new operations to the west, north of the Danube bend, the objective being to pinch off from behind some 60 miles of mountainous German defenses in Northern Hungary.

Izvestia declared that "complete liberation of the Czechoslovak republic is near."

The army newspaper *Red Star* reported German authorities had begun a hurried evacuation of military depots and war plants from border districts of Austria.

WEATHER KEEPS BIG BOMBERS ON GROUND

LONDON, Dec. 13.—(AP) The mists and clouds of Europe's winter stifled the Allied air offensive against Germany today, holding the heavy bombers away from enemy targets which in the two previous days had been rocked by 20,000 tons of explosives from some 8,000 planes.

Bad weather closed in after a strong force of RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes, plus night fighters and Mosquitos, completed the second day of around-the-clock assault on enemy transportation and oil refineries with a shattering blow at Essen and a smaller strike at Osnabruck late last night.

Even the close support of the west front ground operations by medium and fighter bombers was cut to a minimum by weather.

Heavy bombing of the Citadel in Julich, ahead of the Ninth army's front northeast of Aachen, was carried out by planes of the 29th Tactical Air Command, and a Polish squadron of the RAF cut a railway line between Utrecht and Seiden farther north.

ESSEN SET ON FIRE BY R. A. F. BOMBERS

London, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—R. A. F. fire bombers put the torch last night to Essen, home of the Krupp armament works. The Essen raid increased operations against the Reich in a twenty-four-hour period to four major attacks on eight German cities by 4,000 British and American planes loaded with 10,000 tons of bombs.

Losses were thirteen British bombers, eleven American bombers and nine American fighters in the four attacks. It was the second straight day of 10,000-ton bombing for Germany by Fortresses, Liberators, Lancasters and Mosquitoes from United States Air Forces based in Britain and Italy, and the R. A. F.

Some night fighters opposed the Essen attack, but five were shot down. Six German aircraft were knocked out of the air by British Mustang pilots during a daylight attack on Witten by R. A. F. Lancasters.

All losses by the United States Eighth and Fifteenth Air Forces were due to Nazi ground gunners who filled the sky with ack-ack, particularly around Merseburg, where a synthetic oil plant was hit.

Tactical air units based in France and Belgium supplemented the heavy bombardment campaign. Thunderbolt pilots tangled frequently with German fighters on the United States Third Army front. Eleven Nazi craft were destroyed in the air. Seven United States Ninth Air Force planes were listed as missing.

Bad weather interrupted the offensive from British bases today.

Lieut. Frederick Thesfeld, Irvington, N. J., a lead bombardier in a formation which attacked Darmstadt yesterday, reported on his return that "conditions for bombing were perfect and we took full advantage of them."

ROBOTS HIT ENGLAND

London, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—German flying bomb attacks on southern England continued unabated during the night, causing a number of casualties.

LONDON HELD BIG ENOUGH

City Planners Advocate Setting Of 9 Satellite Cities

London, Dec. 13 (AP)—Britain's largest metropolitan area—London—is big enough, and further expansion should be prohibited while its factories and 10,000,000 inhabitants are reshuffled for a more reasonable and decent standard of living, it was recommended tonight.

Prof. Patrick Abercrombie, commissioned to draw up a postwar plan for the 2,500 square miles of densely populated London and its environs, gave the British Ministry of Town and Country Planning 130,000 words of recommendations which, if accepted, would require 10 to 20 years to execute.

Decentralization was the keynote of the ambitious plan which Abercrombie and his staff spent 2½ years perfecting.

Nine New Cities Planned

He recommended that one million persons be lifted from the heart of London and re-established in areas within a 30-to-50-mile radius of the old city.

Nine new satellite cities with a population of about 60,000 each would be set up on the outskirts of the city, he said.

Industries must go, too, the professor insisted, and many industries automatically will co-operate when decentralization is made attractive to them.

The planning expert suggested that evacuation due to air attacks

Nazi Answers LaGuardia On New York V-Attacks

London, Dec. 13 (AP)—A German spokesman commented with "biting irony" today, the Berlin radio said, on Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia's statement that New Yorkers would not deal with the Germans for 100 years if New York were bombarded with V-3 weapons.

[In a broadcast Sunday, LaGuardia said: "To the Nazis: Don't think you'll get away with it. If an attempt is made to bomb a defenseless city, the people of New York will have no business relations with Naziland for 100 years to come."]

"Apparently the Americans have gained permission to bomb Turin, Milan, Ravenna, Cologne, Munich or Vienna at discretion, while it is a deadly sin to do harm to New York," the spokesman said. "This American statement is grotesque."

The spokesman, described as "amused," added:

"This shows that LaGuardia reckons with the fact that the National Socialists will rule Germany for the next 100 years at least."

LaGuardia's Comment

In New York, LaGuardia said, in commenting on the German spokesman's remarks, "I think that the Nazis understood what I said; hence their anxiety."

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"just about comes within limits of the plan."

If returning families are re-established in the new areas instead of patched-up bomb - damaged homes, this hurdle will be surmounted with little difficulty, he said.

West-end London, with is swanky apartment houses, still would be crowded with 200 persons to the acre, but nowhere else in England would the population be so dense.

Jamming To Be Reduced

Areas which now are jammed, some of them 500 to the acre, will be reduced to between 180 and 136 persons to the acre, graduating to 30 to the acre in the outlying regions.

Three hundred thousand new homes would be needed under Abercrombie's plan. Under the pre-war rate of 72,000 new houses a year, this phase might be completed in four or five years, he said.

Other construction, such as the network of ten express highways, patterned after those in the United States, radiating from London, might take as long as twenty years.

G. I.s Speed London Job

Ahead of Schedule in Building Houses for Bombed-Out Britons

LONDON, Dec. 13 (AP).—American soldiers building temporary houses for bombed-out Londoners are already ahead of schedule.

Starting Saturday and working through the week end, the G. I. engineers used a ten-day quota of cement in four days—and were required to slow down until supplies caught up with them.

Six hundred women demonstrators marched to the House of Commons today carrying placards demanding that the government build 4,000,000 temporary and permanent houses in the next five years.

BRITISH LABOR PARTY BACKING GREECE DECISION

KING

LONDON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Labor ministers in Prime Minister Churchill's coalition government threw their whole support solidly behind British policy in Greece today after their spokesman asserted Russia and President Roosevelt had agreed that "we (Britain) undertake the main problem of Greece."

Bulky Ernest Bevin, minister of labor and head of Britain's biggest union, took the stump at a stormy labor party convention to defend the tory prime minister and shouted:

"The steps which have been taken in Greece are not the decisions of Winston Churchill. They are the decisions of the cabinet. x x

"I took part with my labor colleagues in the whole of these decisions. x x x Looking back I cannot bring it to my conscience that any one of the decisions was wrong."

Bevin said, "I shall reconsider my position in the cabinet as to first steps that shall be taken when we enter other people's territory in order to get stability and feed the people who are in such bad condition."

He did not elaborate, but accused the left-wing Elas of breaking a promise made by all Greek parties to cooperate until plebiscite could be held to decide whether the country wanted a monarchy or republic.

By an overwhelming card vote based on union membership, the 1,000 delegates adopted 2,455,000 to 137,000 a resolution urging the government to seek an immediate armistice in Greece but avoiding any criticism of government policy so far.

Earlier, members of the labor partys executive committee cautioned against any motions that would mean a "chastisement of Churchill" and warned that it would probably force labor ministers to leave the national government.

Delegates of two important unions — The National Union of Railway Men and the Miner's Federation—supported the party-sponsored resolution, declaring publicly they did so chiefly in the interests of unity and in support of Laborite Bevin.

'Big 3' Okayed Influence Spheres, Says Bevin

London, Dec. 13 (AP) — Ernest Bevin, Minister of Labor, indicated today that Britain and Russia—with President Roosevelt's okay—were establishing separate spheres of influence in liberated Europe.

Replying to contentions that Britain was acting in Greece at cross-purposes with her allies, Bevin told the annual Labor party conference:

"Long before this we had an agreement with Russia whereby Russia undertook the main problem of Greece.

Denunciation Avoided

"This agreement was taken to Quebec, submitted to President Roosevelt and agreed to and initialed by him."

The party conference called on the Government to take steps to bring about an immediate armistice in Greece. It avoided any direct denunciation of Prime Minister Churchill's policy there.

The Russians have maintained silence on the developments in Greece.

Prime Minister Churchill said last week his Quebec conference with President Roosevelt had received a proposal from the combined chiefs of staff that the British occupy the Athens area and so pave the way for "the installment of the Greek Government, which we and the great bulk of the United Nations had formally recognized."

Speculation Cited

Ever since the Moscow conference between Churchill and Stalin there has been speculation that Britain and Russia had reached some agreement over the Balkans and southern Europe. This coincided with unofficial reports that Britain was advocating formation of a security-economic bloc which would include France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The resolution, put forward by the party's executive committee, carried by a card vote of 2,445 000 to 137,000. These votes were cast by about 1,000 delegates, each of whom represents a union of known membership.

Demands Win Applause

Demands that the party break away from the Government policy won applause, but were beaten in the balloting after Bevin bluntly told the delegates that the Laborite ministers in the Churchill coalition Government accepted full responsibility with the Prime Minister for British policy in Greece.

"The stability of Greese is vital to the stability and ultimate settlement of the Balkans as a whole," Bevin said.

Cites Broken Agreement

Bevin said he appeared as a representative of the War Cabinet, and declared:

"Whether you agree that the Cabinet's judgment was right or wrong, at least it was arrived at on the basis of facts and with the sole objective of trying to the best we could to get Greece and other countries back on their feet."

He said the crisis developed because the Left-wing ELAS broke an agreement reached with all parties in Greece to co-operate in keeping order unfil a free election could be held to decide whether the Greek people wanted a monarchy or republic.

Criticize Moderation.

Spokesmen for both the National Union of Railwaymen and the Miners Federation announced support of the resolution, but criticized its moderation.

"We will have to support it out of unity, but we regret the bankruptcy of our present leadership," said Lawrence Plover, representing the miners.

John Benstead, spokesman for the railwaymen, said Labor promised in 1940 to stand behind Bevin, and added "we shall do so to the bitter end."

"But we cannot be hamstrung all the time," he said.

An army captain in uniform—Raymond Blackburn—asserted British policy in Greece "has stuck in the gizzard of even big businessman Stettinius and has made Moscow vomit."

Spokesmen for both the national union of railwaymen and the miners federation announced support of the resolution, but criticized its moderation. Before the ballot was taken, James Griffith, the floor leader for the resolution, warned that a "vote of no confidence in the government would be an indication to our labor colleagues in the cabinet to leave the government forthwith."

New Meeting of 'Big Three' Is Expected at Early Date

PARIS

LONDON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Signs of an imminent meeting between President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, and possibly Marshal Stalin, multiplied here tonight.

At stake was the settlement of such immediate problems as the coordination of apparently diverging Allied policies in Europe and the necessity for speeding plans for the treatment of Germany after the war.

Among the signposts pointing to an early meeting was the sharp decline in Anglo-American relations, now possibly at their lowest ebb since the outbreak of the war.

Another sign was the fact that Roosevelt will be inaugurated Jan. 20. In view of this, and the need for improving Anglo-American relations, the speculation in informed quarters favored a before-the-end-of-the-year meeting rather than one delayed until spring.

Although diplomatic quarters speculated on the whereabouts of both Roosevelt and Churchill, censorship prohibited any mention of their movements.

Security also prevented naming of dates and places for such a conference. Among the possibilities were Great Britain, the Middle East, Canada, the United States—or, as one man remarked, in Roosevelt's famous Shangri-La.

The British press, meanwhile, argued that the meeting should be held in Great Britain. Weeks ago it launched a campaign to bring the Big Three together here. It contended that the 70-year-old Churchill had done far more than his share of traveling, and that the others should come to him.

Diplomatic observers agreed that here were many tangles in the political sphere which could well be discussed, and soon, by the Big Three.

Problems facing the Big Three for immediate consideration included:

1. Germany—From all indications, the Allies are far behind on their plans for dealing with post-war Germany. Coordination of policy for de-Nazifying Germany apeared to be one of the main points on the Big Three agenda.

2. One of the main subjects for solution was the principle issue of the Dumbarton Oaks conference: Unanimity betwen the Big Three in case of aggression by any of the great powers themselves.

3. Parallel policy in the liberated countries, in order to prevent crises similar to those in Greece and Italy.

4. Far East—An attempt probably by the United States and Great Britain to clarify further Russia's position after the collapse of Germany.

5. Poland—It has been generally agreed there should be a settlement on whether recognition would be given to the Lublin Poles as the provisional government of Poland, or further steps taken to bring together the Lublin Poles and the exiled government in London.

LONDON REPORT HINTS BIG THREE MEETING IS DUE

PARIS

Parley May Be Elsewhere in Order to Avoid Nazi V Weapons.

SEVERAL VEXING PROBLEMS

Anglo-American Relations Said to Be at Lowest Ebb Since This War Began.

London, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—The belief grew here today that a meeting of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill—and possibly Premier Josef Stalin—was imminent. A sharp decline in Anglo-American relations—possibly at their lowest ebb since the war began—was given as one argument against further delay.

Security would prevent any pin-pointing of dates and places for such a conference. The British press weeks ago launched a campaign to bring the big three together in Britain.

Eden Voices Hopes.

Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden expressed the hope that since Mr. Churchill had been visiting others, "others will visit us soon." A drawback to a conference in Britain, however, is the German V-weapons.

Some diplomats doubt that those responsible for protecting President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin would permit them to jeopardize their personal safety more than absolutely necessary. The London Daily Mail's New York columnist, Don Iddon, said today that there was a good reason why President Roosevelt kept well out of the clash on policy in Italy and Greece.

"Watch the news during the next few days for clews," Mr. Iddon suggested. "The President wasn't just idling and leaving it all to his new Secretary of State, Edward Stettinius, when the danger signals flashed."

Problems for Big Three.

Problems facing the big three include:

1. Germany—co-ordination of a policy for de-Nazifying Germany.

2. An attempt to settle the main issue of the Dumbarton Oaks conference — unanimity among the big three in case of aggression by any great power.

3. Parallel policy in the liberated countries.

4. Japan—The United States and Britain might seek to clarify Russia's position after Germany's collapse.

5. Poland — Whether recognition should be given to the Lublin committee as the provisional government of Poland, or further steps taken to bring together the Lublin Poles and the exiled Polish Government at London.

'Ike' Presents Medal To British Air Marshal

London, Dec. 13 (AP)—General Eisenhower visited London yesterday to present the Legion of Merit Degree of Chief Commander to Sir Sholto Douglas, air chief marshal, it was announced today.

The ceremony, in a United States Army headquarters in London, was attended by a small number of Allied officers.

Sir Sholto, "charged with the responsibility of integrating all British and United States air force units in the Middle East," was cited for "exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services."

The award is comparable to the American Distinguished Service Medal.

Hagg Out of Guardhouse

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 13 (AP).—Gunder Hagg, Swedish miler who didn't show enough speed in reporting for military duty, was a free man today after spending five days in a guardhouse. Hagg and Haakon Lidman, hurdler, expect to leave shortly after Jan. 1 for a series of races on indoor tracks in the United States.

Blasts In Norway Heard

Stockholm, Dec. 13 (AP)—Heavy detonations in Norway were heard tonight in Karlstad, several miles from the Swedish-Norwegian frontier, indicating Oslo was being bombed, the newspaper *Dagens Nyheter* reported.

Big fires were reflected in the sky, the paper said.

Templewood Leaves Spain

Madrid, Dec. 13 (AP)—Lord Templewood, the former Sir Samuel Hoare, who is retiring as British Ambassador to Spain, left for London today after conferring with Generalissimo Francisco Franco in El Pardo Palace.

8TH DENTS NAZI FAENZA LINES

DEC 14 1944

3-Mile Wedge Driven In German Defenses

Rome, Dec. 13 (AP)—Canadian units of the British 8th Army quickly took advantage of newly won Lamone River bridgeheads northeast of the northern Italian highway town of Faenza today to drive a wedge nearly three miles deep into German defenses.

Establishing their bridgeheads across the rain-swollen stream about nine miles from Faenza the Canadians straightened their lines along a continuous front of 6,000 yards.

Following a heavy artillery barrage and 24 hours of fierce fighting, they caught the enemy by surprise and stormed across the 50-foot river at two points simultaneously on Sunday night, it was disclosed.

Railway Straddled

On the northern flank the attack moved along the Ravenna-Bologna railway northwest of Russi. This route, first cut northeast of Russi several days ago, was reported straddled by Allied troops for some distance.

Allied headquarters announced the Canadians had shoved the *Wehrmacht* back 2 miles in the direction of Lugo, and that more than 300 prisoners were taken and a number of armored vehicles destroyed when the Germans were pushed back beyond the Fosso Vecchio o Cantrigo, a small stream which parallels the Lamone.

Allied positions below the new bridgehead line to Faenza remained unchanged, as the flooded Lamone provided an effective barrier.

Faenza Fall Imminent

It was believed unlikely the enemy would be able to hold Faenza for long. The bridgeheads were established only a few days after British and Polish troops had wrecked the Nazi's Lamone Line southwest of the town, a development which enabled the Canadians to bring pressure on both flanks of the Faenza defenses.

With the Canadians only 2½ miles from Lugo—on the only main road north of Faenza—German troops faced the prospect of becoming entirely dependent on one escape route should Lugo fall. That route is the Via Emilia leading to Bologna.

The Germans have launched several small but sharp counter-attacks against the 5th Army south of Bologna, but there is evidence they were intended primarily for screening Nazi defense preparations and preventing the Americans from consolidating for new thrusts northward.

In one assault the Germans gained temporary possession of Castel Nuova on the 5th Army's right flank.

Below the Bologna-Rimini highway southwest of Faenza a few German patrols stalked the hills, but the enemy apparently is still licking his wounds from the severe casualties inflicted by the Allies during the heavy *Wehrmacht* counter-attacks several days ago, when he failed to crack the Allied ring now closing around Faenza.

Allies Carve Two More Lamone Bridgeheads

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 13 (AP)—A third contingent of Brazilian troops arrived in Italy December 7, the War Ministry announced today.

Rome, Dec. 13 (AP)—Canadian troops have spanned the Lamone river and established two bridgeheads northeast of the highway town of Faenza, shoving the Germans back two miles in the direction of Lugo, Allied headquarters announced today.

The bridgeheads, thrust across the stream some nine miles from Faenza, were joined in a continuous front of 6,000 yards after 24 hours of stiff fighting.

Drive Along Railway

The northern flank of the attack pushed along the Ravenna-Bologna railway northwest of Russi and the Allied troops were reported astride this route for some distance. This railway first was cut northeast of Russi several days ago.

The Germans were thrown back beyond the Fosso Vecchio O Cantrigo, a small stream paralleling the Lamone. More than 300 prisoners were taken and a number of armored vehicles were knocked out.

Below the new bridgehead line to Faenza the Allied positions were unchanged.

New Threat To Enemy

The new crossing constituted a grave threat to German troops battling to hold Faenza, for 8th Army forces previously had succeeded in winning a bridgehead across the Lamone below the city and have been holding it against repeated counterattacks.

On the 5th Army front the enemy made several attacks south of Bologna but all were turned back. In one of these assaults, the Germans gained temporary possession of Castel Nuova on the right flank of the 5th Army area.

In the air, Italian-based heavy bombers attacked targets in Germany yesterday and Balkan Air Force units bombed and strafed vehicles in Yugoslavia.

British Foil Landing Near Rhodes

ROME, Dec. 13 (AP)—Three enemy landing craft have been destroyed in an attempt to land forces on the small island of Symi, fifteen miles north of Rhodes in the eastern Mediterranean, Allied headquarters announced today. The British destroyer Liddesdale intercepted the craft and escaped without damage from the fire of enemy coastal batteries on Rhodes, a communiqué said.

Americans, Paced by Charles, Win Nine Bouts in Inter-Allied Boxing

ROME, Dec. 13 (AP).—Paced by Private Ezzard Charles, of Cincinnati, who was considerably better than a green hand in civilian life, doughboy boxers dominated the third day of the Mediterranean inter-Allied championships by winning nine bouts, five in international competition, today and tonight.

The 5th Army team, defending champion, captured three decisions. Following Charles's victory for the 5th Army squad over Corporal Stanley Goicz, of Yonkers, N. Y., in the afternoon, the evening's card saw Manuel Flores, pudgy Los Angeles infantryman who has been wounded twice, outpoint Peter Jackson, of the British Army, and reach the amateur welter semi-finals, and Private Victor Amato, of Brooklyn, and Weirton, W. Va., outclass Corporal James B. Moore, Lexington, Ky., Negro, gaining the amateur middleweight round of four.

Private Milton Glass, of Akron, Ohio, out-speeded Sapper Joseph Hall, of the British forces, reaching the professional lightweight final.

Sergeant Adolph Labrecque, of Holyoke, Mass., whipped Corporal Willie Jackson, of Harrisburg, Pa., in the amateur lightweight semi-finals, and Private Adolph Barlow, Philadelphia Negro, outpointed Corporal Richard Hammond, of Chicago, in a pro light heavyweight match.

The Doughboys won four or five afternoon bouts, two Britons meeting in the only scrap not won by a nephew of Uncle Sam.

Charles reached the title round of the professional light heavyweight division. Sergeant Ralph Burnley, smooth Philadelphian, did the same in the pro middleweight competition and Technical Sergeant Fourth Grade Arthur Attleson, of Verndale, Minn., pounded his way into the amateur featherweight final, upsetting Signalman Isaac Thomas, of Nova Scotia. Burnley whipped William McVeight, once Welsh champion under the name of Taffy Williams.

Private Willie Thomas, Tampa, Fla., Negro, reached the amateur lightweight semi-finals by outpointing Joseph Garcia, of the French Army.

Eden Silent On ELAS Report

London, Dec. 13 (AP)—Foreign Secretary Eden declined to confirm or deny today reports that Germans and Bulgarians have been serving with ELAS forces battling British troops in Greece.

Questioned in Commons, Eden said he had no statement to make at present. He said he was "answering with reserve because I do not wish to make things more difficult than they are."

No Respect For Poker

New York, Dec. 13—NBC Reporter Guthrie Janssen said in a broadcast from Athens today that Lieut. Arthur Schneider, of Philadelphia, was holding four-of-a-kind when an ELAS shell disrupted a poker game in the Greek capital recently. None of the players was injured. Janssen said Schneider was able to convince his companions that he had really held four sixes just before the explosion.

ONE CONDITION SAID TO BE NEW GREEK REGIME

BARBER

Leftists Also To Demand Freedom From Prosecution As A Party

EAM broadcasts its version of Greek dispute to world. *Page 5*

Athens, Dec. 13 (AP)—As calm descended tonight on Athens for the first time in a strife-torn week, it was reported in Leftist quarters that an emissary of the ELAS (fighting branch of the Left Wing EAM party) would call on Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie tomorrow to announce acceptance of British terms to end the civil war.

This report was contrary to the announcement made earlier today by ELAS town criers who roamed the streets with megaphones, saying the terms offered by Scobie, British commander in Greece, had been refused and "we shall fight on if it means smashing Athens."

New Cabinet A Condition

According to the information from the Leftists, the ELAS will ask in return for their acceptance of the British conditions that they not be prosecuted as a party and that Scobie accept a new national government headed by someone other than Premier George Papandreou.

The offer will be made to Scobie by Alexander Svolos, former Finance Minister in Papandreou's Cabinet, it was said.

ELAS forces attacked British positions in the heart of the capital today, but were held off or beaten back with heavy losses.

The Leftist fighters who attacked and penetrated the British barracks compound were cornered and surrendered. Twenty-nine of the ELAS, including four officers, were taken prisoner. Six were killed and six wounded in this engagement.

Dynamite For Tanks

The heart of the capital was shaken by heavy explosions as the ELAS, the militia of the Left Wing EAM National Liberation Front, sent dynamite-laden streetcars careening against British tanks in Omonia Square.

ELAS troops attacked the center of Athens during the night even while their leaders were debating British orders to cease firing, and today attacked British positions in the heart of Athens, even penetrating within the walls of the British barracks compound, but were held or beaten back with heavy loss.

ELAS Scales Walls

The barracks attack came before dawn, northeast of the city center of Kifissia road. ELAS men scaled the walls of the barracks compound and set fire to stored gasoline. By sunrise they had been driven into a corner, but the fight continued.

The British brought in reinforcements during the night, crossing ELAS-held territory to do so.

The ELAS also renewed attacks on the Greek Rimini mountain brigade barracks at Goudi, 3 miles northeast of the center of Athens.

British troops cleared the Kallipolis Peninsula, on which the main part of the Piraeus, port of Athens, is built. This brought within the British perimeter the British-Greek government naval headquarters which had been isolated.

Another 100 ELAS snipers, mostly in civilian clothes, were captured in continuing British cleanup drives in Athens.

GREEK LEFTISTS REJECT ARMISTICE TERMS OF BRITISH

DEC 14 1944

Center of Athens Rocked as Dynamite-laden Cars Are Loosed.

Athens, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—EAM-ELAS rejection of British terms for settlement of the Greek crisis was announced today by EAM town criers. They traversed the streets shouting: "We shall fight on, if it means smashing down all Athens."

The heart of the capital was shaken by heavy explosions as the ELAS, the militia of the left-wing EAM National Liberation Front, sent dynamite-laden street cars careening against British tanks in Omonia Square.

ELAS troops attacked the center of Athens during the night even while their leaders were debating British orders to cease firing.

The strongest assault was aimed at a British barracks northeast of the heart of the capital of the Kifissia Road.

[A British communique broadcast from Athens said further British reinforcements had gone into action, that some progress had been made against the ELAS in Piræus, port of Athens, and that R. A. F. planes silenced one ELAS 75-millimeter gun firing on central Athens.]

Naval Base Relieved.

Major-Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, presented his terms yesterday to Miltiades Porphyrogenis, representative of the EAM (National Liberation Front) and former Minister of Labor in Premier George Papandreou's Cabinet, who was brought to British headquarters in a British Army vehicle.

Strong, infiltrating ELAS forces scaled walls in darkness and penetrated the British barracks compound containing gasoline, ammunition, field artillery and armor. By sunrise they had been driven into a corner after suffering heavy loss of life, but this battle continued.

[The Ankara radio said today that ELAS forces are reported to have seized the Athens radio station. CBS recorded the Ankara broadcast.]

The highest point within Athens—monastery-topped Mount Likavettos—was reinforced in expectancy of an ELAS attack. Greek Rimini mountain brigade barracks at Goudi, three miles northeast of the city's center, were attacked again yesterday by reinforced ELAS troops.

British troops cleared Kallipolis Peninsula, on which the main part of Piræus town is built, and the long-isolated Anglo-Greek naval headquarters was brought within British control.

One hundred more ELAS men were picked up in cleared areas and most were snipers in civilian clothes, the authorities said.

General Awaits Reply.

Gen. Scobie's terms were presented yesterday to Miltiades Porphyrogenis, representative of the EAM (National Liberation Front) and former Minister of Labor in Papandreou's Cabinet, who was brought to British headquarters in a British Army vehicle.

The terms laid down by Gen. Scobie provided that the ELAS

forces in Attica province—which includes Athens—must lay down their arms at once and that elsewhere in Greece the ELAS must undertake to obey British orders. They were announced after Gen. Scobie had conferred with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alex[illegible]er, Allied Mediterranean comm[illegible]er, who had hastened here to [illegible] a speedy end to the hostilities.

Sporadic fighting in Athens continued throughout yesterday, and a British communique last night said ELAS snipers had filtered back into some sections of the city from which they previously had been cleared. Several large fires started by ELAS dynamiting and incendiaries burned unchecked.

R. A. F. fighter planes strafed groups of ELAS fighters trying to enter the capital.

Shortly after his conference with the Eam delegate Gen. Scobie drove through sections of the city where Elas snipers were active, standing upright in the front seat of a scout car, to inspect forward British positions.

Allied Troops Take 2 Burma Towns

New Delhi, India, Dec. 13 (AP)—British and Chinese infantry, supported by artillery directed by an American officer, have engulfed Katha and Indaw, important Upper Burma towns about 155 miles north of Mandalay, in what the United States command today called a "truly amazing example of Allied co-operation."

The action was disclosed with the award of the Distinguished Service Order to Lieut. Col. Trevor Dupuy, of Washington, D.C., chief artillery officer for the British 36th Division. Dupuy directed Chinese artillery, the only big gun support the British 36th has had for some time.

Naba Also Taken

The Chinese 50th Division, its movements up to now cloaked for security reasons, protected the 36th's flanks and rear, enabling British and Indian troops to plunge down the Myitkyina-Mandalay rail corridor on a narrow front. Naba, ten miles above Katha, also was engulfed.

Indaw is ten miles west of the Irrawaddy river town of Katha, which itself is 52 miles west of Bhamo.

The award to Dupuy was made by Lieut. Gen. Sir Oliver Leese, Allied commander in chief. The American officer's leadership won high praise from Lieut. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan, United States Burma commander.

CHINESE GAIN IN KWANGSI

Advance 10 Miles Overnight Toward Hochih

DEC 14 1944

Chungking, Dec. 13 (AP)—As Chinese troops scored still further gains in Kwangsi province, Cabinet Spokesman P. H. Chang announced today that the high command was considering how to meet possible new emergencies and plans for making the best use of every opportunity to take the military initiative.

In an overnight advance of about ten miles, Chinese forces drove more than 20 miles into Kwangsi in pursuit of Japanese units retreating from Kweichow province. They were reported to be about fifteen miles from Hochih, which is some 95 miles northward of Liuchow, former site of an important United States air base.

No Comfort To Foe

The recent favorable turn of events in the Kwangsi-Kweichow region plus Allied successes in Burma, the intensified United States bombing of Japan and the forthcoming concentration of British naval strength in the Pacific could yield no comfort to the enemy, Chang said.

The daring but abortive Japanese penetration into Kweichow has made the Chinese people more war-minded than ever, Thousands are reported to be joining the army and civilian-aid services, and it is felt that the goal of 100,000 educated youths for the army set by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek will be exceeded by the end of December.

"All this," Chang declared, "indicates that the Chinese people are as determined as ever to fight the war to final victory."

U.S. Planes Active

United States Air Force fighter-bombers attacked rail and ground installations in Central and North Central China yesterday, but unfavorable weather prevented operations on the South China fronts.

A Chinese field dispatch from Hunan province said the Chinese had repulsed a strong Japanese attack on their positions north of the Japanese stronghold of Paoching, which is about sixty-five miles west of Hengyang.

The Chinese also destroyed two trucks loaded with more than 70 Jaanese on the road between Hengyang and Leiyang, 35 miles to the south, killing all but three of the enemy, the dispatch said.

Burma Foe Falls Back On Wanting

Chungking, Dec. 13 (AP)—The retreat of Japanese units toward the border town of Wanting, where the Burma road cuts into China, was reported tonight by the Chinese high command.

An enemy withdrawal began after an artillery duel in the Manpang region northeast of Wanting three days ago. Chinese forces have captured a high position about 12 miles north of Wanting, west of the Lungshwan River, the high command said.

Wanting is 50 miles east of Bhamo and 200 miles northeast of Mandalay. Previously there have been indications of a Japanese withdrawal in the northern Burma area as far south as Mandalay.

In the Chindwin sector British East African patrols have entered Shegwyin under enemy fire from positions east of the village. Japanese units also hold strong points on a ridge about 1,000 yards to the north covering the town's approaches.

Katha, a large Irrawaddy River town 155 miles north of Mandalay, and the near-by town of Naba were entered by Allied troops without serious opposition, the high command announced.

Katha is 52 miles west of Bhamo, where an airstrip already is in use, and Naba is 10 miles northwest of Katha.

Some advances have been made in the northern area at Bhamo by Chinese 38th Division units.

CHINESE ADVANCE 10 MILES IN NIGHT

Chungking, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Chinese troops have driven more than twenty miles into Kwangsi province in pursuit of Jap forces retreating westward from Kweichow province and are about fifteen miles from Hochih, the Chinese High Command announced today.

This represented an overnight advance of about ten miles on the part of the Chinese, who are moving down the Kwelchow-Kwangsi railway. Hochih is about ninety-five miles from Liuchow, former site of an important American air base.

Japs Kill Chinese Captives

Chungking, Dec. 13 (AP)—Gen. Fang Hsien-chueh, commander of the Chinese 10th Army, accused the Japanese today of ruthlessly slaughtering several thousand Chinese prisoners after the fall of Hengyang and personally voiced his shame over failing to hold the city or take his own life following his defeat. MOOSA

The general, over whose capture the Japanese made much ado, declared that when the city fell the invaders ignored his appeals to abide by international law and murdered Chinese prisoners.

Imprisoned In Church

Fang said the Japanese imprisoned him in the Catholic church at Hengyang. They repeatedly attempted to persuade him to accept a high position in the Chinese puppet army but he refused.

When enemy guards became less attentive, one of his men escaped and succeeded in contacting officers of the 10th Army who had eluded capture. With the aid of a guerrilla chieftain they planned Fang's escape.

On the night of November 19 Fang disguised himself, climbed over the high church wall, walked to the west of the city and met a guerrilla detachment, which escorted him into Chikiang, in western Hunan, after a march of twenty days and nights.

From there he was flown to Chungking, Fang said.

Japs Slaughtered Captives, Chinese Say

Chungking, Dec. 13 (AP)—Gen. Fang Hsien-chueh, commander of China's 10th Army, declared today the Japanese slaughtered several thousand Chinese prisoners of war after taking Hengyang.

Fang, now in Chungking after his escape from the fallen Hunan province city which he defended for 47 days, said the Japanese ignored his appeals to abide by international law and cease the massacre.

LARGE JAPANESE PLANE PLANT HIT BY B-29 RAIDERS

Tokyo Now Admits Superfortress Raids Present 'Serious Problem.'

EVACUATE CIVILIANS

No Big Bombers Lost Over Target—Planes Return to Saipan.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo radio, which previously had told the Japanese people the B-29 raids were intended primarily to shatter home morale and were causing little military damage due to stiff air defenses, adopted a graver theme Wednesday night.

A domestic broadcast recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said the attacks were "becoming serious" and "the defense system of the capital must be strengthened."

The broadcast said "evacuation of young and old will be greatly facilitated" with all districts of Tokyo notified Monday of plans for getting non-essential civilians out of the crowded city.

Previously, a broadcast from Berlin quoting Tokyo sources, had placed the figure leaving in the first contingent at 20,000 persons. Japanese authorities were quoted in enemy broadcasts early last summer as reporting evacuation of non-essential residents was under way and new fire breaks had been built.

Tokyo radio today conceded that a Wednesday B-29 raid on Nagoya, first reported by the war department in Washington, had caused "some damage on the ground" in that sector of crowded war industries.

NAGOYA FIRED

BY B-29'S; RAID HELD SUCCESS

HAUGLAND

Big Hatsudoki Aircraft Plant Main Target; Damage Extensive

DEC 14 1944

American 7th Division mops up Japs east of Ormoc.....*Page 6*

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 13 (AP)—Superfortresses today bombed Nagoya, Japan's third largest city, centering their attack upon the largest aircraft factory. Numerous explosions and fires were observed.

Returning crews tonight said they concentrated on the Hatsudoki aircraft plant, the largest operated by the vast Mitsubishi company, at the northeast edge of Nagoya.

Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., said at a press conference shortly before midnight that "the mission has been a success."

"Many bomb strikes have been obtained in the Mitsubishi aircraft works," he said. "Damage was quite extensive. I am not prepared to assess that damage until I have had a chance to study photographs, but I think it's a good mission."

None Lost Over Target

He added that early indications were that none of the B-29s was lost over the target.

Hansell said leading units found fighter interception, but this dwindled as other Superfortresses came over Nagoya later. There was considerable anti-aircraft fire. Both interception and flak were ineffective.

Col. Wiley D. Ganey, of Andalusia, Ala., leading one element, said his bombardier had an excellent visual shot at the target. He added: "I don't believe anything until I see photographs, but it looked as if this was one of the best."

(A Tokyo radio broadcast Wednesday night, recorded in the United States by the Federal Communications Commission, said:

1. The B-29 raids are "becoming serious."

(2. All districts of Tokyo have been notified of plans for the intensified evacuation of civilians.

(3. Many "essential installations" of vital war plants already have moved to underground sites and a "further large-scale" removal will be carried out quickly).

A rainstorm struck Saipan just as some B-29's started returning in darkness, causing great concern. Hansell and his staff members stood on an open platform of an inclosed aircraft signal tower for twenty minutes during the height of the storm while the B-29's roared helplessly in the sky and not one landed.

DEC 14 1944

Bombs Away At 2.30 P. M.

The first word spoken during that period was when Hansell pointed at a couple of faintly showing stars. He said: "It looks like it may break."

Hansell said later he was pleased at the manner in which several planes landed during the storm despite zero visibility.

The Hatsudoki plant participates in the production of most Japanese twin-engined bombers and navy fighters. The factory is 2½ miles east of Nagoya Castle and 8 miles north and inland from the dock area.

First bombs were away about 2.30 P.M.

The Superfortress pilots took Nagoya by surprise after feinting toward Tokyo, 165 miles to the northeast.

JAPAN'S THIRD CITY BATTERED BY BIG FORCE

HAUGLAND

Industrial Center Is Most Inflammable Town in Homeland.

AMERICANS FEINT AT TOKYO

Then Swerve to Hit Enemy's Vast Aircraft Precision Works—Foe Admits Damage.

Twenty-first Bomber

Tokyo Admits Damage From Raids

DEC 14 1944

Command, Saipan, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Nagoya, one of Japan's most inflammable targets, was bombed at midafternoon today by a force of B-29s equaling or exceeding the largest group yet to hit Japan.

Upsetting enemy defenses, the Superforts made a feint toward Tokyo and then cut northwest to Nagoya, withdrawing over Nagoya Bay after making their bombing runs.

Where bombing runs on Tokyo were made with the wind at great speed over the target, today's Superforts went into action in the face of a westerly wind, slowing their speed and probably increasing the accuracy of their bombing. The planes also flew 3,000 to 4,000 feet lower than they did in the Tokyo raids, flying under the cirrus cloud layer to avoid leaving vapor trails.

As Gen. Jimmy Doolittle's daring raids did more than two years ago, the B-29s employed the great Nagoya castle on the city's highest ground about seven miles north of the docks area as a landmark. Downtown Nagoya's commercial district has few buildings higher than two or three stories except the eight and nine story Government offices, banks and stores.

Architecture Is Flimsy.

In 1938 the city had 315,402 wood and plaster buildings and only 662 of concrete or brick. It has large clusters of factories on the water front and on the northwest and northeast suburbs. The central commercial district, just south-southeast of the castle's eastern side is confined mostly to residential districts.

Today's flight involved a round-trip of about 3,000 miles, 300 to 400 less miles than required to reach Tokyo.

Nagoya's 1940 population was 1,328,084 and is exceeded in size only by Tokyo, 165 air miles to the northeast and Osaka, about ninety miles to the southwest.

Nagoya boasts the largest concentration of aircraft and aircraft parts plants in Japan. At the southern end of Nobi Plain, one of Japan's principal agricultural regions, Nagoya is also one of the four primary industrial centers of Japan.

Nagoya's War Industries.

Smaller in volume and less diversified than Tokyo or Osaka, Nagoya has an industrial system which is more modern and highly specialized for precision type of war production. Specializing in aircraft and engines' parts equipment the Mitsubishi, Aichi and other factories within the city comprise Japan's principal concentration of primary aircraft production facilities. Nagoya also has the largest single concentration of electrical and alloy steel plants in Japan and much shipping to supply its industries.

The city is served by four trunk railways which handled more through freight cars in 1936 to 1937 than any other Japanese rail terminal. In peacetime it was Japan's fourth busiest seaport.

Nagoya's wealth of industrial targets includes aircraft factories, arsenals, electric plants, electrochemical plants, machinery, machinery tool factories, explosives and iron works.

Highly Inflammable City.

The city also fits perhaps better than any other big city this description—it is inflammable. It has densely crowded residential districts and mushrooming, congested industrial sections whose narrow streets are crowded with small wooden shacks even in the city's heart. This provides a great fire hazard. Unlike Tokyo and other major cities, no earthquake or fire disaster in the last fifty years has cleaned up Nagoya.

Several B29s made night reconnaissance flights over the Nagoya area the past few days. A plane commanded by Lieut.-Col. Frank L. Davis of Cornwall, N. Y., found it blacked out, with no searchlights, ack-ack or interception. Another plane commanded by Major Clarence C. Fowler, San Antonio, Tex., also found the city blacked out, but visible in clear weather. Nagoya has finer weather and less cloudy days than other Japanese cities.

San Francisco, Dec. 13 (AP)—Admitting that "there was some damage on the ground," Radio Tokyo said today that "about 80" Superfortresses had struck the Japanese home islands of Honshu and Shikoku and Japanese-occupied Korea.

The Japanese imperial headquarters communique, recorded here, said:

"This afternoon, December 13, about 80 B-29's from the Mariana Islands in small formations raided the Tokyo vicinity and the Shikoku area, and with the main force raided Aichi and Shizuoka prefectures. As for war results achieved in intercepting these planes, investigations are under way at present.

"Though there was some damage on the ground in Aichi and Shizuoka prefectures, no damage was suffered in the other areas."

Nagoya Target

The Japanese news agency defined the target more closely, saying that the bombs were dropped over the Nagoya and Hamamatsu areas, but added that the bombs had been dropped "at random."

Nagoya is in Aichi and Hamamatsu is in Shizuoka, on the east coast of Honshu, southwest of Tokyo.

The raids on these cities, said Domei, occurred at about 1.30 P.M., Japanese time.

Domei also admitted that damage had been inflicted, but claimed it was "slight."

Domei added that Japanese fighter planes had intercepted the B-29's making the raid and that they were "believed to have caused heavy losses to the enemy."

Korea Center Raided

In reporting the raid, Domei said that "one or two enemy planes" had appeared over the Tokyo-Yokohama district, over the Iiroshima district, which is near the southern tip of Honshu, over "western Japan" and over the Keijo (Seoul) district of Japanese-dominated Korea. Keijo is in western Korea and is the capital.

In a home-consumption report, radio Tokyo said that "three enemy planes" had "raided" western Korea for two hours, from 11.30 A.M. to 1.30 A.M., Japanese time. The announcement added that because of the "powerful" Japanese air defense, the attacking planes "fled over the seas to the south without accomplishing anything"

In a later broadcast Tokyo reported two separate B-29 reconnaissance flights over the Darien district of the Kwantung peninsula, near Port Arthur.

Meanwhile, Tokyo radio also fanned the fires of propaganda in a rather obvious attempt to whip up the homeland's fighting spirit.

Without any Allied confirmation it said:

The Emperor's Palace grounds have been bombed by B-29's.

The Emperor has visited a famed shrine to pray for victory.

An island in the Philippines—tiny and of questionable military value—has been "completely occupied."

Leyte Disaster

These broadcasts were made at a time when military disaster threatens the forces of Japan's hero of Singapore, Lieut. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, on West Leyte.

The most popular figure the Japanese could use in a time of stress is the slightly built Emperor, Hirohito. Knowing that, directors of the Superfortress raids have supplied B-29 pilots with maps of Tokyo and instructed them to scrupulously avoid dropping bombs on the palace.

"Crush The Enemies"

The broadcast account of the Emperor's visit to the famed Shrine of Ise at Ujiyamada significantly coupled with it an exhortation to the Japanese people to "relieve the great thoughts of his Imperial Majesty by crushing the enemies, America and Britain."

Another broadcast, directed to North America, said Japanese troops had occupied Ponson Island in the Camotes Sea below American-won Ormoc and "frustrated the enemy plan to use that island as a base for his torpedo boats."

The broadcast, recorded by the Australian Department of Information, said: "The enemy has raided us from time to time and bombs have even exploded at the seat of the Imperial Palace, causing damage to a manor."

FROM 80 TO 100 SUPERBOMBERS RAID HOME ISLE

Industrialized Honshu Hit in Daylight Attack on Aircraft Plants.

SLIGHT OPPOSITION IS FACED

Tokyo Radio Admits Some Damage Was Done on the Ground by Giant Planes.

Washington, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Heavy explosions and large fires were reported by B-29 flyers who raided Nagoya today.

Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding General of the Twentieth Air Force, said that preliminary reports from the strike on the industrial Japanese home island of Honshu revealed that the bombing was accomplished visually.

Air Force officers declined to say how many Superfortresses took part in the raid, but it was indicated, on the basis of authorized statements, that upward of 100 B29's participated. Crews reported the flak as moderate and fighter opposition as slight, Gen. Arnold said. He added that losses of the Twenty-first Bomber Command, "if any, will be determined and announced after final crew reports are carefully tabulated."

Damage on Ground Admitted.

The Tokyo radio said "that about eighty" Superfortresses had struck the Japanese home island of Honshu and Shikoku and Japanese-occupied Korea. "Some damage on the ground" was admitted.

Domei, Japanese news agency, claimed that Japanese fighter planes intercepted the B29s and that they were "believed to have caused heavy losses to the enemy."

Gen. Arnold said that the raid was aimed at Nagoya, home of the Mitsubishi aircraft plant and one of Japan's four principal industrial manufacturing centers. His announcement said simply that a sizable force of Superfortresses participated.

Over 100 Foots In Raid

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) Perhaps the mightiest armada of Superfortresses yet flung against Japan kindled huge fires and set off heavy bomb blasts today in the manufacturing area of Nagoya.

More than 100 B-29's, it was indicated, composed the force which struck at the home of the Mitsubishi aircraft plant and one of Japan's four principal manufacturing centers.

A communique from 20th Airforce Headquarters here said the Saipan-based raiders reported they were able to observe the results of their visual bombing and that heavy explosions and large fires were seen in the target area.

Tokyo radio, tardily confirming the first war department announcement of the raid, acknowledged some damage and said Japanese interceptors were "believed to have caused heavy losses to the enemy."

Moderate antiaircraft fire and slight fighter opposition were reported by the crews of the far-ranging superfortresses.

Nagoya, third largest city in Japan, is the country's largest aircraft manufacturing center. In addition it has arsenals, electric plants, explosives and iron works. Unlike Tokyo and other major cities whose buildings have been modernized after earthquakes or fires, Nagoya has a half century's accumulation of inflammable structures.

A Saipan dispatch by Vern Haugland, Associated Press war correspondent, said the superfort pilots took Nagoya by surprise after feinting toward Tokyo, 165 miles to the northeast.

Raids From Aleutians Seen

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—Army Air Forces today projected the possibility of Superfortress blows against the Japanese homeland from bases in the Aleutian Islands.

At a news conference an AAF spokesman said "wherever land masses are within range of B-29 targets and all other factors are favorable, we will put them there. That goes for B-24s when we get close enough."

Aleutian Bases Big Enough

Col. J. K. Fogle, intelligence officer of the 11th Air Force operating in Alaska and the North Pacific, said existing Aleutian bases west of Umnak were capable of "taking the largest aircraft we have." Umnak is roughly 2,000 miles from Japan. The longest reported flight of B-29's thus far was a 3,600-mile round trip.

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The best operating seasons in the Aleutians, Fogle said, are from April through June and from October through December, with not more than 60 to 90 days a year providing ideal operating conditions.

Arnold Says Foe Is Reeling

FORT WORTH, Tex., Dec. 13 (AP).—The B-29 raids on Japanese industry have that enemy "reeling in the ring," and labor and management alike must put aside post-war plans and give the armed forces materials to prevent a comeback, General H. H. Arnold said today.

The chief of the Army Air Forces

Japs Report Palace Yard Hit

Declare B-29s Damaged Manor in Grounds —Step Up Propaganda Campaign.

Melbourne, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Taketoro Ogata, president of the Japanese Information, in a broadcast from Japan today, said that bombs had caused damage to a manor on the Imperial Palace grounds.

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said he hopes to "reduce the Japanese industrial arm to the same impotency we have the German," but added, in an interview with "The Star-Telegram," that it will be a "long, tough fight that will require ever-increasing production."

Tokyo Adopts Graver Theme

New York, Dec. 13 (AP)—Tokyo radio, which previously had told the Japanese people the B-29 raids were intended primarily to shatter home morale and were causing little military damage due to stiff air defenses, adopted a graver theme Wednesday night.

A domestic broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said the attacks were "becoming serious" and "the defense system of the capital must be strengthened."

The broadcast said "evacuation of young and old will be greatly facilitated" with all districts of Tokyo notified Monday of plans for getting nonessential civilians out of the crowded city.

Previously, a broadcast from Berlin, quoting Tokyo sources, had placed the figure leaving in the first contingent at 20,000 persons. Japanese authorities were quoted in enemy broadcasts early last summer as reporting evacuation of nonessential residents was under way.

CAUSE FOR ALARM

LONDON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Tokyo is full of alarming rumors spread by persons who, Japanese newspaper Shimbun said, were "more dangerous than bombs," a Tass dispatch from Tokyo broadcast tonight by the Moscow radio declared.

Plants Going Underground

LONDON, Dec. 13 (AP).—A Tokyo broadcast said today that vital war industries in the Japanese capital would be transferred to underground sites to escape bombardment by American Superfortresses.

Report Japanese on Leyte 'Disorganized, Scattering'

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SCHEDLER

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Thursday, Dec. 14—(AP) Troops of the U. S. Seventh Division in Ormoc, on the Leyte island west coast, are cleaning out pockets of Japanese resistance to the east of American positions, while the 77th Division maintains pressure to the north, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today.

The 77th Division, which captured Ormoc Sunday and later was joined by the Seventh coming up from the south, has been regrouping its units and sending patrols north to probe enemy strength to the rear of the Yamashita defense line.

Deprived of Ormoc, port through which the Japanese received most of their supplies, the Nipponese are being pressed into the mountains to the northwest also under attack by the 32nd U. S. Division coming down from the Carigara Bay coast and the First Cavalry Division driving in from the northeast.

MacArthur said the Japanese caught by the juncture of the Seventh and 77th Divisions were suffering "extraordinarily heavy" losses in their desperate effort to escape over mountain trails.

(Thomas Folster, NBC correspondent on Leyte, reported Japanese ground forces there are "completely disorganized" and are "scattering in all directions, having lost contact with their leaders."

Beginning of End

("This is the beginning of the end for the emperor's forces here in the Ormoc valley," Folster said.)

Three small Japanese transports loaded with troops were sunk in Ormoc harbor Tuesday night by American shore guns. The Nipponese apparently were unaware that the Yanks held the town when the craft slipped into the harbor.

Sixteen Japanese fighter-bombers attempted to attack American positions around Ormoc Monday night and early Tuesday morning. Marine Corsair fighters shot down five attackers.

Navy Liberator bombers, continuing their search and patrol over Manila and the nearby Cavite area, on Luzon island, attacked enemy shipping there Monday night and Tuesday. The communique gave no details.

Allied aircraft were active in sweeps which sank a 3,000-ton freighter-transport near Mindoro island, Philippines, and pounded enemy oil facilities on Borneo.

Waterfront installations and docks at Sandakan, Borneo, were hit by patrol planes which also sank or damaged five enemy coastal vessels.

Fighters struck at Tarakan, on the Borneo northeast coast, strafing Japanese refinery buildings, six oil tanks and reservoirs and starting fires visible 80 miles.

Heavy bombers hit the enemy's airdromes at Kendari and Tiworo on Celebes island with 50 tons of explosives. Other bombers struck at Japanese supply dumps and bypassed installations from the Lesser Sundas to New Guinea, Rabaul on New Britain and New Ireland.

More Japs Drowned Off Leyte

U. S. Planes Blast Another Enemy Convoy—Death Toll Now Well Over 30,000.

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Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—More thousands of Japanese troops were drowned off western Leyte on Monday and Tuesday in Philippine inland seas which have claimed far in excess of 30,000 Nipponese soldiers, spilled to their death from bomb-blasted reinforcement convoys.

The latest losses occurred as American planes, attacking for thirty-six hours, accounted for five transports and four destroyers of an eleven-ship convoy, despite the terrific battle put up by covering Nipponese fighter aircraft. Night-prowling patrol-torpedo boats plasted a sixth transport, leaving only a destroyer of the convoy to get away unscathed.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, whose previous communicated accounts of the devastation wrought on eight other convoys estimated that at least 30,000 enemy soldiers perished, said today concerning the ninth convoy: "Enemy troop losses by drowning are believed to have been heavy."

The six transports and five destroyers were spotted on Monday, at dawn off northwestern Leyte. During the day, Army and Marine Corps planes, boring through swarms of Nipponese fighters over the convoy, sank three destroyers, a transport of 10,000 tons, a second of 5,000 tons, and a third of 4,000 tons.

Eight U. S. Planes Lost.

That night two patrol-torpedo boats, commanded by Lieut. John M. McElfresh of Olean, N. Y., and Lieut. Melvin W. Haines of Evanston, Ill., sent down a 5,000-ton transport of the convoy at anchor at Palompon. Palumpon, connected by a poor, winding trail to the Ormoc corridor, is the supply port of last resort for the Japanese since the loss of Ormoc, sixteen miles to the southeast.

On Tuesday, at Palompon, Yank planes so severely blasted a fourth destroyer and two freighter-transports that all probably sank. The enemy air force not only made a stiff fight over the convoy, but also scored some damaging blows against an American supply convoy on Sunday night as it was retiring from Ormoc after unloading.

"Fifty enemy planes were destroyed in combat, with five additional probable," today's communique said. "We lost eight fighters."

Rains Plague Americans.

Japan has lost well over 1,000 planes in the fight for Leyte. The reinforcement convoy losses to date total thirty-nine transports and twenty-eight escorting warships.

Still plagued by rains, Yank ground forces on Western Lyete maintained pressure on Lieut.-Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita's defenders below Limon in the northern sector of the Ormoc corridor. At the southern end, the captors of Ormoc organized the base for further operations.

Even if the Japanese succeeded in getting troops and equipment over to the Ormoc corridor from Palompon, they will face the same peril of the troops already there—entrapment between the Thirty-second Infantry Division, southbound from Limon, and the Seventy-seventh and Seventh in position to strike northward from Ormoc.

Japs Broadcast Claims.

Unconfirmed Japanese claims of sinking two destroyers, two medium-sized transports and three torpedo boats in Philippine waters were broadcast by the Nipponese radio today. A Domei broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission here, that one destroyer and the two medium transports were part of a convoy of twelve transports and five destroyers attacked by the "special attack corps" off Baybay, on the west coast of Leyte Island, on Tuesday.

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In another broadcast the Tokyo radio said that an enemy destroyer was sunk by Japanese planes in the Surigao Straits off Leyte and the torpedo boats were trapped and sunk in the Camotes.

Yonkers Private Saves Officer

WAITE

Leyte, Philippines, Nov. 4 Delayed) (A. P.)—Little stories of the Army's lifesavers—the medics—still are trickling in. One involves Alexander J. Stewart of 52 Morris street, Yonkers, N. Y., a private first class. Five minutes after his assault wave hit the beach, he crawled across exposed ground to pull a wounded officer from a foot of water. The officer's life was saved.

Nimitz Talk Linked To Aleutian Action

By The Associated Press.

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 13—American Army and Navy commanders of the Central Pacific and Aleutian war areas have just concluded secret conferences with Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander of the Pacific Ocean areas, dealing with future operations against Japan.

Disclosure today of the meetings and names of the participants directed attention toward the Aleutian and Alaska theatres.

From the Northern War Front came Lieut. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, Commander of the Alaskan Department, and Vice Admiral Frank J. Fletcher, commander in the Aleutians. Lieut. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner Jr., former commander of the Alaskan Department, also attended.

Others at the conferences included Admiral Raymond A. Spruance, Commander of the United States Fifth Fleet; Vice Admiral C. H. McMorris, Chief of Staff to Admiral Nimitz, and Rear Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, Deputy Chief of Staff in Charge of Operations.

STRATEGISTS MAP ACTION IN PACIFIC

MCMURTRY

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the oceanic areas of the Pacific, has just conferred with military and naval commanders of the central Pacific and Aleutian theaters in regard to strategy affecting important forthcoming operations, it was disclosed today. Though the conferences appear on the surface to deal with the Aleutians, they are believed to have the more direct objective of Japan itself, though possibly not in the near future.

Those attending the conference included Admiral Raymond A. Spruance, co-hero with Vice-Admiral Marc A. Mitscher in the first battle of the Philippine Sea, and commander of the Fifth Fleet; Lieut.-Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commander of the Alaskan department and former commander of the Hawaiian department until June 1, 1943; Lieut.-Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, former commander of the Alaskan department, and Vice-Admiral Frank J. Fletcher, commander of the North Pacific. Joining the conferences were Vice-Admiral C. H. McMorris, chief of staff to Admiral Nimitz, and Rear Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, deputy chief of staff in charge of operations and one of the most brilliant strategists in the Pacific.

Admiral Sherman formerly was a carrier commander in some of the most important battles of the Pacific, but he is not to be confused with Rear Admiral Frederick C. Sherman, commander of one of the task groups currently in the western Pacific.

Battle the Foe

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Again

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 13—(AP) The destroyer U.S.S. Albert W. Grant should be at the bottom of the Pacific, but she still floats and again is ready for action.

One of the miracles of the battle of Surigao Strait, the details were told by Ens. Tom Ham, Atlanta, Ga., Grant's gunnery officer, in an interview released today by Pacific Fleet headquarters.

The Grant, charging through the night between the United States and Japanese fleets, was riddled by shells. Her surviving crewmen became too busy saving themselves and their ship to enjoy the spectacle of the sinking or damaging of all the Nipponese vessels.

"On the night of Oct. 24 we were barreling down the straits," said Ens. Ham.

"The Jap fleet loomed as dark blobs out ahead of us. Behind us our own battle line had opened fire. It was the Grant's job to get as close as possible and make a torpedo run.

"Arching above us as we dashed in for the close work was a rainbow of whistling hell—as the big guns of the battlewagons exchanged salvo after salvo.

"Closer and closer we moved—right into the teeth of the big enemy task force. The torpedo officer, Lt. (j.g.) E. J. Pfeifer of Montpelier, Vt., advised the captain, Commander T. A. Nisewaner of Boise, Idaho that he was ready. The skipper gave the order 'torpedoes away!'

"Five lean, silvery 'fish' leaped out of their tubes and splashed into the water to port, and started churning on their way.

"Then there was a series of low, quick 'whoosh' sounds, like split-second thunder, each cut off by a dull splash. Geysers of water leaped up from both sides of the Grant, spewing over the bridge.

"There followed a sickening, crunching sound. Then a blast. The ships seemed to pause and

Destroyer Braved Jap Fire, Typhoon, Is Now Ready to

shudder. Fires broke out. Then more explosions — intermingled with the screams of injured men.

"The safety valves in the boiler room tripped. Live steam turned the engine room into a volcano. Ammunition in the ready racks blew up. Fires had started both forward and amidships—and there was no water in the smashed fire mains.

"Our power cables had been shot away. Our steering control knocked out, rudder thrown hard to the left, we were driving in a crazy circle straight back towards the Japanese battle line at point blank range.

"The lights had gone out. There was no power with which to fire the guns. The lifeboats were smithereened. Our decks were littered with dead and wounded.

"Then the Engines Quit"

"Then the engines quit.

"We were right in the middle of the line of fire. Shrapnel was spraying the deck. Shells were landing everywhere. We were down by the bow, and listing heavily to port.

"It may have been five minutes; it may have been a year. But suddenly the firing ceased. There was an eerie silence, broken only by low groans.

"Then reports began pouring up to the bridge over the remaining ship's phones.

"'Repair party No. 2 all wiped out . . . fire in 40 millimeter gun four . . . several men trapped in one of the fire rooms . . . compartment flooded with live steam . . . ten men dead on the port side amidships . . . man with both legs shot away back aft . . . man with an arm gone on the superstructure deck.'

"'Where's the doctor, bridge?' came anxious phone queries. ('In God's name, where's the doctor, bridge?'"

Doctor was Dead

"But the doctor—Lieutenant (j.g.) Charles Akin Mathieu, USNR, of Portland, Ore.,—was dead.

So was one of the corpsmen. Only man left in the medical department was W. H. Swaim, Jr., pharmacist mate second class, from Thomasville, N. C.

"Swaim set up emergency battle dressing stations and directed all first aid work—a boy of twenty handling a job big enough for a score of doctors.

"Gunners' mates plunged down into the dark, flooding bowels of the ship and groped for heavy shells that hadn't exploded yet — and lugged them up slippery ladders to heave them over the side.

"Engineers dived into the flooded bilges and closed the seacocks.

"Ensign F. D. Case, Assistant Engineering officer, Franklinville, N. C., was ripped open by shrapnel and bleeding profusely, and yet he organized a crew to move the wounded to the wardroom. He carried two men forward and was helping a third when he collapsed.

"R. H. Parker, Machinist's Mate First Class, of Rocky Mount, N. C., saved the lives of at least six men.

"He ran forward through a hail of shrapnel, shut off steam valves, and dived into the flooding, steam-filled fire room and brought up the scalded firemen.

"When dawn came, the Grant was still dead in the water. But the men, who had miraculously kept her afloat, worked on.

"They rigged emergency power lines. They patched the remaining guns so that the Grant could fight back. They got her engines working again, and got her underway for an American anchorage.

"Two days later, a typhoon kicked her, crippled, all over Leyte gulf. But the crew held her together, and brought her in. It's men like that saved the Grant, and it's men like that that'll take her out to fight again."

3,000-Pound Souvenirs

BY JIM GALLOWAY

Somewhere in the Pacific [Delayed]—First Marine Division veterans pooh-pooh any insinuations that they are souvenir collectors.

But they blushed when the order was posted to turn in—along with certain other "souvenirs"—all "40-mm. anti-aircraft guns" taken from the Japs.

Such a weapon weighs about 3,000 pounds.

Argentine Jurists Weigh Press Role

Buenos Aires, Dec. 13 (AP)—A committee of three jurists appointed to draft a law regulating activities of Argentine political parties announced today it would "survey with the greatest interest all views concerning the Argentine press" and its place in the nation's politics.

The press is "an essential source of information," the committee said.

Appointed last Saturday in another step by Argentina's military government toward restoration of constitutional government, the committee said it would welcome suggestions of all persons and organizations to devise a statute satisfying general public opinion.

STRIKE IN OIL FIELDS

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 13—(AP) A naval unit occupied today the state-owned oil fields and refinery at La Plata where workers struck yesterday.

Chile Acts In Strike On Rail-Bonus Issue

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 13 (AP)—The Chilean Government today placed Brig. Gen. Miguel Quezada in charge of State-owned railways as a spontaneous strike, unauthorized by the rail workers' union, resulted in 5,000 of the 20,000 workers staying away from their jobs.

The workers were protesting the railway's announcement that it was unable to pay the annual bonus of 45 days' pay. It had offered a 15-day bonus.

Soldiers took charge of the railway station at Curico in Southern Chile and were expected to do likewise at other points.

Salvadorean Troops Rout Emigre Invasion

San Salvador, El Salvador, Dec. 13 (AP)—Scores of persons were reported killed and wounded in a clash between Salvadorean national troops and heavily armed Salvadorean emigrants who crossed the border from Guatemala yesterday.

The invaders were declared equipped with heavy armament, German-made rifles, hand grenades and machine guns.

The troops routed the invaders and forced them to flee back across the border into Guatemala, the report said.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 13, 1940—R. A. F. bombs Valona in support of Greek forces driving on Albanian port.

2 DIPLOMATS ARE SHIFTED

Action May Forecast Shakeup In Corps

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—Two major shifts in European diplomatic assignments augured tonight a possible extension into the foreign service of a shakeup now under way in the State Department.

They gave impetus to conjectures whether Edward R. Stettinius, Secretary of State, might want to work with new men in such key spots as London and Moscow.

One of the day's moves on the international checkerboard pointed to a broad revision of the pattern of diplomacy in the Balkans. It was a surprise transfer for Laurence A. Steinhardt, Ambassador to Turkey, President Roosevelt nominated him to be Ambassador to the Czech Government operating from London.

Armour Sent To Madrid

The second job shift had been forecast. Carlton Hayes resigned as Ambassador to Spain, presumably to resume a history professorship at Columbia University.

Norman Armour, acting director of the State Department's American Republics Office, was appointed to the Madrid post. Armour was Ambassador to Argentina until American relations with that South American neighbor fell apart some months ago.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee quickly turned in a favorable report on Armour's nomination.

Johnson To Costa Rica

Named to fill the vacancy left in the Embassy in Costa Rica by the death of Fay Desportes was Hallett Johnson, a foreign service officer.

No disposition was evident, either at the State Department or White House, to discount the possibility of additional diplomatic changes. There was apparent, rather, a feeling that the new Secretary of State was entitled to deal with the representatives he wants in foreign capitals.

Hopkins May Go To London

Liberation of additional countries will, of course, call for re-examination of the diplomatic links maintained with exiled governments in wartime. Some of them may need strengthening.

Talk of new ambassadors to Russia and Britain has been in the gossip stage for some time. Neither W. Averell Harriman, who has been in Moscow fourteen months, nor John G. Winant, who has served in London since 1941, is a career man.

There has been speculation that Winant might replace Labor Secretary Perkins in the Cabinet. Should he leave London, the man to move in might be Harry L. Hopkins, intimate of President Roosevelt. Hopkins has had little experience in diplomacy, but he is a close friend of Prime Minister Churchill.

Apparently not figuring in any plans for reshuffling are Jefferson Caffery and Alexander C. Kirk, only recently made Ambassadors to France and Italy.

Turkish Problems Dissolve

Figuring in the Steinhardt move was the fact that once-touchy problems in Turkey have been largely dissolved. They involved such matters as Turkish trade and diplomatic ties with the Nazis, and use of the Dardanelles.

Steinhardt, regarded generally as one of the most capable of front-rank diplomats, will be accredited to a government whose importance in the Balkans will tend to increase instead of wane.

Russia has exhibited an interest in the future of the Czechs. There have been reports she might like to make Prague the seat of a world peace organization.

Armour Chosen Ambassador To Spain

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP) — The White House announced today the resignation of Carlton Hayes as Ambassador to Spain and the nomination of Norman Armour to replace him.

Armour now is acting director of the State Department's Office of American Republic Affairs. At the time of the appointment of Secretary of State Stettinius and the reshuffling of the top level of department positions, President Roosevelt announced he would give Armour an important new position.

Armour formerly was Ambassador to Argentina. He was recalled several months ago when United States-Argentina relations became strained.

Steinhardt To Exiled Czechs

The President, in another diplomatic shift, nominated Laurence A. Steinhardt, now Ambassador to Turkey, to be Ambassador to the Czech Government in exile in London. The Turkish assignment was left open.

Hallett Johnson was nominated Ambassador to Costa Rica, succeeding Fay Desportes, who died several weeks ago.

Reported Returning To Columbia

Chairman Connally (D., Texas) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee said it was his understanding that Hayes is leaving the diplomatic service and returning to his former connection with Columbia University.

Hayes went to Spain as Ambassador two years ago. He and the British Ambassador, Sir Samuel Hoare, were the chief negotiators of the Allied-Spanish deal by which Spain cut shipments of wolfram to Germany to a mere trickle.

Criticized Recently

Recently he has been the target of criticism from some groups here who contended he was inclined to deal too leniently with the Franco Government.

Before entering the diplomatic service he was Seth Low professor of history at Columbia.

Turkish Relations Seen Smooth

Steinhardt's appointment indicates that the most difficult period of Allied-Turkish relations has been hurdled. He is considered one of the country's ablest diplomats and formerly was Ambassador to Russia.

Czechoslovakia is a post of prime importance, because Prague is in the center of the restless Balkans and, as the seat of probably the most stable Balkan government, has been mentioned as a possible site for the future world security organization.

Action on State Department Aides Delayed by Senators

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) Senators turned from cotton and poetry to a search for a mysteriously "missing" diplomatic document tonight as they delayed final committee action on six state department appointments.

The Foreign Relations Committee, meeting behind closed doors, decided to hold an executive session tomorrow morning to delve into a question raised at public hearings today by Senator Guffey (D-Pa).

Guffey told his colleagues that he had been to the state department trying to find a report he was informed had been made by Claude Bowers, then ambassador to Madrid, during the Spanish Civil war. The Pennsylvania senator said he was told this report was favorable to the anti-Franco forces.

But Guffey added that as far as he could learn, the Bowers report had never reached President Roosevelt or the Secretary of State.

Chairman Connally (D-Tex) said that James C. Dunn, who has been a State Department official for years, would be available for questioning about the matter tomorrow. Dunn was one of five nominated for assistant Secretary of State.

Connally said Guffey also expressed a desire to ask a question or two of Nelson Rockefeller, also nominated for an assistant's post, and Rockefeller would be on hand.

The committee temporarily ended its public hearings earlier after it had spent the morning learning about the plight of the American cotton farmer from Will L. Clayton. In the afternoon it listened, often amused, while Senator Clark (D-Mo) questioned Archibald MacLeish about poetry MacLeish had written.

Clayton and MacLeish also were nominated for assistant secretaries, as was Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes. Holmes testified Tuesday and took a plane for Europe but Senator Pepper (D-Fla) was said to have raised some question about the general's qualifications in today's closed session. Connally doubted that Holmes could be called back.

There have been no expressions of opposition to Joseph C. Grew,

chosen for undersecretary of State.

Connally conceded that today's developments precluded Senate action on the nominations tomorrow, but expressed hope it would come Friday. He predicted confirmation for the six, after "some debate."

MacLeish Admits Not Everyone Can Understand His Poetry

DEC 14 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Archibald MacLeish acknowledges readily that not everyone can understand his poetry.

The clarity of his verse was made an issue today in a Senate Foreign Relations committee hearing on his qualifications to be an assistant secretary of state.

"I may not be smart," said Senator Clark D-Mo.), after reading one of the poems of the present librarian of Congress, "but for the life of me I can't figure out any meaning to that."

MacLeish replied:

"Others have had the same difficulty."

Without explaining the meaning, he recalled that a similar observation was made to Robert Browning some time after the English poet had written a verse. Browning replied that at the time it was written only he and God knew the meaning, and now only God knew.

The two verses of MacLeish's works which Clark read were taken from a collection entitled "Tower of Ivory" printed by the Yale University press in 1917.

Bearing the head "immortality," they follow:

Verse 1

"Nay, I have lived before, and other where
"Have lolled against the breast of God's unseen,
"And watched infinities of things careen
"With shouted laughter down the startled air,
"And caught the truth by his entangled hair,
"And plucked at beauty's burnished wing to preen
"A broken feather from its golden sheen,
"And smiled with love, slow walking, white in vair."

Verse 2

"How else—when you come running to surprise
"My heart with sudden arms about my throat,
"And laugh with such a wishful little note—
"How else am I, love's acolyte, so wise
"To know that dreams and passion turned devote,
"And joy grown sad, are love with wide girl's eyes?"

Critics of England, Russia Warned of 'Careless Talk'

DEC 14 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) Congress rang with loud and angry debate over criticism of Britain and Russia today, with administration supporters accusing the critics of "careless talk" which might prolong the war.

On the House side, a razor-edged exchange was touched off by a Pennsylvania congressman's attack on Prime Minister Churchill and British draft policies.

Churchill, declared Rep. Gavin (R.-Pa.), "seems content to let us throw thousands of our boys into action to carry on the fight, hundreds of whom are liquidated every day."

Up leaped Rep. Luther A. Johnson, Texas Democrat, shouting "the gentleman has rendered a disservice to his country and to the Allies."

Statements like Gevin's "should be suppressed," Johnson declared, adding that "they are calculated to promote disunity, prolong the war and encourage Hitler."

In the ensuing general debate, Democrats accused Republicans of nagging at the war effort and Republicans said Democrats spurn "constructive criticism" for political reasons.

During the height of the House argument, Senator Brooks (R.-Ill.) took the floor in the Senate to criticize both Britain and Russia for current political clashes in Europe.

America is sending her sons to push the Germans back, Brooks said, while both Britain and Russian are "engaging in a race for the future balance of power on the European continent."

Brooks declared Russia intends to extend her philosophy throughout the Balkans and Britain wants to set up puppet governments in Italy, Greece, Belgium and France. He demanded immediate clarification of the United States' foreign policy.

At one point, Gavin told the House that "British colonies are now just getting around to enacting legislation to draft men for overseas service."

Majority Leader McCormack (D.-Mass.) told the Republicans his side welcomed "constructive criticism" but said both parties should use prudence in criticizing the Allies.

"The gentleman from Pennsylvania did nothing worse than to tell the truth," came back Rep. Fish (R.-N. Y.), a frequent critic of the administration.

"This is not a New Deal war," Fish declared. "To the Republicans I want to emphasize that you have a function—constructive criticism without fear or favor."

Fish turned to his own party to deplore what he termed a lack of vigorous minority leadership.

"What is left of the Republican party if it cannot criticize constructively?" he asked. "If you don't do it who will?"

Gavin, called upon the State department to "tell the British empire that we are not satisfied with their policy on the conscription of men in the the British colonies.

"If we can draft our boys by the thousands for overseas service," he asked, "why can't the British colonies do likewise? The prime minister and the foreign secretary can get tough with Uncle Sam when they feel the British empire is not getting the breaks."

Attempting to choke off the angry debate Rep. Bulwinkle, north Carolina Democrat, declared Gavin had his facts wrong and said the Pennsylvanian would never have made the speech had he known the truth about British conscription policies.

"The careless words used on the floor of this House cost lives just as much as careless words anywhere else," he declared.

Congress Hears Criticism Of U.S.-Allies

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—Senator Brooks (R., Ill.) protested today that while American soldiers are fighting desperately "both Russia and England are engaging in a race for future balance of power in Europe.

"Already," he told his colleagues, "it is clear that Russia intends to expand her empire and plot her philosophy throughout the Baltic and Balkan states, while Britain moves daily to expand her influence and establish puppet governments in Italy, Greece, Belgium and France."

The House, meanwhile, heard a brief but spirited debate on Allied unity, touched off by a sharply worded attack by Representative Gavin (R., Pa.) on British conscription policy.

"We Are Not Satisfied"

Gavin suggested that the State Department "tell the British Empire that we are not satisfied with their policy on conscription of men in the British colonies."

"If we can draft our boys by the thousands for overseas service, why can't the British colonies do likewise?" Gavin asked. He added that Prime Minister Churchill "seems content to let us throw thousands of our boys into action to carry on the fight, hundreds of whom are being liquidated every day."

Representative Luther A. Johnson (D., Texas), member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, leaped to his feet with the assertion that Gavin had "rendered a disservice to his country and to the Allies."

"Promote Disunity"

"We ought to suppress statements like this," Johnson said, adding that they tend "to promote disunity, prolong the war and encourage Hitler."

Republican Representatives Fish (New York) and Hoffman (Michigan) defended Gavin's right to speak his mind. Fish admonished Johnson for criticizing a member who "dares to tell the truth."

Representative Bulwinkle (D., N.C.), pleading for unity among the Allies, cautioned his colleagues that "careless words used on the floor of this House cost lives just as much as careless words anywhere else."

"Duty To Speak Out"

Fish, who had returned to his seat, took the floor a few minutes later to declare "it is the duty of all of us—Republicans and Democrats alike—to speak out and tell the truth regarding our Allies."

Criticizing what he termed a majority tendency to whisper "hush hush—you musn't say that," everytime somebody makes a speech about the war, the New Yorker added:

"This is not a New Deal war. All of us, Republicans and Democrats, have sons fighting shoulder to shoulder."

Saying that "what we need on the Republican side is a more vigorous leadership," Fish prompted Democratic Leader McCormack (Mass.) to accuse Fish of having chastized his own party.

Three-Mile Limit

"Constructive criticism is one thing; personal attack is another," McCormack asserted, adding that party lines should disappear when "the three-mile limit is reached."

In his Senate speech, Brooks said American soldiers are fighting the powerful Nazi armies, "led on under the promise that the peoples in liberated countries would be privileged to set up their own governments under the basic principles of the Atlantic Charter."

The small European nations, torn by the German and Allied invasions, are now racked by civil war "prompted by conflicting forces of Russia and Britain in their struggle for supremacy," Brooks asserted.

Explanation Asked

Saying that "these small nations are steadily losing hope of ultimate justice at the hands of the United Nations," he declared "time is ripe for an explanation of America's position, program and policy."

Calling for another meeting of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin, Brooks said the American people should be told the answers to two questions:

"What are the political clauses contained in the Teheran agreement?"

"What are the terms contained in the political clauses embodied in the armistice with Italy?"

The answers, he said, "may explain the scramble and struggle for political supremacy by each of our two major allies."

Lear Explains Air Personnel Shift

DEC 14 1944

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Ben Lear said today a radical change in the mission of the Army ground forces is resulting in their getting 65,000 individual soldiers from air and service forces.

And still more may be shifted.

Moreover, as part of this progressive changeover, units are being taken from no longer necessary assignments and given new fighting duties in the ground forces, General Lear said.

Mission Changed

The general presented this information to show the steady but tremendous change in the role of the ground forces since the United States moved from the defensive to the offensive.

"Forty thousand men from surpluses of the Army Air Forces and 25,000 men from the surpluses of the Army Service Forces have already been or are in the process of being transferred as individuals to the Army ground forces, just as an indication of the ground forces changed mission," he said.

More May Be Shifted

"This is not a sudden manpower shift to balance the scales, by any means. It can be taken instead, as an index that under the changed mission of the ground forces, the usefulness of these soldiers had ceased in their previous services and now exists to a great degree in the ground forces.

"It is estimated that as the need and unavoidable casualties increase as a result of increasing ground force action, an additional number of men may be shifted from the surpluses of the air forces to the ground forces as time goes on."

Conversion Explained

The changing picture of the war has terminated the usefulness of some units and they therefore have been reconstituted for new missions, he said. Lear explained it this way:

"There has been considerable conversion and redesignation—again, not as an emergency measure, but to conform to the changed mission. For instance, almost 100 coast artillery battalions have either been directly converted into field artillery battalions or their personnel used to fill up existing field artillery battalions.

"Ascendancy over the German and Japanese air forces has lessened the need for anti-aircraft units as such. Some have been inactivated and converted and some are employed in their secondary role as field artillery or tank destroyer units.

Now Mortar Units

"Almost an even dozen tank-destroyer battalions, *per se*, because of developing and changing armor and anti-armor doctrines, have been converted to armored, field artillery and mortar battalions."

"No intelligent person ever attempts to say that the Navy does more than the air force or the air force does more than the ground force," Lear says. "The action of all three is an integrated and co-ordinated whole with one joint mission—total defeat of the enemy.

"But it is a military fact that the final action of all wars is infantry action—that is, ground force action—and that until that action has been prosecuted to its fullest, until our ground forces actually occupy the enemy's ultimate terrain, the decission is never final."

NAVY INCREASES ROCKET PROGRAM BY NEARLY 300 P.C.

DEC 14 1944

By HAMILTON M. FARON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—(AP) Production of rockets to blast the way onto enemy beaches will be stepped up "nearly 300 per cent within the next few months," the Navy reported today.

Rear Admiral George F. Hussey Jr., chief of the bureau of ordnance, cited three reasons :

1. "The stepped-up tempo of the Pacific war, where every offensive must of necessity be an amphibious operation calling for thousands of rockets."

2. "The success of the Navy's latest airplane rocket."

3. "The fact that the Navy is now producing Navy-type rockets for all the armed forces."

The Navy disclosed that landing craft of all sizes now lay down rocket barrages to clear the approaches and beaches of anti-personel defenses and enemy forces.

The 4.5 inch or beach rocket, which the amphibious craft use carries the punch of a 105-MM shell.

Large landing craft, specifically landing craft tanks, the Navy continued, carry hundreds of rockets which are fired in salvos. "The total number of salvos from an LCT," the Navy said, "is equal to approximately 2 1-2 times the firepower of a battleship of the New Jersey class."

Three types of rockets are carried. The principal one is high explosive another has incendiary compounds to determine the accuracy of range a smoke rocket is used in screening troops.

"All are fired by electricity from batteries charged by generators fed by the ships' engines," it was stated.

"Fired so that each salvo overlaps previous ones, they eliminate virtually all secondary fortifications including mines, wire, machinegun nests, shallow pillboxes and will temporarily stun men in larger fortifications. They are similar to heavy mortar fire."

The Navy gave no indication of the extent of the rocket production program.

It reported great strides had been made in rocket warfare in three years and improved rockets and launchers have been developed by the California Institute of Technology.

Much credit for development of the landing craft rocket program was given by the Navy to Lt. L. W. Carr, Dallas, Tex., who led a group of young officers and men sent last winter to train first crews for such craft.

Reich's Fall In '44 Held Unlikely

DEC 14 1944

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—Senator Bailey (D., N.C.) says Government officials have given up hope that the war in Europe will end this year.

"I regret to say," he told the Senate yesterday, "that whereas many of us entertained high hopes of an end of the war in Europe before the year was out, no one entertains such a hope now in any high degree.

"We had thought at one time that our boys would soon be coming home, but our hearts stand still now at the thought of the blood that must be shed and the tears that must flow before we see them again."

The Senator has a son, Lieut. Pou Bailey, with the Army in Germany.

POSTHUMOUS HONORS FOR FOUR CHAPLAINS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) Distinguished Service Crosses have been awarded posthumously to four Army chaplains who died at sea, the War department announced today.

Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell will present the awards to the next of kin at ceremonies Tuesday, Dec. 19, at the Fort Myer, Va., chapel.

The decorations will be given Mrs. Elizabeth J. Poling, Philadelphia, widow of Chaplain Clark V. Poling; Mrs. Theresa F. Goode, Washington, D. C., widow of Chaplain Alexander D. Goode; Mrs. George Fox, Cambridge, Vt., widow of Chaplain George L. Fox; and Mrs. Leonard Schwoebel, Newark, N. J., sister of Chaplain John P. Washington.

The chaplains to be honored gave up their life jackets to others aboard a sinking transport. Their loss was announced by the department Dec. 3.

Representatives of major church organizations have been invited to attend the presentation ceremonies

Army's Tire Needs Are Reported Huge

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—New tire-making plants will be constructed in an effort to meet the Army's huge demands.

Announcing this at a news conference today, Hiland G. Batcheller, acting chairman of the War Production Board, called tires the "most critical" of all the war programs at the present time.

Batcheller said November generally was a "wonderful" month for all the critical programs, with production sharply stepped up over October, but that schedules had not been met in all cases.

He expressed particular gratification over increased production of B-29 Superfortresses and high-priority "combat loaders," the assault transport and cargo ships urgently asked by the Navy for future operations in the Pacific.

Will Boost Production

The new tire plants, plus emergency steps already under way, will bring production of military-type tires up to an estimated 6,700,000 quarterly by the end of next year.

Production of military-type tires now is running at about 4,100,000 quarterly, and new facilities already under way are designed to increase this to 5,700,000 quarterly, not counting the new facilities just decided upon.

Batcheller said it had not been decided where the new plants would be located, but that the labor situation would be a determining factor in placing them. He estimated the cost of the new plants at $40,000,000 to $50,000,000.

Rubber To Be Available

If suitable buildings can be found, they will be diverted from less urgent war programs to the making of tires. Otherwise, entirely new plants will be built.

Batcheller said supplies of natural and synthetic rubber would be available to meet the increased tire production, but that it would be necessary to increase output of carbon black, an essential ingredient, and possibly rayon cord.

Batcheller, without announcing actual figures, called the production of Superfortresses a "miracle."

The output of these long-range heavyweight bombers, which now are carrying the war to Japan with increasing frequency, jumped 30 per cent over October, and ran three per cent ahead of schedule.

Critical Programs

Batcheller gave these figures on November production of critical programs compared with October and the schedule for November:

Heavy artillery ammunition (over 105-mm.) up 23 per cent, above schedule six per cent.

Heavy field artillery, up five per cent, on schedule.

All tanks, up twelve per cent, below schedule four per cent.

Large truck and bus tires, up one per cent, above schedule five per cent.

Cotton duck, up seventeen per cent, behind schedule one per cent.

On an over-all basis, production in the critical catagories increased eleven per cent, but was four per cent behind schedule.

CHANGE IN TREATY POLICY IS URGED

DEC 14 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—(AP) The Senate two-thirds vote rule on treaty ratifications threatens a shift of power from Congress to the President, the House Judiciary committee said today.

The committee approved legislation to offer a constitutional amendment authorizing the ratification of treaties by simple majorities of both Senate and House.

"The two-thirds rule x x x has forced chief executives x x x to enter into executive agreements x x x regarding important foreign affairs," the committee report declared. "This is an unhealthy tendency. It has far reaching and disastrous possibilities.

"The maintenance of the two-thirds rule instead of working to maintain a great power in the Senate is actually taking that power away from the Senate.

"Congress should act as a check upon the treaty making powers of the President, but by maintaining a rule which prevents negotiations which the people desire, the Congress is on the road to eliminating itself from this important function of government."

"The record of the Senate in handling treaties of peace is long, and it is disturbingly bad.

"From the moment the United States became a world power as a result of the Spanish American war, the Senate has frustrated every significant move to make it possible for the country to participate in settling international disputes."

NAVY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—The Navy Department announced today the names of 226 casualties in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, which makes a total of 78,178 casualties reported by the Navy since Pearl Harbor. Of this total 29,993 are reported dead, 34,330 wounded, 9,469 missing and 4,486 prisoners of war. Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

Admiral Spencer Gets Merit Award

Washington, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—A Legion of Merit Medal was presented today by Vice-Admiral Russell R. Waesche, commandant of the Coast Guard, to Rear Admiral Lyndon Spencer.

Admiral Spencer of Hamilton, N. Y., now assistant chief operations officer of the Coast Guard, was decorated for meritorious service as commanding officer of the U. S. S. Bayfield in the invasion of France.

Girls in Services Praised in Report

Washington, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Said a House Naval Committee report today on Waves, Spars and women Marines:

"Although they were reluctantly accepted at first, they have gained the utmost respect of the men in the services because of their good spirit, hard work and efficiency."

MISS BOARDMAN PRAISED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) President Roosevelt today wrote Miss Mabel Boardman, recently retired as an American Red Cross leader, that "the nation owes you its gratitude for almost 45 years of service."

Vice President Wallace read the President's praise at a luncheon in Miss Boardman's honor attended by Mrs. Roosevelt and leading government, military and Red Cross officials.

President Roosevelt also joined Basil O'Connor, who today was reappointed chairman of the American Red Cross, in issuing a citation to accompany a gold medal especially struck for presentation to Miss Boardman. The citation lauded her as "inspirer of the organization and administration of the Red Cross."

Contract Renegotiation Saves Navy 7½ Billion

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—Renegotiation of war contracts is figured to have cut $7,500,000,000 from the cost of the Navy.

The House Naval Affairs Committee reported today that renegotiation of contracts by the Navy had resulted in $3,740,211,501 in cash refunds from contractors and the elimination of $3,887,596,607 in excess profits. Contracts totaling $56,000,000,000 were renegotiated.

The voluminous report, summing up the Navy's activities for two years, showed how the fleet reached its peak.

When 1944's commitments are filled more than 40,000 new vessels will have been added to the fleet with a total tonnage of nearly 3,500,000.

Pensions for Congress Win Support in Congress

DEC 1944

Mrs. Norton Introduces Bill Amid General Approval

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 (AP).—A new pensions-for-Congressmen drive sprang up today on Capitol Hill. It had the open backing of Mary T. Norton, Democrat, of New Jersey, chairman of the House Labor Committee, and the tacit backing of many other influential members.

Mrs. Norton emphasized in an interview that she is not proposing gifts for members of Congress when the leave public service, but simply to extend the current Federal employees' retirement system to elective and executive officers.

The New Jersey legislator pointed out that Congress has built up a contributory retirement fund for most Federal workers, the amount of retirement pay being based on the amount of money contributed and the entire system being worked out on an actuarial basis.

Other members of Congress promptly leaped enthusiastically if anonymously into the fight.

Mrs. Norton's bill went into the hopper along with a measure by Earl Vinson, Democrat, of Georgia, chairman of the House Naval Committee, to raise the annual pay of Congressmen from $10,000 to $15,000 and to raise the salary of the President, the Vice-President, the Speaker and other executive officers.

NEW CUT SEEN IN NEWSPRINT

WPB Indicates Slash In Second Quarter Of 1945

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP) — The War Production Board indicated today that a further cut in newsprint allocations may be necessary "by the second quarter of 1945, if not before."

The agency said it had advised members of the Newspaper Industry Advisory Committee that this prospect has developed despite the fact that Canada has agreed to maintain deliveries of 200,000 tons of newsprint a month during the first half of next year.

"The shortage in the first half of 1945 will be caused by increased military demands for paper and requirements of the liberated areas of Europe," the WPB said.

Ammunition Needs Up

Increased requirements of the Army for ammunition will also affect the pulp and paper supply of American publishers, it was stated.

It was pointed out that, if weather conditions permit, Canada may be able to increase deliveries by about 10,000 tons a month after July 1, but the WPB said the requirements of liberated areas would be added "to the load which must be carried by the present United States supply" of pulp and paper.

"WPB officials expect, therefore," the announcement said, "that by the second quarter of 1945, if not before, the situation may become so critical as to indicate a further cut in the amount of newsprint available for United States newspaper publishers."

Checkup Abroad Promised

The advisory committee recommended that the WPB request information from the Foreign Economic Administration about proposed uses for the newsprint sought by liberated countries. It also urged that these allotments be made "only after careful screening" of demands by WPB officials.

The WPB gave assurances that this would be done.

Publishers also were asked to increase, if possible, their aid in the wastepaper collection drive.

At the request of the advisory committee, the WPB agreed to appoint a task group of publishers to study the need for additional newsprint in congested areas swollen by war industries.

Quarterly Reports Urged

Another recommendation of the committee was that all newspaper publishers be required to file with the WPB quarterly reports of newsprint consumption and inventories. This procedure, the committee said, would assist the WPB in bringing supply and demand for newsprint into balance.

The committee unanimously approved WPB proposals for "slight relaxations" in the paper quotas for the small newspapers, designed, a spokesman for the agency said, to give such newspapers "a little more paper."

Detailed formulas for computing these quotas will be announced shortly, he said.

The committee recommended, too, additional allotments for condensed editions of newspapers to be distributed to service men.

ROOSEVELT LEAD OVER 3,500,000

DEC 14 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13—(AP) President Roosevelt's plurality in his fourth-term victory over Gov. Thomas E. Dewey has reached 3,585,081, with returns of the Nov. 7 election nearly complete.

Five weeks after the election, officials of several states have not completed the canvassing and certifying of votes. They are expected to finish in a week or so. Not until then will it be known exactly how many votes were cast in the country-wide election. It is expected to be upwards of 48,500,00.

A total of 47,911,597 presidential votes is shown in the nearly-complete compilation.

Of this total, 22,000,024, or 45.9 per cent, were cast for Governor Dewey. Minor party candidates received 326,360.

Official returns have not yet been certified by the states of Michigan, New Mexico and Wisconsin. Nevada and Tennessee have not finished their official count.

Cigaret Smokers Are Told The Worst Is Yet to Come

DEC 14 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—(AP) Senators probing into the cigaret scarcity discovered today that the worst is yet to come.

The armed forces overseas, they were told, are getting about 30 per cent of the supply now and will need a lot more next year, and there isn't much that can be done to boost production.

The senators, members of the War Investigating committee, uncovered practically no suspicion of industry skullduggery in a three-hour interrogation of witnesses. The testimony indicated that the scarcity on retail shelves is due to an actual lack of fags.

Chairman Mead (D-N.Y.) and Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.), non-smokers themselves, threw themselves into the inquiry with vigor, while reporters rolled their own on the sidelines.

Ferguson brought out that shortly after the landings in Europe, as high as 30 per cent of some cigaret shipments in that area had gone astray, due to pilfering and other nefarious practices.

But Col. Fred C. Foy, director of purchases for the army service forces, said that stringent action by General Ike Eisenhower had held the losses to not more than 10 per cent in any subsequent instance.

The General, to put a stop to profitable sales through civilian channels abroad—packs have gone for as high as $2 and $3 in Paris—has made sales by army personnel to civilians a courtmartial offense.

Limited facilities for unloading at overseas ports, the colonel said, have delayed movement of cigarets to troops at the front lines, since food, gasoline and heavy artillery ammunition take precedence. On October 31, he pointed out, 3,600,000,000 cigarets were awaiting discharge in foreign waters.

Chairman Mead pursued one idea that wholesalers were channeling excessive civilian supplies to their vending machines in the hope of greater profit, but made little headway with his witnesses.

Said Joseph Kolodny, Secretary of the National Association of Tobacco Distributors, at one point:

"There is no need for looking in dark closets or under the bed. There is no mystery about it."

Consumers Are Hoarding

He pointed out, and Paul M. Hahn, Vice President of the American Tobacco company, agreed with him, that 30 per cent of the available supply is going overseas, that civilian consumption has increased 15 per cent annually since 1940, and that consumers definitely are hoarding.

Nobody deplores the shortage more than the distributors, Kolodny asserted, since "all the gripes received by the retailer are in turn visited upon us."

Kolodny thought the OPA ought to revise wholesalers' price ceilings. Some retailers, he said, because of normal pre-war discount practices, are prevented by the OPA from paying the prevailing wholesale price. He added that that revision might be made soon and would lead to a more equitable distribution.

Hahn said his company's 1944 production was 107 per cent of 1943, 196 per cent of 1940 and 287 per cent of 1935. November production fell off two per cent below the peak of November, 1943, he said, because of a manpower shortage.

H. A. Kent, Vice President of P. Lorillard Co., and O. H. Chaulkley, president of Philip Morris company, said that in addition to other complications, the shortage of cigaret leaf tobacco would be acute in another year.

Kolodny thought it would be helpful in getting manpower for tobacco manufacturers and distributors if those industries were classified as essential. He said tobacco growing is classed as an essential activity and he is unable to see where it is consistent to make its processing non-essential.

Hurley Appointment Wins Senate Committee Favor

Vote on Ex-Governor to Surplus War Board Is Expected Today.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13 — (AP) The Senate Military Affairs committee today approved President Roosevelt's first two nominees for the task of disposing of an estimated $100,000,000,000 worth of surplus war property.

The committee vote on Robert A. Hurley, former governor of Connecticut, and Lt. Col. Edward Heller, wealthy California business m was along party lines. Senator G lette (D.-Ia.) is slated for app ment as the third member of the Disposal board after expiration of his Senate term.

The nominations probably will be called up tomorrow in the Senate, with administration forces confident of obtaining speedy confirmation.

DEC 14 1944

Democratic committee members with the exception of Senator Johnson (D.-Colo.), lined up solidly for the nominees. Johnson voted against Hurley.

The committee's favorable recommendation came at the end of a week-long hearing at which most attention centered on the connections of Hurley and Heller with the Narragansett Machine company, Pawtucket, R. I. war plant which got into difficulties on Navy contracts.

Hurley was vice president of the firm before he was named to the board and Heller, as war finance officer, took part in negotiation of War department guaranteed loans to the company.

Navy officials testified the Navy had had "disastrous" experiences with Narragansett and canceled a contract for lockers because the company failed to deliver a single acceptable locker.

Hurley, testifying at the final session, acknowledged that the company could not complete the contract but attributed the firm's failure to difficulty in obtaining materials and to strict Navy specifications.

Banker Testifies

The final witness, T. Dawson Brown, vice president of the Industrial Trust company, of Providence, told the committee that his bank had neither approved nor disapproved of Hurley's appointment as vice president of Narragansett.

Col. John C. Mechem, chief of the Army's Special Financial Services division, previously had testified that the band had "acceded" to Hurley's appointment.

Brown said the bank had no "occasion or opportunity" to pass upon the appointment because the bank by that time had been relieved by the Boston Ordnance district of liability on a loan to Narragansett.

WLB Refuses Wage Ruling Revision

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—The War Labor Board today denied the petition of 73 steel companies for reconsideration of the board's decision in the "basic steel" wage case.

Moving swiftly after the CIO steel workers notified the board they did not desire to use the two-week period allowed for filing their answer to the petition, the board cleared the way for enforcement of its decision.

Certain wage adjustments, relating principally to odd-hour shifts which the steel companies contended were in violation of the national wage policy, were granted to the 485,000 employes of 86 steel companies involved in the case.

Chairman William H. Davis said WLB "decided that the petition contained no grounds warranting reconsideration of the case, since the points raised by the petitioners had been fully discussed in the hearings on the case and in the board's discussion before it reached its decision November 25."

Petition Filed Monday

The petition was filed by 73 companies on Monday. They said they were ready to place in operation the points in the WLB decision which did not involve wages, such as provisions for maintenance of union membership and check-off of union dues.

Yesterday Philip Murray, CIO president, urged the board to dispose of the petition forthwith, contending that further delays would "add to the unrest" in the industry.

Before the board's decision on the wage issues can become effective, Fred M. Vinson, economic stabilizer, must rule on their effect on steel prices. In this connection, the OPA is preparing data to submit to Vinson.

3-To-10-Cent Increase

The basic wage adjustments granted by WLB, based on rotated night work, have been estimated to involve an average increase for the steel workers of 3 to 10 cents an hour.

The companies argued that the Little Steel formula, on which the national wage stabilization policy is based, would be violated by the adjustments, but Chairman Davis said at the time the decision was handed down that the formula would not even be "bent" by the changes.

The steel workers within the past two years have received the fifteen per cent wage increase allowable under the Little Steel formula to offset the increase in cost of living between January, 1941, and May, 1942.

17-Cent Raise Requested

The CIO union subsequently asked for a general increase of 17 cents an hour as part of their general demands, but the WLB shelved the 17-cent request, deciding it would make no recommendation to the White House on scrapping of the Little Steel formula.

Roosevelt To Give Usual Christmas Eve Address

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—President Roosevelt will make his usual Christmas Eve radio address at 5.15 P.M. (EWT) over all major networks.

The White House did not say from where he will speak. Last year, reporting on the Cairo and Teheran war conferences with Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin, he spoke from his home at Hyde Park, N.Y.

NEW OPPONENT FOR PETRILLO

Radio Workers Tell Networks Not To Be "Dominated"

Washington, Dec. 13 (AP)—A radio workers' union declared tonight that "it is time for the networks to decide whether they should be dominated" by James C. Petrillo.

The assertion in a statement by the National Association of Broadcast Engineers and Technicians followed a report that Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, had threatened "a series of wildcat strikes" against the Blue Network.

Blue's president, Mark Woods, said Monday the musicians' chief had made the strike threat in demanding that the network abide by an agreement of last January for employment of AFM members as platter turners.

NLRB Rules For NABET

Since that agreement, the National Labor Relations Board ruled that the NABET should have jurisdiction over the platter-turners, except in Chicago where they have been members of the Petrillo union for years.

Woods said Petrillo had refused to accept the decision and warned "that if we do not keep our agreement with the AFM he will order a series of wildcat strikes by withdrawing musicians from our programs at sopradic intervals."

Petrillo was not immediately available for comment.

"Radio Made The Name Bands"

The NABET statement said it would abide by the NLRB decision and was ready to continue negotiations for new contracts with the Blue and the NBC.

"Petrillo's refusal to comply with the decision is an affront to the NLRB," the statement declared.

If the musicians stage wildcat strikes, the companies should bring it to the attention of the War Labor Board, the NABET continued.

"Radio, with the help of the technicians, made the name bands," the union asserted. "By the same token, radio can break them."

Pat O'Brien And Troupe Back From Burma Front

New York, Dec. 13 (AP)—Pat O'Brien, screen star, and a troupe of USO entertainers arrived today on an army transport plane from a tour of army installations in the China-Burma-India theater.

O'Brien said his group played 86 shows, compared to a previous record of 54. One show was within 30 miles of the Japanese, he said.

Returning with O'Brien were Harry Brown, of Van Nuys, Cal.; Beatty Yeaton, of Glendale, Cal., and James and Ruth Dodd, of Hollywood. Jinx Falkenberg, the movie actress, who was a member of the troupe, stopped off in Cairo to visit her fiance, Col. "Tex" McCrary.

16 U.S.-Jap GI's Invited Into Legion

New York, Dec. 13 (AP)—Sixteen American soldiers of Japanese ancestry have been invited to become members of Capt. Belvidere Brooks Post, No. 450, American Legion, after the war.

Post officials took the action because they said they felt a "black eye" was given the Legion by the Hood River (Ore.) post which caused the names of the sixteen men to be erased from its war memorial last week.

BROUGHT FROM BURMA

Fort Devens, Mass., Dec. 13 (A. P.).—Staff Sergt. John Kennedy of East Hartford, Conn., was evacuated to Lovell General Hospital justeight days after he was injured 150 miles behind the enemy lines in Burma, it was announced today.

The veteran of fifty-seven missions into Jap-held Burma with Cochrane's long range penetration air-borne glider and transport troops was flown out by way of Assam, Calcutta.

Sergt. Kennedy, a radio operator and communications chief of a C-47 transport, suffered a compound fracture of the left leg when the plane's pilot mistook a nearby rice paddy for the one used as a landing strip and crashed the big transport. Only three men survived.

MONTGOMERY WARD FACES NEW STRIKE

DEC 14 1944

DETROIT, Dec. 13 — (AP) The C.I.O. marshalled all its Detroit unions tonight to support the strike of its United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store employes against four stores of Montgomery Ward & Co. in this area.

Presidents of some 240 C.I.O locals in the Detroit area were summoned to a meeting here on the eve of a "show cause" hearing before the national War Labor board at Washington tomorrow which officials of the company and the employes union were directed to attend.

Tonight's meeting to organize "moral and financial support behind the strike" was called by August Scholle, national C.I.O. representative in Michigan.

Merritt Martin, president of Local 332 of the department store employes, made an assertion, denied by company spokesmen, that 25 clerks from Chicago and Toledo had been brought to work in the Ward store in suburban Dearborn. Ward spokesmen said that "this is the first time we have ever heard of anything like that."

The strike, which began Saturday, stems from the protest of the union members over Montgomery Ward's failure to accept a War Labor board directive covering maintenance of membership, dues check-off, union seniority, back pay and arbitration of grievances.

In a speech in the House of Representatives today Rep. Hoffman (R.-Mich.) accused the board of "persecuting" the company in "payment for the votes cast for the

fourth term." Hoffman said the administration "has already x x x demonstrated to the C.I.O. and Sidney Hillman and to informed public that it is the political and economic ally of the C.I.O. and of those who want to substitute federal for private control."

Grew Concedes Possible Faults In Security Plan

Says Instrument Must Not Be Rejected Just Because It Is Not Perfect at First

CHICAGO, Dec. 13 (AP).—Joseph C. Grew said today this country must not reject the Dumbarton Oaks plan for permanent peace machinery just because it does not seem perfect.

Mr. Grew, up for Senate confirmation as Under Secretary of State, said in a speech prepared for broadcast before the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations and the Chicago Association of Commerce here that the scheme can not please everybody.

"But," he declared, "if the blueprint that emerges from the eventual United Nations conference offers a workable machine holding out a reasonable hope for the prevention of future wars . . . we can not afford, as in 1920, once again to retire into our shell and refuse to co-operate just because what we might consider to be a perfect instrument has not been produced."

Indicating that future compromises are anticipated in the security plan, which many smaller nations have criticized for the lesser role accorded them, Mr. Grew said people must be "prepared to accept the nearest approach to that maximum that will permit general and eventually, we hope, universal acceptance."

He upheld the preponderance of power given Britain, Russia, the United States and China, however.

"It should be borne in mind," he said, "that these four countries, because of their size and strength, can make or break any system of general security."

Mr. Grew pointed out that while these nations, plus eventually France, would have special responsibilities on peace questions, the vote of at least one of the six rotating members from other countries on the proposed security council would be necessary to carry a decision.

The former Ambassador to Tokyo listed three steps which he said must follow Dumbarton Oaks "for effective establishment of the structure."

First, a charter must be negotiated, then agreements on armed forces which member nations would make available to the security council, and thirdly, agreements looking toward arms reduction.

So far, discussions of the peace agency have emphasized the minimum quotas of military might each nation must contribute to peace enforcement.

Mr. Grew made clear that, eventually, the aim is to reduce "the heavy burden of armaments."

COLONEL DENIES CHARGES

Canella Weeps as He Says He Lost a Son in France

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 13 (AP)—Col. Joseph James Canella, former quartermaster at Santa Ana Army air base, burst into tears today while testifying at his trial on charges of conspiracy to defraud the Government.

Questioned by his attorney, Otto Jacobs, concerning members of his family, Colonel Canella disclosed that his youngest son, Lt. Keith Canella, West Point graduate and fighter pilot, was killed last June in the Normandy invasion. Then he covered his face with his hands and wept. Another son is an infantry captain.

Colonel Canella and two Santa Ana dairymen, Harry E. McCormac and Ray M. Wykoff, are accused of irregularities in connection with contracts and employment of civilian personnel.

Army Tug Sunk On Way to Alaska

Seattle, Dec. 13 (A. P.).—The sinking of the 120-foot United States Army tug LT-239 after a collision with the Alaska Steamship Company vessel Victoria in the inland passage of Alaska, ninety miles south of Prince Rupert, B. C., on December 6 was disclosed here today.

Tech. Sergt. Joe Lapinski of Ravensdale, Wash., commander of the tug, said that the collision drove a ten-foot hole half way through the tug, which sank in four minutes. The entire crew of fifteen was saved.

ADD LONDON-(HERCHER) XXX GUNS:

EAST OF PEST--THE PART OF THE CAPITAL ON THE EAST BANK OF THE DANUBE--SMALL PANZER GROUPS COUNTERATTACKED IN VAIN ATTEMPTS TO RELIEVE THE CONSTANT RUSSIAN PRESSURE.

WHILE THE BATTLE FOR BUDAPEST RAGED RELENTLESSLY, THE THREAT TO AUSTRIA AND ULTIMATELY SOUTHERN GERMANY MOUNTED IN GRAVITY.

THE RUSSIANS WERE NEAREST THE AUSTRIAN BORDER AT THE NORTHWESTER END OF LAKE BALATON, WHERE THEY WERE THRUSTING TOWARD THE RAIL FORTRESS OF NAGYKANIZSA BETWEEN THE LAKE AND THE DRAVA RIVER FRONTI WITH NORTHERN YUGOSLAVIA.

A SECOND SECTOR THREATENING AUSTRIA WAS AROUND SZEKESFEHERVAR, 32 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BUDAPEST, AND A MAJOR RAIL FORTRESS ON THE AUSTRIAN LIFELINE. THEY WERE WITHIN NINE MILES OF THE JUNCTION ON THE EAST, EIGHT MILES ON THE SOUTHEAST, AND 13 MILES ON THE SOUTHWEST.

A THIRD SECTOR--AND ONE TO WHICH THE GERMANS WERE DEVOTING MOST OF THEIR ATTENTION IN THEIR FOREIGN BROADCASTS--WAS ABOVE THE BIG BEND ON THE DANUBE ABOUT 18 MILES NORTH OF BUDAPEST. HERE THEY WERE IN A POSITION TO SWING SOUTH AND SEVER THE BUDAPEST-VIENNA COMMUNICATION LINES, OR TO DRIVE ON TO VIENNA THROUGH THE BRATISLAVA GAP.

STILL FARTHER NORTH THEY WERE EXTENDING A FRONT ALONG THE CENTRAL SLOVAK FRONTIER, POSING A THRUST DIRECTLY WEST TOWARD THE SLOVAK CAPITAL OF BRATISLAVA AND VIENNA, AND THREATENING TO SLASH COMMUNICATIONS OF THE GERMANS FIGHTING IN EASTERN SLOVAKIA.

UX344PEW

THIRD NIGHT LEAD LABOR (260)

DEC 14 1944

BY JAMES F. KING

LONDON, DEC 13-(AP)-LABOR MINISTERS IN PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S COALITION GOVERNMENT WERE BOUND TODAY TO PRESS THE BRITISH WAR CABINET FOR A GREEK POLICY CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE ARMISTICE WITH THE LEFT-WING ELAS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN ATHENS.

EVEN THOUGH THE LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE ADOPTED A RESOLUTION AVOIDING CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT POLICY TO DATE IN THE GREEK CRISIS, A STATEMENT BY A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PARTY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MADE IT MANDATORY ON THE LABOR MINISTERS TO INSIST UPON A "REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT" IN GREECE.

EARLIER THE LABOR MINISTERS HAD ACCEPTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY WITH CHURCHILL FOR BRITISH POLICY IN GREECE, AFTER THEIR SPOKESMEN HAD ASSERTED RUSSIA AND PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT HAD AGREED THAT BRITAIN UNDERTAKE THE "MAIN PROBLEM OF GREECE." THEY RODE OUT A STORM OF PROTEST FROM FACTIONS OF THE PARTY THAT THREATENED TO FORCE THE MINISTERS' WITHDRAWAL FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

THE SPOKESMAN, JAMES GRIFFITHS, ADDRESSED THE CONFERENCE BEFORE IT VOTED ON THE ACCEPTANCE RESOLUTION, DECLARING "WE WANT AN ARMISTICE WITH ELAS, NOT UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.

"THIS MEANS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED-- NOT AN ULTIMATUM. LABOR WILL INSIST UPON A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, AND NO GOVERNMENT WHICH EXCLUDES EAM (OF WHICH ELAS IS THE ARMED BRANCH) CAN BE REPRESENTATIVE."

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE PROVIDES THAT LABOR MINISTERS ARE BOUND BY THE POINTS ENUMERATED BY GRIFFITHS AS EXECUTIVE SPOKESMAN.

GRIFFITHS, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, SUGGESTED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE FORMED UNDER A PRIME MINISTER

WHO WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES IN GREECE. HE ALSO ASSURED THE CONFERENCE THAT LABOR WOULD INSIST UPON THE DISARMING OF THE SECURITY POLICE AND THE TWO GREEK FORMATIONS NOW UNDER BRITISH COMMAND WHICH ARE BEING USED AGAINST ELAS.

BULKY ERNEST ETC. 2ND GRAF 2ND NL.

MK&SN836PEW

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FOLO LONDON LABOR PARTY-UNDER DASH

(WX) IN WASHINGTON, OFFICIAL SOURCES HAVE REPORTED AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL THAT GREECE WOULD BE A BRITISH ZONE SO FAR AS PLANS OF THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STAFF WERE CONCERNED. THESE SOURCES ALSO CONSIDERED ANY ROMANIAN AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THIS COUNTRY CONFINED TO MILITARY PURPOSES.

CONSEQUENTLY, THESE VAUTHORITIES SAW NO CONFLICT BETWEEN MILITARY UNDERSTANDINGS TO FURTHER THE WAR EFFORT AND SECRETARY STETTINIUS' STATEMENT THAT THE UNITED STATES EXPECTS LIBERATED COUNTRIES TO WORK OUT THEIR GOVERNMENTAL PROBLEMS "WITHOUT INFLUENCE FROM OUTSIDE."

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THE AMERICAN POLICY WITH REGARD TO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE THROUGHOUT THE WAR AND IN POST-WAR PLANNING HAS BEEN TO ENCOURAGE DEVELOPMENT OF STABLE POPULAR GOVERNMENTS AND CONDITIONS LOOKING TOWARD PEACE.

LH410PEW

LONDON, DEC. 13-(AP)-ABSENCE OF LEADING DEFENSE COUNSEL TODAY DELAYED THE TRIAL OF PVT.ROBERT JOSEPH HIMMELMAN, 19, OF ST.LOUIS, MO., (STREET ADDRESS UNAVAILABLE) CHARGED WITH MURDER IN THE KNIFE SLAYING OF PHYLLIS IRENE KENT, 25, A MEMBER OF THE BRITISH AUXILIARY TERRITORIAL SERVICE.

HIMMELMAN WAS ACCUSED OF STABBING MRS.KENT AUG. 3 AT AN ATS HOSTEL AT EXETER. HER HUSBAND, PVT.NORMAN KENT, WHO RETURNED TO ENGLAND A WEEK AGO FROM TWO YEARS SERVICE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, ATTENDED THE COURT MARTIAL.

JS348PEW

30. 24 — 21223

LONDON, DEC. 12-(AP)-A REPORT OF PROGRESS IN THE TREATMENT OF CANCER OF THE PROSTATE GLAND WAS GIVEN TODAY TO A MEETING OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE CANCER CAMPAIGN.

DR.F.L.HOPWOOD SAID A YEAR'S WORK IN ADMINISTRATION OF THE SYNTHETIC ESTROGEN KNOWN AS DIETHYLSTILBESTROL HAD "COMPLETELY CONFIRMED" ITS VALUE IN THIS TREATMENT. HOPWOOD IS VICE-DEAN OF PHYSICS AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

SOME PATIENTS HAVE BEEN "AND ARE BEING RENDERED PRACTICALLY SYMPTOM-FREE," HE SAID, AND THE BENEFITS OFTEN CAN BE MAINTAINED OVER LONG PERIODS.

DIETHYLSTILBESTROL IS A SYNTHETIC FEMALE SEX HORMONE. WHEN GIVEN TO MEN IN SUFFICIENT AMOUNTS IT HAS THE SAME EFFECT AS CASTRATION, WHICH HAS BEEN USED IN THE UNITED STATES WITH GOOD EFFECT ON PROSTATIC CANCER. AMERICAN PHYSICIANS HAVE ALSO USED THE HORMONE, BOTH AS A SUBSTITUTE AND AS AN ADDED TREATMENT. NEITHER CASTRATION NOR THE HORMONE CURES ALL CASES OF PROSTATIC CANCER, AND WHETHER THE APPARENT CURES SO FAR OBTAINED WILL BE PERMANENT IS NOT KNOWN BECAUSE THIS TREATMENT HAS NOT BEEN IN USE LONG ENOUGH.

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HJ1003PEW

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY -- FIRST ADD AMERICAN PRISONERS WORKED (A71) X X X AND WATER.

(THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1907 PROVIDES "THE STATE MAY UTILIZE THE LABOR OF PRISONERS OF WAR ACCORDING TO THEIR RANK AND APTITUDE, OFFICERS EXCEPTED. THE TASKS SHALL NOT BE EXCESSIVE AND SHALL HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH THE OPERATIONS OF THE WAR.")

MK1136PEW

ADD NR ST-NAZAIRE-(ST.)-(ER) A4TEX-

IN ADDITION TO THE MEN ACTUALLY INCLUDED IN THE SWAP TWO OREGON AIR FORCE OFFICERS ARRIVED AT THE AMERICAN LINES AT THE SAME TIME, HAVING PREVIOUSLY ESCAPED FROM THE GERMANS.

THEY ARE LT.LEONARD KELLER, BOX 537, HERMISTON, ORE., AND

FLIGHT OFFICER JACK NORELLUS, 416 SOUTH COLUMBIA ST., SEASIDE, ORE.

IN THE GROUP WERE SEVERAL BRITISH PRISONERS OF WAR. INCLUDING CAPT.MICHAEL R.O.FOOT, SON OF BRIGADIER R.C.FOOT OF LONDON. THE GERMAN FIRST DEMANDED FIVE GERMAN MAJORS WITH IRON CROSSES IN EXCHANGE FOR FOOT. BUT HODGES REFUSED AND SAID UNLESS IT WAS MAN FOR MAN AND RANK FOR RANK THE DEAL WAS OFF. THE GERMANS FINALLY AGREED TO SWAP FOOT FOR A NAZI MAJOR OR CAPTAIN WITH A PLAIN IRON CROSS. DEC 14 1944

08AEW

ADD PARIS- (KENNEDY) XX SAARREGUEMINES

IN ADVANCES OF MORE THAN EIGHT MILES, SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS SURGED THROUGH LANGENSOULTZBACH AND HEADED FARTHER NORTH TOWARD MATTSTALL, FOUR MILES SOUTH OF GERMANY'S PALATINATE AND 11 1/2 MILES NORTH AND SLIGHTLY WEST OF THE CAPTURED FRENCH CITY OF HAGUENAU.

DIRECTLY NORTH OF HAGUENAU LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S MEN CAPTURED MERKWILLER AND THRUST TO WITHIN EIGHT MILES OF THE IMPORTANT HIGHWAY JUNCTION OF WISSEMBOURG.

ON THE WESTERN FLANK THE AMERICANS CLEARED PETIT-REDERCHING, FIVE MILES WEST OF BITCHE AND LESS THAN FOUR MILES FROM THE GERMAN BORDER. AT ONE POINT PATCH'S TROOPS HA[illegible]EACHED WITHIN TWO AND A HALF MILES OF THE BORDER.

ON THE RIGHT FLANK SEVENTH ARMY UN[illegible]DRIVING ALONG THE WEST BANK OF THE RHINE REACHED SELTZ, FOUR AND[illegible] HALF MILES FROM THE GERMAN FRONTIER AND ONLY 15 MILES FROM THE [illegible]JOR GERMAN CITY OF KARLSRUHE. THIS COLUMN IS POINTED TOWARD THE F[illegible]NTIER TOWN OF LAUTERBOURG, THE KEY TO THE RHINELAND INDUSTRIAL AR[illegible] CENTERING AROUND THE TWIN GERMAN CITIES OF LUDWIGSHAFEN AND MANNHE[illegible], SOME 40 MILES AWAY.

THE ONLY ONE OF THE FOUR AMER[illegible]AN ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT NOT FIGHTING ON GERMAN SOIL, TH[illegible] SEVENTH ARMY IS ADVANCING NOW OVER FAIRLY FLAT TERRAIN AND AGAINST NAZI MANPOWER OBVIOUSLY SPREAD THINNER THAN ALONG THE SAAR OR THE ROER. IN THEIR PLUNGE THROUGH THE MAGINOT LINE THE AMERICANS MET ALMOST NO OPPOSITION BUT PATCH'S MEN STILL FACE THE BARRIER OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

IN THE NORTH GERMAN DEFENSES WEST OF THE ROER VIRTUALLY HAD COLLAPSED AS LT.GEN.COURTNEY H.HODGES' FIRST ARMY PUSHED UP TO THE RIVER ON A 1,000-YARD FRONT EAST OF HURTGEN FOREST.

APPARENTLY THE GERMANS HAVE WITHDRAWN THEIR MAIN FORCES ACROSS THE ROER INTO ELABORATE DEFENSES AT AND BEHIND THE SHATTERED CITY OF DUREN. COLOGNE IS 20 MILES ACROSS AN ALMOST LEVEL PLAIN FROM DUREN.

HODGES' INFANTRY AND TANKS CRASHED THROUGH THE RUBBLED TOWNS OF HOVEN, SCHOPHOVEN, PIER, MERKEN, MERODE, GEY AND DERICHSWEILER, ALL WITHIN A SIX-MILE ARC FROM NORTHWEST TO SOUTHWEST OF DUREN. MARIAWEILER, A HALF-MILE NORTHWEST OF DUREN, WAS ALMOST CLEARED OF THE ENEMY LAST NIGHT AFTER FIERCE FIGHTING THROUGH ITS STREETS.

FIRST ARMY UNITS DROVE TO THE ROER BELOW DUREN IN THE AREA ALMOST DUE EAST OF THE TOWN OF HURTGEN. THESE TROOPS ESTABLISHED A FIRM GRIP ON THE RIVER BANK ALONG THE SHORE OF THE OBER MAUBACH RESERVOIR. IN THAT SECTOR THE ROER IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO FLOODING BY THE OPENING OF SEVERAL DAMS.

THE U.S. NINTH ARMY, IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING HODGES' FORCES ON THE NORTH, REACHED THE ROER SEVERAL WEEKS AGO AND SINCE HAS BEEN HELD UP BY FLOODS AND BY THE NECESSITY FOR RESTING AND REGROUPING BEFORE CONTINUING ITS OFFENSIVE.

A STAFF OFFICER AT FIRST ARMY HEADQUARTERS DECLARED THAT THE FIGHTING IN THE WEST HAD REACHED A STAGE COMPARABLE TO THE BREAKTHROUGH PERIOD LAST JULY IN NORMANDY. HE SAID GERMAN PRISONERS REPORTED A NUMBER OF THEIR UNITS HAD BEEN BROKEN UP AND REFORMED INTO LOCAL BATTLE GROUPS WHICH IN MANY CASES WERE COMPOSED OF AS MUCH AS 50 PER CENT SUPPLY PERSONNEL.

THE THIRD ARMY'S 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION ENTERED GERMANY NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES AFTER CROSSING THE 60-FOOT BLIES RIVER ON ASSAULT BOATS WITHOUT THE LOSS OF A MAN. THE SAAR TOWN OF HABKIRCHEN WAS SEIZED WITHOUT RESISTANCE.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY TROOPS FIGHTING ON THE SOUTHERN ALSATIAN PLAIN SEIZED SEVERAL MORE TOWNS WEST OF MULHOUSE AND CLEARED GERMAN POCKETS ON THE WEST BANK OF THE RHINE SOUTH OF KEMBS.

BZ431AEW

DEC 14 1944

BY LEWIS HAWKINS (230)

FRAULAUTERN, GERMANY, DEC 13-(AP)-THE STRENGTH AND GREAT NUMBER OF THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSES ARE BEING SLOWLY NULLIFIED BY THE WEAKNESS AND SMALL NUMBER OF GERMANS ASSIGNED TO HOLD THEM.

THAT, OVERSIMPLIFIED BUT BASICALLY ACCURATE, IS THE STORY SO FAR IN THE THIRD ARMY'S EFFORT TO BREAK THE SIEGFRIED LINE AND IT WAS ILLUSTRATED IN CAPSULE FORM FOR ME HERE TODAY.

GOING THROUGH A CAPTURED PILLBOX, I FOUND A SMALL BUT FORMIDABLE FORT WITH STEEL AND REINFORCED CONCRETE WALLS THREE TO SEVEN FEET THICK. I SAW WHERE THREE HEAVY ACALIBER AMERICAN SHELLS HAD SMASHED FLUSH AGAINST THE FACE OF THIS FORT AND NEVER FAZED IT. I SAW HOW A HEAVY MACHINEGUN COVERED THE WIDE AVENUE OF APPROACH AND INTERLOCKED WITH FIRELINES FROM TWO OTHER PILLBOXES.

THEN I WENT TO A HOUSE A FEW YARDS AWAY WHERE GERMAN PRISONERS WERE AWAITING EVACUATION AND SAW A HAPLESS BAND OF ABOUT 40 OF THE VOLKSSTURM IN NONDESCRIPT UNIFORMS, SOME OF THEM AS OLD AS 59 AND ALL OF THEM ILL-TRAINED, BEWILDERED, SCRAWNY AND FRIGHTENED. PRACTICALLY ALL SAID THEY HAD BEEN MUSTERED IN FROM THEIR HOMES IN SAARBRUCKEN THREE WEEKS AGO AND BROUGHT IMMEDIATELY TO THE SAARLAUTERN AREA TO HELP MAN THE SIEGFRIED POSITIONS.

ONE OFFICER WHO HAD BEEN LEADING MEN THROUGH THE TOWN HOUSE BY HOUSE AND PILLBOX BY PILLBOX SUMMED IT UP BY SAYING:

"OF COURSE WE ARE MOVING SLOWLY BECAUSE IT'S A DAMNED TOUGH JOB AND WE'RE NOT GOING TO KILL OUR MEN NEEDLESSLY. BUT IF THE GERMANS HAD FIRST-CLASS TROOPS ENOUGH TO MAN THESE POSITIONS AS THEY SHOULD BE MANNED, AND THOSE TROOPS WOULD FIGHT TO THE DEATH AS HITLER ORDERED THEM, I DON'T SEE HOW WE COULD BE EXPECTED TO GET THROUGH."

MK1142PEW

BY EDWARD D. BALL (410)

DEC 14 1944

ON THE U.S.THIRD ARMY FRONT NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES, DEC.13 -(AP)-A BATTERED JEEP FLYING A TATTERED RED CROSS FLAG SKIDDED TO

A STOP.

A WOUNDED SOLDIER COVERED WITH AN OLIVE DRAB BLANKET LAY ON A LITTER WHICH RESTED ON STEEL RACKS BOLTED FORE AND AFT ON THE JEEP.

IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT WAS A MUD SPATTERED SANDY-HAIRED MEDICAL AID MAN WITH ONE HAND ON THE WHEEL AND THE OTHER PATTING THE WOUNDED MAN, CHEERILY TELLING HIM EVERYTHING WOULD BE ALL RIGHT.

"ON YOUR HORSES, MEN. HERE'S ONE WHO NEEDS ATTENTION QUICK," THE DRIVER CALLED OUT. THE PATIENT WAS BORNE QUICKLY AND GENTLY INTO THE PEASANT'S HOUSE BEING USED AS THE 134TH INFANTRY CASUALTY STATION.

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"IT'S THAT MOUSEY AGAIN. THE BANGDEST GUY THAT EVER LIVED. GOT MORE GUTS THAN ANY TEN MEN," COMMENTED PVT.FLORENTINE MONTOYS, 2643 CALIFORNIA STREET, DENVER, COLO., REFERRING TO HIS FELLOW AID MAN WHO HAD JUST DRIVEN UP IN THE JEEP.

"MOUSEY," IT DEVELOPED, IS CPL.EDWARD THILL, 1650 32ND STREET, MILWAUKEE, WIS., WHO HAS EARNED THE SILVER STAR, THE BRONZE STAR AND THE PURPLE HEART WITH TWO CLUSTERS IN FOUR MONTHS OF RETRIEVING WOUNDED MEN.

BUT THERE IS NOTHING MOUSEY IN HIS MAKE-UP. WHEN HE IS NOT UP AT THE FRONT LOOKING FOR WOUNDED, HE IS BACK AT HIS STATION TELLING THE PATIENTS WHAT A HELL OF A FINE BUNCH OF FIGHTING MEN THEY ARE.

HE IS JUST THE OPPOSITE OF HIS NICKNAME; HOW HE GOT IT NOBODY COULD EXPLAIN. MAYBE IT WAS GIVEN HIM IN THE SAME WAY THAT SOLDIERS CALL TALL MEN "SHORTY."

ALL DAY LONG MOUSEY HAD BEEN BARRELLING THROUGH HEAVY GERMAN MORTAR FIRE, ARTILLERY AND MACHINEGUN FIRE ALONG THE BLIES RIVER A MILE DOWN THE ROAD WITH HIS LOADS OF WOUNDED.

"HE'S BEEN DRIVING LIKE A WILD MAN SINCE HE STARTED AT ST.LO," SAID CAPT.J.R.MATTHEW OF KNOX, IND., AID STATION COMMANDER WHO PLAYED GUARD ON THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL TEAM AND WAS ITS CAPTAIN IN 1929.

"HE AND HIS JEEP HAVE BEEN SHOT UP BY EVERYTHING THE GERMANS HAVE GOT," MATTHEW CONTINUED. "IF WE DIDN'T HAVE HIM AROUND HERE THE PLACE WOULD FALL APART."

MOUSEY'S JEEP HAD MORE HOLES IN IT THAN A CHEESE GRATER. A NEAR-HIT FROM A BIG SHELL HAD SENT 88 FRAGMENTS THROUGH IT. ONE BULLET HAD BORED A HOLE THROUGH THE BACK OF THE DRIVER'S SEAT.

"I JUST GOT THAT ONE ON THE TRIP BEFORE I BROUGHT THIS LAST MAN IN," THILL EXPLAINED. "I HAPPENED TO BE LEANING OVER AT THE TIME."

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AS HE WAS TELLING ABOUT IT, THE GERMANS LET FLY WITH A HEAVY BARRAGE OF ARTILLERY SHELLS, A COUPLE OF WHICH NICKED THE AID STATION AND HIT AN EMPTY AMBULANCE PARKED OUTSIDE. EVERYBODY DUCKED QUICKLY FOR SHELTER. THAT IS, EVERYBODY BUT THILL. HE REMEMBERED THE BEARDED OLD FRENCHMAN AND HIS WIKE WHOSE HOME WAS THE HOUSE HIS OUTFIT WAS USING, AND PATIENTLY SHEPHERDED THEM INTO THE CELLAR.

B616PEW

BY THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S. 7TH ARMY NEAR THE SIEGFRIED LINE, DEC. 13-(AP)-ONE OF THE MAGINOT LINE FORTS PASSED TODAY BY THE SEVENTH ARMY IN ITS DRIVE TOWARD THE PALATINATE HAD CONCRETE WALLS FROM FOUR TO SIX FEET

THICK, BUT THE GERMANS MADE NO USE OF IT.

"THEY COULD HAVE MADE IT MIGHTY ROUGH FOR US HERE," SAID CAPT. MARC HUBBLE, INDIANAPOLIS, IND. "A FORT AS STRONG AS THIS COULD HOLD OUT INDEFINITELY."

CAPT.HUBBLE'S WIFE LIVES AT GREEN CASTLE, IND.

SGT.MARTIN HABER, YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, COMMENTED: DEC 14 1944

"DON'T GET THE IDEA WE ARE COMPLAINING ABOUT LACK OF ACTION, BECAUSE WE HAVE HAD PLENTY SOUTH OF HERE. THE OTHER DAY I WAS GOING ACROSS A FIELD AND FIVE MEN WERE KILLED RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME."

PROWLING AROUND THE GLOOMY DEPTHS OF THE FORTRESS, SGT.OLIVER H. KROSSA OF FORT SILL, OKLA., AND PVT.JOHN SPAN, JR., OF PULASKI, PA., DISCOVERED PARTS OF THE FORT, BUILT IN 1931, APPARENTLY HAD BEEN WRECKED BY THE FRENCH IN 1940. AIR CONDUITS WERE DESTROYED AND THE ELEVATOR WAS SMASHED. STANDING ATOP THE FORT, WHICH WAS MOSTLY UNDERGROUND, ONE COULD SEE A STRING OF SIMILARLY UNUSED FORTS, ALL WITHIN SIGHT OF THE RHINE. NOT A SHELL HAD BEEN FIRED IN ANGER FROM MOST OF THEM.

"WE'RE GLAD TO BE OUT OF THAT WOODS NORTH OF HAGUENAU," HUBBLE SAID. "THERE'S NOTHING THE DOUGHBOY HATES MORE THAN FIGHTING IN WOODS, WHERE SHELLS EXPLODE WHEN THEY HIT TREES AND SPRAY A WIDE AREA. WE PREFER STREET FIGHTING AND THERE ARE LOTS OF TOWNS AHEAD."

LT.COL.MARTIN OTTO OF LE SUEUR, MINN., SAID GERMANS CAPTURED BELOW WISSEMBOURG SAID THEY WERE PART OF A LARGER FORCE WHICH HAD BEEN ORDERED TO TRY TO STOP "OUR BREAKTHROUGH." HE ADDED:

"THE DIFFICULT TERRAIN AND THE MUDDY AND ALMOST IMPASSABLE ROADS, HOWEVER, ARE OUR BIGGEST OBSTACLE, NOT THE ENEMY."

JS148PEW

BY GEORGE TUCKER (240)

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS NEAR LORIENT, FRANCE, DEC 8-(DELAYED)--(AP)-AMERICAN ARTILLERY DEMONSTRATED TODAY HOW PERFECT INTEGRATION OF FIREPOWER CAN CREATE A "CYLINDER OF SECURITY" THROUGH WHICH INFANTRY CAN GET RIGHT UP TO ENEMY POSITIONS WITHOUT BEING HARMED.

DOUGHBOY'S CLEANING OUT GERMAN POCKETS SOUTH OF THE ETEL RIVER IN FRANCE'S COASTAL REGION ADVANCED AT DAWN WITH BAZOOKAS AND FLAMETHROWERS ACROSS HALF A MILE OF OPEN GROUND AND OVERWHELMED 28 NAZI BUNKERS AND PILLBOXES WITHOUT LOSING A MAN.

WHEN THE ATTACK BEGAN HEAVY ARTILLERY AND DIRECT FIRE WEAPONS LAID DOWN A SOLID CURTAIN OF FIRE AROUND THE ENEMY'S POSITIONS ALONG A 1,500-YARD FRONT.

AS THE DIRECT FIRE WEAPONS DROVE ENEMY GUNNERS AWAY FROM THE EMBRASURES IN THE BUNKERS AND PILLBOXES, YANKS SPRANG FROM POSITIONS TAKEN BEFORE DAYLIGHT AND RUSHED TOWARD THEIR OBJECTIVES. WHEN THE WAVE REACHED A POINT WHERE IT WAS IN DANGER OF COMING UNDER THE AMERICANS' OWN FIRE, THE DIRECT FIRE WEAPONS LIFTED. DEC 14 1944

THEN THE BAZOOKAMEN, TWO OF WHOM FLANKED EACH FLAMETHROWER, FIRED ROCKET AFTER ROCKET INTO THE EMBRASURES, IMMOBILIZING THE ENEMY GUNS.

FINALLY THE FLAMETHROWERS CUT LOOSE AND ACROSS THE ENTIRE FRONT OF THE ATTACK THE SCENE WAS ONE OF INCINERATION AND UTTER DEVASTATION. THE GERMANS CAME OUT OF COVER WITH THEIR HANDS RAISED AND CRYING SURRENDER.

SO SHARP AND DECISIVE WAS THE FIGHTING, [illegible] SO COMPLETE THE SURPRISE, THAT WITHIN AN HOUR AND A HALF AF[illegible] THE OPENING GUN THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE LIVE GERMAN SOUTH OF THE [illegible]VER EXCEPT THE PRISONERS.

ONE FLAMETHROWER WAS PFC LUKE CUCCIA, 3121 CAMBRONNE ST., NEW ORLEANS, LA., WHO SAID:

"WE HAD 700 YARDS OF OPEN GROUND TO CROSS BEFORE REACHING THE PILLBOX ASSIGNED TO OUR SECTION. WHEN THE TIME CAME TO ADVANCE WE JUMPED UP AND STARTED FORWARD AT A HALF CROUCH IN A LANE ABOUT NINE FEET WIDE. THIS LANE HAD BEEN CLEARED DURING THE NIGHT BY SAPPERS, WHO HAD TAKEN UP 13 MINES. THE LANES WERE LAID OUT LIKE A BOWLING ALLEY AND MARKED WITH WHITE TAPE.

"SUDDENLY SOMETHING EXPLODED AND WE HIT THE DIRT. I FELL SIDEWISE SO THAT THE TANK OF CHEMICAL LIQUID ON MY BACK WOULDN'T TAKE ALL THE FALL. YOU COULD SEE EVERYTHING WAS TURNING UT JUST LIKE THE COLONEL SAID IT WOULD."

IN A NEARBY LANE AND ALSO ADVANCING IN A HALF CROUCH WAS STAFF SGT. EDWARD M. IKNAT OF GARY, IND., WHO SAID:

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"YOU COULD ALMOST FEEL THE MACHINEGUN BULLETS ABOVE OUR HEADS. THEN WE GOT CLOSE TO A BUNKER COVERED WITH A CAMOUFLAGE NET. I GAVE IT A QUICK SHOT WITH THE FLAMETHROWER AND IT DISAPPEARED. ONE OF THE BOYS TOSSED A STICK OF DYNAMITE BEHIND THE HEAVY WALL IN FRONT OF THE POSITION, THEN I PUT FLAME INTO AN EMBRASURE AND TWO GERMANS JUMPED OUT WITH THEIR HANDS RAISED READY TO GO."

THE GERMANS WERE POURING OUT OF POSITIONS ALL ALONG THE LINE, SURRENDERING AND PLEADING NOT TO BE SHOT.

MAJ. GEN. HARRY J. MALONY, WHO PLANNED THE ATTACK, WATCHED IT UNFOLD FROM A FORWARD OBSERVATION POST.

LATER HE SAID "IT WAS A TRUE INTEGRATION OF THE FIRE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR WEAPONS."

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HJ103PEW

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY IN ALSACE, DEC. 13-(AP)-TWO MUSTANG PILOTS, CAPT. VICTOR J. GENTZLER OF RAPID CITY, S.D., AND SONORA, TEX., AND 2ND LT. FREDERICK L. HORANIC, 411 MYRTLE STREET, ERIE, PA., WERE JUMPED BY 20 ME-109'S SOUTH OF ÖBERSHEIM IN GERMANY TODAY.

NOT ONLY DID THEY GET BACK SAFELY, BUT THEY SHOT DOWN ONE GERMAN PLANE EACH AND PROBABLY DESTROYED ANOTHER.

"WE WERE SCARED--AND WE DON'T MIND WHO KNOWS IT," GENTZLER SAID.

HJ84PEW

with the seventh army in alsace, dec. 13--(ap)--the 45th (thunderbird) division ~~www~~ will celebrate its 365th day in combat tomorro w--poised on the border ready to storm into germany.

the thunderbirds made amphibi us landings in sicily, w salerno and in southern ~~www~~ france in their first full year of combat. they have been overseas for 18 months.

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wiants 02148 mb/833p

AT A U.S. MARAUDER BASE, FRANCE, DEC. 13-(AP)-FIVE CREWMEN OF A FLAK-TORN NINTH AIRFORCE MARAUDER GOT A BRIEF TASTE OF DOUGHBOYS' LIFE WHEN THEY BAILED OUT OVER NO MAN'S LAND AND LANDED SQUARELY IN THE MIDST OF A HOT ARTILLERY BATTLE.

STAFF SGT. MILTON H. COLLINS, JR., OF CALHOUN, KY., ONE OF THE QUINTET, LANDED IN A SHELL CRATER FULL OF DEAD GERMAN SOLDIERS.

THE DAZED FLIERS AT FIRST COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHICH WAY TO RUN. WHEN THEY SPOTTED GI HELMETS STICKING OUT OF FOXHOLES THEY LOST NO TIME IN GETTING INTO FRIENDLY TERRITORY.

ONE CREWMAN WAS KILLED IN BAILING OUT. OTHERS WHO ESCAPED WITH COLLINS WERE ELLIOTT S. MOORHEAD, OF (6385 16TH ST.) WASHINGTON, D.C.; FRED B. WILSON, OF (4117 BRUNSWICK ST.) LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; VICTOR HOMSA, OF (4824 GLADYS AVE.) CHICAGO, AND STAFF SGT. JOSEPH VACCARO, OF (618 GILFORD ST.) SYRACUSE, N.Y.

HJ85PEW

PARIS, DEC 13-(AP)-THE ARMY NEWSPAPER STARS AND STRIPES TALKED BACK EDITORIALLY TODAY TO THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL'S CRITICISM OF BRITISH WAR POLICY WITH A RECITAL OF BRITAIN'S WAR RECORD, SUMMING UP:

"WE'LL SAY THE RECORD SO FAR IS ON THE SIDE OF WINNIE CHURCHILL AND THE BRITISH.

"WE ARE FIGHTING THIS WAR BESIDE THEM. WE WOULD LIKE TO FIGHT THE PEACE BSIDE THEM, TOO."

THE SERVICE PAPER REFERRED TO A RECENT ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL EDITORIAL WHICH ACCUSED BRITAIN OF SHOWING "GREATER PREOCCUPATION" WITH PRESERVING EMPIRE LIFELINES THAN WITH THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY.

RECALLING PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S THANKSGIVING DAY SPEECH, STARS AND STRIPES SAID THE PUBLIC SHOULD REVIEW THE FACTS.

UNDER A PHOTO OF CHURCHILL, THE PAPER RECALLED HIS ACCESSION TO THE PRIME MINISTRY.

"FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS THEREAFTER, BRITAIN FOUGHT THE GERMANS ALMOST ALONE. ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE HOUSES IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES HAS FELT THE BLAST OF GERMAN BOMBS. ONE OUT OF EVERY THREE BRITISHERS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14 AND 64--4,500,000 OF THEM--ARE IN THE ARMED SERVICES. X X X

"THE RATION OF BRITISHERS IN THE SERVICES IS HIGHER THAN OURS. BATTLE CASUALTIES WERE RECENTLY REPORTED AT 563,000--12 PER CENT OF HER STRENGTH AS AGAINST 5 PER CENT OF OURS. IN ADDITION, BRITAIN SUFFERED 57,298 CIVILIAN DEAD AND 78,918 WOUNDED."

THE EDITORIAL ADDED THAT BRITAIN HAD LOST TWO-THIRDS OF THE SHIPPING SHE HAD AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR AND RECOUNTED BRITISH ACHIEVEMENTS IN TURNING OUT PLANES, TANKS AND GUNS "ON REDUCED RATIONS IN BLACKED OUT CITIES, IN HOMES AND FACTORIES NEVER FAR FROM THE SICK SMELL OF DEATH."

THESE FACTS, SAID STARS AND STRIPES, "DON'T QUITE GEE UP WITH THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL'S SLANT ON BRITAIN'S WAR ROLE."

MK1132PEW

paris, dec. 13--(ap)--the consultative assembly adopted unanimously today a pro osal establishing employe committees in each industry and commercial house with 50 or more workers to assist in plant and company operations. the project will go to the cabinet for approval.

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under the plan the committees would advise the management on policies and act as consultant in employer-labor relat:on

prewi dynans 02255 mb/843p

paris, dec. 13--(ap)--the finance ministery announced tod that the government's special bond c mpaign to soak up floods of surpl currency in circulation wil end dec. 20, thus implying that the goal of 100 billion francs had been reached.

the bonds of indefinite term and bearing three percent inteest were designed to help beat down current high pr ces and cripple the black marke t by cutting into the floating p rchasing p

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prewi dynans 00245 mb/840p

MOSCOW, THURSDAY, DEC. 14-(AP)-MORE THAN 100,000 JEWS ARE SSING AND 76,000 OTHERS HAVE BEEN DEPORTED OR SLAIN BY NAZI-INSPIRED RSECUTION IN THE EASTERN PROVINCES OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, OFFICIALS D TODAY.

HJ1206AEW

BY DANIEL DE LUCE

MOSCOW, DEC 13-(AP)-ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF POLAND AT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR IS FORECAST BY BOLESLAW BERUT, THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

WEIGHING HIS WORDS CAREFULLY BUT ANSWERING EVERY QUESTION, THE 52-YEAR-OLD PEASANT-BORN POLISH LEADER MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT DURING AN HOUR-LONG INTERVIEW YESTERDAY. HIS COUNCIL, WHICH HAS HEADQUARTERS AT LUBLIN, POLAND, IS IN OPPOSITION TO THE LONDON EXILE GOVERNMENT.

(VARIOUS REPORT HAVE INDICATED THAT RUSSIA, WHICH HAS SPONSORED DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL AND THE PARALLEL COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION, WILL RECOGNIZE THE PROPOSED LUBLIN REGIME. THE WESTERN ALLIES HAVE DEALT WITH THE LONDON GROUP AS THE LEGITIMATE POLISH GOVERNMENT. ALL EFFORTS TO EFFECT A UNION OF THE TWO HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.)

"I BELIEVE FRANCE WILL RECOGNIZE THE NEW POLAND BECAUSE OF THE TRADITIONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES," BERUT DECLARED.

(SIMILAR UNOFFICIAL EXPRESSIONS NOW ARE BEING HEARD IN PARIS IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW 20-YEAR PACT SIGNED BY FRANCE AND RUSSIA DURING GEN.DE GAULLE'S VISIT TO MOSCOW LAST WEEK).

THE BERUT COUNCIL IS THE WARTIME EQUIVALENT OF A PARLIAMENT. UNDER THE 1921 POLISH CONSTITUTION IT SHOULD HAVE 444 MEMBERS. THERE ARE ONLY 120 NOW, BUT THE NUMBER WILL GROW AS MORE OF POLAND IS LIBERATED.

THE COUNCIL WAS ORGANIZED CLANDESTINELY BY UNDERGROUND GROUPS IN GERMAN-OCCUPIED ZONES. SINCE A GENERAL ELECTION OF DEPUTIES THUS WAS IMPOSSIBLE THEY WERE DELEGATED BY VARIOUS POLITICAL, LABOR UNION, TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL GROUPS, BERUT SAID.

"AS SOON AS POLAND IS FULLY LIBERATED PARLIAMENT WILL BE CHOSEN BY A GENERAL ELECTION AS THE CONSTITUTION REQUIRES," THE COUNCIL PRESIDE SAID.

HIS REFERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION WAS THE ONE ADOPTED IN 1921. BERUT AND OTHER SPOKESMEN OF THE LUBLIN GROUP HAVE FREQUENTLY EMPHASI THAT THE LONDON GOVERNMENT DRAWS ITS AUTHORITY FROM THE 1935 CONSTITUTION. IN BERUT'S WORDS THIS CONSTITUTION "ST UP A DICTATORSH

TOLD THAT NUMEROUS POLES HAD BEEN HEARD TO SPEAK OF HIM AS THE LOGICAL FIRST PRESIDENT OF A NEW POLISH REPUBLIC, BERUT REPLIED:

"I AM QUITE A NEW MAN IN NATIONAL POLITICAL LIFE AND MUST DEMONSTRATE THAT I DESERVE THE PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE. MY WORK AS PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL HAS BEEN OF TOO SHORT DURATION FOR ALL THE PEOPLE TO KNOW ME WELL AS YET.

"A PRESIDENT OF POLAND WILL BE ELECTED BY GENERAL BALLOT AFTER THE WAR--IN AN ELECTION LIKE YOURS IN THE UNITED STATES WHEN YOU ELECTED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

"ACCORDING TO THE 1921 CONSTITUTION THE PRESIDENT OF PARLIAMENT ASSUMES THE DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC IN THE LATTER'S ABSENCE. THIS HAS HAPPENED NOW WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, OF WHICH I AM PRESIDENT, SERVING AS THE WARTIME PARLIAMENT. BUT IT WILL BE THE PEOPLE OF POLAND WHO WILL CHOOSE THEIR FUTURE LEADERS."

BERUT SAID IT WAS HOPED THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE NEW POLAND WOULD BE BUILT ON A KEYSTONE OF FRIENDSHIP WITH ITS NEIGHBORS, AN OBJECTIVE WHICH HE DECLARED WAS "CONTRARY" TO THE POLICY PURSUED BEFORE THE WAR BY JOZEF BECK, POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER FROM 1932 TO 1939.

HE ADDED THAT THE FUTURE POLAND "OF COURSE WILL HAVE ITS FRONTIER ON THE ODER."

(THE ODER RIVER CUTS A LARGE SLICE OFF EASTERN GERMANY ADJOINING POLAND. THIS RANGES FROM AROUND 40 MILES IN SILESIA IN THE SOUTH TO AS MUCH AS 100 ON THE BALTIC IN THE NORTH. THIS AREA WOULD COMPENSATE POLAND FOR TERRITORY LOST ON THE EAST BY MOVING HER FRONTIER TO THE CURZON LINE, AS RUSSIA DEMANDS.)

BERUT SAID THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH THE COUNCIL PROPOSES TO FORM WOULD BE DEDICATED TO SATISFYING THE LAND HUNGER OF 8,000,000 LANDLESS PEASANTS.

"THE POLISH PEASANTS--70 PER CENT OF THE POPULATION--HAVE BEEN PROMISED LAND REFORM SINCE 1920 BUT ONLY THE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION ACTUALLY MADE A START TOWARD THIS OBJECTIVE," BERUT SAID. "THAT IS WHY OUR COMMITTEE WON THE CONFIDENCE OF THE MASSES, THE PEASANTS AS WELL AS THE WORKERS AND THE INTELLIGENTSIA. LACK OF LAND WAS THE HISTORICAL CAUSE OF POLAND'S POVERTY AND HER MEAGER INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT."

BZ451AEW

CHARLES TANGLED WITH CORP.STANLEY GOICZ OF YONKERS, N.Y., WHO HAD AN UNBEATEN RECORD OF EIGHT PRO STARTS BEFORE HE ENTERED THE ARMY. CHARLES, WHO TURNED PRO MARCH 15, 1940 AFTER WINNING 42 CONSECUTIVE AMATEUR BOUTS, TRIUMPHED WITH A SERIES OF LEFT HOOKS TO THE BODY.

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BIGGEST SURPRISE OF THE DAY WAS ATTLESON'S VERDICT OVER SIGNALMAN ISAAC THOMAS, CANADIAN INDIAN FROM NOVA SCOTIA WHO HAS REPRESENTED MINNEAPOLIS IN GOLDEN GLOVE COMPETITION. THOMAS WAS DOWN FOR A NINE-COUNT IN THE FIRST ROUND.

BURNLEY'S VICTORY ALSO WAS A SURPRISE. HE WHIPPED WILLIAM MCVEIGHT OF THE BRITISH ARMY, WHO WON THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF WALES UNDER THE NAME OF TAFFY WILLIAMS.

JE229 PEW

RCAPI RM190 SANSORIGINE 110/109 13 939AM
PRESS ASSOCIATED NEW YORK
LPA BRIAS 00920 REQUESTED ROME 13/12 BONOMIS NEW CABINET HAS NAMED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSECRETARIES COLON PARA GUISEPPE SPATARO PRESIDENCY SEMICOLON EUGENIO REALE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ITALIANS ABROAD SEMICOLON FRANCESCO LIBONATI PRESS THEATER TOURISM SEMICOLON DANTE VERONI JUSTICE SEMICOLON CESARE GABRIELE FINANCE SEMICOLON SALVATORE SCOCA TREASURY SEMICOLON MARIO PALERMO WAR SEMICOLON CARLO BASSANO NAVY SEMICOLON GIUSEPPE MENTALBANO MERCHANT MARINE SEMICOLON ERNESTO PELLEGRINO AVIATION SEMICOLON BERNARDO LATTARELLA EDUCATION SEMICOLON GENNARO CASSIANI PUBLIC WORKS SEMICOLON ANTONIO SEGNI AGRICULTURE SEMICOLON UMBERTO FIORE INDUSTRY COMMERCE SEMICOLON ENRICO PARESCE LABOR SEMICOLON GIANBATTISTA RIZZO TRANSPORT SEMICOLON MARIO FANO POSTAL TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATIONS AND ALDOVRANDO TORMAQUINE MEDICI OCCUPIED ITALY.
TIME 523
PSEACK''''''''VK

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ADD ATHENS - (BARBER) XXA ATHENS

IN ANTICIPATION OF FURTHER ATTACKS, THE BRITISH REINFORCED THE HIGHEST POINT WITHIN THE CITY--MOUNT LIKAVETTOS, WHICH IS CROWNED BY A MONASTERY.

ELAS ARTILLERY CONTINUED TO SHELL ATHENS BUT THE RANDOM FIRE SLACKENED.

BRITISH AUTHORITIES SAID THEY DID NOT REGARD THE WATER SITUATION AS SERIOUS, ALTHOUGH THE ATHENS CENTRAL PUMPING STATION WAS IN ELAS-HELD TERRITORY AND SOME MAINS MAY HAVE BEEN DAMAGED.

IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT PLANES KNOCKED OUT AN ELAS GUN AND HIT AN AMMUNITION DUMP YESTERDAY. PLANES ALSO DISTRIBUTED COPIES OF PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S DEC. 5 SPEECH ON THE GREEK SITUATION.

MAJ.GEN.RONALD M.SCOBIE, BRITISH COMMANDER IN GREECE, SAID TENSION CONTINUED IN THE SALONIKA AND PATRAS AREAS AND THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE MOVEMENT OF GUERRILLA FORMATIONS THROUGHOUT GREECE.

SVOLOS TSIRIMOKOS, FORMER MEMBER OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU'S CABINET, URGED ELAS LEADERS TO ACCEPT GEN.SCOBIE'S DEMAND OF YESTERDAY THAT THEY LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AS A PREREQUISITE TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

DURING THE DAY THE ELAS LOADED STREET CARS WITH EXPLOSIVES AND SENT THEM CAREENING AGAINST BRITISH TANKS IN OMONIA SQUARE, SHAKING THE CITY WITH EXPLOSIONS.

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CRIERS PARADED THE CITY STREETS WITH MEGAPHONES, ANNOUNCING THE ELAS REFUSAL OF BRITISH DEMANDS THAT THEY LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS AND SHOUTING, "WE SHALL FIGHT ON IF IT MEANS SMASHING ALL ATHENS."

(IN LONDON FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY EDEN TOLD THE HOUSE OF COMMONS THAT THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS OF GERMAN AND BULGARIAN TROOPS SERVING WITH THE ELAS BUT HE HAD NO STATEMENT TO MAKE AT THIS TIME "BECAUSE I DO NOT WISH TO MAKE THINGS MORE DIFFICULT THAN THEY ARE."

(THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REPORTED THAT THE "FREE

GREECE" TRANSMITTER IN ATHENS MADE A SERIES OF BROADCASTS TUESDAY ACCUSING THE BRITISH OF SUMMARILY EXECUTING FOUR DISARMED ELAS FIGHTERS, KILLING NUMEROUS CIVILIANS AND TORTURING 1,000 TO 1,500 IMPRISONED WOMEN, CHILDREN AND OLD PERSONS.)

MJ251PEW

ADD CHUNGKING - (MOOSA) xx SAID DEC 14 1944

FANG, WHO ON AUG. 8 SENT A MESSAGE TO GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK VOWING DETERMINATION TO DIE FIGHTING FOR THE HUNAN PROVINCE CITY, TOLD INTERVIEWERS HE FELT ASHAMED COMING TO CHUNGKING WITHOUT VICTORY AND WITHOUT ATTAINING A "STATE OF BENEVOLENCE." HE EXPLAINED THAT WHEN HENGYANG WAS ABOUT TO FALL AFTER A STUBBORN DEFENSE OF 47 DAYS HE WANTED TO KILL HIMSELF WITH A SWORD GIVEN HIM BY THE GENERALISSIMO BUT THAT HIS STAFF OFFICERS HAD DISSUADED HIM.#

CHUNGKING, DEC. 13-(AP)-ALLIED TROOPS IN BURMA HAVE ENTERED KATH LARGE IRRAWADDY RIVER TOWN 155 MILES NORTH OF MANDALAY, AND NEARBY NABA WITHOUT MEETING SERIOUS OPPOSITION, THE CHINESE HIGH COMMAND ANNOUNCED TODAY.

KATHA IS 52 MILES WEST OF BHAMO, WHERE AN AIR STRIP ALREADY HAS BEEN PUT IN USE. NABA IS 10 MILES NORTHWEST OF KATHA.

THERE HAVE BEEN INDICATIONS OF A JAPANESE WITHDRAWAL IN THIS NORTHERN BURMA SECTOR DOWN AS FAR AS MANDALAY.

(THE SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT KANDY, CEYLON, SAID CHINESE 38TH DIVISION TROOPS HAD MADE SOME ADVANCE IN THE NORTHER SECTOR AT BHAMO. IN THE CHINDWIN AREA, THIS BULLETIN ADDED, EAST AFRICAN PATROLS ENTERED THE VILLAGE OF SHEDWYIN.)

FD909AEW

ADD LEYTE - (WAITE) xx SAVED

MAJ.MAX KLINGHOFFER (1411 W.WOOD ST.) DECATUR, ILL., AND TWO ASSISTANTS, SGT. CHARLES W. MERRELL, PARIS, TENN., AND PFC WILLIAM SHAUGHNESY (CQ), HOUSTON, TEX., IGNORED A JAPANESE ARTILLERY BARRAGE BURSTING ALL AROUND THEM WHEN THEY AIDED A WOUNDED MAN. DEC 14 1944

AS THEY CARRIED HIM TO SHELTER, THE MAN WAS HIT AGAIN, AND A LEATHER CASE WAS RIPPED FROM MAJOR KLINGHOFFER'S ARM BY SHRAPNEL. THE AID TENT BY THIS TIME WAS RIDDLED BY SHRAPNEL HOLES. CHAPLAIN HOWARD H. PATRICK (66 MANSFIELD AVE.) MT.VERNON, O., VOLUNTEERED HIS HELP, AND THEY REMAINED AT THE TENT TO TREAT ALL CASUALTIES.

XZ318ACW

ADD 21ST BOMB COMD. SAIPAN - (HAWKLAND) xx NORTHEAST

FLYING FROM SAIPAN BASES, THE SKY MAMMOTHS HIT THE HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE CITY OF 1,300,000 PEOPLE WHERE JAPAN HAS GREAT AIRCRAFT FACTORIES, ARSENALS, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTROCHEMICAL PLANTS, MACHINERY AND MACHINERY TOOL FACTORIES, IRON AND EXPLOSIVES WORKS.

(JITTERY TOKYO REPORTED BY RADIO, RECORDED BY FCC, THAT "ABOUT 80" SUPERFORTS WERE OVER TARGETS IN THE TOKYO-YOKOHAMA REGION, OTHER POINTS SOUTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL INCLUDING NAGOYA, AND SHIKOKU ISLAND, SOUTH OF THE INLAND SEA. IT PLACED OTHER B-29S OVER KOREA AND DARIEN DISTRICT OF THE KWANTUNG PENINSULA NEAR PORT ARTHUR.)

THE SUPERFORT PILOTS TOOK NAGOYA BY SURPRISE. ROARING IN ON THE JAPANESE HOMELAND THEY FEINTED TOWARD TOKYO THEN SUDDENLY VEERED TO NAGOYA, 165 MILES SOUTHWEST. THEY WENT OVER THE MASSED INDUSTRIAL TARGETS SLOWED BY HEADWINDS. THEY FLEW 3,000 TO 4,000 FEET LOWER THAN USUAL. BOTH THESE FACTORS SHOULD HAVE ADDED GREATLY TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR BOMBING ATTACKS.

NAGOYA PRESENTS ONE OF NIPPON'S GREATEST FIRE HAZARDS. MORE THAN 300,000 OF ITS BUILDINGS ARE OF HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS.

ITS GREAT FACTORY DISTRICTS ON THE WATERFRONT AND IN THE NORTH-WEST AND NORTHEAST SUBURBS INCLUDE THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF AIR-CRAFT AND PLANE PARTS PLANTS IN JAPAN.

(SAIPAN REPORTS MADE NO MENTION OF BOMBING RESULTS. TOKYO CLAIMED THERE WAS SOME DAMAGE AND SAID JAPANESE INTERCEPTORS WERE "BELIEVED TO HAVE CAUSED HEAVY LOSSES TO THE ENEMY.")

RECENT NIGHT B-29 RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER NAGOYA DREW NO ACK-ACK FIRE NOR INTERCEPTION FROM THE BLACKEDOUT CITY.

NN325PCW NM ASKED

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS,PHILIPPINES,THURSDAY, DEC.14 (AP)-JAPAN'S DESPERATE EFFORTS TO BOLSTER HER SLIPPING HOLD ON LEYTE ISLAND HAVE SHIFTED TO PALOMPON AND THE FIRST BIG CONVOY HEADE FOR THAT NORTHWESTERN LEYTE PORT HAS BEEN DESTROYED WITH A HEAVY TOLL IN LIVES, SHIPS AND PLANES.

WITH THE LOSS LAST SUNDAY OF ORMOC, MAJOR ENEMY SUPPLY BASE, THE JAPANESE WERE FORCED TO DIVERT REINFORCCG CONVOYS TO PALOMPON, A SECONDARY PORT AT BEST. A TREACHEROUS MOUNTAIN ROAD CONNECTS IT WITH THE ORMOC CORRIDOR, WHERE THE REMAINDER OF THE ISLAND GARRISON IS CAUGHT BETWEEN CONVERGING AMERICAN GROUND FORCES.

AN ATTEMPT TO RUN SIX HEAVILY LOADED TRANSPORTS, GUARDED BY FIVE DESTROYERS AND STRONG AIR COVER, INTO PALOMPON WAS NIPPED WHEN THE SHIPS WERE INTERCEPTED MONDAY BY AMERICAN AIRCRAFT BASED ON LEYTE.

IN A RUNNING BATTLE THAT LASTED 36 HOURS, THREE OF THE TRANSPORTS AND THREE ESCORTING DESTROYERS WERE SUNK AND TWO TRANSPORTS AND ONE DESTROYER PROBA

LY SUNK. A SIXTH TRANSPORT WAS SENT TO THE BOTTOM BY LIGHT NAVAL UNITS. ONLY ONE ENEMY DESTROYER ESCAPED FROM THE 11-SHIP CONVOY. FIFTY ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN AND PROBABLY FIVE MORE.

HEADQUARTERS REPORTED WEDNESDAY THAT ENEMY TROOP LOSSES BY DROWNING WERE "BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN HEAVY."

THERE WERE AMERICAN LOSSES, TOO. THESE WERE REPORTED AS "SOME DAMAGE AND CASUALTIES" IN ATTACKS ON YANK SHIPPING AND EIGHT

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FIGHTER PLANES.

BEFORE ORMOC WAS SEIZED IN A SURPRISE AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION FROM THE SEA THAT PUT THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION ON THE BEACHES JUST BELOW THE PORT, THE JAPANESE LOST UPWARDS OF 30,000 TROOPS IN THE DESTRUCTION OF EIGHT CONVOYS IN OR WEST OF ORMOC BAY. THEY MANAGED TO SNEAK IN SOME 35,000 REINFORCEMENTS.

PALOMPON, LIKE ORMOC BEFORE ITS FALL, IS BEING HARASSED DAY AND NIGHT BY LEYTE BASED WARPLANES. BOTH HEAVY BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS HAVE STRUCK AT THE PORT, KNOCKING OUT DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS AND SINKING OR DAMAGING SHIPS IN THE HARBOR.

APPEARANCE OF PT BOATS NEAR PALOMPON FOLLOWS THE PATTERN OF THE STRATEGY CLIMAXED BY THE SEIZURE OF ORMOC. AMERICAN DESTROYERS FOLLOWED THE SPEEDY PTS INTO ORMOC BAY AND THEN LATER THE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE STRUCK.

YANK GROUND FORCES ON LEYTE, HELD IN CHECK BY CONTINUING RAINS, CONSOLIDATED THEIR NEW ORMOC BASE AND SENT PATROLS NORTHWARD IN THE ORMOC CORRIDOR, IN THE ENEMY'S REAR.

DEC 14 1944

GG230PCW NM

(EDITORS: THIS DELAYED DISPATCH BY ASSOCIATED PRESS WAR CORRESPONDENT AL DOPKING IS THE FIRST EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT OF THE CAPTURE OF ORMOC, STRATEGIC JAPANESE REINFORCEMENT PORT. HE IS THE ONLY CORRESPONDENT ON WESTERN LEYTE.)

BY AL DOPKING

ORMOC, LEYTE, DEC.12-(DELAYED)-(AP)-SMOLDERING RUINS OF ORMOC LIE BEHIND THE HARD-HITTING 77TH U.S. INFANTRY DIVISION TONIGHT AS IT FANS OUT NORTHWARD AND EASTWARD OF THIS KEY PORT TOWN ON LEYTE'S WEST COAST.

ELEMENTS OF TALL, TEXAS BORN MAJ. GEN. A.D. BRUCE'S STATUE OF LIBERTY DIVISION FOUGHT THROUGHOUT YESTERDAY--SOMETIMES HAND TO HAND AND FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE--TO TAKE IT.

THE ATTACK BEGAN AT 9:30 A.M. WITH AN EARTH-SHAKING ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND ROCKET BARRAGE. TWO GUNBOATS SHUTTLE BACK AND FORTH OFFSHORE SPRAYING THE TOWN WITH A CASCADE OF HOT LEAD. TWO LARGE FIRES WERE BURNING AS INFANTRYMEN ENTERED ORMOC'S OUTSKIRTS.

STANDING ON A STRETCH OF HIGH GROUND WHERE HE COULD SEE ORMOC, BRUCE PERSONALLY DIRECTED THE ATTACK OF HIS DIVISION, COMPOSED MOSTLY OF MEN FROM NEW YORK STATE.

THESE VETERANS OF THE BATTLE OF GUAM ALREADY HAD HAD A TOUGH FIGHT THE DAY BEFORE WHEN THEY SMASHED JAPANESE DEFENSES AT CAMP DOWNES, OLD FILIPINO ARMY CAMP JUST SOUTH OF ORMOC.

BUT THEY PRESSED THEIR ATTACK ON ORMOC SO FURIOUSLY THAT CAPT. LOWELL CAPOOT OF BENSENVILLE, ILL., REPORTED HE SAW ONE WHICH THE NIPPONESE HAD DESERTED SO HURRIEDLY THAT THE TABLE WAS SET AND FOOD STILL ON THE STOVE. IN HIS HASTE, ONE ENEMY HAD LEFT HIS RIFLE.

THE JAPANESE TRIED TO BREAK UP THE ADVANCE WITH AIR POWER BEFORE AND AFTER THE AMERICANS HAD LAUNCHED THE ATTACK. ONE ENEMY PLANE, HIT BY A P47 A FEW MINUTES AFTER IT HAD STRAFED OUR TROOPS, COULD BE SEEN PLUMMETING INTO THE CAMOTES SEA IN A BURST OF FLAMES.

YANKS LED BY COLONELS S. "STEVE" HAMILTON OF DILLON, S.C., AND AUBREY D. SMITH OF SAN ANTONIO, TEX., ENCOUNTERED THEIR HEAVIEST FIGHTING ON THE TOWN'S WEST OUTSKIRTS WHERE THE JAPANESE HAD PULLED BACK OFF THE BEACH. THEY SNUFFED THE ENEMY OUT OF COCONUT TREE EMPLACEMENTS WITH FLAME THROWERS AND GRENADES.

OFFICERS SAID AMERICAN CASUALTIES AT ORMOC WERE LIGHTER THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED, BUT THAT AT CAMP DOWNES THEY HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT HEAVIER. MEDICS ARE WORKING TONIGHT EVACUATING THE WOUNDED.

FIRES AT ORMOC BURNED FAR INTO LAST NIGHT AND THE SKY LIGHTED UP FOR MILES AROUND IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF TODAY.

LARGE STORE OF AMMUNITION AND SUPPLIES WERE LEFT BEHIND BY THE JAPANESE AT ORMOC WHERE AMERICANS ARE CLEANING OUT THE SNIPERS TODAY WHILE THE MAIN FORCE OF THE 77TH DIVISION PUSHES NORTH AND EAST OF THE TOWN.

DEC 14 1944

THE FALL OF ORMOC LEAVES THE JAPANESE WITH ONLY ONE PORT OF ANY IMPORTANCE ON LEYTE'S WEST COAST. IT IS PALOMPON ON THE PENINSULA NORTHWEST OF ORMOC BAY.

WW605APW NM

LEYTE ISLAND, PHILIPPINES, DEC.3-(DELAYED)-(AP)-HARRY A.STELLA, FORMER WEST POINT FOOTBALL STAR AND VETERAN OF THREE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AMPHIBIOUS OPERATIONS, HAS BEEN PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL ON THE STAFF OF LT.GEN.WALTER KRUEGER'S SIXTH ARMY.

STELLA, CAPTAIN OF THE WESTPOINT ELEVEN IN 1939, ENTERED THE MILITARY ACADEMY FROM THE MISSOURI SCHOOL OF MINES. HIS PARENTS LIVE IN KANKAKEE, ILL.

DEC 14 1944

EW944PCW

WITH THE U.S. 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION, LEYTE, DEC.1-(DELAYED)-(AP)-"FUNNY THING ABOUT THOSE JAPS," OBSERVED SGT. WILBERT LINE OF CALUMET, MICH., IN DESCRIBING AN ACTION IN WHICH HIS MACHINEGUN SECTION KILLED 50 OF THE ENEMY. "WHEN THEY DISCOVERED THEY WERE TRAPPED THEY STARTED SCREAMING AT THE TOP OF THEIR LUNGS, APPARENTLY TRYING TO FRIGHTEN US. BUT THERE WASN'T A THING THEY COULD DO ABOUT SAVING THEIR IDES."

IT WAS A DAY AND NIGHT BATTLE IN A SWAMPY SECTION OF THE 96TH DIVISION'S SECTOR. TWO OF THE CORNERED JAPANESE WERE KILLED BY PVT.SEYMOUR DIAMOND, WHOSE HOME IS NEAR BRONX,N.Y., AS THEY TRIED TO WORM THROUGH A TRENCH NEAR THE AMERICAN LINES. THEN THE ENEMY CHANGED HIS TACTICS AND DECIDED TO FIGHT IT OUT.

TWO CHARGES WERE STOPPED BY THE MACHINEGUN MARKSMANSHIP OF PFC. MARVIN TYSTAD OF SISSETON, S.D., AND PVT.GLENDON LUKEHART, OF RED

OAK, IOWA.

AT DAWN ALL WAS QUIET. FIFTY DEAD JAPANESE WERE FOUND THEN SERGEANT LINE REMEMBERED ITPWAS IS BIRTHDAY.

EW531PCW

BY DEAN SCHEDLER

AN AMERICAN PT BOAT BASE, PHILIPPINES, WEDNESDAY, DEC.13-(AP)-TWO PATROL-TORPEDO BOATS SLIPPED QUIETLY AROUND A JAPANESE TRANSPORT RIDING AT ANCHOR OFF THE ENTRANCE TO PALOMPON PORT ON WESTERN LEYTE ISLANDS LAST NIGHT AND LOOSED THEIR TORPEDOES. THE SHIP WENT TO THE BOTTOM IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.

DEC 14 1944

LT.JOHN M.MCELFRESH OF OLEAN, N.Y., WAS AT THE WHEEL OF THE PT CALLED "LITTLE BUTCH." LT.MELVIN W.HAINES OF 2771 PRAIRIE, EVANSTON, ILL., CAPTAINED THE "IMPATIENT VIRGIN."

HAINES NOW HAS TWO JAPANESE FLAGS PAINTED ON HIS SHIP--ONE FOR THE DESTROYER HIS CREW SANK IN THE CAMOTES SEA ABOUT A MONTH AGO, THE OTHER FOR LAST NIGHT'S ACTION.

IT WAS SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT, IN TERRIBLE WEATHER, WHEN THE 5,000-TON TRANSPORT WAS SPOTTED BY THE PT. THE LITTLE CRAFT CUT ITS ENGINES AND THE CREW TOOK BATTLE STATIONS EXPECTING A BATTLE, BUT THE APPROACH AND WITHDRAWAL WAS MADE WITHOUT A SINGLE ENEMY SHOT BEING FIRED.

"WE SAW THE HAZY OUTLINE OF A WELL-ARMED, CLEAN-LINED SHIP WHICH LOOKED LIKE A DESTROYER," SAID HAINES. "MCELFRESH AND I SWUNG WIDE AND IN BETWEEN THE COAST AND THE SHIP, GIVING US A PERFECT OUTLINE OF THE TARGET AGAINST THE HORIZON. I WAS IN THE LEA AND FIRED MY 'FISH,' WITH MCELFRESH FOLLOWING IN FAST FIRE ORDER."

ONE TORPEDO HIT THE STERN OF THE TRANSPORT AND THE OTHER STRUCK HER JUST BELOW THE BRIDGE. IN A FEW SECONDS THE SHIP WENT UNDER.

MCELFRESH SAID DEBRIS BLEW SEVERAL HUNDRED FEET IN THE AIR WHEN THE TORPEDOES STRUCK--"BIG GEYSERS OF WATER, OIL AND STEEL."

DV921PCWNM

DEC 14 1944

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA, DEC. 13-(AP)-REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EL SALVADOR GOVERNMENT IN EXILE DECLARED HERE TODAY THAT REVOLUTIONARY FORCES HAVE OCCUPIED "THE GREATER PART" OF THE SALVADOREAN PROVINCE OF AHUACHAPAN WHERE, ACCORDING TO GUATEMALA DISPATCHES YESTERDAY, AN UPRISING HAD OCCURRED.

OSCAR VILANOVA, SPECIAL ENVOY HERE FOR THE REGIME OF PRESIDENT OSMIN AGUIRRE SALINAS OF EL SALVADOR, SAID HE HAD NO REPORTS FROM AHUACHAPAN, BUT QUOTED A DISPATCH FROM SAN SALVADOR DECLARING THE COUNTRY WAS "ABSOLUTELY CALM DESPITE ALARMIST VERSIONS" SPREAD BY THE ENEMIES OF THE AGUIRRE REGIME.

HJ1203AEW

HAMILTON, BERMUDA, DEC. 13-(AP)-PARTIAL RE*CANCELLED NIGHT SHORE LEAVE PRIVILEGES TO UNITED STATES NAVY PERSONNEL*RATION OF IN BERMUDA WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY REAR ADMIRAL F.A.BRAISTED, COMMANDANT OF THE U.S.NAVAL OPERATING BASE HERE.

A 6 P.M. CURFEW FOR ENLISTED MEN HAD BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE LATE LAST MONTH. THE RESTRICTION WAS IMPOSED COINCIDENT WITH CRITICISM OF THE BEHAVIOR OF SOME AMERICAN PERSONNEL IN THE BERMUDA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THE RELAXED ORDER WILL PERMIT GROUPS OF 10 OR MORE SAILORS, UNDER CONTROL OF A SHORE PATROLMAN, TO ATTEND SERVICE CLUBS, CHURCH SERVICES AND AUTHORIZED DANCES.

DEC 14 1944

HJ1205AEW

WASHINGTON, DEC 13-(AP)-PEACETIME CONSCRIPTION MAKES TROUBLE, THE NATION WAS WARNED IN A STATEMENT TONIGHT BY THE POST WAR WORLD COMMITTEE OF THE CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE.

"AMERICA'S NEW POSITION IN WORLD AFFAIRS CALLS FOR A REORGANIZATION OF OUR TRADITIONAL DEFENSE POLICY," THE GROUP SAID, "BUT UNIVERSAL PEACETIME MILITARY SERVICE SHOULD BE A LAST RESORT."

THE CENTRAL PEACE TASK OF THIS COUNTRY, IT ASSERTED, "IS THE COOPERATION TOWARDS AN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION. WHEN SUCH AN ORGANIZATION IS EFFECTIVELY FUNCTIONING THE NATIONS CAN ABANDON THE PHILOSOPHY OF HEAVY ARMAMENTS."

CONSCRIPTION HAS PROVED TO BE "PART AND PARCEL OF THE WAR-MINDED PHILOSOPHY OF POWER POLITICS THAT HAS PRODUCED TWO WORLD WARS," THE COMMITTEE CONTENDED. "AS AN INSTITUTION WHICH HAS PROVEN ITSELF A FAILURE ITS ABOLITION SHOULD BE ONE OF THE TASKS OF A GENUINE PEACE SETTLEMENT."

HY1120PEW NM

WASHINGTON, DEC.13-(AP)-VLADIMIR S. HURBAN, CZECH AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, SAID TODAY THE NOMINATION OF LAURENCE A.STEINHARDT AS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN GOVERNMENT IN LONDON WAS "A VERY AGREEABLE SURPRISE."

"HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC POST WAS AS AMERICAN MINISTER TO SWEDEN WHILE I OCCUPIED THERE THE POST OF MINISTER OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA," THE STATEMENT SAID.

LT547PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.13-(AP)-CHILE HAS JOINED OTHER LATIN-AMERICAN NATIONS IN CALLING FOR STRONGER REPRESENTATION IN THE WORLD SECURITY ORGANIZATION OUTLINED AT DUMBARTON OAKS.

WHILE EXPRESSING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES OF THE DUMBARTON OAKS PROPOSALS, THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT IN A FORMAL MEMORANDUM TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT PROPOSES MAKING DECISIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF THE ASSEMBLY.

THE CHILEAN PROPOSAL WOULD GIVE THE ASSEMBLY A SHARE IN DECISIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE ASSEMBLY PLAYS ONLY A CONSULTATIVE ROLE, WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL WIELDING THE POWER. IN THE PLAN EVOLVED BY THE "BIG FOUR," THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN, RUSSIA AND CHINA.

DEC 14 1944

VENEZUELA AND URUGUAY EARLIER ASKED FOR CHANGES ALONG THE SAME LINES IN NOTES TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

MN&EG1106PEW

KANSAS CITY, MO., DEC.13-(AP)-CARTELIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES WOULD GREATLY WEAKEN THE ENTIRE WORLD SYSTEM OF AIR TRANSPORT, T.B.WILSON,WASHINGTON,D.C., CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRANSCONTINENTAL AND WESTERN AIR, INC., SAID TODAY IN AN ADDRESS BEFORE THE KANSAS CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

"COMPETITION IN AIR TRANSPORTATION AMONG NATIONS IS JUST AS IMPORTANT TO THE WORLD'S PEOPLE AND ITS INDUSTRY AS IT IS WITHIN ANY ONE COUNTRY," THE TWA EXECUTIVE SAID. "THIS TREND TOWARD CARTELIZATION HAS NO PLACE IN TRANSPORTATION AND LITTLE PLACE IN AMERICAN BUSINESS. IT IS NOT OUR WAY OF DOING BUSINESS. WE CAN BE GRATEFUL, HOWEVER, THAT OUR STATE DEPARTMENT HAS SHOWN NO SYMPATHY TOWARD THIS TYPE OF OPERATION."

THE SPEAKER ALSO DESCRIBED THE POLICY LAID DOWN BY GREAT BRITAIN AT THE RECENT INTERNATIONAL AIR CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO AS POTENTIALLY DETRIMENTAL TO THE CAUSE OF ALL WORLD AIR TRANSPORT.

"IF GREAT BRITAIN SHOULD STAND FAST AND REFUSE TO PERMIT U.S. CARRIERS TO DISCHARGE OR TAKE ON PASSENGERS IN HER TERRITORY, UNLESS IT IS DONE ON A QUOTA OR PLANE-FOR-PLANE BASIS, WE SHALL HAVE RUN UP AGAINST A BIG SNAG," WILSON ADDED. "SUCH A HARD AND FAST POLICY WOULD BE LIKE DECIDING THAT ONLY ONE BRITISH SHIP COULD B

PERMITTED TO COME INTO NEW YORK HARBOR FOR EVERY U.S.VESSEL THAT DOCKS IN LIVERPOOL. TRANSPORTATION SIMPLY CANNOT BE REGULATED IN THAT FASHION, IF IT IS TO SERVE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE PUBLIC GOOD."

SEATTLE,DEC.13-(AP)-THE ARMED SUPERIORITY WHICH THE UNITED STATES NOW POSSESSES MUST BE MAINTAINED AFTER THE WAR "UNTIL SOME INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IS IN OPERATION," ADMIRAL ARTHUR J. HEPBURN, NAVY DELEGATE TO THE DUMBARTON OAKS CONFERENCE, SAID TODAY.

DEC 14 1944

ADMIRAL HEPBURN, IN SEATTLE ON A WEST COAST SPEAKING TOUR, SAID: "OUR NAVY IS LARGER NOW THAN ALL THE OTHERS PUT TOGETHER, AND WE MUST KEEP IT THAT WAY."

HE CHARACTERIZED THE DUMBARTON OAKS CONFERENCE AS A "GERM OF PROGRESS," BUT STRESSED THAT IT PROPOSES NO INTERNATIONAL "SUPER-STATE" NOR ANY INFRINGEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL SOVERIGNTY.

"DON'T EXPECT TOO MUCH OF IT. IT IS NOT A FINISHED PRODUCT."

ADD UNDATED B-29S KKK INDUSTRIES

DR.MASATSUGU SUZUKI, HEAD OF THE JAPANESE CIVIL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION, WAS QUOTED BY THE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY IN A ROMANIZED DISPATCH LAST NIGHT AS SAYING THE RAIDS WERE DRIVING VITAL WAR PLANTS TO UNDERGROUND SITES. SUZUKI SAID THAT WHEN THE PROGRAM IS COMPLETED "NO ESSENTIAL INSTALLATIONS WILL BE AFFECTED BY ANY SEVERE ENEMY AIR RAIDS ON JAPAN, AS IN RABAUL."

THE RABAUL AREA OF NEW BRITAIN, A NATURAL FORTIFICATION WITH VOLCANIC MOUNTAINS AND CAVES, LONG SINCE HAS BEEN BYPASSED AND KEPT NEUTRALIZED BY CONSTANT AIR ATTACKS, THUS OBVIATING A COSTLY FRONTAL ASSAULT. XV

UNDATED PROCLAMATION
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN CONQUERED GERMAN TERRITORY WILL TAKE OVER ALL NAZI CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND USE THEM FOR THE DETENTION OF ARRESTED NAZIS AFTER THE INNOCENT VICTIMS IN THE CAMPS HAVE BEEN RELEASED, A PROCLAMATION BROADCAST IN THE NAME OF GEN. EISENHOWER SAID TODAY.

THE PROCLAMATION WAS THE 10TH IN A SERIES OUTLINING PLANS OF THE ALLIED AUTHORITIES, AND WAS REPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION.

THE BROADCAST SAID THE ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT WOULD "TAKE OVER CONTROL OF ALL PRISONS AND REMOVE ALL NAZI AND OTHER UNDESIRABLE PRISON OFFICIALS," AND THAT THE GESTAPO AND SS POLICE (ELITE GUARD) WOULD BE "LIQUIDATED AT ONCE."

FW559AEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (110)

DEC 14 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TONIGHT (WED):
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND, U.S.NINTH ARMIES: FRONT UNCHANGED.
U.S.FIRST ARMY: MASSED AGAINST ROER NEAR DUREN; GERMANS BELIEVED PULLING BACK ACROSS RIVER. LAUNCHED NEW ATTACK SOUTHWEST OF DUREN.
U.S.THIRD ARMY: BATTLED FIERCELY ABOVE SAARLAUTERN; DROVE ACROSS REICH BORDER EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.
U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: ADVANCED TO SELTZ, FOUR MILES FROM BORDER, MENACING GERMAN PALATINATE.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: CLEARED TOWNS IN ALSATIAN PLAIN, GROUND OUT GAINS IN VOSGES FOOTHILLS.
--DASH--
U.S.DIVISIONS
26TH INFANTRY: DROVE TOWARD REICH BORDER EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.
35TH INFANTRY: PENETRATED REICH, NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES.
90TH INFANTRY: BEAT BACK COUNTERATTACKS ABOVE SAARLAUTERN.
HJ540PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND, U.S.NINTH ARMIS: FRONT UNCHANGED.
U.S.FIRST ARMY: MASSED AGAINST ROER NEAR DUREN; GERMANS BELIEVED PULLING BACK ACROSS RIVER.
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U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: ADVANCED TO SELTZ, FOUR MILES FROM BORDER, MENACING GERMAN PALATINATE.
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FD836AEW

30. 24 — 21 235

YANKS ADVANCE 7 MILES OVER RHINE PLAIN, BIG GUNS SHELL KARLSRUHE ACROSS RIVER

RETREATING NAZIS BLOW UP BRIDGES LEADING TO DUREN

BEALMEAR

U. S. First, Ninth Armies Reach Roer Along 15-Mile Front.

DRIVE ON COLOGNE

DEC 15 1944

Patton's Troops Force New Crossing into Saar at Sarreguemines.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Friday, Dec. 15.—(AP) The U. S. Seventh army rolled seven miles across the Rhine plain through nearly a dozen eastern French towns almost to Germany's border today, turned its heavy artillery on the Siegfried line and reportedly was shelling the big enemy city of Karlsruhe across the Rhine.

The U. S. First and Ninth armies drove to the Roer along a solid 15-mile front at the edge of the Cologne plain and the retreating Germans blew up the last three bridges over the river around their key citadel of Duren, including one on the superhighway to Cologne.

The U. S. Third army forced a new crossing into the Saar basin east of Sarreguemines, captured strongly-fortified Habkirchen near where it made its first invasion of the region from the south, and pushed a mile beyond.

Planes Pound Duren

As the four American armies hammered at the gates of the Reich, Allied warplanes swarmed out in clearing weather, pounding Duren, the French frontier city of Wissembourg in the path of the Seventh army, and Siegfried fortifications east of the Saar river.

The U. S. Seventh army was bearing down on Germany all along its 35-mile front and in its spectacular dash up the Rhine plain hurtled streams along which the Germans offered only the flimsiest defense.

The Germans facing the U. S. First army around Duren likewise were falling back fast. The 83rd division seized the suburban village of Gurzenich, just to the west of Duren, and pressed on toward the demolished Duren bridge. The Roer at Duren is 150 feet wide and running back full.

The Seventh army's thrust almost to the German border was spearheaded by the 79th division commanded by Maj. Gen. I. T. Wyche. In less than three days these troops have driven 15 miles to the southwestern approaches of Lauterbourg and also reached within two miles of the border farther west at Riedseltz.

Yanks Capture Lembach

The 103rd division also pounded southward two miles from Mattstal and captured the Maginot fortress town of Lembach, likewise about two miles from the border.

A front dispatch said Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch's Seventh army made its lightning advance to the Palatinate border in the areas of Scheibenhard and Lauterbourg, north of Seltz, which fell Tuesday.

The German radio said shells were falling in Karlsruhe, capital of Baden province, across the Rhine 10 miles northeast of Lauterbourg, as Patch's eight and ten-inch guns duelled with enemy artillery apparently emplaced in the Siegfried Line.

The Germans, who had resisted strongly along the Seltz river northwest of Seltz and to the west at Niederroedern until daybreak, pulled out so swiftly that only sporadic small arms fire impeded the American rush during the day.

Other Seventh army divisions, in a neck-and-neck race to the Reich from northeastern Alsace, were little more than a half mile from the border. Farther west the old Maginot fortress town of Bitche was believed abandoned after the Seventh virtually encircled it with a lunge to within three miles of the Saar border.

In their thrust up the Rhine valley, the Americans overran nearly a dozen towns and were challenging the Germans at a sector where a break through the Siegfried Line would imperil not only Karlsruhe but such industrial cities as Ludwigshafen and Mannheim, 25 miles farther north.

Three German strong points were knocked out by the First and Ninth, and tonight American guns were pointed directly across the Roer toward Duren, east bank keystone of the defenses before Cologne.

All along its 35-mile front in northern Alsace, the Seventh army had drawn up its assault lines eight miles or less from the Saar and the Palatinate, but advanced elements were running into increasingly heavy fire, possibly from the Siegfried Line.

Drive Nazis Across River

The U. S. First and Ninth armies—the latter ending its recent lull—struck in concert, knocked off three strongpoints and drove the enemy across the flooded river, consolidating the American hold on the Roer valley northward from the Eschweiler-Duren leg of the highway to Cologne.

Some 14 miles southwest of Duren, parts of two First army divisions in a gain of nearly a mile overran most of Kesternich in a surprise push up both banks of the Roer before the Germans recovered and—taking full advantage of the hilly, river-cut terrain—fought back fiercely.

The First army's 83rd division captured Gurzenich, a suburban village across the Roer from Duren.

Just to the north, the Ninth infantry division of the First army pushed eastward from newly-captured Mariaweiler and reached the Roer across from Duren.

Slightly farther north the 104th division routed the Germans from Schophoven, which had been converted into a base for counter-blows. Clearing the area around it, the 104th advanced to the Roer east of Pier and Merken.

Only a mile north, the Ninth army resumed its attacks and pushed the Germans from Vichhofen, two miles south of a second Roer citadel at Julich.

The only German pockets remaining west of the Roer to contest the Americans along those sectors were at a castle north of Pier, and in a factory southeast of Mariaweiler.

Nazis Cleared from Kesternich

Some of the Hurtgen forest, the Germans were cleared from nearly all the houses in Kesternich, three-fourths of a mile beyond last reported positions in yesterday's American surprise attack.

The Germans were making a determined stand to keep the Americans off high ground northeast of Rollesbroich, while to the south in the area east of Monschau roadblocks, minefields and barbed wire slowed the initial pace of advance.

Involved in this new attack were elements of the First army whose identity must remain secret since they had been out of contact with the enemy for some time until the new attack.

While the First army there had the advantage of being on both sides of the Roer, the terrain is wooded and hilly, and tributaries of the Roer such as the Urft are difficult obstacles.

Between that sector and Duren, the Fifth armored division and elements of the 83rd Infantry after clearing Gey and Strass, extended their holdings in an arc about a half-mile east of Gey, which is four miles south of Duren.

Infantry were slowed to a slugging, foot by foot advance, however, around Bergstein and Vossenack, seven and nine miles south of Duren, a front dispatch said.

On the Third army front the 95th Division shoved 500 yards through Ensdorf and strengthened its wedge in the Siegfried Line, taking eight fortified houses and several pillboxes.

YANKS CLEAR FIFTEEN-MILE FRONT ON ROER

Ninth Opens New Attack —Four American Armies Now Pound Foe.

PATTON'S MEN EDGE FORWARD

Seventh Gains in Offensive Aimed at Palatinate—Enemy Fights Hard.

BULLETIN.

With the U. S. Seventh Army on the German Border, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Driving nearly seven miles in less than ten hours, the United States Seventh Army crashed virtually to Germany's frontier at two points today on a sector about ten miles from the big German Rhineland city of Karlsruhe.

Heavy artillery opened up on the Siegfried Line late today and the German radio said some shells landed in Karlsruhe.

DEC 15 1944

Paris, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—The American First and Ninth Armies have won a fifteen-mile stretch along the flooded Roer River from Linnich to a point 2,500 yards northwest of besieged Duren, it was announced today at Supreme Headquarters. KENNEDY

This placed the Americans within twenty and a half miles of Cologne, their nearest approach, at a point downstream from Duren, through which the river flows north toward the sea.

Twenty miles farther south, other units of the First Army moving along both sides of the

river near its source overran a fourth hamlet, Kesternich, in an advance of a mile or more.

The First and Ninth together were swiftly wiping out the last stubborn German remnants west of the river in a campaign seeking to envelop the Cologne Plain with its twenty-one muddy miles to the Rhine.

Three Lines Face Yanks.

The German line on the Roer was the first major obstacle beyond the broken Siegfried Line in the Aachen area, and the river still must be crossed in its middle course. Beyond are three improvised defense lines in the twelve miles before the Erft River, last stream before the Rhine.

The Americans were pressing hard on the area directly across the river from Duren, the main town between the front and Cologne.

The Germans recovered from their first surprise and offered obstinate resistance in the newly activated sector between the Hurtgen and Monschau forests. East of Monschau, road blocks, mine fields and barbed wire slowed the advance.

The enemy made a resolute stand to keep First Army troops off high ground northeast of Rollesbroich. From there north to the Duren sector, infantry still had to slog forward foot by foot around Vossenack and Bergstein.

First Army operations beyond Monschau posed a potential flanking thrust to new German positions east of the Roer, where three new defense lines have been observed between that river and the Erft, flowing eight miles from Cologne and the Rhine.

This headwaters section was the only place where the Americans were across the Roer. The fighting was in the northern spurs of the Eifel Range, in such difficult terrain that a swing north behind the main Roer River lines would be a herculean achievement. Forests abound. Just ahead were three large dams across the Roer, the longest 900 feet at its base.

Ninth Army troops to the north sprang into action and seized the Inde River town of Vichofer, two miles south of Julich.

Gurzenich Reached

For once, the 1st Army had bright, sunny weather, which promised help from the air in budging the stubborn Germans from their trenches and bunkers. The 1st Army was on the enemy's side of the Roer headwaters in the area four miles southeast of Monschau and moving between the Hurtgen and Monschau forests.

Before besieged Duren, Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon's 83d Division advanced to the western outskirts of Gurzenich, a suburb of the city and only a few hundred yards from the flooded river.

Nazis Moving Guns Back

The United States 3d Army battered its way through 500 more yards of pillboxes in Endorf, strengthening its wedge in the Siegfried Line at embattled Saarlautern. Indecisive fighting continued at the other Siegfried dent at Dillengen.

[The German communiqué said the 1st Army around Duren and Monschau lost fifteen tanks and was "temporarily halted by our fire." The Nazi broadcast added that "only after a new onslaught did they manage to penetrate some villages."]

The Germans, however, appeared to be withdrawing artillery to deeper positions behind Saarlautern and Dillingen, indicating they expected to be forced farther back into the defenses which extend 30 miles to the Rhine.

35th Holds Its Ground

Nine miles southeast of the shell-wrecked Saar capital of Saarbrucken the Germans knocked out a footbridge at Habkirchen, but failed to dislodge the 35th Division from its latest foothold in Germany.

The United States 7th Army plunged clear through another section of the old Maginot Line northwest of Bitche to Kappelenhof, three and a half miles from the southeast corner of the Saarland and twelve miles south of the shelled Palatinate city of Zweibrucken.

Twelve Miles To Karlsruhe

The 7th Army at points was two miles or so from the frontier and was still fighting around the blown-up bridge at Seltz, fourteen miles southwest of the Rhine city of Karlsruhe.

[A Reuter dispatch said the 7th was within twelve miles of Karlsruhe.]

Supreme headquarters said the fortified towns of Schophoven, Mariaweiler, Derichsweiler and Gey had again been cleared of Germans. They formed a stout defense arc for Duren on the Roer, and the 1st Army was virtually at that city's gates and close to the canal in the western outskirts. All changed hands several times.

New Nazi Positions Periled

The 1st Army operations beyond Monschau posed a potential flanking thrust to new German positions east of the Roer—three new Nazi defense lines have been observed between that river and the Erft, flowing eight miles from Cologne and the Rhine.

This headwaters section was the only one in which the Americans were across the Roer. Headquarters did not identify the two new divisions in action there. The fighting was in the northern spurs of the Eifel Mountains, in terrain so difficult that a swing north behind the main Roer River line would be a Herculean achievement. Forests abound. Just ahead were three large dams across the Roer, the longest 900 feet at its base.

Floods Laid To Nazis

The suspicion increased that the Germans were artificially flooding the Roer through the dam sluices, for the river rose three feet in three days on the 9th Army front between Julich and Linnich.

Lieut. Gen. William H. Simpson's 9th Army struck after two weeks of comparative lull in the Cologne Plain campaign. Field dispatches described its taking of Vichhofen as a bulge-straightening action. Scattered artillery and mortar fire came from German positions. Beyond the river, German tanks were observed entering the Stuatforst, a heavily wooded area southeast of Julich.

Before the 1st and 9th Army fronts, medium, light and fighter bombers attacked fortified towns. Particularly hit were rail yards at Euskirchen and Zulpich, both ahead of the south wing of the 1st Army. Spearheads are sixteen miles from Euskirchen and ten from Zulpich.

21 Miles To Cologne

All along the front before Cologne, 21 miles from the nearest Americans, Germans west of the Roer were being mopped up. The bulk of the Germans are behind the river in hastily dug trenches, started when the Americans shattered the Siegfried Line in October in the Aachen area.

The 7th Army closing upon the Palatinate through fortification-studded northern Alsace, advanced up to three miles. Captured were Baerenthal and Reyerswiller, the latter only a mile and a half from Bitche, one of the strongest forts in the Maginot Line.

Closing On Wissembourg

Seventh Army units advancing up the Sauer Valley, north of Haguenau, are scarcely two miles from the Palatinate and closing hard upon the fortress town of Wissembourg in a valley leading to the Rhenish Plain.

[A London broadcast said the 7th Army had reached the Rhine beyond Seltz and was shelling Germany across the river.]

Field Marshal Montgomery's British and Canadian armies in Holland and the northwestern tip of Germany remained inactive in one of the most prolonged lulls of the entire campaign on the Western front.

The 1st Army's crawl through the mud around Duren proceeded with somewhat easier strides. Maj. Gen. Terry Allen's 104th Division took Shopthoven, six miles northwest of Duren. The 5th Armored Division was on the move northeast of Gey.

172 Nude Lunatics In A Dark Cellar

DEC 5 1944

With British Troops in Holland, Dec. 14 (AP)—British forces have uncovered the black hole of Waansum, a dark, filthy, unheated basement where monks and civilians have cared for 172 naked lunatics for two months.

A British civil affairs unit is attempting today to patch up the damaged asylum and has provided blankets and fuel for the unfortunates who went underground October 14 to escape the war.

German troops were said to have refused to move the asylum inmates and carried off their clothes and blankets so they would not escape.

The building was shelled, so the inmates, of whom 97 were bedridden, were moved to the basement.

Trapped With Foe, French Want Out

By George Tucker

With the AEF in France, Dec. 14 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Harry J. Malony, whose infantry and artillery have 50,000 Germans bottled in the French ports of Lorient and St. Nazaire, must deal quickly with the political problem of what to do with thousands of French civilians locked in with the Germans and clamoring to come out.

Under Geneva conventions, an occupying army is responsible for the welfare of the civilian population within an occupied area, but the desperate food shortage in Lorient and, to a lesser degree, in St. Nazaire has placed civilian health in peril. At the same time French civilians are being killed by artillery fire.

Rmoval Would Aid Nazis

Commitees representing every faction of French civil life are hammering at Malony's door, pleading for lenity.

Removal of the civilians would help the Germans, who therefore have taken advantage of the situation by making repeated overtures to the Americans, promising cessation of hostilities until the civilians are taken out.

Officer Asks Evacuation

The German command sent a lieutenant seeking to negotiate an evacuation. The officer, Lieutenant Schmitt, participated in a recent war-prisoner exchange, and I talked to him about the condition of the civilians in Lorient and St. Nazaire. Although he denied a food shortage, he argued that scores of helpless civilians were being killed daily by artillery fire.

Malony had two factors to consider. If he planned to liquidate the pockets, then evacuation would ease the supply strain on the Germans and give them a military advantage.

No Civilian Trains In Reich Now

DEC 5 1944

Twenty-first Army Group Headquarters, Dec. 14 (AP)—Allied aerial blows have so paralyzed German rail traffic that virtually no civilian passenger trains are now operating in the Reich, an RAF spokesman said today.

By the end of October, he said, German locomotives had been reduced to 42 per cent of the 1939 figure.

Dutch-GI Cupid Warned Off

By Kenneth L. Dixon

Maastricht, Holland, Dec. 14 (AP). Romances between liberated Dutch girls and liberating United States soldiers are diplomatically discouraged in Limburg province, without reflection upon either.

Homes, churches, schools, newspapers and the military government have joined in the quiet campaign.

The basic theme is that the girls should avoid attracting the soldiers because this might break up the married life or engagements of their liberators in America.

If the campaign also prevents heartbreak among the girls when the front moves on, that, too, will be well and good.

Haircuts Threatened

The only harsh note has come in posters, posted anonymously on some buildings in Maastricht, threatening haircuting and other reprisals for Dutch girls caught keeping company with Americans. Lieut. Leo P. Senecal, of Chicopee, Mass., in charge of civil affairs in the Maastricht area, said most of of the posters had been traced to some local youths. He knew of no "incidents."

In the churches, priests and ministers (this section is 90 per cent Catholic) have been pointing out that soldiers fighting on foreign soil are bound to be homesick and abjuring the girls not to take advantage of this understandable lack of resistance to feminine wiles. It is stressed that the Americans should be greeted warmly, but that the greeting should not be carried too far.

Newspaper Comment

The daily newspaper *Veritas* said editorially that it would be a national shame if Holland's debt of liberation was repaid by breaking up of American homes.

Maastricht parents obtained a sunset-to-sunrise curfew for Dutch girls under 18, camouflaged by application also to Dutch boys under 21, "in the interests of youth in wartime." This is effective some three hours before the Army's 9 P.M. curfew and is enforced only by local police, but few violations involving United States troops have been reported.

"In none of these cases have the soldiers caused any trouble when the police made the girls go home," a police report said.

Johnny Doughboy can be diplomatic, too.

ALLIES TO RESTORE LOOT NAZIS STOLE

The Allied military government in Germany will restore to the rightful owners all works of art and objects of scientific or historical value which have been looted by Germany from Allied countries, a broadcast proclamation issued in the name of Gen. Eisenhower said today, the Associated Press disclosed.

The proclamation was the eleventh in a series outlining to the German people the plans of Allied authorities for ruling their country. The broadcast was reported by the Office of War Information.

All Germans who "wish to make restitution for the wrongs" done by Germany were called upon to assist Allied authorities in locating stolen objects. The people were warned that "all sales and movements of such objects will be forbidden and the destruction or concealment of them will be severely punished."

The proclamation also pledged that the Allies would, so far as possible, refrain from damaging "any building, monument, document or other object of cultural, artistic, archaelogical or historical value which rightfully belongs to the Germans" and said that "steps will be taken to preserve in safe keeping all German records, documents and archieves of value."

Von Paulus Appeals For Ouster Of Hitler

New York, Dec. 14 (AP)—Fifty captured German officers, headed by Field Marshal Friedrich von Paulus and Gen. Walther von Seidlitz, called on the German people in a broadcast from Moscow tonight to overthrow Hitler, Himmler and "their baleful system."

They declared the "war is lost," so far as Germany is concerned.

Von Paulus, who surrendered the German 6th Army at Stalingrad in February, 1943, read the appeal in a broadcast beamed to Germany and recorded by the FCC. Von Seidlitz is president of the Soviet-sponsored Union of German Officers.

Saying that the "result of this political and military leadership by Hitler for Germany is millions of dead, cripples and homeless," von Paulus called on the German nation and army to "rid yourself of this irresponsible and criminal leadership that is driving Germany into certain doom."

PATENOTRE'S SON SEIZED IN FRANCE

30. 24— 21 237

DEC 15 1944

Paris, Dec. 14 (AP.)—The Surete Nationale announced today the arrest of Raymond Patenotre, 44 years old, son of Jules Patenotre, former ambassador to the United States, on charges of collusion with the enemy during the German occupation. Justice Ministry police said that Patenotre was accused of giving financial aid to several provincial pro-German newspapers during the occupation.

The Surete also announced the arrest of Fernand Gentin, who was communications minister in the first Cabinet of Marshal Petain in Bordeaux and once was a Cabinet Minister under Premier Edouard Herriot. He, also, was charged with collusion.

Patenotre, born in Atlantic City, N. J., during his father's term as Ambassador, became a Deputy in the Seine-et-Oise district in the French Chamber of Deputies and an outstanding advocate of bimetallism. His enemies attributed his advocacy of a franc based on silver as well as gold to his ownership of extensive silver mines in Mexico.

Patenotre owned Le Petit Journal from 1932 to 1937.

THE MILEAGE TO BERLIN

By Associated Press.

Western Front: 301 miles (from near Duren).

Russian Front: 304 miles (from north of Warsaw).

Hungarian Front: 400 miles (from north of Szob).

Italian Front: 551 miles (from north of Ravenna).

NAZIS SEEK TO CREATE RADIO INTERFERENCE

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—(AP) It could be that those floating silver balls encountered by American airmen in raids over the Reich are another German attempt to create interference for radio communication and detection signals.

Dispatches from the front have been heavily censored, but the fact that the balls are described as silver in color would indicate that they are of a metallic nature, and thus would react on any type of electronic emission. That is, they would mess up the signals.

In previous attempts at creating interference, particularly anti-radar, the Germans were reported to have used lightweight, tinfoil-like strips of material which they loosed in the air. Apparently, these were not too satisfactory as gravity soon drew them to earth.

The silver balls, particularly if made of some light material, would have greater buoyancy and thus stay aloft longer and maintain a more extended interference period.

SS Actions In Reich Anger Some Germans

Stockholm, Dec. 14 (AP)—Germany's ugly ducklings—the youngsters of the SS (Elite Guard)—are making at least some Germans angry.

The SS organ, *Das Schwarze Korps*, today reproached SS troops who "handle things as if they were worthless in an attitude evidently developed when they burned farms and houses during retreats in foreign countries," a Berlin dispatch said.

A Stockholm correspondent writing from Berlin said, "Angry farmers and butchers apparently have complained and got *Das Schwarze Korps* to exhort the young men of the SS to go easy with houses and furniture when they are quartered in German villages."

The newspaper declared that for these troops a farm had no more value than a mortar, and money invested in a farmhouse amounted to little more than the cost of a heavy shell.

For the first time since the start of the war, children evacuated from bombed areas must spend Christman away from their parents by a Government order, which has destroyed the whole meaning of the day as a family festival in Germany. Instead the children will be comforted by an autographed gift picture of Adolf Hitler and a bankbook with a few reichsmarks.

In former years children were permitted to visit their parents or vice versa during the holidays. That is out of the question this year, the Government has explained, because of the strain placed upon transportation facilities by Allied air attacks and "the serious military situation."

Few Christmas Trees

Swedish correspondents also report that no Christmas trees will be available in the larger cities, because of the transportation shortage, although in rural areas Germans are going into the forests to fetch fir branches to hang in their homes.

Many people are living in homes partly wrecked by bombs and many others in barracks having only the most primitive comforts.

No Toys In Stores

There are no toys in the stores, say Swedish correspondents. Instead, parents are told how to make trinkets for children out of scraps of wood and paper. In fact, the German press declares, everything which belongs to Christmas in the way of decorations and playthings must be made at home.

Newspapers, however, are filled with exchange items, such as offers to swap a wheel chair for a girl's bicycle, a silk dress for a coaster wagon or a pair of rubbers for a doll.

Exchange bureaus also have been established throughout the Reich under Nazi auspices.

Exchange Bureaus Set Up

To bolster morale the authorities have granted extra Christmas rations—2 eggs per person, 250 grams (8.75 ounces) of meat, 25 grams (.88 ounces) of candy for children and a half bottle of schnapps and half bottle of wine for adults.

But even this represents a considerable reduction from the Christmas "bonus" last year.

Children Away From Home

6th Wartime Christmas Dreariest For Germany

DEC 15 1944

SHANKE

Stockholm, Dec. 14 (AP)—Germany's sixth successive wartime Christmas promises to be the dreariest of them all.

"The Christmas spirit can't be found in Germany," says the German-controlled Scandinavian Telegram Bureau in a dispatch from Berlin. "One doesn't see any Christmas trees as in former years, nor Christmas decorations in the stores. All Germans know that 1944 will be the gloomiest Christmas."

This statement is largely borne out by dispatches from Swedish correspondents, which indicate that military reverses, wartime shortages and distress caused by Allied air raids have combined to present a depressing picture.

RUSSIAN TROOPS CLOSE ON SZENDRO

HERCHER

Reds Cross Into Western Slovakia, Tighten Noose on Budapest.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 15—(AP) Russian troops yesterday drove to within two miles of the rich iron and coal center of Szendro, 95 miles northeast of besieged Budapest, while Berlin indicated that other Soviet units had crossed into western Slovakia at a point 34 miles north of the Hungarian capital and 115 miles east of Vienna.

A German broadcast said Red army troops tried to take by storm Ipolysag, a half-mile inside western Slovakia, but were repulsed and lost 1,000 dead. The Russians struck from the south and west at Ipolysag, 87 miles east of Bratislava, Slovak capital, Berlin said.

Battle at Szecseny

Heavy fighting also was reported by Berlin at Szecseny, frontier village 25 miles east of Ipolysag and 17 miles south of the important Slovak fortress town of Losonc (Lucenec) as the Russians threatened to smash into Slovakia on a broad front at the rear of Nazi forces fighting in eastern Slovakia.

The push toward Szendro in Hungary's northeastern mountains was part of this Russian strategy aimed at enveloping the Germans in eastern Slovakia or forcing their retreat to the west. The Russians gained six miles in the Szendro sector and reached to within nine miles of the central Slovakian frontier at two points, Moscow said.

A total of 870 enemy troops were captured in this area northeast of Budapest during Wednesday's operations, the bulletin said.

Around Budapest Soviet gunners directed by the Second Ukraine army artillery commander, Col. Gen. Y. I. Fomin, hammered the narrowing German defense ring.

Although Moscow's communique did not mention the battle for Budapest, an enemy broadcast said "the next few days will decide whether concentrated German and Hungarian forces will be able to stop the Russians."

Berlin said two Soviet armies totalling 100 divisions, or more than 1,000,000 men, were attacking on a 250-mile front from the Slovakian frontier northeast of Budapest to the Yugoslav frontier southwest of the capital.

Guns Pound Budapest

Soviet siege guns were pounding to rubble the big Budapest suburbs of Ujpest and Rakospalota, adjoining the capital on the north, and Kispest on the eastern side, Moscow dispatches said.

Russian shells also arched into Budapest proper in a night and day cannonading which fed fires already set by previous bursts of shells and bombs. Some of the air battles over the capital rivaled those fought during the reconquest of Sevastopol in the Crimea, front reports said.

Although Russian infantrymen were fighting within seven miles of Budapest's city limits on the north, within five on the south and less than ten on the east, the Germans were well dug in behind broad belts of minefields, pillboxes, anti-tank ditches and other fortifications.

The Soviet communique announced progress in one sector of the front only, above Miskolc in the fight through the mountains toward the central Slovakian frontier.

RED SIEGE GUNS BATTER SUBURBS NEAR BUDAPEST

GILMORE

Russians Edging Forward Yard by Yard Through Strong Defenses.

Moscow, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Russian siege guns laid down a heavy barrage on Budapest's closest suburbs today as Soviet armored columns fought forward yard by yard, seven miles north and ten miles east of the Hungarian capital.

Shells blasted Ujpest and Rakospalota, north of the city, and the big suburb of Kispet, east of Budapest, from positions gained with the capture of two strongholds on the heavily fortified approaches to Pest, sector of the capital on the east banks of the Danube.

As the Red Army pressed the attack closer to Budapest other Soviet forces struggled for a better foothold for the campaign westward toward Bratislava and Austria, Izvestia reported.

Two Strongpoints Taken.

"After Budapest, the fate of Vienna will be decided," the paper said. "The war is on Austria's threshold."

The midnight Soviet communique announced the capture of the strong points of Kisalag, seven miles northeast of Budapest, and Isaszeg, eight miles due east, in the stepped-up drive by Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army.

It was still not clear whether an all-out frontal assault on Budapest had begun, but at the rate the Russians were going it appeared that Pest itself might soon be under fire.

Front dispatches have indicated the Germans have an unusually strong ring of anti-tank defenses about the capital, built largely by forced labor working around the clock under Gestapo orders. Between main points the Nazis have studded the territory with machine-gun and smaller anti-tank weapons.

Reds Encounter Mine Fields.

Red Army sappers today were reputed grappling with the problem of mine fields laid ahead of the anti-tank belt by the German and Hungarian defenders.

Some of the sharpest air clashes since Sevastopol were reported taking place as the Luftwaffe sought to check the Red Army big guns with constant bombings.

The Soviet communique also announced the capture of seven towns in the fighting arc around the captured rail junction of Hatvan, one town (Szurdokpuspoki), twelve miles north of that city and on the rail line leading north to Losonc in Slovakia.

Also, the communique listed the capture of twelve towns along the Slovakia frontier, north of Miskolc, in the drive aimed at the east Slovak communications stronghold of Kassa (Kosice). With the capture of Abod in this sector the Russians were only seventeen miles south of Szepsi (Moldava), a three-way road junction on the Bodva River thirteen miles southwest of Kassa.

The communique emphasized that the drive on Budapest from the northeast was encountering the toughest resistance. Kisalag fell only after tank-supported infantry had smashed a German counter-attack and moved forward "step by step," the bulletin said.

In taking Isaszeg the Russians had to blast the desperately resisting Germans out of blockhouses and pillboxes. The Russians said they wiped out two battalions of German infantry there, destroyed eight tanks, nine big guns and twenty-eight mortars.

Moscow, Dec. 14 (AP)—The Germans are "acting like a plague of locusts" as they fall back in Czechoslovakia, stripping the country of all food and movable equipment and leaving its cities piles of ruins, the head of the Czechoslovak Government delegation for liberated territory charged today.

Churchill Unmoved by Attacks On Foreign Policy in Europe

KASISCH

LONDON, Dec. 14 — (AP) A mounting clamor for a clearcut enunciation of British-American-Russian policy in Europe developed today as Prime Minister Churchill told his critics in Parliament that he might carry to the people his defense of Britain's intervention in Greece.

Still under fire in sections of the British press as well as in legislative halls, the Prime Minister stood firm in his policy in both Greece and Italy, but his intimation of a "further account" on those affairs offered a clue to the extent of the still-prevalent protests.

In dealing with the Italian situation under persistent Labor party cross-questioning, he emphasized that Britain's policy was based on military necessity.

Churchill acknowledged that he had approved continuance of King Vittorio Emanuel's regime "until the military situation had got into a better condition," and added that the results were "not unsatisfactory as far as our armies are concerned."

The Foreign office incidentally announced that the British and American governments, "whose views are in agreement," had endorsed the newly-formed cabinet of Premier Ivanoe Bonomi in Italy.

Meanwhile, an implication by Ernest Bevin, British minister of labor, that some international agreement already had been reached on spheres of influence in the Balkans stirred controversy on both sides of the Atlantic.

Bevin told the National Labor party convention yesterday that Britain and Russia had gotten together, with the Soviet Union undertaking the main problem of Romania while Britain undertook that of Greece.

A responsible but unidentified source in Washington denied that President Roosevelt had approved any British-Russian agreement dividing political interests in the Balkans, leading the London Evening News to comment:

"This is yet another example, of which there have been many recently, of unnamed U.S. officials criticizing British policy in Europe.

'The U. S. government has been perfectly aware all along of the Churchill-Stalin Balkan agreements and has not opposed them."

The Manchester Guardian editorialized:

"If we are to be accused of being illiberal, imperialist, self-seeking, let us be accused in company with the Americans and the Russians. The first requisite is to settle what Allied policy is."

The Manchester Guardian added that "a new Roosevelt-Churchill declaration reaffirming—if they can still reaffirm—the Atlantic Charter is badly needed for the sake not only of the British and American peoples, whose faith has been shaken, but of the European peoples who are watching the Greek struggle with dismay."

An uproar was touched off in the House of Commons today when Laborite Seymour Cocks asked, "How long this government intends to go on with this policy of murdering our Greek comrades."

Churchill did not repty, but other members shouted "Shame" at Cocks. Churchill said British casualties in Greece since the landing totalled about 460, but did not make clear if this covered all the period of civil strife.

When Laborite Daniel Kirkwood said the British policy in Greece was bringing him a flood of telegrams from workers threatening a protest strike, Churchill replied:

"I gave a long account of this matter to the House the other day and I may take occasion to give some further account to the country."

Diplomatic quarters speculated that the address—either in the House of Commons or on the radio—would come before the Christmas recess, with the probability that it would deal with the whole map of Europe rather than the Greek problem alone.

The British press in the meantime made a variety of suggestions for solving the Greek crisis.

The influential Times asserted it could be settled only by formation of a Coalition government embracing the Left and Right.

The Daily Telegraph suggested that it could have been handled better by an improved version of the Allied military government, and the News Chronicle said "the only way out is to seek an immediate armistice."

Churchill Firm On Greek Policy

DEC 15 1944

J KING

London, Dec. 14 (AP) — Prime Minister Churchill, under continuing attack over Britain's policy in Greece and Italy, served notice today he was standing firm and may hit back in another address to the nation.

He opened an inconclusive Commons debate with a terse report that British casualties in Greece "since our landing this year" were about 460.

Churchill did not make clear whether these included all casualties in the current fighting in Athens.

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Questioned About Sforza

Under Laborite cross-questioning about what he had told Count Carlo Sforza concerning King Vittorio Emanuele, Churchill said he had approved a continuance of the Italian King's "regime until the military situation had got into a better condition."

The results were not "unsatisfactory as far as our armies are concerned," the Prime Minister added.

Sforza, whom Churchill previously described as "not the type of man Britain wanted to deal with as Italian Foreign Minister, had said in Rome that the Prime Minister in 1943 brought "strong pressure" on him in behalf of Vittorio.

More Casualties Since November 30

Churchill said that casualties suffered by the Royal Navy, RAF and imperial military forces in Greece up to November 30 were under 300 and "about 160 additional military casualties, of whom 35 were killed, must be added since that date."

Thirty-two planes and eight minor vessels have been lost during this period, he said.

When Laborite Daniel Kirkwood said that he had been flooded with telegrams from workers threatening a work-stoppage protesting the Government's policy in Greece, Churchill said:

"I could quite believe that Mr. Kirkwood would receive many telegrams from many parts of the country over a matter which causes so much heart searching.

"Full Case Before House"

"I gave a long account of this matter to the House the other day, and I may take occasion to give some further account to the country.

But we have laid our case very fully before the House. It was also discussed very fully and freely at the parliamentary conference yesterday, and I have nothing at this moment to add to what has been said."

Laborite Seymour Cocks asked the Prime Minister "how long this Government intends to go on with this policy of murdering our Greek comrades?"

Other members cried "shame" and "withdraw," and Cocks shouted back at them.

Discussion On Sforza

Churchill made no reference to the uproar.

Later, a discussion developed of Sforza's assertions that Churchill had urged the retention of the Italian king.

Laborite Ivor Thomas repeated Sforza's statement and asked how this conformed "with the Prime Minister's oft-repeated assurance that His Majesty's Government had no desire to interfere in constitutional matters affecting Italy."

Churchill replied: "That is not so at all."

"I said nothing in my conversation with Count Sforza which I had not already made clear as being the policy of his Majesty's Government at that time."

Earlier Churchill said in reply to another Laborite question that he told Sforza he "welcomes the assurance given to the United States Government in his letter to Mr. Berle (Adolf Berle, Jr., then assistant secretary of state), which I read to the House on December 6, that matters of internal policy, including the monarchy, should be adjourned until Italy was free. As regards the future that would be for the Italian people to decide."

"Displayed Hostility"

Thomas asked whether Sforza had not made a distinction between the institutional question of monarchy and the personal question of the King "whom he had never promised any support."

Churchill responded:

"He certainly expressed animus against King Victor Emanuel, with whom he had a very lengthy and not at all unnatural disagreement, but the statement I made to him was within the line of the statement I made at the time publicly to Parliament. I do not speak two languages in these matters."

HAZARDOUS WEATHER HALTS AIR ACTIVITY

LONDON, Dec. 14. — (AP) The Second successive day of hazardous wintry flying weather on the continent today held aerial work against Nazi targets to a minimum.

British-based bombers and fighters, which ripped German rail and oil facilities with more than 15,000 tons of explosives in a 48-hour period earlier in the week were kept under wraps.

Continent-based Thunderbolts of the U. S. Ninth Airforce swirled through cloud banks and attacked a railyard at Homburg, north east of Saarbrucken.

Allied Planes Grounded

DEC 15 1944

London, Dec. 14 (AP)—Poor bombing weather today gave the Germans another day to patch up their battered rail network in the West.

Absence of warnings from Nazi radio stations apparently meant the RAF and American heavy bombers in Britain and Italy were still grounded.

BRITISH COMMONS TO DEBATE FUTURE OF EXILED POLES

SINGLETON

LONDON, Dec. 14 — (AP) Britain's House of Commons will turn tomorrow to the troubles of unhappy Poland in a debate which may bring a compromise-or-quit ultimatum for the Polish exiled government.

There was no immediate indication as to whether Prime Minister Churchill or Foreign Secretary Eden, or both, would present the government's stand.

Either or both, however, will speak in the light of mounting indications that Russia soon will recognize the rival, Soviet-sponsored national liberation committee as Poland's provisional government.

Diplomatic quarters, meanwhile, awaited exposition of the British position in anticipation that it might shed some light on the question of what agreements, if any, were reached between Churchill and Marshal Stalin at Moscow on separate spheres of influence—military and political—in Europe.

The possibility of some illumination tomorrow was enhanced by the fact that Russia had demonstrated clearly that it regards Poland in its sphere of influence: first, by denouncing the London Polish government as hostile, and second, by its powerful backing of the left-wing, Lublin liberation committee.

The Russian claim of a right to a say in Poland's affairs has been supported previously, in part, by Britain, with Churchill himself asserting that the Soviet Union was entitled to friendly neighbors.

Aside from any possible agreement at Moscow, these recent factors have developed which may have an effect on the British position:

1—Resignation of Premier Stanislaw Mikolajozyk, the man upon whom Britain counted to bridge the differences between Russia and Poland.

2—Withdrawal of the powerful Polish peasant party from the exiled government.

3—Gradual assumption by the Lublin liberation committee of many of the functions of a government.

4—Unofficial reports in Paris diplomatic quarters that General de Gaulle agreed at Moscow to go all with Stalin in recognition of the Liberation committee as the provisional government.

How far the British government will go may depend, to a large extent, on the control that the present government of Premier Tomasz Arciszewski has over Polish forces now fighting as part of the Allied armies.

The exiled government itself is pinning its hopes on a claim of support by the Polish people and the underground army. On the eve of the debate, it announced that the underground leaders were forwarding "suggestions" to be used as the basis for a new approach in settling the Polish-Soviet dispute.

CHURCHILL CALLED BRITISH 'FUEHRER

LONDON, Dec. 14—(AP) Asserting that Prime Minister Churchill is a "would-be British Fuehrer" who has "lost his head completely" in the Greek crisis, novelist H. G. Wells said today "it is high time he retired upon his laurels before we forget the debt we owe him" as a British fighting symbol.

In an article entitled "Churchill Must Go," published in the Weekly Tribune, Wells said the Prime Minister's intervention in Greece was a "discredit" to the nation and resulted from Churchill's "pro-royalism," his "snobbishness" and "limited range of ideas."

Wells conceded that Churchill had served Britain as a fighting symbol but contended he had "outlived that role."

"When the British people were blistered with humiliation by the currish policy of the old conservative gang in power the pugnacity of Winston brought him to the fore," Wells wrote. "The country meant fighting, and he delighted in fighting. For want of a better, he became our national will for conflict, a role he has now outlived."

Saying that "if we do not end Winston, Winston will end us," the British author declared that "since those early days world events have moved with a swiftness this earth has never known before. His (Churchill's) ideology, picked up in the garrison life of India, on the reefs of South Africa and in the maternal home and conversation of wealthy Conservative households, is a pitiful jumble of incoherent nonsense. He has served his purpose—a boy scout is better equipped.

"His last associations with the various European royalties who share his belief in the invincible snobbishness of mankind and are now sneaking back to claim the credit and express their condescending approval of the underground resistance movements that have sustained human freedom through its days of supreme danger, are his final farewell to human confidence.

"We want him to go—now—before he discredits us further," Wells continued, "for his own sake as well as ours, and if he takes all the royalties in the world with him—so much the better for human hope.

"The matter is urgent. It is a grave attack on our national morale. There can be no doubt of the feelings of the common people of England and of the rank and file about this ugly business in Greece and other countries under the heel of slapdash British Toryism. . . . In the midst of a still uncertain war, this ineffable Prime Minister of ours has precipitated us into the class war—and on the wrong side."

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BEVIN SPEECH STIRS UP NEW CONTROVERSY

London Newspaper Assails Denial That Roosevelt Approved Pact.

TAKES FLING AT U. S. OFFICIALS

Resents Anonymity of Spokesmen for Washington Who Voice Criticism of Britain.

London, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Controversies stirred on both sides of the Atlantic today over a statement made by Ernest Bevin, the Minister of Labor, implying that some international agreement had already been concluded on spheres of influence in the Balkans. Mr. Bevin told the National Labor party convention yesterday that Britain and Russia had got together, that Russia was undertaking the main problem of Romania and that Britain was undertaking the main problem of Greece. The plan for Greece, he said, was agreed to by President Roosevelt.

An unidentified spokesman in Washington denied that the President had approved any Anglo-Russian agreement dividing up political interests in the Balkans, and the London Evening News commented: "This is yet another example of unnamed United States officials criticizing British policy in Europe. The United States Government has been perfectly aware all along of the Churchill-Stalin Balkan agreements and has not opposed them."

Mr. Bevin spoke from notes rather than a prepared text. The Labor party's official stenographic text follows: "The previous speaker asks why we did not get agreement between Great Britain, Russia and the United States. We did. Russia undertook the main problem of Romania. We undertook the main problem of Greece in agreement between the two governments, and when the plan for dealing with Greece was worked out here by us it was taken to Quebec, submitted to the President of the United States and agreed and initialed."

The British press made an unusually large display of Mr. Bevin's speech, in which he also said that Great Britain's policy in Greece was not that of Winston Churchill alone but of the whole Cabinet.

The Manchester Guardian commented: "If we are to be accused of being illiberal, imperialist, self-seeking, let us be accused in company with the Americans and the Russians. The first requisite is to settle what Allied policy is."

AUSTRALIAN DESTROYER MAKES MERCY VOYAGE

LONDON, Dec. 14 — (AP) An Australian destroyer recently made a two-day mercy dash to a British submarine near Japanese-held territory, where an emergency operation was performed on an officer stricken with appendicitis.

The story was made public tonight at British Naval quarters in London.

The destroyer, with two doctors and a replacement for the officer, Lt. Robert Strouts, met the submarine by moonlight. In perilously choppy seas the sick man was lifted out of the coning tower by ropes and taken aboard the destroyer. Within an hour the operation was completed.

The submarine went her way and shortly sank two Japanese cargo ships. Strouts since has recovered, rejoined his submarine and resumed patrol of Japanese shipping lanes in the Bay of Bengal.

LADY ASTOR SEES BAD TIMES AHEAD

London, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Lady Astor told the National Council of Women today that bad times are ahead and that "it is going to need the mother spirit throughout the world to get things right."

Replying to a toast, drunk to her health in water, the Virginia-born feminist and prohibitionist noted that the liquor industry had spent thousands of dollars in attempting to make her look ridiculous. She was the guest of honor at a luncheon commemorating her twenty-five years' service in Parliament.

"I am very sad at leaving the House of Commons," she said, "and I am not departing in good will either. I am departing because my husband wants me to.

"I think it is a bad time for women to get out of the House of Commons. And I think it is a bad time for any woman who knows how to fight shams and prick rubbles to get out of public life. We are going to have the same kind of shams after this war as we had after the last war. The Left will have its wild people, and the Right will have its dead-but-won't-lay-down people. And those two would ruin Paradise if they ever got there."

Czechs Act To Rid Country Of Traitors

London, Dec. 14 (AP)—In an attempt to prevent crises similar to those in Greece and Belgium, the Exiled Czechoslovak Government has prepared machinery for cleansing the country's economic life "quickly and radically" of enemy parasites, traitors and collaborationists during the phase of liberation.

This was disclosed today by Vaclav Majer, Czech Minister of Reconstruction, who explained that Dr. Eduard Benes, president of the Czechoslovakia republic, had signed a decree on "extraordinary measures" for the maintenance of economic life in liberated territory.

Majer explained that under the presidential decree all transfers of property and local measures relating to property, whether movable or immovable, public or private, were invalid if made after September 29, 1938, under pressure of the occupying powers or of national racial or political persecution.

NAZI PRISONERS GO UNGUARDED NOW

London, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—German prisoners of war are to be farmed out for work in rural England without guards.

"If prisoners of war are employed in small parties with a military guard the requirements in man power will render such labor uneconomical," the Ministry of Information said today. "They will not be allowed any freedom or privileges and will be confined to their wired camps when not at work."

Laborites Plan Plank On Public Ownership

London, Dec. 14 (AP)—The British Labor party, by a large majority, decided today to fight the next general election on a platform advocating public ownership of heavy industry and all forms of banking, transportation, fuel and power.

The convention overrode the wishes of its executive committee after one delegate complained "some of our leaders have been talking so long about the economics and transition to socialism that they think too much about the transition and not enough about socialism."

STALIN RECEIVES HARRIMAN

LONDON, Dec. 14 — (AP) The Moscow radio said tonight that Premier Stalin received U. S. Ambassador Averell Harriman at the Kremlin today. The broadcast said that Gadimir Dekenozov, vice commissar for foreign affairs, was present but gave no further details.

UNRRA Attacked In Lords

London, Dec. 14 (AP)—Sharply attacking UNRRA, Lord Reading told the House of Lords today there was a common belief that huge stores of food and fuel were available, but were "not reaching the people for whom they are intended—and the world is entitled to know where the stoppage is."

"There is a suspicion," he said, "that in the huge UNRRA organization there has been created a colossus on so vast a scale that it has been from the outset muscle-bound and paralyzed by its own weight."

Headed By Lehman

UNRRA (the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration) is headed by Herbert H. Lehman.

The Earl said there was a feeling that UNRRA had not been properly supported and that "the whole problem had been put in the hands of the military, whose natural consideration was one of military expediency."

Some stricken countries, he asserted, are afraid to apply to UNRRA for relief for fear it is being used as a cloak for commercial enterprise or as a political weapon.

To Tour West Indies

British Colonial Secretary Will Visit Washington on Return

LONDON, Dec. 14 (AP).—Colonel Oliver Stanley, Secretary of State for Colonies, will visit Bermuda, the Bahamas, British Honduras and Jamaica and return by way of Washington before Parliament reconvenes in January, the Colonial Office announced tonight. He plans to study local conditions and discuss problems with the Governors.

Appointment of Reginald Stuart Champion as Governor of Aden, British colony and protectorate in the Middle East, was announced. He succeeds Sir John Hathord Hall, recently appointed Governor of Uganda. Mr. Champion had been chief secretary to the government of Aden since 1942.

NAZI ATTACKS ARE REPULSED

Canadians In Italy Extend Lamone Bridgehead

Rome, Dec. 14 (AP)—The Germans flung all available reserves of armor and infantry into a furious attempt today to contain a Canadian bridgehead over the Lamone River and to save the near-by road center of Bagnacavallo, 10 miles northeast of Faenza in the Po Valley.

Counterattack after counterattack were made against the 4-mile-wide bridgehead, but all were thrown back and at nightfall the Canadians had enlarged their holding, Allied headquarters announced.

5th Suffers Repulse

The Nazis repulsed efforts by the American 5th Army to gain high ground near Monte Castello, southwest of Bologna, and in turn saw their own counterattacks against Monte Cerere, 11 miles southeast of Bologna, rolled back.

British troops smashed into the sizable town of Tossignano, 7½ miles southwest of Imola and on the main Florence-Imola road. The Nazis still clung to the northern section of the town, but were being mopped up methodically. The Tommies also were lodged in neighboring Borgo Tossignano.

Snow Hampers Supplies

Snow was falling steadily in the mountains south of Bologna, adding to the Americans' difficult supply problems. There was no confirmation of a broadcast by the Italian Fascist radio that Yank forces had opened a heavy atack southeast of Bologna.

In addition to extending their bridgehead across the Lamone, the Canadians cleared the enemy from Mezzano, 6 miles northwest of Ravenna, and approached the Naviglio Canal on a wide front north of Bagnacavallo. The Ravenna-Ferrara highway was cut northwest of Mezzano.

Fighting Heaviest In Weeks

Fighting in general was heavier and more widespread than at any time in recent weeks.

Bad weather restricted air activity. Such Allied fighters and fighter-bombers as could get off the ground attacked enemy communications in the Po Valley and flew in close support of 5th Army ground troops.

Nearing Waterway

Troops in that sector were approaching the Canale Naviglio on a wide front north of Bagnacavallo.

Southwest of Imola, on the Bologna-Rimini highway, 5th Army units entered Tossignano against strong German opposition.

Power Stations Hit

Meanwhile, Allied aircraft of the coastal air force attacked power stations and road transport in the frontier area of southern France and Italy.

Although greatly restricted by bad weather, fighters and fighter bombers concentrated against communications in the Po Valley, along the Brenner Pass and in support of the 5th Army coastal gun positions near Spezia also were targets. Four planes were missing from the day's operations.

8th Army Cuts Highway Near Mezzano

Rome, Dec. 14 (AP)—Canadian troops of the 8th Army have enlarged their bridgehead over the Lamone River north of Faenza after beating off powerful German counterattacks, Allied headquarters announced today.

Fanning out from the original 6,000-yard front which they established west of the stream Tuesday, Canadian tanks yesterday cut the Ravenna-Ferrara highway northwest of Mezzano. Other troops made still another crossing at Mezzano, five miles north of the original spot, and cleared that road center of the enemy.

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French Sailor's Ring Verdict Over Yank Booed Ten Minutes

By SID

Rome, Dec. 14 (AP)—Marcel Cerdan, classy French sailor slugger, reached the finals of the Mediterranean zone boxing championships tonight in defense of his professional middleweight crown, but Larry Cisneros, only American defending titleholder, was eliminated by a decision which the capacity crowd booed fully ten minutes.

Cisneros, Los Angeles larruper who has spent 32 months in the front lines as machine gunner with an armored infantry unit, fought Private Omar Koudri, prewar French welterweight champion, even for the first two rounds and then appeared to come home galloping in the last heat of their pro welterweight semi-final.

However, two judges—French and British—voted Koudri the winner by the narrow point margins of 60 to 56, and 59 to 58, while the American official had Cisneros the winner, 58 to 56.

Capt. Jack Sullivan, manager of the 5th Army team which Cisneros

represents, made an official protest pointing out the American judge kept a point-by-point tally on his score card while the action was in progress and totaled them at the end of each round, while the other two merely jotted down totals at the end of each heat.

The appeals board told Sullivan to put his protest in writing.

After the booing finally subsided, Cerdan, who has been the glamor boy of this competition for two years, put on a blazing finish to outpoint Private Floyd Gibson, an M.P. from Milford, Ohio, in the toughest scrap the French tar has had in two tournaments.

Although the loss of Cisneros handicapped the defending championship 5th Army team, the title squad put two more men into the finals when Private Vic Gidaro, of Mount Carmel, Pa., flattened Private Richard Ward, of Philadelphia, in the third round of their amateur lightweight semi-final, and Sergt. Andrew Roy, heavy-shouldered Charlestown (W.Va.) Negro, outpointed Sergt. Johnny Ebarb, of Oakland, Cal., in a pro heavyweight semi-final.

Private Julius Woodse, Buffalo (N.Y.) Negro, reached the amateur middleweight finals by default, and British Corporal Johnny Boom won the decision over Private Ellis Lagrange, of New Iberia, La., in a pro featherweight semi-final.

Cpl. LeRoy Jeffrey of Kansas City and Corp. Melvin Pullen of Dayton, O., reached the finals in the short afternoon session, joining Pvt. Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati professional middleweight, Pvt. Milton Glass of Akron, O., Sgt. Adolph Labrecque of Holyoke, Mass., and Pvt. Adolph Barlow of Philadelphia.

The fourth doughboy to win this afternoon scored the second knockout of the day. T/5 Joseph DeMartino, big-shouldered Bridgeport, Conn., pro welterweight, clouted Albert Wright of Yorkshire, England, with a pair of right hand artillery shells in the second round and Wright took the full count of 10 on his back.

GREEK AND BRITISH FIGHTING RESUMED

Headquarters Area Shelled As Truce Is Ended

DEC 15 1944

By STEPHEN BARBER

Athens, Dec. 14 (AP)—Fighting broke out in Omonia Square, northern fringe of the British defensive position today, and ELAS-manned 75-millimeter guns pounded the area of British headquarters in the Grande Betagne Hotel, ending the "undeclared truce" which had brought quiet to this city until early afternoon.

Amid rumors of an impending settlement of the struggle with the Greek Leftists, shells burst in the center of the capital, and ELAS troops kept up intermittent small-arms crossfire in the side streets off University street, the main artery between the two principal Leftist objectives—Omonia Square and Constitution Square.

Continue Infiltrations

Partisan fighters continued the infiltrations, reportedly poking their way through sewers.

Firing was resumed when a group of bedraggled policemen and newly recruited militia appeared in Omonia Square. Their Captain told me the ELAS had overrun his station and killed a number of his men, who seemed demoralized.

As they started up University street, ELAS snipers got busy from side streets. I saw six policemen shot down at one corner.

Firing back wildly, the police ran across the street. A British tank rolled up and blasted at the snipers with a 75-millimeter gun. British ambulances picked up casualties in dense smoke.

Piraeus Battle Kept Up

Spirited battles continued in Piraeus throughout the temporary lull in the Athens fighting as ELAS forces besieged the naval radio station.

The renewal of hostilities belied unsubstantiated reports that the EAM (National Liberation Party) had reached a basis for agreement with Maj. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, commander of British troops in Greece.

The presence in Athens of Harold MacMillan, British Resident Minister in the Mediterranean, who arrived Tuesday with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, and of Gen. Nicholas Plasteras, who led the Greek revolution in 1922, lent weight to the rumors of imminent settlement.

Might Form New Regime

Plasteras conferred for two hours with Premier George Papandreou, then the Premier and MacMillan talked for 90 minutes. This led to speculation that Plasteras might attempt to form a new government acceptable to all factions. Plasteras declined a statement for publication.

It was understood that the British terms remained unchanged. Earlier this week the British demanded that the E. L. A. S., armed forces of the E. A. M., evacuate the Attica region, which includes Athens, lay down their arms and disband all private armies.

British authorities expressed belief that the E. L. A. S. forces had planned to take the center of Athens in a two-pronged attack from the northwest and southwest, and, now that this had failed, they might have decided to seek peace.

During the "truce," which military observers called "the quietest twenty-four hours since the fighting began," artillery action ceased and only sporadic machine-gun bursts echoed through the streets. Military authorities, however, issued an order banning civilians from the streets except between noon and 2 p. m.

One report said the British had received strong reinforcements which were flown into Athens, but the renewed firing today indicated the spirit of the E. L. A. S. forces had not been broken.

Firing was resumed when a group of bedraggled policemen and newly recruited militia appeared in Omonia Square. Their captain said the E. L. A. S. had overrun his station and killed a number of his men, who seemed demoralized.

As they started up University Street, E. L. A. S. snipers got busy. Six policemen were shot down at one corner. Firing back wildly, the police ran across the street. A British tank rolled up and blasted at the snipers with a 75-mm. gun. British ambulances picked up casualties in dense smoke.

[A call to arms by the Athens radio, now in E. L. A. S. hands, urged all Greeks to defend the fatherland, the Paris radio said. The same Athens transmitter, in a broadcast heard by the Federal Communications Commission, said the E. L. A. S. had captured the Totoi and Eleusis airfields, near the capital, and reported "an uprising in favor of E. L. A. S. forces by 30,000 Greeks in Larisa against Scobie's intervention."]

Spirited battles continued in Piraeus, port of Athens, throughout the temporary lull in the fighting in the capital, as E. L. A. S. forces besieged the naval radio station.

ATHENS BATTLE RESUMED BY ELAS

Fighting Breaks Out After 24-Hour Lull, Shells Blast Capital.

ATHENS, Dec. 14—(AP) ELAS forces of the National Liberal front resumed their attack on British-held central Athens today after a 24-hour period of comparative quiet. They sent shells crashing into the inner perimeter around Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie's headquarters.

Snipers infiltrated to new positions on the housetops and sent a warm fire down sidestreets off University street, which forms the main axis between two of the chief ELAS objectives, Ominia Square on the west and Constitution Square on the east.

Drive had been Halted

Until afternoon the ELAS drive appeared to have been halted and British leaders had said the dangerous phase of the 12-day turmoil appeared over.

Heavy firing which shook the city earlier this week gave way to sporadic machine-gun bursts and the last 24 hours were the quietest of any like period since the fighting broke out between the Leftists on the one hand and Greek forces and British troops on the other.

Military authorities, however, banned civilians from the streets except between noon and 2 P.M.

Holding Extended

British and Greek Mountain Brigade forces held an area approximately three miles square in the center of Athens, and extended their holdings in Piraeus to about five square miles despite local ELAS attacks. Reinforcements made the British position more secure.

Rumors persisted that ELAS leaders would attempt to reach an agreement with Maj. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander, and would send a representative with counterproposals, but it was understood that the British terms remained unchanged. The British demands included evacuation of Attica by the ELAS, surrender of their arms and the disbandment of private armies.

Call To Arms Broadcast

British authorities expressed the belief that the ELAS had planned to take the center of the city with a two-pronged drive from the northwest and southwest, and now that this had failed the Leftist leaders might have decided to seek terms.

Gen. Nicolas Placteras, who returned from abroad at the invitation of Premier George Papandreou, conferred for two hours with Papandreou.

Indications that the ELAS still were militant came from the ELAS-held Athens radio, which broadcast: "Greeks, defend your fatherland in the towns and ports. To the barricades! Everyone is to take up arms."

These reports said the ELAS were ready to accept British terms on condition that they would not be prosecuted as a party and that Scobie would agree to the formation of a new national government headed by someone other than Papandreou. It said said the ELAS proposals would be carried to Scobie by Alexander Svolos, former Leftist Finance Minister in Papandreou's Cabinet.

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[The Paris radio reported today that the Athens transmitter, now in the hands of the ELAS, had broadcast a call to arms. "Greeks, defend your fatherland in the towns and ports," the call said. "To the barricades. Every one is to take up arms."]

Bitter Fighting Goes On.

British troops yesterday succeeded in clearing the Kallipolis Peninsula and most of Piræus, the port of Athens, where the Anglo-Greek naval headquarters had been isolated. Sharp fighting, however, centered around the British barracks northeast of the center of Athens, which ELAS forces stormed early in the day. Some of the attackers penetrated the walls of the compound before they were driven back with considerable losses.

Tension continued in the Salonika and Patras areas and considerable movement of guerrilla formations was reported through out the country.

Accuses Premier.

A spokesman for the Greek EAM, Losta Gavrilidis, in a speech over the "Free Greece" radio transmitter in Athens, today accused Premier George Papandreou of breaking an agreement made last May 20 in Lebanon which he said stipulated that "vile war criminals and collaborators with the occupier should be arrested and punished." The FCC recorded the broadcast, the Associated Press reports.

He said that although "the dissolution of all volunteer units and the creation of a national army were discussed in Lebanch," Papandreou "sought to dissolve" only "the popular army of the ELAS" and still "keep under arms" the Greek mountain brigade and other armed groups.

Greek-Bulgar Rift Told

New York, Dec. 14—The Rome radio, in a broadcast recorded here, said toda ythat a "serious diplomatic inciednt" had arisen between the Greek Government of Premier George Papandreou and the Bulgarian Government.

"The Greek Premier has sent a note to the Allied Armistice Commission in Sofia," the domestic broadcast said, "protesting against the Bulgarians' supplying arms to rebel forces in Macedonia."

DE GAULLE IN CAIRO

NEW YORK, Dec. 14 — (AP) Gen. Charles de Gaulle has arrived by plane in Cairo on his return trip from Moscow, the American Broadcasting station in Europe reported tonight in a broadcast heard by the Blue network.

Russia Linked To New Moves in War in Pacific

U. S. Observers in Touch With Reds in China; Co-operation Is Mapped

By Preston Grover

NEW DELHI, India (Delayed) (AP).—Information available in New Delhi, the sources of which cannot be disclosed, indicates that the fighting in the Pacific and Asia is going to take on strange and interesting turns before the war grows much older.

Despite sparks of dissension among America, Russia and Britain over Iran's oil, co-operation among the three nations on strictly military grounds is described as "much closer than the public may suppose." How extensive that co-operation will continue after Germany is defeated no one here is in a position to say publicly. But one thing is certain—American military observers continue to visit the Communists in North China, whose assistance would be valuable either to America alone or to America and Russia if jointly they set out to destroy the Japanese armies in Manchuria and North China.

It still is a highly speculative proposition whether the Japanese armies in North China and Manchuria will continue fighting after their homeland is occupied.

Thus the picture, from this vantage point takes on this appearance (fourteen words deleted by censor): Chinese Communist support will be encouraged, with the ultimate expectation that they will be useful in a campaign against Japanese armies on the Chinese mainland. Preparations will be made for the fullest cooperation between the Americans and the Russians in the event the latter come into the war, either before the Japanese home islands are taken or afterward when their armies in Manchuria are attacked.

Drive Takes Chinese Deep Into Burma

With Chinese Troops in North Burma, Dec. 13 [AP—Delayed]—Leading elements of the veteran 22d Chinese Division, marching south through Burma, today occupied the village of Tonkwa, 120 air miles northeast of Mandalay and 70 miles from Lashio, where the railway from Rangoon connects with the Burma Road.

The 22d's drive—which now has covered 210 miles—represents the deepest Allied penetration into Burma. The unit—which left Kamaing the middle of October—now is 50 miles in front of the most advanced British and Chinese forces approaching along the Mandalay railway.

Japs Made Stand

Fleeing in front of the Chinese for 50 miles without pausing, the Japanese finally made a stand at Shwegu on the Irrawaddy River. After a day-long battle the Japanese broke off the engagement and the chase was resumed for another 50 miles until the Chinese caught up with the enemy again at Tonkwa, which they stormed and captured.

The 22d, which is part of the Chinese 6th Army, is under the command of Gen. Lee Tao, who directed his men in the successful Hukawng Valley campaign under Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell.

Grueling Drive

Staff officers of Lieut. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan, Stilwell's successor in this theater, consider the 22d's drive one of the most grueling on record because of the roadless swamps, mountains and jungles

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which it traversed.

This force now is in position to do one of four things:

1. Cut the Burma Road between Lashio and Muse.
2. Cut off the Japanese retreating before the British and Chinese along the Mandalay railway corridor.
3. Storm the Japanese stronghold of Namkham.
4. Push on toward Mandalay.

CHINESE FORCES OCCUPY TONKWAY

CHUNGKING, Dec. 14. — (AP) Veteran Chinese troops under Gen. Lee Tao, spearheading the Allied drive toward Mandalay, have taken the town of Tonkway, 120 airline miles north of Mandalay, it was announced today.

After an advance which covered 210 miles of roadless jungle, the Chinese now are farther into Burma than any other Allied forces. Starting their offensive from the Mogaung valley town of Kamaing in October, they have chased the Japanese southward and today stand in position to strike the Burma road between Lashio and Mu-Se, which is 50 miles east of Bhamo.

Advance elements of the 22nd Division of the Chinese 6th Army routed the Japanese to the Irrawaddy river town of Shewgu, where the enemy finally made a stand. Following an all-day battle the Japanese ceased fighting and the chase was resumed for another 50 miles to Tonkwa, which the Chinese took by storm.

The 22nd Division now is in position to cut the Burma road between Lashio and Mu-Se; cut off the Japanese retreating along the Mandalay railway corridor; storm the enemy stronghold of Namkham 65 miles north of Laehio; or push southward toward Mandalay.

In the Arakan hills British 14th Army troops of an Indian regiment have occupied two positions 10 miles east-northeast of Mangdaw, a Southeast Asia Command headquarters communique said.

Americans Regain Chinese Air Base

MOOSA

Chungking, Dec. 14 (AP)—Chinese troops were reported nearing the Kwangsi province city of Hochih today amid indications that Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's 14th Air Force intends to move right along on the heels of the Chinese advance and re-establish bases which it was forced to evacuate during the Japanese drive westward.

Chennault's pilots today are pounding the key points of Japanese control in China as well as lending tactical support to Chinese ground forces, but it now is apparent that the former leader of the "Flying Tigers" had planned ahead for such emergencies as those created by the recent enemy land successes.

Tuhshan One Of Fields

While the Japanese threat to the Kweilin airfields was developing Chiang Kai-shek received for approval from Chennault a memorandum covering specifications for enlarging and improving certain grass-grown landing strips deeper in China. A few weeks later 120,000 conscript laborers and 60,000 contract laborers appeared for various jobs and ready for work.

The location of one of these fields can be disclosed because it is again in Allied hands. It is at Tuhshan, northern terminus of the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad.

Chinese troops advancing along this railway were reported by the Chinese high command today to have captured Cheho, 15 miles northwest of Hocnih. Cheho is about twenty miles inside the Kwangsi border and 95 miles northwest of the former United States air base at Liuchow.

Chinese field dispatches today also listed attacks upon intrenched Japanese forces near Lungsheng, 40 miles northwest of Kweilin, in which scores of enemy soldiers were reported killed in a night-long engagement. Lungsheng was one of the points captured and fortified by the Japanese as a safeguard for the Hunan-Kwangsi railroad.

Chinese Advance Nears Hochih, Report

DEC 15 1944
MOOSA

Chungking, Dec. 14 (AP)—Chinese troops were reported approaching the Kwangsi province city of Hochih today in close pursuit of the Japanese invaders they chased from Kweichow province.

The high command said Cheho, fifteen miles northwest of Hochih, fell last night to the Chinese advancing southeast along the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway. Cheho, about twenty miles inside the Kwangsi border, lies 135 miles southeast of once-menaced Kweiyang and 95 northwest of Liuchow, former site of an important United States airbase.

Base Still In Peril

While the continuing Chinese successes have removed any immediate Japanese threat to Kweiyang, a latent danger to the important base of Kunming still exists, Maj. Gen. Robert McClure said today.

McClure, chief of staff to Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, United States commander in China, said the Americans were giving the Chinese as much assistance as possible.

He said Gen. Ho Ying-chin, the Chinese chief of staff, now is commanding field forces covering a large area. Brig. Gen. Frank Dorn, of San Francisco, is co-ordinating the activities of such American ground personnel as is available in China for liaison and training.

Delivery Increasing

McClure declared that if the Chinese had sufficient forces they could retake Liuchow, although this undoubtedly would involve large-scale fighting.

The chief of staff said that American delivery of supplies by air from India was increasing every month. The Americans are shifting some personnel to new points to increase efficiency, he said, but declared there was no truth in a report that they planned to remove their headquarters from Chungking.

ILLEGAL VALUE OF U. S. DOLLAR DROPS IN CHINA

CHUNGKING, Dec. 14. — (AP) The black market value of the American dollar which brought about 700 Chinese dollars here at the height of the military crisis has slumped sensationally during the past 48 hours. Today's quotations were 450 Chinese dollars to one U. S. dollar.

The sudden drop was partly attributed to the eviction of Japanese troops from Kweichow province and the growing confidence that the Chinese now are prepared to withstand any enemy attempt to take Kunming.

Prices continued their upward trend, however.

Jap L[illegible]

General MacAr[illegible] Headquarters, Friday, Dec. [illegible] Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today Japanese casualties of 82,554 men and American losses totaling 10,409 thus far in the Leyte and Samar campaigns initiating the liberation of the Philippines.

He also reported the Yanks advanced another mile north of Ormoc, capturing some major enemy supply dumps after overcoming "bitter resistance." This movement further closed the jaws of a vise on Japanese caught in the Ormoc corridor of northwestern Leyte between two United States divisions.

55 Days Of Campaign

MacArthur did not estimate the number of Japanese remaining on the two islands. The campaign against them thus far has run 55 days.

The headquarters communiqué broke down the Japanese casualty figures thus:

Abandoned dead on ground captured by Yanks, 33,801.

Prisoners captured by Yanks, 253.

SCHEDLER

Estimated dead not yet collected, and dead within the enemy's own lines, 18,500.

Drowned or killed in the total or partial destruction of ten convoys attempting to reinforce the Nipponese Leyte garrison, 30,000.

MacArthur said the American casualties consisted of 2,176 killed, 7,976 wounded and 257 missing.

Greatest In Pacific

The Japanese casualties reported are the greatest for any of the campaigns thus far in the Pacific islands. On Saipan, the next costliest for Japan, 26,277 Nipponese were reported killed and 2,068 taken prisoner. United States casualties there were 3,049 dead, 13,054 wounded and 368 missing.

The 1-mile advance north of Ormoc was made by the 77th Division, which landed behind the enemy lines December 7 and took Ormoc port from Japanese forces last Sunday.

Japanese planes attacked United States shipping in the Leyte area Wednesday and eight were brought down, four by fighters and four by ack-ack.

Liberators Bomb Airport

Liberators with fighter escort bombed the enemy's Bacolod airport on Negros Island with 88 tons of explosives and other United States heavy units hit the airdrome on Luzon Island. Patrol planes destroyed three 1,000-ton freighters in Verde Passage, off the southwest coast of Luzon, and others harassed Manila Bay shipping.

United States aircraft ranged widely over the southern Philippines, Borneo, Dutch Celebes, the Moluccas, Ceram, New Guinea and the Solomons, sinking small ships, tearing up airfields and smashing petroleum and other installations.

Many Japs Killed on Leyte

DEC 15 1944

Americans Put Pressure on Southern End of Ormoc Corridor Trap.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Great numbers of Japs were being killed in the mountains east of captured Ormoc as the Americans on Leyte put the pressure on the south end of a trap in the Ormoc corridor, Headquarters reported today.

Other enemy troops drowned Tuesday night in a strange attempt to send three small freighters, loaded with soldiers, into Ormoc. The Japanese evidently were unaware the west Leyte port was in American hands but soon found out. Shore fire promptly sent all three to the bottom.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said enemy losses on the ground were extraordinarily heavy as Seventh Division Yanks, who helped take the important port on Sunday, pursued scattered Nipponese fighting desperately to free themselves over the mountain trails.

Americans of the Seventy - seventh Division regrouped at Ormoc and sent patrols north to feel out enemy strength to the rear of the Yamashita Line, while Thirty - second Division forces, which have been battling the weather as well as stubborn Japs for weeks, maintained frontal presure from the north.

Japs Need Supply Lines.

Thousands of crack Imperial troops are in the corridor. Deprived of their principal reinforcement port of Ormoc, their supplies now must come via a treacherous road from Palompon, a secondary seaport at best.

[NBC Correspondent George Thomas Folster, broadcasting from Leyte, said Jap ground forces on the island were "completely disorganized; they are scattering in all directions, have lost contact with their leaders, and this is the beginning of the end for the Emperor's forces here in the Ormoc Valley.

"[Gen. Bruce already has started his troops northwards up the valley, at the same time that an American force is squeezing the Japs down from the north. The enemy is scattering into the mountains."]

For the third successive day American planes struck at oil installations on Borneo. Refinery buildings, six large oil tanks and two resorvoirs were set ablaze by fighters at Tarakan. Waterfront installations at Sandakan were effectively bombed by patrol planes, and five coastal vessels were sunk or damaged. Fighters strafed a troop-laden barge, inflicting considerable casualties.

A 3,000-ton freighter-transport was sunk east of Mindoro in the central Philippines by night air patrols.

Japs Report [illegible]

and dumps cut the Japanese even shorter of ammunition and food. A large quantity of bagged rice was found abandoned along river bottoms.

Farther up the mountain range, other elements of Lieut. Gen. Walter Kruger's 6th Army were engaged in a bitter battle with a band of Japanese who apparently had been left off from the main force of Nipponese retreating north of Ormoc before the 77th Division.

More Than 500 Killed

More than 500 of the enemy have been killed in this clash along the mountain trails in the foggy, damp weather, which the men call "Kiska climate."

The first *banzai* attack of the west coast fighting came tonight when a small group of shrieking Japanese charged American lines. They were all mowed down.

In High Spirits

Dog-tired from days of hard fighting under almost daily drenchings but still in high spirits, Maj. Gen. Archibald V. Arnold's doughboys appear confident that they have the Japanese defeated.

There is nothing dramatic about this fight on the west coast. It has now simmered down to a methodical job for the 7th.

Not Using Artillery

The enemy has no artillery left on his southern line or, if he has, he has not used it si[illegible] the cap-

Yanks Track Down Japs In Leyte Hills

DEC 15 1944

With the 7th Division, Leyte, Philippines, Dec. 12 [AP — *Delayed*]—Slogging along in a steady rain, doughboys of the 7th Division searched the foothills today in a great wheeling movement to envelop the Japanese still between their lines and Ormoc, on Leyte's west coast.

They encountered little resistance directly in front of them, but they ran into sharp fighting in the foothills, particularly around Sibugay creek and the Talisayan river. At some points they advanced as much as a mile and a half to two miles.

Pockets Wiped Out

The fighting is now mainly confined to wiping out pocket by pocket the Japanese, who are unable to make a determined stand as they did several days ago.

The capture of additional stores ture of a number of 75-mm. field-pieces in the last two days.

There are, however, no indications that this long-drawn-out battle of Leyte will end any differently than those of the Marshalls, Marianas and Palau, where the Japanese fought almost to the last man. Only a few prisoners are being taken.

7 Flyers Bag 11 Japs, Against 11-To-1 Odds

An American Airbase on Leyte, Dec. 14 (AP)—Seven marine fighter pliots, only one of whom had seen a Japanese plane in the air before, attacked a large force of Nipponese planes just before dawn Tuesday and shot down eleven without damage to themselves.

Members of the Bat Eye night fighting unit, the pilots were as-

signed to early morning cover for withdrawal of an American convoy from the Ormoc sector.

They sighted enemy fighters, dive bombers, torpedo bombers and medium bombers moving in on the convoy.

Capt. David Thomason, of Oak Park, Ill., downed two enemy fighters and damaged a third. He had led three Hellcats into the scrap.

"With the odds 11 to 1, I was scared green when we went in to attack," Thomason said.

YANKS BOMB AIRFIELDS AND HARBOR

Iwo Island In Volcano Group Target Of Land-Based Flyers

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 14 (AP)—The destruction of 91 Japanese planes by carrier-based American aircraft in a raid on Luzon Island in the Philippines and three new land-based smashes at Iwo Jima were announced today by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

The attack on Luzon, on which Manila is situated, was directed at harbors and airfields but the communique gave no details other than the shooting down of 14 Nipponese interceptors and erasure of 77 on the ground. Possibly a later communiqué will include some Japanese shipping losses.

Supply Source For Leyte

Luzon is the big source of supply and reinforcement for the imperiled Nipponese on West Leyte.

The raid Wednesday was the first this month by the carrier air arm which seven times lashed Luzon with devastating effect in November.

Even the account of the air losses inflicted was incomplete.

Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands, was raided Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, marking the tenth such attack in thirteen days to knock out the airfields from which the enemy has sent planes to attack the B-29 base at Saipan, 725 miles to the south.

Encounter Heavy Flak

Despite the heavy anti-aircraft fire encountered, all raiding planes returned. Liberators, escorted by Lightnings, saw three or four "non-aggressive" Japanese planes aloft during the Tuesday strike.

Hitting at the supply route of the Japanese for the Volcano and Bonin islands, marine Mitchells attacked shipping near Haha Jima, 650 miles south of Tokyo, Sunday.

Marcus Also Raided

Other bombers of the Strategic Air Force worked over the airfield on tiny Marcus Island, 1,000 miles southeast of Tokyo, Monday. Marcus is in position to serve as a base to spot the Superfortresses on their runs to Japan.

Supply areas and barges at Babelthuap in the northern Palau Islands were strafed Tuesday by marine fighters. Fighter-bombers hit the enemy airfield on Yap, western Carolines, the same day. Wake was raided Tuesday by navy planes.

Power installations and fuel dumps on isolated Nauru Island, south of the Gilberts, were hammered by marine and navy planes Tuesday.

NIMITZ TO MOVE TO FORWARD AREA

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 14—(AP) Adm. Chester W. Nimitz soon will establish his Pacific fleet advanced headquarters in a forward area he said today in a press release.

An Australian radio report recently said the new site would be Guam.

The fleet announcement said the main headquarters, however, would remain at Pearl Harbor. There was no comment on the Australian radio designation of Guam for the new headquarters.

"Capture of the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas, Ulithi and Palau has permitted moving the center of gravity of operations of the ground, sea and air forces, Pacific ocean areas, far westward," the announcement said.

Advance headquarters in the "forward area" will be established "to improve the effectiveness of control of these forces as their operations converge on Japan," the statement added.

U.S. Fleet Move Reported

San Francisco, Dec. 14 (AP)—The appearance of big American warships in inland waters of the Philippines was reported—it may be a Tokyo fishing expedition to ascertain dispositions of the fleet—by the enemy's radio today.

Without confirmation from Allied sources, Tokyo claimed two heavy cruisers were set afire by the Japanese *Kamikaze* suicide corps of planes which reputedly make a practice of crashing into their targets.

"In Mindanao Sea"

The broadcast, recorded here, said the cruisers were among a group of warships in the Mindanao Sea north of the island of Mindanao.

This would put the warships on the course to be taken between American-conquered East Leyte and the newly won holding at Ormoc port on West Leyte. American destroyers have penetrated those waters but there has been no mention of larger ships.

Victory Claimed

Meanwhile the Japanese news agency Domei claimed that Allied positions at Mega, on the extreme western tip of New Guinea, were "completely wiped out" on December 8 when Japanese based in the nearby Mar sector staged a "surprise attack."

After the battle, said the Domei dispatch, which was recorded here, the Allied dead numbered 150, one half of them Australian, while the Japanese "suffered ten killed in action."

The raid was not confirmed by Allied sources.

Five More Jap Admirals Die

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 14 (AP)—Deaths of five more Japanese admirals was announced by the Japanese news agency Domei in a broadcast recorded today by the Australian Department of Information. The deaths raised the total of Nipponese admirals who have died since May to 79.

The new deaths, all rear admirals, were Katsuji Makano, Saburo Tshise, Saburo Kondoo, Saturo Kubota and Goro Miyakawa.

Admiral Fraser On Way To Confer With Nimitz

Melbourne, *Friday*, Dec. 15 (AP)—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander in chief of the British Pacific Fleet, left today to confer with Admiral Chester Nimitz, commander in chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, and Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

[The Australian radio reported in a broadcast recorded by the Blue Network that General Sir Thomas Blamey, deputy commander in the Southwest Pacific theater, had arrived in the Philippines for conferences with MacArthur.]

More Clothing For Australia

Canberra, Australia, Dec. 14 (AP). Army Minister Francis E. Forde, Acting Prime Minister, announced today the relaxation of eighteen major wartime austerity restrictions on the manufacture of clothing.

INDIA B-29'S STRIKE TWICE

Bangkok And Rangoon Targets In New Raids

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Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Superfortresses from India struck today at Japanese outposts in Thailand and Burma in a followup to yesterday's major blow from Saipan against airplane production in the enemy homeland.

The force which Maj. Gen. Curtis E. LeMay's 20th Bomber Command dispatched from India was described by the communique as substantial. No details were given in the communique on the raid at Bangkok and Rangoon, but both are major transportation centers supplying enemy forces in Southeast Asia.

Combat Training Mission

[A dispatch from a 20th Bomber Command base in India said rail yards in Rangoon and a bridge just north of Bangkok were bombed. It added that the planes were manned mainly by crews new to that theater and that a primary purpose was to give the newcomers a combat training mission.]

It was the third B-29 blow at Bangkok. That city was the target of the bombers June 5, and it was hit again November 27. Rangoon got a working-over November 3.

A communique from 20th Air Force headquarters here reported large fires burning after "many bomb hits" on military and industrial targets at Nagoya, Japan, yesterday. The list included direct hits on the Mitsubishi aircraft plant. Returning flyers brought back information that indicated heavy damage.

Two Missing In Three Raids

The announcement reported one of the B-29's missing and presumed lost from the big force which Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., sent off from Saipan.

Late this afternoon the War Department amplified the communiqué with an announcement that one of the big bombers "is known to have been lost over the target at Rangoon," boosting losses in the triple strike to two.

Japanese broadcasts had claimed that two of the raiders were downed in Japan, and also reported five were shot out of the formations that attacked Bangkok and Rangoon.

Flying back into Saipan in one of the first Superfortresses over the Nagoya targets, Capt. Thomas Kuenning, of New Bremen, Ohio, brought photographs showing 24 hits on the rambling Hatsudoki aircraft plant. Other photographs showed at least 47 direct hits, with machine shops and assembly departments especially plastered.

Tokyo broadcast a report that one B-29 flew over Tokyo today (Japanese time), but there was no American confirmation. It has not been the custom in the past to make announcements on such lone missions, which presumably are for reconnaissance.

B-29S BATTER BOTH BANKOK AND RANGOON

One Superfortress Failed to Return From Raid on Nagoya.

47 DIRECT HITS COUNTED

Enemy Aircraft Center in Japan Said to Be Terribly Wrecked by Accurate Shots.

Washington, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—India-based Superfortresses of the Twentieth United States Bomber Command roared across the Bay of Bengal in substantial force today to batter military targets in Japanese-dominated Thailand (Siam).

This daylight mission sent bombs down on transportation centers in Bangkok, and also in Rangoon, Burma.

In announcing this attack, the War Department also announced that the Superfortresses attacking the Japanese industrial city of Nagoya yesterday scored many bomb hits on military and industrial targets, including the great Mitsubishi aircraft plant and that large fires were left burning.

One Superfortress is missing and presumed lost after yesterday's attack, which was carried out by the Twenty-first Bomber Command, based on Saipan. No official figures on the number of bombers engaged have been released, but authorized statements indicated that upward of 100 swarmed over Nagoya, on the enemy's home island of Honshu.

The gigantic B-29 bombers of Major-Gen. Curtis Lemay's Twentieth Command blasted Bangkok last on November 27. The railway junction and yards—heart of the enemy rail system radiating to Singapore, Burma and Indo-China — was struck with heavy loads of demolition bombs and all planes returned on that occasion.

[Tokyo announced that a single Superfortress was over the Japanese capital itself.]

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 14 (AP)—Many direct hits ripped the Mitsubishi's big Hatsudoki aircraft factory at Nagoya and probably caused terrific damage, photographs taken by the B-29 raiders disclosed today.

[At the same time Washington announced a new raid by B-29's on Thailand and the Japanese radio reported a B-29 strike against Rangoon in Burma, adjoining Japanese controlled Thailand. A Japanese broadcast claimed that five Superforts were shot down in the Rangoon raid.]

Pictures showing 24 hits upon the rambling aircraft factory at Nagoya were brought back by the big plane of Capt. Thomas Kuenning, of New Bremen, Ohio. His plane was one of the first over the target.

Other pictures disclosed at least 47 direct hits, particularly in the plant's machine shops and assembly departments.

No Comment From Hansell

Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., who was inclined to be cautious concerning the results of Wednesday's attack on Japan's third largest city until he had studied the photographs, as yet has made no further comment.

Photos Show B-29 Bomb Accuracy Over Nagoya

DEC 15 1944

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War correspondents inspected the photographs today. There were the geyserlike multiple bomb spouts, looking almost like orderly rows of Lombardy poplars, puncturing the factory area.

It was explained that most of the bomb damage was from the blasts rather than from the fires.

The pictures also showed that other planes had released their bombs too early and had set fires in the suburbs and that a number of bombs had dropped harmlessly in rice paddies.

Amazing Accuracy

However, the general impression of the pictures is that amazing accuracy was achieved in laying most of the bombs in a half-mile pattern upon the aircraft factory from an altitude of five or six miles (26,000 to 31,000 feet).

Returning flyers described scenes of fire and explosion even as the enemy radio told of war plants' being moved underground and of mass evacuations from Tokyo.

As the flyers brought back jubilant reports of the devastation wrought, Tokyo radio conceded the B-29 raids are "becoming serious."

Pillars Of Smoke

Before the first wave of the huge force of B-29's [Washington advices indicated 100 took part] left the target scene, pillars of smoke rose from the plant, largest of the vast Mitsubishi interests. It produces twin-engined bombers and navy fighters.

Visibility was excellent. The big bombers flew 3,000 to 4,000 feet lower than they did over Tokyo and a head wind slowed the approach. All these factors made for better bombing results.

Some B-29's were on their bombing runs for 20 minutes.

Photos Of Tokyo Raid

Hansell's caution was perhaps prompted by the fact that photographs of a Mitsubishi plant at Tokyo, made after recent raids there, showed some damage, but not enough to constitute a knockout blow.

Tokyo radio quoted Dr. Masatsugo Suzuki, head of Nippon's civil engineering association, as saying the raids already have prompted "large-scale removal work to the underground" of vital war plants. Enemy broadcasts also told of all districts of Tokyo evacuating their young and old.

More Flak Than At Tokyo

Capt. Leonard Cox, of Carnegie, Okla., whose Superfortress was among the first over Nagoya Wednesday, said: "We could see some (enemy) fighters taking off and much more flak than over Tokyo." Pilots said the enemy fighters were disinclined to risk the fire power of the Superforts and kept their distance.

The first formations said fully 50 per cent. of their bombs hit the targets.

[Tokyo radio placed the total of B-29's over Nagoya at "about 80" and conceded they caused some damage to the highly inflammable city which is crowded with war industries.]

Marylander's Feat

A bursting anti-aircraft shell sent broken glass showering over Lieut. Henry L. Miller, Riverdale, Md., as he looked into the bombsight on his Superfort. Unperturbed, the bombardier dropped his explosives squarely on the target.

Indicative of how the 3,000-mile round-trip raids from Saipan are growing, one Superfort, Dauntless Dotty, was on her tenth mission over Japan.

DEC 15 1944

Hits Scored at Nagoya.

Headquarters, Twenty first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Some remarkably clear photographs, taken during the bombing runs upon Nagoya yesterday, disclosed that many direct hits were made upon Mitsubishi's giant Hatsudoki aircraft factory. It was believed here, in consequence, that the damage must have been terrific.

The B-29, commanded by Capt. Thomas Kuenning (whose wife lives in Ridgewood, N. J.), which was among the early formations over the target, obtained pictures showing twenty-four hits upon the great, rambling plant. Other early photos disclosed forty-seven hits on Hatsudoki—particularly its machine shops and assembly departments. The administration building was also hit.

War correspondents inspected the photographs today. There were three or four tall, wispy columns of smoke, but most impressive were the geyser-like multiple bomb spouts, looking almost like orderly rows of Lombardy poplars, puncturing the factory area. It was explained that most of the bomb damage was from the blasts rather than from the fires.

HAUSLAND

The pictures also showed that other planes had released their bombs too early and had set fires in the suburbs and that a number of bombs had dropped harmlessly in rice paddies. However, the general impression of the pictures is that amazing accuracy was achieved in laying most of the bombs in a half-mile pattern upon the aircraft factory, from a altitude of five or six miles (26,000 to 31,000 feet).

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A bursting anti-aircraft shell sent broken glass showering over Lieut. Earl Y. Miller, Riverdale, Md., as he looked into the bombsight on his Superfortress. Unperturbed, he dropped his explosives squarely on the target.

"We could see fighters taking off and much more flak than we met over Tokyo in previous raids," said First Lieut. Jack Ehrenberg of Passaic, N. J., a navigator. "We saw two big pillars of smoke when we left."

Visibility was excellent. The big bombers flew 3,000 to 4,000 feet lower than they did over Tokyo, and a headwind slowed the approach. All these factors made for better bombing results. Some of the Superfortresses were on their bombing runs for twenty minutes, returning flyers said.

Single B-29 Flies Over Tokyo, Japs Say

San Francisco, Dec. 14 (AP)—A single American Superfortress was reported over Tokyo about 3 A.M. today (Japanese time), the Tokyo radio announced.

The big plane "fled toward the high seas in a southerly direction without accomplishing anything," the broadcast, recorded here, said.

The Japanese news agency Domei broadcast a claim today that two American Superfortresses were "definitely shot down" and eight others "heavily crippled" in yesterday's big Yank raid on Nagoya, located on Honshu, main island of Japan.

[American reports said early indications were that none of the B-29's was lost over the target.]

The Japanese report said none of the Nipponese fighters which intercepted the American planes was lost.

41 Croats To Die As Spies

New York, Dec. 14 (AP)—A court-martial of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation in Croatia has sentenced 41 members of the Croat Fascist Ustashi to death as spies, traitors and war criminals, the Free Yugoslav telegraph service said today.

MACARTHUR RECEIVES NETHERLANDS AWARD

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 14—(AP) Gen. Douglas MacArthur has been presented the Knights Grand Cross, with swords, of the Netherlands Order of Orange-Nassau, Aneta, official Netherlands News agency, reported today from Melbourne.

The presentation was made by Dr. Hubertus Van Mook, acting governor-general of the Netherlands East Indies, during a trip to Leyte, Philippines, and to liberated areas of the East Indies.

Van Mook also presented the cross, with swords, of a grand officer in the order to Lt. Gen. Walker Krueger, commander of the American 6th army, which cleared Dutch New Guinea of Japanese and is fighting on Leyte.

Japs Tell Of New Fighter

San Francisco, Dec. 14 (AP)—A new Japanese twin-engined navy fighter plane, the Gekko (Moonlight), has "now been revealed to the nation as a standing member" of Japan's "reception committee of death for enemy invaders of the sky against our homeland," Radio Tokyo said today.

The Domei dispatch claimed the new fighter plane "is already credited with an excellent showing in recent interception operations against enemy B-29 raiders over Tokyo and northern Kyushu."

TOKYO SAYS N. Y. FEARS NAZI BUZZ-BOMB ATTACK

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Great fear of the danger of German bombardment "by flying bombs" is causing New York city citizens to make "hasty preparations to evacuate" the city, the Tokyo radio said today.

The broadcast, in English and beamed to the United States, was reported by OWI.

"Even though there is a report that no German bombs have yet landed in New York," Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia has said he is "afraid of a possible panic" when the bombs do come over, Tokyo said.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

DEC 15 1944

By Associated Press.

Dec. 14, 1940—Marshal Petain dismisses Pierre Laval as Vice-Premier of France and abolishes office; Pierre Flandin named Foreign Minister, post formerly held by Laval. British freighter, Western Prince, 10,000 tons, torpedoed 430 miles off Ireland with cargo of war supplies, sixteen lost.

Coast Guard Smashes Nazi Bid To Set Up Bases on Greenland

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP) Three Nazi weather-reporting expeditions to the northern Greenland area were smashed and an enemy vessel and 60 prisoners captured during a Summer-Fall Coast Guard campaign in those ice-packed waters.

The Navy, reporting this today, said two other Nazi ships were scuttled by their own crews, one when it was brought to bay by Coast Guard cutters and the other because it was hopelessly caught in ice floes.

The captured vessel was a new, 180-foot armed trawler named the Externsteine. An American prize crew has sailed it to Boston.

The Northland, one of four Coast Guard ships engaging in this Arctic naval war, lost its rudder due to ice damage but was safely towed 3,000 miles to an American base.

There were indications, the Navy said, that planes were attached to the German expeditions and may have parachuted supplies. A twin-motored Nazi bomber was sighted during the campaign.

Europe's weather originates in the Greenland area and the Germans have tried desperately since early in the war to maintain observers there. American forces, soon after the United States entered the war, seized a small enemy trawler near Greenland. A year ago another enemy ship was sunk and a shore station captured.

Relating the story of the 1944 campaign, the Navy disclosed that it had its beginnings last May. At that time, the Greenland sledge patrol, made up of Danes, discovered a German station of some nature on Cape Sussi, northern tip of Shannon island. A patrol captain was scouting the station when he was surprised by a German officer. The Dane killed the German and fled.

On the basis of the Dane's report, Commodode Earl G. Rose of Muncey, Pa., commander of the Greenland patrol, put a landing force of Army soldiers and Coast Guardsmen on the cutters Northland and Storis when they set out in July to supply stations of the Greenland sledge patrol.

This landing force made three attempts to move overland on Shannon Island for a surprise attack on the Nazi base. This plan failed because of bad weather although eventually a land force did arrive at Cape Sussi. Meantime, a shift of the wind had opened leads through the ice pack and the Northland moved around the island to the site of the enemy base. It was found deserted with evidence that the Nazis had hastily fled. A radio had been smashed but stocks of food, gasoline and ammunition were found.

About four miles off Cape Sussi, the Northland found the wreckage of a 155-foot armed Nazi trawler in the ice. The ship had been crushed by ice, holed by an explosion within the hull and gutted by fire. The Navy said the vessel was believed to be the Coberg.

The Northland and the Storis continued their patrols and on Sept. 1 the Northland, under command of Lieut. Cmdr. R. W. Butcher, Jamaica Plain, Mass., sighted a German trawler off Great Koldewey island.

The Northland gave chase, firing with her forward gun. The enemy ship was faster and the Northland never was able to pull within effective gun range but after 7 1-2 hours the enemy ship suddenly stopped, blocked by a long finger of ice. As the Northland approached, the crew of the enemy ship took to lifeboats and a moment later the Nazi vessel blew up. Eight Nazi officers and 20 enlisted men were taken prisoner.

Meantime, the Storis had encountered a German Focke-Wulfe twin-motored bomber. The plane circled the ship but kept out of gun range.

Then came the accident to the Northland and aid was asked. The new cutters Eastwind and Southwind were dispatched from Boston and the tender Evergreen was sent to tow the Northland.

Captain Charles W. Thomas, Long Beach, Calif., commander of the Eastwind, took command of the task force. Scouting planes found suspicious indications on little Koldewey island, 800 miles south of the North Pole.

On Oct. 4, the Eastwind landed two platoons of sailors who found and destroyed a Nazi radio-weather station and captured three officers and nine enlisted men.

The Eastwind's scout plane sighted the Externsteine on Oct. 15 some 15 miles off Cape Bergen. The Eastwind and the Southwind moved in and the next day cornered the Nazi trawler.

Its officers and crew of 20 surrendered when the Eastwind blinked a message that it would open fire if there was any attempt to scuttle the ship.

Navy Stops Nazi Attempt To Land On Greenland

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Four Coast Guard cutters, operating in ice-packed Arctic waters, have smashed a "determined Nazi effort" to establish fortified bases in Greenland.

The Navy, reporting this today, said one German armed trawler was sunk, another captured, a third was found abandoned, 60 prisoners were taken and a radio station was captured and destroyed.

In addition, a German bomber

attack was beaten off in the series of actions, which lasted from July to late October.

Three Cutters Damaged

Three of the Coast Guard cutters were damaged by crushing ice-packs; one, the Northland, had to be towed 3,000 miles for repairs.

The climax of the battle through ice floes and along frozen shores came October 16 when the cutters Eastwind and Southwind captured the German armed trawler Externstein and its crew of 4 officers and 30 enlisted men.

Salvo after salvo of shells flashed across the ice packs before the Nazi craft was cornered in a pocket formed by ice floes and forced to surrender.

Eastwind Lands Force

Twelve days before that engagement, the Eastwind, skippered by Capt. Charles W. Thomas, Long Beach, Cal., task force commander, had landed two platoons of sailors on little Koldewey Island, 800 miles from the North Pole.

These landing parties, in a predawn attack, captured a Nazi radio and weather station with its three officers and nine enlisted men and large quantities of scientific and weather equipment.

Nazis Send Three Groups

Apparently, the Navy said, three separate expeditions had been sent to Greenland by the Germans. One was captured by the cutter Northland commanded by Lieut. Com. R. W. Butcher, Jamaica Plain, Mass., on September 1, after a 70-mile chase through the ice floes. The chase ended in the scuttling of a German armed trawler when the Nazi craft was blocked by ice. Two explosions ripped through the enemy trawler and she sank.

The crew of eight officers, headed by a full commander, and twenty enlisted men left the craft in lifeboats and were taken prisoner.

Bombing Attack Beaten Off

The cutter Storis beat off a Nazi bombing attack while the Northland was pursuing the enemy trawler. A twin-motored bomber sped in on the Storis, but just as it came within ack-ack range it veered off, apparently unwilling to do battle with the little Coast Guard craft.

The Northland, meanwhile, was in difficulties. She had smashed her rudder in maneuvering through the ice pack.

Towed To Base

Commodore Earl G. Rose, Muncey, Pa., commander of the Greenland patrol, advised of her damage, sent the Eastwind and Southwind to the scene to tow her back to base.

Both Coast Guard and Army planes, the Navy said, also participated in the series of actions, providing aircover for the cutters and aiding in reconnaisance.

Several Men Landed

Several land actions came during the series of engagements. Among them was the landing of a party of soldiers and Coast Guardsmen on Shannon Island under command of Lieut. Philip S. Pepe, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Ensign Benjamin D. Fleet, Jr., Philadelphia, and Lieut. (j.g.) Lee Wayne Felts, Richwood, N.J.

Halted by bad weather, they required reinforcements before reaching a fortified Nazi base. When they did arrive, the Nazis had fled. Instruments were smashed, but a large stock of gasoline, food and ammunition was found in ice caves.

Abandoned Trawler Found

The abandoned trawler was located by the Northland while moving through heavily packed ice. A 155-foot foot armed vessel, she had been crushed in the ice. An explosion had ripped out her hull and she had been afire. It was evident, the Navy said, that the Nazi crew had lived on the ice packs for some time after abandoning ship.

U. S., Britain Reach Accord On New Italian Government

DEC 15 1944

London Sends Minister to Washington to Confer on European Policies.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP) In an apparent move to patch up differences in their European policies, the United States and Britain today simultaneously bestowed their blessing on the new Italian government.

At the same time, the London government designated British Minister of State Richard K. Law to hurry to Washington to talk over policies to be applied on the continent, and the problem of getting supplies to liberated peoples. Officials of both countries have expressed deep concern over the supply matter, feeling that political unrest in some degree has grown out of wants.

Emphasizes Close Consultation

The statements on the new government set up by Premier Ivanoe Bonomi emphasized the close consultation between ambassadors from Washington and from London during formation of the cabinet.

Apparently the intent was to underscore settlement of the question of advance consultation on European policies.

It was this question which left to an open airing of differences between London and Washington. Without consulting the United States, the British came out against the selection of Count Carlo Sforza as premier or foreign minister of Italy. Whereupon Secretary of State Stettinius announced the United States was opposed to outside interference in the formation of European governments.

The Washington statement today on the new government:

"The United States and British ambassadors in Rome have been in close contact during the recent developments in Italy. (U. S.) Ambassador Alexander C. Kirk has kept the department carefully informed. He reports that the new government of Italy is supported by a majority of the political parties comprising the Committee of National Liberation, and thus maintains a representative character. This government, in accord with the British government, is happy to see the new Italian government, under Signor Ivanoe Bonomi, take office."

The British statement, using the words "close consultation," covered precisely the same ground.

Four of the six parties in the Committee of National Liberation took portfolios in Bonomi's new cabinet. The Socialists and Actionists refused to join. Sforza was not included.

While accepting the idea that short supplies for the liberated peoples contributed to trouble, American officials generally hold that British political intervention as in Italy and Greece has served to augment the turmoil.

In this connection, one official dealing with supply problems said information received here indicates the Russians have succeeded better in Poland than have the British in Greece in making themselves popular.

Back Stettinius' Policy

Despite London assertions that the United States long has been aware of British-Soviet Balkan agreements, authorities here stand firmly behind Secretary of State Stettinius' advocacy of a hands-off policy on internal politics.

British Labor Minister Ernest Bevin's implication yesterday that President Roosevelt approved political arrangements dividing Balkan influence between England and Russia brought emphatic denials.

There is a possibility that Secretary of State Stettinius may speak out on the question soon.

The London Evening News, commenting on the apparent mix-up between London and Washington over the question whether the U. S. had okayed sphere of influence assignments in Europe, said that "the United States government has been perfectly aware all along of the Churchill-Stalin Balkan agreements and has not opposed them."

The Manchester Guardian editorialized: "If we are to be accused of being illiberal, imperialists, self-seeking, let us be accused in company with the Americans and the Russians. The first requisite is to settle what Allied policy is."

That, British diplomats here say, is the precise aim of Law's trip.

American officials assure that there never has been any change in Washington's policy against dividing Europe into exclusive spheres of political interest.

Oil Industry Didn't Slow Up 3d Army, Says Ickes

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Harold L. Ickes, petroleum administrator, today absolved the oil industry of blame for the gasoline shortage which reportedly halted for a time Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army advance toward Germany.

Ickes said some persons apparently misinterpreted a Patton statement to mean that the oil industry was to blame.

"There never has been a shortage of gasoline for any combat area," Ickes said. "Dispatches clearly indicate that General Patton moved so fast that the Army's transport system could not bring up enough fuel to keep him moving.

"The fact that a considerable quantity of gasoline was flown from the beaches to the front shows that the problem was one of military transport rather than any lack of stocks."

U. S. Casualties 562,368, Army Total 483,957

Stimson Reports Increase of 9,059 in One Week; Navy Now Lists 78,411

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP).—Army casualties for all war areas now total 483,957.

Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, announced this figure today, and said it represents casualties reported through Nov. 28. This was an increase of 9,059 for a one-week period between Nov. 22 and 28.

Casualties for all branches of the armed forces—Army, Navy, Coast Guard and Marines—now stand at 562,368. The latest Navy report announces 78,411 casualties, an increase of 1,291 from the previous week.

The Army totals, together with those of a week ago, follow: Killed, 92,135 and 91,625; wounded, 272,351 and 268,099; missing, 62,786 and 58,926; prisoners, 56,685 and 56,248.

The Navy casualties: Killed, 30,029 and 29,738; wounded, 34,503 and 33,469; missing, 9,493 and 9,427; prisoners, 4,486, unchanged.

Casualties among American Army ground forces in Italy increased 16,255 between Sept. 25 and Dec. 9. Mr. Stimson said that from the time of the landing at Salerno in September, 1943, through last Dec. 8 a total of 98,366 casualties had been reported. Of the total, 18,898 were killed, 67,194 wounded and 12,274 are missing. As of Sept. 25, the list had reported 15,889 killed, 56,178 wounded and 10,044 missing.

CHURCHILL AID IS COMING TO U. S. TO DISCUSS POLICY

Law Will Seek Settlement of Tangles in Italy and Greece.

Washington, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—Richard K. Law, British Minister of State, is coming to Washington to discuss tangles in Anglo-American policy. In making this known today the British embassy indicated that Mr. Law decided on the trip when Harold MacMillan, British political adviser in the Mediterranean, went to Athens instead of here to discuss the muddled Italian and Greek questions.

Mr. Macmillan still is expected to come here when he returns from his quick trouble-shooting trip to Greece.

Mr. Law was here early this fall to discusse political and economic matters.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 14 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 2,293 United States Army casualties in the European war area

In all these cases next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

Rocket-Ship Role In Invasion Described

DEC 15 1944

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Rocket ships, one of the most secret of naval weapons, played a large part in the shattering of German defenses along the European beaches.

This was disclosed today in a Navy report of the use of rockets in the Atlantic and Pacific. It followed an announcement that the undisclosed production of rockets will be increased nearly 300 per cent immediately.

262 P. C. Increase

November output of rockets was 262 per cent above the June figure, a WPB spokesman said, describing this as "the example of examples" of ever-changing demands.

Large landing ships, designed originally to carry tanks to enemy beaches, were converted secretly last winter into rocket-firing craft, the Navy disclosed. Moving ahead of the first waves of landing craft, they worked with battleships, cruisers and destroyers in the bombardment which preceded landings.

"Dancing Floor Of Fire"

"Standing offshore and with great naval shells howling overhead," the Navy reported, "the rocket craft blazed away time after time, leaving sections of the defenses a dancing floor of fire. Their action was one of the most amazing sights of the invasion. First, many streaks of flame spurted from the flat, hollow shell of the craft, then seconds later the carpet of bursts crashed on a hillside or a section of beach. The roar from the explosion was many times more violent than that of heavy battleship gunfire."

Total salvos fired from a rocket ship have the punch of a broadside from a New Jersey class battleship.

100 Millions Monthly

The Office of War Information reported recently that the Navy soon will be spending $100,000,000 monthly on rocket ammunition.

Each rocket craft carries hundreds of missiles. Fired electrically, the rockets speed toward the beaches in overlapping salvos and "eliminate virtually all secondary fortifications, including mines, wire, machine-gun nests, shallow pillboxes and will temporarily stun men in larger fortifications," the Navy said.

Stimson Lauds Army Record of U. S. Japanese

He Cites Loyalty to Nation; Protests Rise at Oregon Legion Post's Snub of 16

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP).—Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, said today it was "wholly incongruous" that service men of Japanese extraction who have demonstrated their loyalty to this country should be subject to "unworthy discrimination."

Responding to a question at his news conference, Mr. Stimson said he had no first-hand knowledge of

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"regrettable reports" of discrimination against Japanese-American soldiers on the west coast and therefore could not comment on special cases.

At present, however, he added, there are 13,000 Japanese-Americans who are serving or who have served in the armed forces.

The 100th infantry battalion, in combat on the Italian front, is made up entirely of Japanese-Americans. It has an outstanding record and has been cited for gallantry, Mr. Stimson said.

The 442d Combat Team, also Japanese - American, has since been organized, he said, and has fought courageously and well on the European front.

U.S. Opposed To 'Spheres'

DEC 15 1944

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Authoritative American officials declared flatly today that the United States maintains a firm stand opposed to the development of spheres of influence in Europe.

They denied unqualifiedly that President Roosevelt okayed any British-Russian agreement dividing up political interests in the Balkans.

Spokesmen for the Labor Ministers in the coalition British Government had said that Russia and Mr. Roosevelt had agreed that Britain undertake the "main problem of Greece."

Cautioned Several Times

This Government has cautioned both Britain and Russia several times against allowing military agreements on zones of operations to draw boundaries of political influence, the United States officials asserted.

The danger that military arrangements would turn into spheres of influence is well recognized, they said.

Prime Minister Churchill, according to these highly placed officials, has assured the United States that Britain does not seek special areas of political privilege.

While Russia has not given such flat promises, it was said, Premier Stalin has given no signs of disagreement with the American position.

Brooks Criticizes Allies

Despite all this, there has lately been outspoken discussion by members of Congress of what some of them call improper activity by both British and Russia. Senator Brooks (R., Ill.) said yesterday that these two are "in a race for the future balance of power on the European Continent."

Britain, Russia, China and the United States all committed themselves against exclusive spheres by the Moscow declaration, in the eyes of American diplomats.

Dumbarton Oaks A Factor

The Dumbarton Oaks document, they said, paved the way for implementation of the policy of the joint action. The world security plan does provide for regional organizations, but these come under the supervision of the International Council.

Britain's attempt at forming a western European bloc died unborn when France concluded a treaty with Russia. The terms of the Franco-Soviet pact are unknown here, but Moscow dispatches said it parallels the British-Soviet treaty, which specifically states that military alliance clauses are to be subordinated to an effective world peace agency when one is established.

The Drawback

"If acquisition of the lands is to be sought under the homestead law, application therefore must be accompanied by an affidavit declaring that the applicant has personally examined the land and is well acquainted with its characteristics.

"The applicant must be prepared to establish his permanent residence upon the land to the exclusion of a home elsewhere, within six months after his entry has been approved."

Army Hostesses Sent To Paris and Brussels

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP).—The War Department announced today that a contingent of thirteen United States Army hostesses, the first ever sent to an active war area, had arrived in Paris and Brussels.

The American women, with an equal number of British Army hostesses, will operate recreation clubs for enlisted troops at the internationally famous Grand Hotel in Paris and the Metropole Hotel in Brussels.

The contingent included Frances Schoenij, of East Orange, N. J.

Law For Getting Land On Moon Requires One Move There

DEC 15 1944

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—The land rush may be some time off, but the Interior Department is all set with advice on how to file claims on the moon.

From Glen Ellyn, Illinois, and specifically from R. L. Farnsworth, president of the United States Rocket Society, Inc., came this query:

"Many of our members write in and ask us how they go about filing the claim to land on the moon. As strange as this may seem to you, it may be a reality within a generation; consequently, we would appreciate either telling us how this is done or advising us to whom to direct our inquiries."

Department Alert

Demonstrating that the department's land office has its ear to the ground, its nose to the wind and its mind on the future, Commissioner Fred W. Johnson replied:

"New lands which may be designated as public domain under the sovereignty of the United States are subject to the jurisdiction of the General Land Office. Consequently, those portions of the moon which may become public domain are susceptible of acquisition under the more than 5,000 public land laws administered by this office, relating to mineral developments, homesteading, grazing or other types of land use.

Army Reduces Output of Plane Machine Guns

23 Million Cutback to Free 6,000 Workers in 5 War Plants by First of Year

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—A $23,000,000 cutback in production of machine guns for Army planes was officially approved tonight. The move, it was explained, will release man power for more critical ordnance items, including ammunition.

The decision, announced by the Production Executive Committee of the War Production Board, will release 6,000 workers from five plants about Jan. 1.

"Immediate action" is being taken by the War Man-Power Commission to channel the laid-off employees into critical jobs, it was stated.

The output of .50-caliber guns for aircraft has been running ahead of schedule. The Army described the adjustment as "a leveling off of machine-gun production and not a complete curtailment."

Meanwhile, informed W. P. B. officials estimated the new gun and shell plant expansion program for 1945 would cost between $250,000,000 and $500,000,000, including construction of facilities for mortar ammunition.

Both W. P. B. and Army sources indicated that the W. P. B. chairman, J. A. Krug, had misspoken a fortnight ago when he told a news conference of tentative plans for a $500,000,000 construction program for mortar ammunition alone.

The new and lower estimate, it was stated, would be the cost if new facilities had to be built from the ground up, and would include not only plants for medium and heavy artillery and ammunition, but nitrate and sulphuric acid facilities and brass strip mills which might be needed to meet the expanded ammunition schedules. It is possible that present facilities can be adapted to larger production without new construction in each case.

Plants to be affected by the curtailment of orders for aircraft machine guns are: Brown-Lipe-Chapin division of General Motors, Syracuse, N. Y.; Savage Arms Corporation, Utica, N. Y.; Kelsey Hayes Wheel Company, Plymouth, Mich.; Colt's Patent Firearms Manufacturing Company, Hartford, Conn.; Buffalo Arms Corporation, Buffalo.

Nazis Preparing War III, Russ Say

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—The Soviet Embassy published today charges that Germany was preparing for a third world war, with Spain and Argentina "chosen for preservation of the Hitlerite reserves."

The embassy bulletin carried an article from *Trud*, organ of the Soviet trade unions, urging strong measures to "avert fresh German aggression."

It said:

"Spain is the storehouse and portage for German capital, which is now organizing abroad the industrial *place d'armes* of Fascist aggression.

"A considerable part of this capital is on the territory of Argentina. To this reservoir, through secret channels from Spain, flow money and materials representing the embryo of the new German war machine. To Argentina have rushed a crowd of German agents who are now creating a peculiar storage place for German capital and secret military inventions in the Western Hemisphere.

"Characteristic in this respect are the lately intensified reactionary measures taken by the Argentine Government, in particular its attempts to restrict the activities of trade unions."

Army To Shift 80,000 Men To Ground Forces

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP) — The War Department said today it expects the transfer of 80,000 air and service force personnel to ground forces will be completed during January.

To provide more combat troops for the ground forces, 55,000 enlisted men will be shifted from air forces and 25,000 from service forces. The department said that "the majority of men transferred from the AAF will be replaced by enlisted men of the ground forces, who are not qualified for combat duty."

Stimson Says Minimum Draft Age Will Remain

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, said today the War Department does not contemplate any request for lowering the minimum selective service age from 18.

The Secretary said at his news conference there is sufficient manpower in the 18 to 38 age group to take care of all the army's requirements.

NOMINATION CONFIRMED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — (AP) The Senate confirmed today the nomination of Norman Armour of New Jersey as ambassador to Spain. He succeeds Carlton Hayes.

War Cost Hits New Low

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP) — November war expenditures dropped to a new low for 1944.

The War Production Board today reported that the November expenditures amounted to $7,095,000,000, a decrease of $352,000,000 or 4.7 per cent. from October.

This country spent $236,700,000,000 for war purposes between July 1, 1940, and November 30, 1944.

WHITE HOUSE AID IS DENIED

Corcoran, Niles Say No Pressure Was Used In WMCA Sale

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP) — A White House aide and a former close associate of President Roosevelt denied today that they used White House influence in the sale of Radio Station WMCA, New York.

The witnesses, before the committee investigating the Federal Communications Commission, were Thomas G. (Tommy the Cork) Corcoran, early New Deal adviser now practicing law, and David K. Niles, one of Mr. Roosevelt's assistants "with a passion for anonymity."

They were summoned by Chairman Lea (D., Cal.) after reports were injected in committee hearings that Administration pressure was used to bring about sale of the station by Donald Flamm to Edward J. Noble for $850,000 in 1940.

The committee subpoenaed Corcoran's income-tax records to see if he obtained any fee in the transaction.

Corcoran told reporters after the day-long private questioning that he was in Mexico when the deal went through and had nothing to do with it.

Nothing Except Price

"I saw nothing wrong in the sale except the high price," he added.

"To my knowledge, Dave Niles had nothing to do with the case. Neither did anyone else in the White House."

Flamm has charged that he was "coerced" into selling by two of his employes, who told him he was going to lose his license, issued by the FCC.

Chairman Lea said that Noble will testify tomorrow.

ACTION ON HURLEY DELAYED IN SENATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — (AP) Postwar economic policies may come in for Senate debate in consideration of nominations of former Gov. Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut and Lieut. Col. Edward Heller to be members of the Surplus War Property Board. The Senate today postponed action on them.

At hearings by the Senate Small Business committee, David L. Podell, counsel of the Smaller War Plants corporation, complained that currently manufacturers seem to be getting "first crack" at buying surplus property.

Seaboard Rail Strike Averted By White House

DEC 15 1944

Trainmen Threatened to Quit Today; Emergency Board of Inquiry Named

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The White House took action tonight to check a threatened strike on the Seaboard Air Line Railway.

President Roosevelt named an emergency mediation board to inquire into the strike, which had been called by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen for noon tomorrow.

Effect of the Presidential action is to halt the strike pending a determination of the issues.

The dispute had been referred to the President by the National Mediation Board, which said it had been unable to settle the differences between the railroad and the complaining brotherhood.

The President named the emergency board, he said in a proclamation, because the proposed strike threatened to affect interstate commerce in Virginia, North Car-

olina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Florida, and deprive a large section of the country of essential transportation service.

D. B. Robertson, president of the union, an independent organization, said the strike had been ordered because of failure to obtain from the railroad the right to represent members employed as engineers, in handling their individual grievances and claims against the company.

J. C. Wroton, general manager of the Seaboard, at Norfolk, Va., said it was purely a jurisdictional question between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers over reinstatement of engineers.

The railroad, Mr. Wroton said, would abide by any decision of the emergency board.

It will be composed of David J. Lewis, of Maryland, a former Congressman; Huston Thompson, a Washington attorney, and Major General William H. Tschappat, retired, of Virginia.

It had been learned from government sources that the National Mediation Board had referred the case to the White House before Mr. Robertson made his announcement that the strike would be called.

Mr. Robertson explained that his union is recognized by the Seaboard Railway as representative for firemen but that the railroad insists that the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers must present grievances of the engineers. He said, however, that approximately 300 engineers employed by Seaboard are members of his union, and estimated that this is half the total number of engineers employed by the railroad.

Mr. Robertson said the representation right sought by his union has been accorded to his brotherhood by every railroad in this country and Canada with the exception of Seaboard.

He said "it is my understanding that the railroad has asked the government for the appointment of another emergency board to consider this dispute and thus avert a strike.

"In other words, the people of the United States are being asked to pay the cost of another re-examination of the question in dispute to rescue the railroad from its folly and irresponsible heedlessness in refusing to employees and their legally designated representatives rights accorded to them" by law.

SURPLUS-SALE PLAN ATTACKED

DEC 15 1944

U.S. Official Says Treasury Favors Manufacturers

Washington, Dec. 14 (AP)—A Government official complained today that the Treasury is giving manufacturers first crack at buying surplus property and asserted this threatens full employment after V-day.

In addition, such a practice keeps goods from consumers and permits the manufacturer to make a "double profit," David L. Podell, general counsel of the Smaller War Plants Corporation, told a subcommittee of the Senate Small Business Committee.

The committee is investigating surplus property disposal.

Podell said manufacturers have a tendency to hold on to surplus material which they purchase and to "dole it out" sparingly to maintain prices.

Will Have Heavy Backlog

This means, he said, that when peace comes they will have a heavy backlog of goods and will not swing quickly to full production.

Podell's reference to a "double profit" applied, he said, to a manufacturer who sells an item to the armed services, repurchases it at lower price from the Treasury's surplus property office and then puts it back on the market at a markup.

Podell also complained, and his view was echoed by SWPC Chairman Maury Maverick, that there is not sufficient advertising of surplus property booked for sale. He cited particularly the sale of 10,700 10-ton hydraulic jacks, sold by the Army, to two manufacturers.

Jacks Sold At Loss

Lee W. Moran, chief of the automotive division of the Treasury's surplus disposal office, testified earlier than these jacks were sold at a loss of $35 each but that he considered it a fortunate deal because there appeared to be no demand for that many jacks.

Podell said that if the SWPC had known the jacks were surplus it would have found distributors within a week to handle their sale and would have gotten "a very excellent price" for them.

Virgil J. Rader, deputy regional director of the Treasury's office, testified that the Treasury often offered surplus goods to manufacturers first because the manufacturer is in the best position to obtain wide distribution of scarce goods. Selling to one or two distributors, he said, would restrict the area of consumer sales and tend to give "monopoly" to one or two firms.

Fish for Congress Pension

Moreover, He Would Have Colleagues "Openly Adopt" Plan

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 (AP).—A lame duck told luckier members of Congress today that what they ought to do is vote themselves a pension.

"I am convinced," said Representative Hamilton Fish, Republican, of New York, who was defeated in November after twenty-four years in the House, "that it would be for the best interests of Congress to openly adopt a retirement system."

He said he didn't like to use the word "pension" because it seems to have "a kind of opprobrium." "If you present the facts properly the public will support you," Representative Fish declared.

He isn't interested for himself, the New Yorker said, explaining: "I'll get a large retirement in New York State." Representative Fish has subscribed to the New York State retirement-system plan during his twenty-four years in Congress.

E-BONDS EXPECTED TO REACH QUOTA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14—(AP) With two days left in the Sixth War Loan drive, sales of series E-bonds reached $1,535,000,000 today—60 per cent of the $2,500,000,000 E-bond quota.

Though the four-week selling campaign ends Saturday, Treasury officials now believe that if sales efforts continue vigorous to the end, the E-bond quota will be oversubscribed.

Their optimism over getting the remaining 40 per cent is based on these facts:

1. The daily figures here run several days behind payment of the cash by bond-buyers, because of the delay in forwarding the money to federal reserve banks.

2. As previously announced, bond money deposited throughout December will count in the drive. A larger proportion of E-bond sales than ever before are being made through extra payroll deductions.

This money comes in gradually and much of it will not actually be enough to buy a bond and count in the drive until near the end of December.

Final totals will be announced January 2.

Total individual sales to date are $3,796,000,000 about 76 per cent of the individual quota of $5,000,000,000.

With corporation sales of $12,672,000,000 the grand total recorded so far $16,468,000,000.

SENATE PASSES BILL TO RESTRAIN PETRILLO

DEC 15 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP) The Senate today passed legislation designed to prohibit James Caesar Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians from interfering with broadcasting of non-commercial cultural or education programs.

The measure, sponsored by Sen. Vandenberg (R-Mich.) was approved by unanimous voice vote during a routine call of the calendar of unopposed bills. It now goes to the House.

The legislation grew out of Petrillo's cancellation of a broadcast by the National High School Symphony orchestra from the National Music camp at Interlochen, Mich.

SENATE CONCLUDES CIGARET PROBE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — (AP) The Senate War Investigating committee's inquiry into the cigaret shortage ended today with its members pretty well fagged out.

They packaged up a lot of new testimony from a manufacturer who could increase production 25 per cent if he had more tobacco and a grower who fears for the price of the crop if 1945 quotas are raised more than 7 per cent.

Rolled up in the other evidence was the tiny spark of hope that things might conceivably get better for smokers as soon as the Army-Navy pipelines (no relation to pipes) get filled up.

S. Clay Williams, chairman of board of the R. J. Reynolds tobacco company, (they make Camels), said 51 1-2 per cent of his production goes to the armed forces.

In normal times, he explained, manufacturers operate on a machine to mouth basis, keeping the supply only 30 days ahead of consumption.

Because the military can't take chances, they must keep the chain smoke line between this country and troops overseas constantly filled and a minimum 90 days' supply abroad.

He brought this out when Senator Ferguson (R-Mich) wondered if the soldiers were overpuffing, a wonder raised by the thought of 12,000,000 Americans using up 51 1-2 per cent of a supply made for the whole population.

The thought that the Army eventually will catch up with its supply line needs figured in an assertion by W. C. Winn, assistant chief of the AAA's tobacco division that a 7 per cent acreage increase allowed growers for 1945 would be adequate.

While 1945 growth would not be usable for cigarets for from a year and a half to two years, Winn expressed belief that the steady increase in demand would abate by 1947.

GALLUP POLL METHODS FACE HOUSE INQUIRY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP) A detailed explanation of the vote-sampling methods used by the Gallup poll in New York, Maryland and Massachusetts has been asked by the House Campaign Investigating committee.

Committee investigators recently went to New Jersey to question Dr. George C. Gallup, conductor of the poll. Chairman Anderson (D-N.M.) said today the requested statement is intended to fill out the background on that examination.

In addition to the detailed summary for the three states, the poll is expected to file a general statement of its operations and methods in all states prior to this year's election.

Anderson said the New York, Maryland and Massachusetts details were chosen because the committee regards those as typical states.

WARD OFFICIALS FAIL TO APPEAR

AT WLB HEARING

DEC 15 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14 — (AP) Montgomery Ward and the government appeared headed tonight for a new collision over labor policies such as led last Spring to seizure of the mail order firm's Chicago properties.

Officials of the company failed to appear at a War Labor board hearing to which they were summoned to show cause why they had not complied with WLB directives concerning four Detroit stores.

WLB Chairman William H. Davis then announced that unless the company complies with "all terms and conditions of our orders" by nightfall Monday, the defiance would be referred to Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson.

This could lead to government seizure of the Ward plants involved, if not all of its properties. Hearings similar to the one called for today are scheduled for tomorrow on cases involving Ward stores in six other cities.

The WLB received a telegram signed by John A. Barr, labor relations manager for Ward's, which said the company's position on compliance "remains the same." Barr added that the company's "reason for believing the Board's orders are illegal and unenforceable has been frequently and fully stated to you."

A similar impasse brought on last Spring's Ward case which was climaxed when soldiers, acting under instructions from Attorney General Francis Biddle, carried Sewell Avery, board chairman of Ward's, bodily from his office.

In that case, however, the company contended that the C.I.O. united retail, wholesale and department store employes did not represent a majortiy of employes. A collective bargaining election was held and the C.I.O. union won.

In the present case, the C.I.O. union has raised the threat of a strike in all Ward stores throughout the country unless the government forces the company to comply quickly with the WLB directives. A strike has been underway at the Detroit stores since Saturday.

Called to explain the Detroit strike, Samuel Wolchak, union president, said the union was "ready for an economic showdown" with Montgomery Ward.

Then, he asserted flatly that if the board and President Roosevelt were unable to secure compliance with the Board's directives, the union was prepared to strike at the company's properties everywhere in the country. He said his union had a majority among the 60,000 to 65,000 Ward employes.

The WLB directives as to the Detroit stores call for a contract providing maintenance of union membership, checkoff of union dues and certain minimum wage scales.

The stores and plants involved in other pending cases are in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.

ARMY BOOSTS MORALE

NEW YORK—(AP) The Army Exchange Service revealed that in two years members of the armed forces overseas have sent in more than 2,000,000 orders for gifts worth $10,000,000 to be delivered to the folks they left behind.

MURRAY SCORES STEEL COMPANIES

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 14.—(AP) A conference between U. S. Steel subsidiaries and the United Steelworkers of America (C.I.O.) was "recessed" today and USWA President Philip Murray declared "it has been made clear that the companies do not intend to engage in any bona fide collective bargaining."

The company and union representatives had met to discuss a War Labor board directive of Nov. 25 which tentatively approved wage adjustments for 485,000 workers in 86 basic steel companies, retroactive to last December.

Murray stated the subsidiaries had filed a petition with the WLB requesting it to "set aside its directive as illegal" and that "John Stephens, spokesman for the steel case research committee and also for the United States Steel corporation, announced at the same time that the steel companies have not accepted the directive."

Murray quoted Stephen as saying the companies will not accept the directive "until after action has been taken by the Office of Price Administration and the Director of Economic Stabilization."

The officers of the USWA have arranged a conference in Washington with Judge F. M. Vinson and Chester Bowles for tomorrow morning in order to ascertain how quickly the impasse will be terminated.

30. 24— 21247

THOMASVILLE, Ga., Dec. 14 (AP)—Lieut. Vereen McNeill Bell, son of State Supreme Court Chief Justice R. C. Bell and the author of the novel, "Swamp Water," and many short stories, died when his ship the Gambier Bay was sunk Oct. 25 in the second battle of the Philippines. Justice and Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Vereen Bell, the officer's wife, received notice of his death today from the Navy Department.

Lieutenant Bell, 33, volunteered for the Navy in 1943 and was assigned to a bomber squadron as intelligence officer. Later he volunteered for additiional service as technical observer and went on many bombing missions.

The Gambier Bay, escort aircraft carrier, was sunk in the Pacific off San Bernardino Strait during a surprise attack by the Japanese Navy Oct. 25.

Lieutenant Bell wrote a number of juvenile stories for magazines and served as associate editor of American Boy-Youth's Companion in Detroit. His latest magazine story, published Nov. 11 this year, depicted an anxious father whose son was missing in action.

Navy Launches Plane Carrier Of 27,100 Tons

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The Boxer Is 17th Ship of Essex Class Built by U. S. Since Pearl Harbor

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Dec. 14 (AP).—The Navy's mighty flat-top fleet was further strengthened today with the launching of the Boxer, seventeenth Essex class aircraft carrier built since Pearl Harbor.

The eighth carrier launched at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company plant in three years, the Boxer slid smoothly into the James River a moment after a bottle of champagne was smashed against her bow by Ruth D. Overton, of Alexandria, La., daughter of Senator John H. Overton. Present at the launching was the Boxer's prospective skipper, Captain Donald F. Smith, of Timmonsville, S. C.

The Boxer, fifth warship to bear the name, was built at a cost of more than $60,000,000. When completed, her displacement tonnage will be 27,100, and she will carry more than eighty aircraft. The 850-foot ship will be capable of a speed of more than thirty knots.

LONDON-FIRST ADD UNRRA XXX POLITICAL WEAPON.

SEVERAL SPEAKERS CRITICIZED WHAT THEY CALLED "BALLYHOO" ABOUT WHAT UNRRA COULD DO.

THE BISHOP OF CHICHESTER SAID THE SITUATION IN LIBERATED COUNTRIES WAS DETERIORATING AND "UNLESS UNRRA OR ITS EQUIVALENT IS IN A POSITION TO DELIVER SOME GOODS AND SERVICES SOON THE COUNTRIES WILL BE COMPELLED TO WRITE IT OFF."

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LORD RENNELL SAID FALSE HOPES HAD BEEN RAISED BY PUBLICITY "GIVEN TO THE COUNCIL'S MEETINGS AND OF WHAT THE GOVERNMENTS WERE GOING TO DO."

DEFENDING UNRRA, LORD SELBORNE, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC WARFARE, SAID "THE GOVERNMENT IS SATISFIED UNRRA IS FITTING IN AS INTENDED WITH OTHER MACHINERY IN EXISTENCE."

WHEN ONE SPEAKER ASKED ABOUT GREECE, HE REPLIED THAT THE FIGHTING AND RIOTING HAD NO DOUBT HINDERED THE SUPPLY OF FOOD, BUT THE SUPPLY WOULD GO ON AS FAR AS IT COULD BE MANAGED.

SELBORNE SAID UNRRA COULD GO INTO A COUNTRY ONLY WITH PERMISSION OF THE MILITARY AND GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED AND SO FAR INVITATIONS HAD COME ONLY FROM GREECE AND ITALY.

IN OUTLINING THE TREMENDOUS RELIEF JOB AHEAD, HE SAID 14,000,000 WOULD HAVE TO BE "TAKEN BACK TO THEIR PROPER HOMES" IN EUROPE AND THAT THE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WOULD BE AS GRAVE AS ANYTHING EVER KNOWN IN HISTORY.

THE PRIME MINISTER LATER WAS DRAWN INTO A DISCUSSION OF COUNT CARLO SFORZA'S ASSERTIONS THAT CHURCHILL HAD URGED RETENTION OF KING VITTORIO EMANUELE IN ITALY.

IVOR THOMAS, LABORITE, REPEATED SFORZA'S STATEMENT AND ASKED HOW THIS SQUARED "WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFT-REPEATED ASSURANCE THAT HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT HAD NO DESIRE TO INTERFERE IN CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS AFFECTING ITALY."

CHURCHILL REPLIED, "THAT IS NOT SO AT ALL. I GAVE A FULL ACCOUNT TO THE HOUSE WHEN I EXPLAINED THAT WE THOUGHT IT BETTER TO GO ON WITH THE KING VITTORIO-MARSHAL BADOGLIO REGIME UNTIL THE MILITARY SITUATION HAD GOT INTO A BETTER CONDITION, AND WE DID GO ON

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FOR SOME CONSIDERABLE TIME; THE RESULTS NOT BEING UNSATISFACTORY AS FAR AS OUR ARMIES WERE CONCERNED.

"I SAID NOTHING IN MY CONVERSATION WITH COUNT SFORZA WHICH I HAD NOT ALREADY MADE CLEAR AS BEING THE POLICY OF HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT AT THAT TIME."

EARLIER, CHURCHILL SAID HE TOLD SFORZA HE "WELCOMES THE ASSURANCE GIVEN TO THE UNITED STATES IN HIS LETTER TO MR. BERLE (ADOLF A.BERLE, THEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE), WHICH I READ TO THE HOUSE ON DEC. 6, THAT MATTERS OF INTERNAL POLICY INCLUDING THE MONARCHY WOULD BE ADJOURNED UNTIL ITALY WAS FREE; AS REGARDS THE FUTURE THAT WOULD BE FOR THE ITALIAN PEOPLE TO DECIDE."

ADD 2 LONDON- (CHERRICO) ** FRONTIER

ATTACKING ON A CURVING 50-MILE FRONT EAST, NORTH, AND NORTHWEST OF MISKOLC, 85 MILES NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST, THE RUSSIANS CAPTURED MORE THAN A SCORE OF LOCALITIES IN GAINS RANGING FROM TWO TO SIX MILES.

TWENTY-ONE MILES NORTH OF MISKOLC ONE COLUMN CAPTURED GALVACS, TWO MILES NORTHEAST OF SZENDRO, THEREBY OUTFLANKING THAT COAL, IRON AND MANGANESE CENTER ALREADY MENACED BY UNITS LESS THAN THREE MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST AND SOUTH.

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SOUTH OF SZENDRO, THE RUSSIANS IN A SIX-MILE PUSH UP THE HIGHWAY FROM SZIRAK, TOOK SEVERAL LOCALITIES INCLUDING THE ROAD JUNCTION TOWN OF EDELENY AND SZENDROLAD, THE LATTER THREE MILES FROM SZENDRO. DISZNOSHORVAT, FOUR MILES SOUTHWEST OF SZENDROLAD, ALSO WAS SEIZED.

NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF GALVACS THE RUSSIANS TOOK SZOLNOK, 10 MILES FROM THE SLOVAK FRONTIER AND 26 MILES SOUTHWEST OF KASSA, SLOVAK FORTRESS TOWN AND ROAD JUNCTION OBJECTIVE OF COL.GEN.IVAN PETROV'S FOURTH UKRAINE ARMY CLOSING IN FROM THE EAST.

SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF SZOLNOK THE RUSSIANS ALSO CAPTURED CSOBAD ON THE MISKOLC-KASSA HIGHWAY IN THE HERNAD VALLEY, IN A THREE-MILE GAIN.

EIGHTEEN MILES EAST OF MISKOLC THE RED ARMY TROOPS CAPTURED THE TOWN AND RAILWAY JUNCTION OF SZERENCS ON THE HIGHWAY TO FALLEN TOKAJ ON THE UPPER TISZA RIVER AND, FANNING OUT NORTH OF THERE, TOOK MONOK, THREE MILES TO THE NORTHWEST, OND, ONE MILE TO THE NORTH, AND MAD, 3 1/2 MILES NORTHEAST.

IN THIS STUBBORNLY CONTESTED SECTOR AT THE ENTRANCES TO THE HERNAD AND BODROG VALLEYS THE RUSSIANS ALSO WON BODROG KERESZTUR, EIGHT MILES EAST OF SZERENCS AND 2 1/2 MILES NORTHWEST OF TOKAJ.

NEARLY 15 MILES NORTHWEST OF MISKOLC OTHER UNITS OF MARSHAL RODION Y.MALINOVSKY'S SECOND UKRAINE ARMY DROVE THROUGH SAJOKAZA, ONLY EIGHT MILES FROM BANREVE, IMPORTANT COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ON THE HUNGARIAN-CZECHOSLOVAKIAN BORDER.

LONDON, DEC. 14-(AP)-THE LONDON TIMES CONTENDED TODAY THAT GRECIAN STRIFE COULD BE ENDED ONLY BY FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT "WHICH WILL EMBRACE ALL PARTIES, RIGHT AS WELL AS THE LEFT, AROUND THE CORE OF RESISTANCE."

"SUCH A GOVERNMENT ALONE CAN PERSUADE THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT, AT PRESENT A PREY TO BEWILDERMENT, VIOLENT, AND DIVIDED COUNSELS, THAT THE CAUSE OF THE PEOPLE OF GREECE--WHICH IS WHAT ALONE MATTERS IN THIS TRAGIC PASS--CAN BEST BE SERVED BY THE LAYING DOWN OF ARMS," THE EDITORIAL SAID.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH HELD THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WISER TO HAVE ESTABLISHED AN IMPROVED VERSION OF ALLIED MILITARY GOERNMENT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE "INSTEAD OF HANDING OVER ALL EFFECTIVE AUTHORITY TO SOME MORE OR LESS UNEASY AND MAKESHIFT COALITION BETWEEN RETURNING EXILES AND RESISTANCE LEADERS." THE PAPER SAID THAT "NOTHING ELSE THAN EFFECTIVE ALLIED AUTHORITY WILL BE POSSIBLE PENDING ELECTION IN GREECE."

"HAVING GOT OURSELVES INTO A TRAGIC SITUATION IN GREECE," SAID THE NEWS CHRONICLE, "THE ONLY WAY OUT IS TO SEEK AN IMMEDIATE ARMISTICE, PREPARATORY TO ALL-IN TALKS. THE ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE A DISASTROUS ATTEMPT TO SUBDUE ALL GREECE."

SAID THE DAILY MAIL: "IF THERE IS SERIOUS BLUNDERING IN GREECE FROM NOW ON, THE EVIL CONSEQUENCES WILL AFFECT THE FUTURE NOT ONLY OF ALL THE LIBERATED COUNTRIES BUT OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE WORLD AS A WHOLE."

THE MANCHESTER GUARDIAN DECLARED THAT A "NEW ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL DECLARATION REAFFIRMING--IF THEY CAN STILL REAFFIRM--THE ATLANTIC CHARTER IS BADLY NEEDED FOR THE SAKE NOT ONLY OF THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN PEOPLES WHOSE FAITH HAS BEEN SHAKEN BUT OF THE EUROPEAN PEOPLES WHO ARE WATCHING THE GREEK STRUGGLE WITH DISMAY."

N1101AEW

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LONDON, DEC. 14-(AP)-A BRITISH MILITARY COMMENTATOR SAID TODAY THE BRITISH WERE MAINTAINING TROOPS ON THE SOMALILAND-ETHIOPIAN BORDER TO PREVENT TRIBESMEN FROM "PINCHING" GRAZING LANDS IN BRITISH TERRITORY, BUT DENIED SUGGESTIONS THAT FIGHTING HAD BROKEN OUT.

"NOBODY HAS FIRED A SHOT," HE SAID. "EVERYBODY IS HAPPY AND PEACEFUL."

-DASH-

IN A HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE TUESDAY, SENATOR GUFFEY (D-PA) ASKED SECRETARY STETTINIUS IF THE BRITISH WERE USING AMERICAN MUNITIONS AGAINST ETHIOPIANS IN TWO PROVINCES.

THE QUESTION BECAME SIDETRACKED IN THE DISCUSSION. GUFFEY DECLINED TO ELABORATE ON THE QUESTION IN A LATER TALK WITH REPORTERS, BUT SAID "I HAD A REASON FOR ASKING IT."

LONDON, DEC. 14-(AP)-A FOREIGN OFFICE COMMENTATOR SAID TODAY THERE WAS NO CONFIRMATION OF A REPORT THAT SECRETARY STETTINIUS WAS COMING HERE FOR TALKS.

"ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE OR ARE BEING MADE FOR SUCH A CONFERENCE," THE COMMENTATOR SAID, "WE NATURALLY WOULD WELCOME STETTINIUS."

LONDON, DEC.14-(AP)-KING GEORGE VI CELEBRATED HIS 49TH BIRTHDAY TODAY WITHOUT BENEFIT OF POMP AND CEREMONY. THE KING PLANNED TO SPEND THE DAY QUIETLY, WORKING AS USUAL ON STATE BUSINESS.

IN PEACETIME THE OFFICIAL CELEBRATION CUSTOMARILY IS HELD IN JUNE BECAUSE THE WEATHER IS LESS APT TO INTERFERE WITH THE CEREMONIES.

WP732AEW

30. 24 — 21249

AN EIGHTH AIRFORCE BOMBER STATION, ENGLAND, DEC. 14-(AP)-JOAN PREECE, 21 YEAR OLD LONDON SHOW GIRL, AND MAJ. RAYMOND D. JOLICOEUR OF HIBBING, MINN., WERE MARRIED AT A NEARBY CHURCH AND HELD THEIR WEDDING RECEPTION TODAY AT THIS FLYING FORTRESS BASE IN THE SAME ROOM WHERE THEY MET LAST SPRING AT AN OFFICERS' DANCE.

JOLICOEUR, WHOSE PARENTS MR. AND MRS.CHARLES F.JOLICOEUR LIVE AT 1510 NO. 15TH ST., MELROSE PARK, ILL., IS COMMANDING OFFICER OF A DEPOT WHICH HANDLES SUPPLIES AND CARRIES OUT REPAIR WORK ON GROUPS OF FORTRESSES.

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HJ114AEW

ADD SHAEF-(NEALMEAR) XX PILLBOXES

THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN, THE 90TH DIVISION SENT MORE TANKS ACROSS THE SAAR AND WIPED OUT SMALL ENEMY SALIENTS THRUST INTO ITS DILLINGEN BRIDGEHEAD. TWO COUNTERATTACKS WERE BEATEN BACK, AND ENEMY ARTILLERY FIRE AGAIN WAS ON A REDUCED SCALE.

NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN, THE 35TH DIVISION ADVANCED A MILE AFTER KNOCKING OUT THREE TANKS IN BEATING OFF TWO COUNTERBLOWS AGAINST ITS HABKIRCHEN FOOTHOLD INSIDE THE SAAR. THE GERMANS SUCCEEDED, HOWEVER, IN DESTROYING A FOOTBRIDGE OVER WHICH THE 35TH CROSSED THE BLIES RIVER INTO GERMANY.

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THE THIRD ARMY TOOK 398 PRISONERS YESTERDAY AND THE FIRST ARMY ADDED 516.

A LULL PERSISTED ALONG THE BRITISH-CANADIAN FRONT IN EASTERN HOLLAND.

ALONG THE GLOOMY, RAIN-SOAKED HEIGHTS OF THE NORTHERN VOSGES, THE SEVENTH ARMY WAS PENETRATING THE FIRST ENEMY ARTILLERY ZONES AS IT ROLLED UP TO WITHIN A MILE AND A HALF OF THE PALATINATE ON THE EAST AND TO WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE SAAR ON THE WEST.

THE SEVENTH WAS NEAREST GERMANY NORTH OF THE SHELL-POCKED TOWN OF MATTSTAL NORTH OF HAGUENAU.

THE GERMANS, WHO HAD RESISTED THE SWIFT ADVANCE THROUGH NORTHERN ALSACE LARGELY WITH REARGUARDS, MACHINEGUNS AND MORTARS, APPARENTLY HAD PULLED THEIR DEFENSES TOGETHER.

TWO MILES NORTHEAST OF MATTSTAL, THE DOUGHBOYS FOUGHT INTO LEMBACH IN A TWO-MILE ADVANCE. HERE THEY WERE THREE MILES FROM THE BORDER. THE TERRAIN WAS SO DIFFICULT THAT SUPPLIES WERE FOLLOWING THE ADVANCING AMERICAN COLUMNS BY MULE TRAIN.

ON THE WESTERN SECTOR OF ITS FRONT, THE SEVENTH APPEARED TO BE ENVELOPING THE MAGINOT STRONGHOLD OF BITCHE, AFTER TAKING KAPPELENHOFF FOUR MILES WEST, REYERSVILLER, A MILE AND A HALF SOUTHWEST, AND BAERENTHAL, SIX MILES SOUTHEAST. AT KAPPELENHOFF, THE SEVENTH WAS THREE MILES FROM THE SAAR BORDER.

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FAR TO THE SOUTH ON THE ALSATIAN PLAIN, THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY BEAT OFF COUNTERATTACKS NORTH OF COLMAR AND TOOK 300 PRISONERS. THE GERMANS WERE FIGHTING STRONGLY TO DEFEND THE LAST RHINE CROSSINGS.

PS419PEW

ADD PARIS-(KENNEDY) XX GEN

LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S THIRD ARMY HAD A SERIOUS PROBLEM IN THE MASSIVE PILLBOXES OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE, EVEN AFTER SUCH POSITIONS ARE TAKEN. THE GERMANS DEFENDING THE SAARLAND ARSENALS HAVE AN UNPLEASANT HABIT OF FILTERING BACK AT NIGHT INTO THE RECAPTURED PILLBOXES AND OPENING FIRE THROUGH THE REAR EMBRASURES.

THE LITTLE FORTS ARE SO NUMEROUS AND SO STRONG THAT TONS OF
XPLOSIVES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO BLOW THEM ALL UP, AND TRUCK SPACE
S NEEDED URGENTLY FOR OTHER TRAFFIC. MOREOVER, IT WOULD REQUIRE
AR TOO MANY MEN TO OCCUPY ALL THE FORTS. ENGINEERS OF THE 95TH
IVISION AROUND SAARLAUTERN FOUND ONE SOLUTION: THEY WELDED THE
TEEL DOORS SHUT WITH TORCHES.

AT ENDORF, A SAARLAUTERN SUBURB, THREE MORE OF THESE PILLBOXES
ND EIGHT FORTIFIED HOUSES WERE CAPTURED. ENEMY ARTILLERY WAS
EDUCED CONSIDERABLY ALTHOUGH MORTARS STILL THREW FITFUL BURSTS.

THE 90TH DIVISION, TEXANS AND OKLAHOMANS COMMANDED BY MAJ.GEN.
JAMES A.VAN FLEET, GOT MORE ARMOR ACROSS THE SSAR AT DILLINGEN AND
IPED OUT A GERMAN SALIENT BETWEEN TWO OF ITS REGIMENTS. THE
NEMY COUNTERATTACKED TWICE YESTERDAY. IN THE FIRST, 40 GERMANS
HARGED IN UPRIGHT POSITIONS WITH RIFLES AT PORT ARMS AND THEY WERE
HOPPED DOWN WHOLESALE. THE OTHER ATTACK BY 300 INFANTRYMEN,

WO TANKS AND THREE SELF-PROPELLED GUNS ALSO WAS REPELLED.

THE 35TH DIVISION OF MAJ.GEN.PAUL W.BAADE DISABLED THREE TANKS IN BEATING OFF TWO COUNTERATTACKS AGAINST THE HABKIRCHEN INVASION SECTOR THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES. THE GERMANS, HOWEVER, WRECKED AN AMERICAN BRIDGE SPANNING THE FLOODED BLIES RIVER.

SOME 398 MORE GERMANS ENTERED THIRD ARMY PRISON CAGES YESTERDAY, RAISING THAT ARMY'S TOTAL SINCE NOV. 8 TO 34,159.

JUMPING OFF EARLY YESTERDAY SOUTH OF THE HURTGEN FOREST, N AN AREA WHERE THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO ACTIVITY SINCE THE EICH FIRST WAS PENETRATED LAST SEPTEMBER, TWO OF LT. GEN. COURTNEY H. HODGES' DIVISIONS ADVANCED AS MUCH AS TWO MILES BEFORE NIGHTFALL ON THE FIRST ARMY'S RIGHT FLANK.

THE NORTHERN ARM OF THIS TWO-PRONGED ASSAULT WAS OPERATING EAST AND SOUTHEAST OF ROTGEN, FIRST GERMAN VILLAGE CAPTURED BY THE AMERICANS LAST SEPT. 12 IN THE ORIGINAL PLUNGE FROM BELGIUM. THREE TOWNS WERE SEIZED IN THAT SECTOR YESTERDAY -- ROLLESBROICH, BICKERATH AND SIMMERATH.

SOME SIX OR SEVEN MILES TO THE SOUTH, THE OTHER ARM DROVE AT LEAST TWO MILES SOUTHEAST OF MONSCHAU ALONG A HIGHWAY THAT FINALLY TWISTS AND TURNS GENERALLY NORTHEAST INTO THE RHINE CITY OF BONN, SOME 40 AIRLINE MILES FROM MONSCHAU. MONSCHAU LIES THREE MILES EAST OF THE BELGIUM BORDER.

BETWEEN THE TWO ARMS, THE ROER RIVER, SWEEPING OUT OF BELGIUM, FLOWS EASTWARD THROUGH MONSCHAU, THEN WINDS NORTHEAST AND NORTH PAST BESIEGED DUREN, JULICH AND LINNICH BEFORE BENDING WEST AND JOINING THE MAAS IN HOLLAND. IN THE NORTH THE U.S. FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES HAVE VIRTUALLY CLEARED THE STREAM'S WEST BANK.

THE FIRST ARMY DIVISION OPERATING SOUTHEAST OF MONSCHAU THUS WAS IN POSITION FOR AN EXTENDED SWEEP BEHIND THE ENEMY'S ROER RIVER DEFENSES, BUT HOW FAR OR HOW FAST IT COULD GO WAS PROBLEMATICAL. PILLBOX FIRE STALLED THE FIRST THRUST YESTERDAY. OTHER STREAMS FLOW INTO THE ROER FROM THE EAST.

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AS THESE NEW OPERATIONS EXTENDED THE ACTIVE FIRST ARMY FRONT TO 25 MILES, FIELD DISPATCHES SAID THAT HODGES HAD SENT OTHER TROOPS ALMOST TO THE RIVER AT DUREN, MAJOR KEY TO THE APPROACHES TO COLOGNE, AND THAT GERMAN DEFENSES HAD CAVED IN ALONG A FIVE-MILE SECTION OF THE STREAM SOUTH OF DUREN.

YESTERDAY, THE YANKS CLEARED MARIAWEILLER, JUST ACROSS THE ROER FROM THE NORTHERN EDGE OF DUREN, AND BY NIGHTFALL THEY HAD CHASED THE GERMANS FROM ALL EXCEPT THE FINAL THIRD OF SCHOPHOVEN, ON THE STREAM TO THE NORTH.

GAINS WERE FEW ELSEWHERE ON THE WESTERN FRONT YESTERDAY. ACTIVITY ON THE U.S. NINTH ARMY AND BRITISH-CANADIAN SECTORS IN THE NORTH WAS LIMITED TO ARTILLERY EXCHANGES AND PATROLLING. IN THE CENTER U.S. THIRD ARMY ADVANCES WERE MEASURED IN YARDS.

THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, DRIVING NORTHWARD WEST OF THE RHINE TOWARD THE PALATINATE BORDER OF GERMANY, WAS CHECKED TO SOME EXTENT BY GERMAN DESTRUCTION OF BRIDGES ACROSS THE WIDE SELTZBACH RIVER. HOWEVER, THE SEVENTH CAPTURED MATTSTALL AND SOULTZ, FOUR AND SEVEN MILES, RESPECTIVELY, FROM THE FRONTIER NORTH OF HAGUENAU.

SOUTH OF STRASBOURG ON THE ALSATIAN PLAIN GERMAN RESISTANCE CONTINUED VERY STRONG AND THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY MADE LITTLE PROGRESS. THE GERMANS YESTERDAY MADE A HEAVY COUNTERATTACK AT SELESTAT, NORTH OF COLMAR.

JR421AEW

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY ON THE GERMAN BORDER--SECOND ADD KARLSRUHE (BY THOBURN WIANT) XXX pM KARLSRUHE.

BEARING DOWN ON GERMANY ALL ALONG A 35-MILE FRONT, OTHER SEVENTH ARMY DIVISIONS WERE WITHIN ONE KILOMETER .621 OF A MILE) OF THE BORDER.

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THE AMERICANS SHOT NORTHWARD THREE MILES IN THE FIRST THREE HOURS, THEN PLUNGED STEADILY AHEAD AGAINST COMPARATIVELY LIGHT RESISTANCE UNTIL THEY NEARED THE REICH SHORTLY BEFORE NIGHTFALL.

THE GERMANS HAD RESISTED STRONGLY AROUND SELTZ AND NIEDERROEDERN O THE WEST UNTIL DAYBREAK, THEN PULLED BACK FAST WITH THE YANKS RIGHT T THEIR HEELS.

ONLY SPORADIC FIGHTING, CONSISTING MAINLY OF SMALL ARMS FIRE, ARKED AMERICAN PROGRESS THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY.

TOWNS IN THE PATH OF THE FAST-MOVING AMERICANS WERE EVACUATED SO UICKLY BY THE GERMANS THAT THEIR DAMAGE WAS SLIGHT IN COMPARISON WITH THE HEAVY KNOCKS HAGUENAU TOOK.

LATE IN THE DAY, THE GERMANS OPENED UP WITH A FEW ROUNDS FROM BIG GUNS APPARENTLY HOUSED IN THE SIEGFRIED FORTS BEHIND THE BORDER AND ALSO ACROSS THE RHINE, BUT THE AMERICANS' 240-MM AND EIGHT-INCHERS DELIVERED EASILY 15 TIMES AS MANY SHELLS.

AMONG THOSE DIRECTING ARTILLERY ON THE GERMANS WERE CAPTS. WILLIAM THOMAS, THOMASTON, ALA., AND RANDOLPH YOUNG, ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., AND LT. JUSTIN SPENCE, RED BANK, N.J.

DDESPITE ERRATIC WEATHER, THUNDERBOLTS POUNDED THE GERMANS HEAVILY BEYOND THE BORDER IN THE BIEN WALD FOREST, ESPECIALLY AT BUCHELBERG, WHICH IS IN A CLEARING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WOODS NORTH OF LAUTERBOURG.

AIRMEN REPORTED SEEING NEARLY 100 PILLBOXES EMPLACED AROUND BUCHEL-BERG. THEY ALSO REPORTED THAT THE MAXIMILIANSAU BRIDGE NORTH OF LAUTERBOURG LEADING ACROSS THE RHINE TO KARLSRUHE STILL IS INTACT.

IN THE ADVANCE THE AMERICANS SEIZED NEARLY A DOZEN TOWNS, INCLUDING MUNCHHOUSE AND MOTHEREN, VIRTUALLY ON THE BORDER FACING THE RHINE; SCHAFFHOUSE, WINTZENBACH AND NEEWILLER, AND REACHED SALMBACH, A MILE WEST OF SCHEIBENHARD.

SEVERAL OTHER TOWNS WESTWARD ALONG THE 35-MILE FRONT WERE TAKEN. AMERICANS WERE HOLDING HIGH GROUND AROUND BITCHE AT THE WEST END OF THE FRONT, WHICH APPARENTLY WAS EVACUATED ALTHOUGH ONCE STRONGLY FORTIFIED.

IT IS NOW PERMITTED TO REVEAL THAT THE GERMANS HAVE REINFORCED THE COLMAR AREA IN SOUTHERN ALSACE WITH TROOPS SPED ACROSS THE NEUF BRISACH BRIDGE, WHICH AMERICAN BOMBERS HAVE TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO DESTROY.

AMERICANS, INCLUDING THE 36TH DIVISION, HAVE BEEN ATTACKED SEVERAL TIMES BETWEEN KAYSERBERG AND OSTHEIM, BOTH NORTH OF COLMAR, BUT SO FAR ARE HOLDING POSITIONS.

THE GERMANS ALSO ARE ATTACKING THE FRENCH FURTHER SOUTH IN THE MULHOUSE AREA. THESE ATTACKS APPARENTLY ARE DESIGNED TO RELIEVE PRESSURE AGAINST THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THE NORTH.

HJ/PS900PEW

LEAD SEVENTH ARMY
Y THOBURN WIANT
WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY ON THE GERMAN BORDER, FRIDAY, DEC.15-(AP)-HE 79TH DIVISION, COMMANDED BY MAJ.GEN.I.T.WYCHE OF PINEHURST, N.C., AS DRIVEN TO THE FRINGE OF THE GERMAN BORDER SOUTHWEST OF LAUTER-OURG, CLIMAXING AN ADVANCE OF 15 MILES IN LESS THAN THREE DAYS.
THE 79TH, WHICH RECENTLY OVERPOWERED STUBBORN GERMAN DEFENSES AT AGUENA, ALSO REACHED RIEDSELTZ, ONLY TWO MILES SOUTH OF THE FRONTIER ITY OF WISSEMBOURG. IN THIS DRIVE NORTH ALONG HIGHWAY 63 THE TOWNS F SCHOENENBOURG AND INGOLSHEIM WERE OCCUPIED.
THE 103RD DIVISION SEIZED THE MAGINOT FORTRESS TOWN OF LEMBACH, TWO ILES FROM THE BORDER, IN A DRIVE OF TWO MILES FROM MATTSTAL. EMBACH IS ABOUT SEVEN MILES SOUTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG.
THE SECOR WHERE THE SEVENTH ARMY DIVISIONS WERE NEARING THE BORDER IS APPROXIMATELY TEN MILES FROM THE BIG GERMAN RHINELAND CITY OF KARLSRUHE.
AMERICAN HEAVY ARTILLERY, ETC., SECOND GRAF.

PS 10PE DEC 15 1944

BY TOM YARBROUGH

IN THE OUTSKIRTS OF MARIAWEILER, GERMANY, DEC 13-(DELAYED)-(AP)-A COMPANY COMMANDER AND SIX OF HIS MEN WHO HAD BEEN CUT OFF AND SURROUNDED FOR 24 HOURS IN THE SOUTHEAST SECTOR OF THIS ROER RIVER HAMLET OPPOSITE DUREN MADE CONTACT WITH THEIR BUDDIES THIS AFTERNOON AND WENT AHEAD WITH THE DIRTY AND PAINFUL WORK OF MOPPING UP.

THE COMPANY COMMANDER WAS CAPT.JACK HERNDON, (ADDRESS UNAVAILABLE), WHOSE BATTALION HAS WON TWO PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS. YESTERDAY AFTER-NOON HE AND HIS HANDFUL OF MEN MOVED TOO FAST AND FOUND THEMSELVES FIVE BLOCKS AHEAD OF THE MAIN FORCE AND SURROUNDED BY 50 GERMANS.

THE AMERICANS LAID LOW IN A CELLAR THE REST OF THE AFTERNOON AND ALL NIGHT WHILE THEIR COMRADES, KNOWING THEIR PLIGHT, POURED MACHINEGUN FIRE ON THE GERMANS AND PUT A TANK TO WORK ON THE NAZIS.

THE GERMANS POSTED TWO SENTRIES OUTSIDE THE CELLAR BUT THEY DIDN'T DARE TO TRY TO CLEAR OUT THE AMERICANS. THIS MORNING SOMEBODY KILLED THE TWO SENTRIES.

THIS STORY WAS TOLD BY CAPT.LLOYD TALLENT, 1333 ENGLEWOOD ST., DALLAS, TEXAS, WHO HAD ALL THE DETAILS EXCEPT THE NAMES OF THE SIX MEN WITH CAPT.HERNDRON.

FIRST ARMY HEADQUARTERS OFFICIALLY REPORTED MARIAWEILER "CLEARED" TONIGHT, BUT AT 4 P.M.THERE WAS PLENTY OF SHOOTING ON THE FRINGES.

ONLY 200 YARDS FROM THIS CROSSROADS ON THE WEST SIDE OF MARIAWEILER THERE WAS A GERMAN COMPANY COMMAND POST WITH EIGHT GERMANS IN IT STILL DARING THE DOUGHBOYS TO MOP THEM UP--100 YARDS BEHIND OUR MAIN LINE OF ADVANCE.

--DEC 15 1944

TWENTY-EIGHT SCRUFFY LOOKING PRISONERS--ABOUT HALF OF THEM POLES--WERE MARCHED UP HERE A FEW MINUTES AGO. THEIR LONG HEAVY OVERCOATS WERE CAKED WITH MUD AND THEY JUST STOOD AND GAZED AT THEIR CAPTORS WITH UTTERLY DULL AND EXPRESSIONLESS FACES.

THE FLAG, SOGGY FIELDS LEADING UP TO THIU LITTLE CLUMP OF STONE DWELLINGS ARE FILLED WITH SCARS AND SPLOTCHES THAT TELL HOW DESPERATELY THE GERMANS ARE DEFENDING EVERY FOOT OF THEIR HOME SOIL. MINES SEEM TO BE EVERYWHERE AND THE FIELDS ARE DOTTED WITH DEAD HORSES.

AS WE DROVE INTO ECHTZ THIS AFTERNOON A BIG SHELL HIT JUST A BLOC UP THE STREET, BUT THIS ARMY'S FOLLOW UP WORK WENT ON WITHOUT A HITCH.

PVT.PETER SHEVCHUP, 426 EAST 126TH ST., NEW YORK CITY, AND CPL. MARVIN BROWN, ALEXANDRIA, LA., CAME PLODDING THROUGH THE MUD FROM WHERE THE SHELL HIT AND THEY DID THEIR WORK--STRINGING TELEPHONE WIRES--AS IF NOTHING HAD HAPPENED. IT'S ALL PRETTY TOUGH--AS WAS EXPECTED.

DEC 15 1944

KW410AEW

BY ROBERT WILSON

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS NEARING THE GERMAN BORDER, DEC. 14-(AP)-AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS FROM A SEVENTH ARMY DIVISION WHICH HAS BEEN IN COMBAT FOR 366 DAYS SLOGGED TO WITHIN 3.000 YARDS OF THE GERMAN BORDER

TODAY IN THE HEAVILY WOODED AREA NORTHWEST OF HAGUENAU.

THE TROOPS REACHED LEMBACH IN A TWO-MILE ADVANCE NORTH OF MATTSTALL AND FIGHTING IS IN PROGRESS FOR LEMBACH.

THE GRIM GI'S SLIPPING THROUGH THE WOODS TOWARDS GERMANY ARE VYING FOR A BOTTLE OF SCOTCH WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FIRST YANKS TO CROSS THE BORDER.

LT.MARTIN SCHEOPFER OF WOODHAVEN, LONG ISLAND, N.Y., BELONGS TO THE UNIT.

"THIS IS NO PICNIC FOR US," SAID CAPT.GARDNER WILLIAMS OF DANVERS, MASS., "AND TO TELL THE TRUTH WE DON'T GIVE A DAMN WHO GETS THERE FIRST."

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CAPT.ROBERT SLYTER, 2440 SOUTH WILLIAMS ST., DENVER, COLO., AGREED, SAYING:

"WE HAVE BEEN A LONG TIME GETTING HERE AND WILL BE GLAD TO GET ACROSS, BUT DON'T FORGET IT DOESN'T MEAN A LOT UNLESS YOU GET INFANTRY ACROSS, NOT JUST PATROLS BUT SOME BOYS WHO ARE ACROSS TO STAY."

EQUALLY UNIMPRESSED BY THE IMPENDING OCCASION WERE GI'S AS SGT. LLOYD ROGERS OF READING, PA., PFC JACKSON WISECARVER OF DENVER, COLO, PFC FRANK CARSONE OF HUBBARD, IOWA AND CPL. GEORGE HEATH OF JACKSON, OHIO.

THE GOING IS SO TOUGH THROUGH THE HIGH VOSGES THAT MULE TRAINS HAVE BEEN USED TO BRING UP AMMUNITION, WATER AND RATIONS.

WD552PEW

BY LEWIS HAWKINS

WITH THE U.S. THIRD ARMY, DEC.14-(AP)-AN UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN INFANTRY UNIT PUSHED ACROSS THE GERMAN BORDER TODAY IN A NEW PENETRATION OF THE REICH SIX MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.

THE CROSSING WAS JUST ACROSS THE BORDER SOUTH OF NIEDER-GAILBACH, IN A SECTOR WHERE RESISTANCE WAS REPORTED MODERATE TO STIFF.

ADVANCING IN TWO COLUMNS NORTHEAST FROM THEIR CROSSING OF THE BLIES RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF HABKIRCHEN, UNITS OF THE 35TH DIVISION MEANWHILE PUSHED A MILE INTO GERMANY AND OCCUPIED PART OF A RIDGE OVERLOOKING HABKIRCHEN.

OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE 35TH CLEARED OUT A SALIENT IN THE AMERICAN LINES NEAR BLIESBRUCK AND MOVED ON HALF A MILE NORTH OF THIS CAPTURED FRENCH CITY.

THE 90TH DIVISION ROOTED OUT FOUR MORE SMALL FORTS AND TOOK 60 PRISONERS IN THE DILLINGEN AREA EAST OF THE SAAR RIVER, WHERE THE AMERICANS WERE CHOPPING THEIR WAY INTO THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSES FOOT BY FOOT. THERE WAS NO APPRECIABLE NET ADVANCE.

FROM THE SAARLAUTERN ZONE, WHERE THE 95TH IS HAVING THE SAME KIND OF A GRINDING JOB, THERE WAS NO WORD OF LINE CHANGES.

INFANTRY WHICH MADE THE FRESH CROSSING OF THE FRANCO-GERMAN BORDER ADVANCED ABOUT A HALF MILE THROUGH SMALL WOODS. OTHER UNITS SLIGHTLY SOUTHEAST NEARED OBERGAILBACH IN GAINS UP TO A MILE.

WITH THE THIRD ARMY FRONT AS NEARLY STATIC AS IT HAS BEEN FOR WEEKS, IT IS APPARENT THAT THE PHASE OF THE GERMAN PLANNED RETREAT FROM THE MOSELLE RIVER TO THE SIEGFRIED LINE IS ABOUT OVER AND THE BATTLE FOR THE WESTWALL MAY BE JOINED SOON ALL ALONG LT.GEN. GEORGE S.PATTON'S FRONT.

THE GERMANS HAVE YET TO COMMIT GOOD TROOPS IN ANY LARGE NUMBERS. IF THEY DO, IT IS POSSIBLE THE SIEGFRIED BATTLE MIGHT BE THE FINAL LARGE-SCALE ONE ON THIS FRONT.

MJ1008PEW

WITH THE U. S. SEVENTH ARMY, FRANCE, DEC. 14--(AP)----

LT. GEN. ALEXANDER M. PATCH, U. S. SEVENTH ARMY COMMANDER, RECENTL ISSUED A STATEMENT PRAISING THE WORK OF THE 44TH DIVISION WHICH LIBERATED SARREBOURG AND REDUCED OTHER GERMAN DEFENSES AT THE WESTERN MOUTH OF THE SAVERNE GAP.

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CONCERNING THE DIVISION, COMMANDED BY MAJ. GEN. ROBERT L. SPRAGINS, PATCH SAID IN PART, "BY YOUR VALOR, SKILL AND DETERMINATION, YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED ANOTHER BRIGHT PAGE IN THE HISTORY OF YOUR FINE DIVISION."

WILSON MSG FILES EJD 937PEW

30. 24 - 21253

METZ, FRANCE, DEC. 14--(AP)-- WITH BULLDOG DETERMINATION A U. S. CIVIL AFFAIRS DETACHMENT KEPT ON THE TRAIL UNTIL THEY CRACKED AT LEAST HALF OF A MYSTERY THAT HAS HAD THIS LIBERATED CITY IN A DITHER -- THE CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING SCOTTISH BASS DRUM.

DEC 5 1944

NOW THEY'RE AT WORK ON THE CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING BAGPIPES.

IT ALL HAPPENED LIKE THIS: A SCOTTISH [redacted] HIGHLAND BATTALION, PULLED HURRIEDLY OUT OF THE LINE IN 1940 BEFORE THE FALL OF FRANCE, LEFT THOSE ITEMS BEHIND.

WHEN THE DETACHMENT MOVED IN AFTER THIRD ARMY MEN CLEARED METZ OF GERMANS A MONTH AGO, THEIR ASSIGNED TASK WAS TO HELP RESTORE THE CITY TO NORMAL. BUT THEIR FIRST BIG JOB WAS TO FIND THOSE INSTRUMENTS.

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THE TRAIL, [redacted] BEFOGGED BY A WELTER OF EXCITED RUMORS, LED TO THE FORMER BANK OF FRANCE. NO DRUM. IT LED THROUGH A HALF-DOZEN OTHER BANKS. NO DRUM. IT LED TO THE MUSEUM. NO DRUM. A NUMBER OF GERMAN PRISONERS WERE QUESTIONED. STILL NO DRUM. FINALLY, THE THING TURNED UP IN FRENCH ARMY HEADQUARTERS NEWLY EVACUATED BY THE GERMANS, AND THE DETACHMENT TOOK A [redacted] DEEP BREATH AND BEGAN THE SECOND PART OF THE JOB.

THE BAGPIPES MAY BE HARDER TO FIND. THE NAZIS MAY HAVE TAKEN A FANCY TO THEM AND TAKEN THEM ALONG.

TAKING PART IN THE GREAT HUNT, WHICH ILLUSTRATES JUST ONE OF THE MULTIPLICITY OF [redacted] TASKS WHICH FALL TO THE LOT OF THE CIVIL OFFICERS, WERE MAJ. S. S. BEAN, FORMER MAYOR OF [redacted] WOBURN, MASS., THE DETACHMENT COMMANDER; CAPT. PATRICK G. SULLIVAN OF BOSTON, FORMER MEMBER OF THE [redacted] MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE, THE FISCAL OFFICER, AND CPL. ABRAHAM URWITZ, ANOTHER BOSTONIAN -- THE MAN WHO FOUND THE DRUM.

DEC 15 1944

WR 230P ME WERNERS 1230 SECOND.

PARIS, DEC. 14-(AP)-AMERICAN-BORN RAYMOND PATENOTRE, FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER AND MEMBER OF SEVERAL PREWAR FRENCH CABINETS, IS UNDER ARREST ON CHARGES OF COLLUSION WITH THE ENEMY DURING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION, THE SURETE NATIONAL ANNOUNCED TODAY.

JUSTICE MINISTRY POLICE SAID THE 44-YEAR-OLD PATENOTRE, FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE PARIS FINANCIAL PAPER PETIT JOURNAL, WAS ACCUSED OF FINANCIALLY AIDING SEVERAL PROVINCIAL PRO-NAZI NEWSPAPERS DURING THE OCCUPATION.

BORN IN ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., SON OF JULES PATENOTRE, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES, AND AN AMERICAN WOMAN, PATENOTRE BOUGHT THE INQUIRER FROM THE ESTATE OF HIS GRANDFATHER, JAMES ELVERSON. HE SOLD THE PAPER IN 1930.

HE MARRIOD A FRENCH WOMAN IN 1925, WAS ELECTED TO THE FRENCH CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN 1928 AND MADE HIS HOME IN FRANCE, BUT CONTINUED TO MAKE ANNUAL TRIPS TO AMERICA BEFORE THE WAR.

PATENOTRE WAS KNOWN AS AN ADVOCATE OF BI-METALISM, HIS ENEMIES ATTRIBUTING THIS TO THE FACT THAT HE OWNED EXTENSIVE SILVER MINES IN MEXICO.

IN SEPTEMBER, 1939, HE RESIGNED AS MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND PRODUCTION IN THE DALADIER CABINET TO JOIN THE ARMY.

JR1105PEW

EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, DEC. 14-(AP)-MOSCOW EXPERIENCED ITS COLDEST DAY OF THE INTER TODAY AND THE LOWERING MERCURY AUGURED A SEASON FULLY AS EVERE AS THAT OF THREE YEARS AGO.

THE THERMOMETER DROPPED TO FOUR BELOW ZERO (FAHRENHEIT) IN THE APITAL YESTERDAY AND FELL TO 22 BELOW TODAY. OUT ON THE STREETS, S THE SAY ING GOES, ONLY THE WOLF KNOWS HOW COLD IT IS.

ONE OLD PEASANT, SHAKING HIS HEAD, SAID: "HOW SAD! HOW AD IN NE WAY THE GERMANS ARE NOT WITH US. THIS WOULD FREEZE THEIR ITTLE SKINS."

ALREADY THE MUSCOVITES ARE SHOUTING "BELY NOS" (WHITE NOSE) ALONG HE CITY'S WIND-SWEPT STREETS TO WARN UNSUSPECTING VICTIMS OF FROST-ITE. THE MAN WITH "BELY NOS" USUALLY DOESN'T KNOW HE HAS ONE. OWEVER, NOT ONLY WILL HIS BEST FRIENDS TELL HIM, BUT SO WILL VERYONE ELSE ON THE STREET.

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"BELY NOS!" GOES THE CRY, AND THE ANSWER, "WHO -- ME?"

AT THE SAME TIME THE VICTIM STOOPS FOR A HANDFUL OF SNOW FOR EMEDIAL MASSAGE.

THE COLD WEATHER HAS SPURRED TALK OF CHRISTMAS. HERE CHRISTMAS JAN. 1, AND ALREADY THE CHRISTMAS TREE TRUST HAS GONE TO THE ORESTS FOR THE FIRST LOADS FOR MOSCOW, LENINGRAD, KIEV AND ROSTOV.

IN THE SOVIET UNION, OF COURSE, ONE DOESN'T GO INTO THE WOODS AND T HIS OWN TREE, FOR THE TREES BELONG TO THE PEOPLE, AND ONE HAD TTER GET A PERMIT IF HE DOESN'T PLAN TO BUY FROM THE CHRISTMAS EE TRUST.

DS: 2ND GRAF ABOVE MAKE READ: "XXX OUT ON THE STEPPES, AS THE SAYING ES" ETC. NOT STREETS)

MJ1239PEW

MOSCOW, DEC. 14-(AP)-THE GERMAN ARMY IS ROBBING SLOVAKIA OF MACHINERY AND FOODSTUFFS AND LEAVING PILES OF RUINS, FRANTISEK NEMEC, HEAD OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT DELEGATION FOR ADMINISTRATION OF LIBERATED TERRITORY, CHARGED TODAY.

"SINCE THEY LOST THE CARPATHO-UKRAINE SO QUICKLY THAT THEY WERE LUCKY TO ESCAPE WITH THEIR LIVES THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN ACTING LIKE A PLAGUE OF LOCUSTS IN SLOVAKIA," HE SAID.

MICHALVOCE, ONCE A CITY OF 14,000, IS A MASS OF RUINS WITH ONLY 80 PERSONS REMAINING THERE, HE REPORTED.

N1055AEW

AD - ROME - (FEDER) XX BACK

JEFFREY, A LONG, LEAN M.P., CAME OFF THE FLOOR AFTER SUFFERING A FIRST-ROUND KNOCKDOWN TO OUTPOINT HAROLD SAMMIS, NEW YORK SAILOR, IN THE AMATEUR LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT SEMI-FINAL. PULLEN, AN AMATEUR BANTAM-WEIGHT, BECAME THE FIRST BOXER IN THE TOURNAMENT TO CHALK UP TWO KNOCKOUTS WHEN HE FLATTENED PVT.CLAUDE MCLAUGHLIN OF ROCKVILLE CENTER, LONG ISLAND. MCLAUGHLIN WAS HURRIED DOWN FROM THE FIGHTING FRONT TO COMPETE IN THE TOURNAMENT AFTER BEING LOCATED IN A LINE OUTFIT AND APPEARED TO BE OUT OF CONDIN AS A RESULT.

CPL.JIM MCDONALD, HUSKY EAST ST.LOUIS, ILL., NEGRO REPRESENTING THE CONTINENTAL TEAM FROM SOUTHERN FRANCE, POUNDED OUT A ONE-SIDED WIN OVER T/5 RICHARD DUCKWORTH OF POPLAR BLUFF, MO., TO REACH THE AMATEUR HEAVYWEIGHT FINALS. MCDONALD'S SKILL AT INFIGHTING AND BLOCK-ING PUNCHES AS WELL AS HIS OFFENSIVE CLASS LED ONE RINGSIDER TO REMARK, "HE'S THE BEST EDUCATED AMATEUR I EVER SAW."

MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN ITALY, DEC. 14 -(AP)-THE 66TH SQUADRON OF THE 57TH FIGHTER GROUP YESTERDAY BECAME THE FIRST AMERICAN SQUADRON IN THIS THEATER TO FLY 1,000 COMBAT MISSIONS.

THE 1,000TH MISSION WAS LED BY CAPT. RICHARD L.JOHNSON, 5830 NORTH MAPLEWOOD AVE., CHICAGO, ILL., AGAINST A MORTAR POSITION IN THE CASTEL SAN PIETRO AREA.

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THE SQUADRON IS COMMANDED BY MAJ. CHARLES C.LEAF, 411 THORNTON ST., SOUTH ORANGE, N.J., WHO IS FAMOUS AS A "TUNNEL BUSTER" IN ATTACKS ON RAILROAD LINES IN ITALY.

THE GROUP IS COMMANDED BY LT. COL. ARTHIE J.KNIGHT OF FOUNTAIN CITY, IND. IT IS CREDITED WITH BEING THE FIRST SINGLE-ENGINED PLANE UNIT TO BOMB YUGOSLAVIA, THE FIRST GROUP TO USE 1,000-POUND BOMBS UNDER EACH WING OF A THUNDERBOLT, THE FIRST IN THIS THEATER TO USE ROCKETS FROM THUNDERBOLTS, THE FIRST TO BE DESIGNATED A SEPARATE TASK FORCE AND THE FIRST SINGLE-ENGINED FIGHTER GROUP TO BAG AN ENEMY PLANE IN THIS THEATER.

LIVORNO, ITALY, DEC.12-(DELAYED)-(AP)-REINFOR(

FOR THE BRAZILIAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCE HAVE ARRIVED HERE AND GONE INT

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ENCAMPMENT FOR FINAL BATTLE TRAINING. THE BRAZILIANS HAVE BEEN IN AC

ACTION WITH THE FIFTH ARMY FOR SOME MONTHS.

30. 24— 21255

BY CHARLES GRUMICH

A 20TH BOMBER COMMAND BASE IN INDIA, DEC. 14-(AP)-MAJ.GEN. CURTIS LE MAY'S B-29 SUPERFORTRESSES STRUCK IN MODERATE FORCE TODAY AGAINST RAIL YARDS IN RANGOON, BURMA, AND BOMBED A BRIDGE SPANNING THE CHAO BHRAYA RIVER JUST NORTH OF BANGKOK, THAILAND.

THE GIANT PLANES WERE MANNED MAINLY BY CREWS NEW TO THIS THEATER. A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF THE RAID WAS TO GIVE THE NEWCOMERS A COMBAT TRAINING MISSION.

UNDERCAST OBSCURED THE TARGET OF SOME OF THE BOMBERS. THEY HAD TO USE INSTRUMENTS, BUT OTHERS WERE ABLE TO AIM THEIR EXPLOSIVES VISUALLY AND DECLARED UPON THEIR RETURN THAT RESULTS WERE GOOD.

JAPANESE OPPOSITION WAS NEGLIGIBLE, CONSISTING ONLY OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE AND NO FIGHTERS.

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THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO CUT THE JAPANESE SUPPLY LINE TO NORTH BURMA IN SUPPORT OF ALLIED GROUND TROOPS.

THE WORK OF THE NEW CREWS WAS PRONOUNCED GOOD BY THE VETERAN LEADER OF ONE FORMATION, MAJ.WILLIAM MARBURY, 27, OF BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WHO SWEATED OUT HIS OWN 13TH MISSION WITH THE 20TH BOMBER COMMAND.

THE NEWCOMERS WILL MAKE UP REPLACEMENT CREWS FOR THE BIG B'S WHICH HAVE BEEN POUNDING JAPANESE ISLAND AND MAINLAND PRODUCTION FROM ONE OF THE FEW CHINA AIRBASES REMAINING IN ALLIED HANDS.

MJ1051AEW

BY CLYDE FARNSWORTH

A FORWARD BASE OF THE U.S. 14TH AIR FORCE, CHINA, DEC. 12-(DELAYED)-(AP)-HEARTENED BY JAPANESE REVERSALS IN KWEICHOW PROVINCE, MAJ. GEN CLAIRE CHENNAULT'S AIRMEN ARE HITTING THEIR STRIDE IN OPERATIONS FROM ALTERNATIVE BASES TO WHICH THEY HAD BEEN FORCED TO WITHDRAW BY EARLIER ENEMY SUCCESSES.

WITHIN THE LIMITS IMPOSED BY WINTER WEATHER AND THE CRUEL LOGISTICS OF SUPPLY, THE 14TH AIR FORCE IS FIGHTING A HIT-RUN BATTLE, A CAMPAIGN OF RAPIERLIKE THRUSTS INTO THE CENTERS OF JAPANESE POWER IN CHINA IN ADDITION TO CARRYING ON TACTICAL OPERATIONS AT THE FIGHTING FRONT.

THE SUPREME OBJECTIVES ARE TO HELP CONTAIN JAPANESE OFFENSIVE MOVES EITHER ON THE KWEICHOW FRONT OR FROM FRENCH INDO-CHINA IN DIRECT PROTECTION OF THE AMERICAN SUPPLY BRIDGEHEAD INTO SOUTHWEST CHINA.

SECONDARILY THE 14TH AIMS TO MAINTAIN STRATEGICAL ASSAULTS ON 1944 TARGETS FAR BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES FOR MAXIMUM HARRASSMENT AND ATTRITION.

THE DEC. 8 FIGHTER ATTACKS ON HONGKONG AND NANKING WERE A STRIKING ILLUSTRATION OF THE 14TH'S APPLICATION OF GUERRILLA-LIKE AIR TACTICS AGAINST STRATEGICAL OBJECTIVES. AS VICTORIES IN THE FACE OF TREMENDOUS ODDS THEY WERE REMINISCENT OF THE OLD SWASHBUCKLING DAYS OF THE "FLYING TIGERS" OF THE AMERICAN VOLUNTEER GROUP.

FOUR PILOTS IN P-51S YESTERDAY STRAFED THE TIENHO AIRDROME AT CANTON AND DESTROYED NINE PLANES.

THE BASIS OF CHINA'S RESURGENCE ON THE KWEICHOW FRONT CANNOT BE FULLY OUTLINED, BUT ONE REASON WAS THE USE OF BETTER GROOPS FOR THE COUNTEROFFENSIVE THAN THE JAPANESE HAD ENCOUNTERED PREVIOUSLY. MANY TROOPS SENT INTO THE ATTACK ACTUALLY HAD LEATHER SHOES.

A FLIGHT BY THIS CORRESPONDENT IN A SINGLE-ENGINED C-64, PILOTED BY CAPT.LEON R.MCMULLEN, 1200 SOUTH FIRST ST., MONROE,LA., CHIEF LIAISON PILOT OF THE CHINA AIR SERVICE COMMAND, DEMONSTRATED THE FORBIDDING NATURE OF THE KWEICHOW TERRAIN. STAFF SGT.FRANKLIN J. STOUER OF SYCAMORE,OHIO, WAS CO-PILOT.

N9AEW

MACARTHUR'S HQ PIPS—(SCHEDLER) XX INSTALLATIONS

AMONG THE PLACES BOMBED WERE WEWAK ON NEW GUINEA AND BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND IN THE SOLOMONS, WHERE THE JAPANESE HAVE BEEN HOLDING OUT SINCE EARLY IN THE WAR.

BACK ON LEYTE, THE U.S. 32ND DIVISION, MOVING SOUTHWARD DOWN THE CORRIDOR FROM SOMEWHERE NORTH OF ORMOC, CONTINUED GRINDING ALONG IN THE MUD. BETWEEN IT AND THE 77TH IS THE ONLY IMPORTANT ENEMY FORCE REMAINING ON THE ISLAND.

THERE IS NO AVAILABLE ESTIMATE AS TO THE NUMBER OF ENTRAPPED JAPANESE IN THE CORRIDOR. A MONTH AGO, HEADQUARTERS SAID FIVE ENEMY DIVISIONS HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THAT AREA--THE FIRST, 16TH, 26TH, 30TH AND 102ND. THE FIRST AND 16TH HAD BEEN VIRTUALLY DESTROYED.

REINFORCEMENTS ESTIMATED AT 35,000 WERE SNEAKED THROUGH ORMOC BEFORE ITS FALL. BUT MANY OF THESE WERE DEPLOYED SOUTH TO MEET THE THREAT OF THE ADVANCING AMERICAN 7TH DIVISION AND LATER WIPED OUT WHEN CAUGHT BETWEEN THE 7TH AND THE 77TH, WHICH HAD SENT A COLUMN DOWN THE COAST BELOW ORMOC FOR A JUNCTION WITH THE 7TH.

APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF THE LOSS OF ORMOC, THREE SMALL JAPANESE VESSELS TRIED TO LAND TROOPS TUESDAY NIGHT. THEY WERE SUNK BY SHORE BATTERIES. MORE THAN 30,000 ENEMY TROOPS WERE LOST IN PREVIOUS REINFORCEMENT ATTEMPTS.

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GH425PCW

HEADQUARTERS, 13TH AAF, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, DEC.7-(DELAYED)-(AP)-P-38 LIGHTNINGS FROM BRIG.GEN.EARL W.BARNES' 13TH AAF FIGHTER COMMAND SANK FIVE OF SEVEN ANCHORED JAPANESE FREIGHTERS BY STARFING IN A SURPRISE ATTACK NOV. 24.

THE VESSELS, HEADQUARTERS SAID, WERE ANCHORED BETWEEN PANAY AND NEGROS ISLANDS, IN THE PHILIPPINES. ALL WERE HEAVILY LADEN AND CAMOUFLAGED. ONLY TWO REMAINED AFLOAT AFTER THE ATTACK, PILOTS REPORTED, AND BOTH WERE BURNING.

LT.JOHN HAGGARTY (219 FELICE ST.) WYANDOTTE, MICH., SANK TWO OF THE SHIPS AND THE EXPLOSION OF ONE OF THEM LIFTED HIS PLANE NEARLY 200 FEET.

LT.G.H.WITTBRODT, (2945 DODIER AVE.) ST.LOUIS, SANK TWO MORE FREIGHTERS AND LT RICHARD V.SOUTHWELL (1073 NORTH AVE.) NEW

ROCHELLE, N.Y., DAMAGED THE OTHER TWO.

HEADQUARTERS ALSO ANNOUNCED THE LONG-RANGE P-38S DESTROYED A TOTAL OF 74 JAPANESE PLANES FROM AUG. 24 TO NOV. 12 WITHOUT A SINGLE P-38 COMBAT LOSS.

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS,PEARL HARBOR,DEC.14-(AP)-
ONALD M.NELSON, WHO HAS BEEN TO CHINA AS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S
PECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, CONFERRED PRIVATELY WITH ADM.CHESTER W.
IMITZ HERE WHILE EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON, A NAVY PRESS RELEASE
ISCLOSED TONIGHT.
THE VISIT WAS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF
EPEATED NIMITZ DECLARATIONS THAT A BEACHHEAD MUST BE ESTABLISHED ON
HE CHINA COAST. RECENT JAPANESE SUCCESSES IN CHINA MAKE THE OUTLOOK
F SUCH AN OPERATION MUCH LESS HOPEFUL NOW THAN THEY WERE SIX MONTHS
GO.
NELSON SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN CHUNGKING HEADQUARTERS OF CHINA'S
ENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK SINCE THE RECALL OF GEN.JOSEPH
TILWELL. OBVIOUSLY NIMITZ WAS SUPPLIED WITH A FULL UP-TO-THE-
INUTE REPORT BY NELSON ON THE COMPLEXITIES AND DIFFICULTIES OF THE
HINESE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION.
HW649PPW NM

U.S.PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC.14-(AP)-

TEN OFFICERS AND FIVE ENLISTED MEN OF THE U.S. SUBMARINE SERVICE HAVE BEEN PRESENTED DECORATIONS BY ADM.CHESTER W.NIMITZ, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS.

A GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND NAVY CROSS WENT TO COMDR.ANTONE R.GALLAHER, (6 YALE ST.) NEWPORT, R.I., WHO PENETRATED A STRONG ENEMY ESCORT SCREEN TO SINK VESSELS TOTALING OVER 24,000 TONS, THE CITATIONS SAID.

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THE NAVY CROSS WAS AWARDED CAPT.WILLIAM V.O'REGAN (245 WILLIAMS ST.) NEW LONDON, CONN., FOR "EXTRAORDINARY HEROISM" AS SUBMARINE COMMANDER OPERATING AGAINST THE JAPANESE FROM LAST JUNE 14 TO AUG. 1.

COMDR.ELI T.REICH (1257 LAWRENCE ST., N.E.) WASHINGTON, D.C., ALSO RECEIVED THE NAVY CROSS FOR AGGRESSIVENESS AND SKILL IN TORPEDO ATTACKS WHICH SANK MORE THAN 19,000 TONS OF ENEMY SHIPPING.

COMDR.WILLIAM BECKWITH PERKINS, BON AIR, VA., RECEIVED THE LEGION OF MERIT FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AS A SUBMARINE COMMANDER DURING A WAR PATROL.

THE CITATION OF COMDR.NORVELL G.WARD (1116 SECOND ST., S.W.) ROANOKE, VA., TOLD SOMETHING OF THE EXPERIENCES OF SUBMARINE MEN WHEN THE JAPANESE ATTACKED CAVITE NAVY YARD, MANILA, DEC.10, 1941.

WHEN HIS SUBMARINE SUFFERED SEVERE DAMAGE FROM BOMB HITS AND FIRE, WARD, WHO WAS PRESENTED A GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A THIRD SILVER STAR DECORATION, ASSISTED IN EXTINGUISHING THE FIRE. THEN, FOR FIVE DAYS WHILE JAPANESE PLANES REPEATEDLY HIT CAVITE, WARD HELPED REPAIR THE SUB AND READY IT FOR SEA.

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LATER, WARD'S SKILL AS NAVIGATOR OF A SUBMARINE PENETRATING "STRANGE AND CONFINED" WATERS CONTRIBUTED TO THE SINKING OF ENEMY SHIPS TOTALLING MORE THAN 53,000 TONS AND DAMAGING ANOTHER 10,000 TONS, HIS CITATION SAID.

LT.COMDR.HERBERT I.MANDEL, (21 SHARAF ST.) NEW LONDON, RECEIVED A GOLD STAR IN LIEU OF A SECOND SILVER STAR FOR HIS WORK AS ASSISTANT APPROACH OFFICER OF A SUBMARINE WHICH SANK 17,000 TONS OF ENEMY SHIPPING.

SILVER STARS WERE AWARDED LT. (J.G.) WILLIAM J.GODFREY, (719 NINTH ST.) MANITOWOC, WIS., DIVING OFFICER OF A SUB WHICH SANK MORE THAN 22,000 TONS OF ENEMY SHIPS AND DAMAGED OVER 20,000 TONS MORE, ALL DURING ONE WAR PATROL; CHIEF PHARMACIST'S MATE LESLIE J.LINDHE, HIGHLAND, N.Y., AND CHIEF ELECTRICIAN'S MATE CHARLES

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MURRAY BRAGAN (NO ADDRESS AVAILABLE).

BRONZE STARS WENT TO LT.RAYMOND B.BRADY, GASTONIA, N.C.; CHIEF TORPEDOMAN'S MATE KEITH L.REED (524 EAST SHERIDAN ST.) DES MOINES, IA.; CHIEF RADIOMAN ROBERT W.KITCHIN, GROVELAND, FLA., AND CHIEF PHARMACIST'S MATE ARTHUR MULLENIX (419 SOUTH MAIN ST.) SOMERSET, KY.

DEC 15 1944

RA954PCW

SAN JOSE,C.R.,DEC.14-(AP)-ALFONSO ROCHAC, A MEMBER OF THE EL SALVADOR GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE, REPORTED TONIGHT THAT "SALVADOREAN REVOLUTIONARY TROOPS ENTERED THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF AHUACHAPAN TODAY AMID THE CHEERS OF THE POPULACE AND THE RINGING OF CHURCH BELLS."

QUOTING A COMMUNIQUE FROM THE EXILED GOVERNMENT IN GUATEMALA, ROCHAC SAID THE INVADING FORCES CAPTURED ARMS AND AMMUNITION BELONGING TO THE DEFEATED ELEVENTH INFANTRY REGIMENT OF THE FORCES OF PRESIDENT OSMIN AGUIRRE SALINAS.

"OUR MEN NOW CONTROL THE CAPITAL AND ALL THE ADJOINING TERRITORY IN THE PROVINCE OF AHUACHAPAN," ROCHAC DECLARED, ADDING THAT THE REVOLUTIONISTS HAVE ADVANCED INTO THE NEIGHBORING PROVINCE OF SANTA ANA.

THE ROCHAC ACCOUNT CONFLICTED WITH STATEMENTS ISSUED BY THE AGUIRRE GOVERNMENT WHICH, ACCORDING TO TRAVELERS ARRIVING FROM EL SALVADOR, SAID 600 REBELS ATTEMPTING TO INVADE AHUACHAPAN FROM GUATEMALA WERE "SURROUNDED BY SALVADOREAN REGULARS AND NOW WERE BEING ANNIHILATED."

MJ1141PEW

OTTAWA DEC 14-(AP)-THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FLT.SGT.JOHN JOSEPH MURPHY, WHOSE FATHER, THOMAS MURPHY, LIVES AT 6084 MALCOLM AVE., DETROIT, MICH., HAS BEEN KILLED ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

NEW YORK,DEC.14-(AP)-ALLIED RADIO BROADCASTS, HEARD BY HALF THE POPULATION OF THE RHINELAND, HAVE PROVED THEIR VALUE IN GUIDING AND AIDING THE SURRENDER OF ENEMY CIVILIANS IN THE PATH OF OUR ARMIES, PHILIP H.COHEN, DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN BROADCASTING STATION IN EUROPE, SAID HERE TODAY.

COHEN, HOME ON A VISIT, SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT ABSIE AND OTHER ALLIED STATIONS, RELAYING ORDERS OF OUR MILITARY LEADERS, SAVED MANY LIVES BY DIRECTING MOVEMENTS OF THE CIVIL POPULATION IN THE SIEGE OF AACHEN. COHEN ADDED THAT THE USE OF RADIO AT AACHEN SET A PATTERN "TO BE REPEATED THROUGHOUT GERMANY" AS OTHER TOWNS ARE ATTACKED.

OF 600 CIVILIANS INTERVIEWED AT AACHEN, 70 PERCENT HAD HEARD ALLIED BROADCASTS, COHEN SAID. ON THE BASIS OF THESE INTERVIEWS AND VARIOUS ESTIMATES, COHEN SAID AN AVERAGE OF 50 PER CENT OF THE RHINELAND HEARD ALLIED BROADCASTS, WHILE THE AVERAGE FOR THE ENTIRE REICH WAS "SLIGHTLY LOWER".

MJ1154PEW

BROADCASTS

NEW YORK, DEC. 14--THE "UNDECLARED TRUCE" IN ATHENS ENDED IN MIDAFTERNOON THERE TODAY AND ELAS FORCES BEGAN SHELLING BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN THE GRAND BRETAGNE HOTEL, GUTHRIE JANSSEN, OF NBC BROADCAST FROM THE GREEK CAPITAL.

JANSSEN SAID THAT HEAVY STREET FIGHTING HAD BROKEN OUT AND "IT IS NOW CLEAR THAT WHAT ELAS FORCES ARE TRYING TO DO IS SQUEEZE THE BRITISH OUT OF THE CENTER OF ATHENS BY A PUSH FROM BOTH ENDS OF UNIVERSITY STREET."

"THIS MORNING I SAW HOUSEWIVES OF ATHENS LINING UP TO GET WATER FROM BRITISH TANK TRUCKS. IN ONE VERY WEALTHY PART OF THE CITY PEOPLE LINED UP AT A PUMP UNDER MACHINEGUN FIRE FROM ELAS. ONE WOMAN GOT A BULLET IN THE LEG."

DEC 15 1944

JS138PEW

NEW YORK, DEC.14-(AP)-SOUVENIR SHELLS, GRENADES AND OTHER PROJECTILES SENT HOME FROM BATTLEFIELDS MAY BE ENEMY BOOBY TRAPS, THE NAVY WARNED TODAY IN LISTING A SERIES OF EXPLOSION ACCIDENTS INVOLVING SUPPOSED DUDS.

THIRD NAVAL DISTRICT ORDNANCE OFFICERS URGED THAT ORDNANCE SOUVENIRS BE TURNED OVER TO POLICE. THEY ADDED THAT THE ADVICE APPLIED TO UNEXPLODED ALLIED AMMUNITION, TOO.

JP755AEW

WASHINGTON,DEC 14-(AP)-A COMMITTEE OF EIGHT LEGAL EXPERTS REPRESENTING SEVEN COUNTRIES OPERATING INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES COMPLETED TODAY A PROPOSED SET OF BY-LAWS FOR A WORLD ASSOCIATION OF AIRLINE OPERATORS.

THE COMMITTEE WAS CHOSEN AT A MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 21 COUNTRIES AT CHICAGO ON THE LAST DAY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE. THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION DRAWN DURING THEIR FOUR-DAY SESSION HERE WILL BE CIRCULATED AMONG ALL COUNTRIES AND COMPANIES INTERESTED IN INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT.

ANOTHER MEETING PROBABLY WILL BE HELD AT HAVANA IN APRIL IN RESPONSE TO AN INVITATION OF DR.LUIS MACHADO OF CUBA.

JOHN C.COOLER, VICE PRESIDENT OF PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, WHICH INCLUDED MACHADO, JOHN SLADER, A VICE PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN EXPORT AIRLINES, COL.F.FLOCON OF FRANCE, H.J.GORECKI OF POLAND, J.R.MC CRINDLE OF BRITISH OVERSEAS AIRWAYS CORP., PER A.NORLIN OF SWEDEN AND COL.PEDRO A. CHAPA OF MEXICO.

DEC 15 1944

HY1148PEW NM SPOT

BY MAX HALL

WASHINGTON,DEC.14-(AP)-WAR-BRUISED FINLAND WAS REPORTED TONIGHT WILLING TO PAY ANOTHER SEMI-ANNUAL INSTALLMENT ON HER DEBT TO THE UNITED STATES TOMORROW.

BUT WHETHER THE UNITED STATES WILL ACCEPT THE MONEY THIS TIME WAS UNCERTAIN.

SINCE JUNE 15, WHEN THE LAST PAYMENT WAS MADE, THIS COUNTRY HAS BROKEN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE FINNS.

SINCE IT IS A FOREIGN POLICY MATTER, IT WAS ASSUMED THE WHITE HOUSE OR STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD MAKE THE DECISION.

FINLAND STILL OWES AROUND $9,000,000 ON HER WORLD WAR 1 DEBT. FINLAND WAS THE ONLY NATION TO CONTINUE PAYMENTS ON THE OLD WAR DEBTS AND HAS NEVER DEFAULTED, THOUGH SOME POSTPONEMENTS HAVE BEEN ARRANGED VOLUNTARILY BY THE UNITED STATES, AS DURING THE FINN'S WAR WITH RUSSIA IN 1940-41.

MN625PEW

HILL FIELD, UTAH, DEC.14-(AP)-SECOND LT.JESSE F.ARNOLD, 23, WOUNDED AT LEYTE, COULDN'T BE MOVED TO CALIFORNIA FOR THE BIG ADVENTURE OF BECOMING A FATHER.

SO THE ARMY ARRANGED TODAY TO BRING MRS.ARNOLD, 22, TO BUSHNELL GENERAL HOSPITAL, NEAR BRIGHAM, UTAH, WHERE LT.ARNOLD IS RECOVERING FROM THE LOSS OF HIS RIGHT LEG IN ACTION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

AN ARMY TRANSPORT PLANE WITH MRS.ARNOLD AND DR.L.D.MAHANNAH, OF LONG BEACH, CALIF., ABOARD, ARRIVED AT THE OGDEN AIR TECHNICAL SERVICE COMMAND FIELD HERE THIS AFTERNOON.

MRS.ARNOLD, WHO STOOD THE TRIP WELL, WAS PLACED IN AN ARMY AMBULANCE FOR THE LAST 35-MILE LEG OF THE JOURNEY. SHE HAS EXPECTED THE BABY TO ARRIVE SINCE SUNDAY.

RA100SPCW

DEC 15 1944

HAMILTON FIELD, CALIF.,DEC.14-(AP)-THE FIRST ARMY GROUND FORCE CASUALTIES TO BE EVACUATED FROM THE PHILIPPINES BY AIRPLANE WERE AT THIS AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND TRANS-PACIFIC TERMINUS TODAY, AND, IF ALL GOES WELL, WILL BE IN HOSPITALS NEAR THEIR HOMES BY CHRISTMAS.

THEY WERE FLOWN IN DOUGLAS C-54 PLANES WHICH CARRY UP TO 24 LITTER CASES, OR 35 WALKING CASES. MEN WHOSE QUICK REMOVAL TO UNITED STATES MAINLAND HOSPITALS IS MOST URGENT ARE SELECTED FOR EVACUATION BY AIR.

DEC 15 1944

IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE AIR-TRANSPORT COMMAND TO HAVE WOUNDED MEN IN CALIFORNIA 48 HOURS AFTER THEY WERE PICKED UP ON A LEYTE BATTLEFIELD, COL.ANDREW SMITH, IN CHARGE OF THE HOSPITAL HERE, SAID. BUT AS A MATTER OF PRACTICE, THEY ARE UNLOADED AT A HAWAIIAN HOSPITAL, WHERE THEY ARE EXAMINED, AND WHERE DOCTORS DECIDE WHICH CASES SHALL REMAIN THERE FOR TREATMENT, BE SENT ON SHIPS, OR RUSHED HOME BY AIR.

PVT.HAROLD KNUTH, 20, (3404A NORTH SEVENTH ST.) MILWAUKEE, WIS., ARRIVED HERE BY AIR. DOCTORS ON LEYTE WERE ABLE TO REMOVE MORTAR SHELL FRAGMENTS FROM A WOUND IN HIS LEG, BUT HE STILL HAS SOME PIECES OF THE SHELL IN HIS HEAD.

"WE CAME UPON A GRASS HUT," KNUTH RECOUNTED. "THERE WAS A SNIPER IN THAT HUT. ONE OF OUR MEN FIRED A RIFLE GRENADE AND I WENT IN TO SEE IF WE HAD GOT THE JAP.

"WE GOT HIM ALL RIGHT. HE WAS BLOWN OPEN. BUT WHEN I WAS LEAVING THE HUT A MORTAR SHELL FIRED BY SOME JAPS FARTHER ON HIT ME, AND WOUNDED FIVE OTHERS IN THE PARTY."

PVT.HERBERT SCHNEIDER, 19, (4135 NORTH 25TH ST.) MILWAUKEE, WIS., WAS PURSUING A RETREATING JAPANESE DETACHMENT WHEN MACHINE GUN BULLETS WOUNDED HIM IN THE HIP AND FRACTURED HIS LEFT LEG.

"THE JAPS WOULD FIRE AND THEN RUN," HE SAID. HE EXPECTS TO BE IN A CAST FROM THE HIPS DOWN FOR THREE MONTHS. THEN, HE SAID, "I'LL WALK AND WALK AND WALK AND WALK."

PVT.JAMES WILLIAMS, 22, (606 SOUTH L ST.) LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA, CAME BACK FOR A LEG OPERATION. A MACHINE GUN BULLET STRUCK HIM NEAR THE KNEE AS HE WAS ADVANCING THROUGH A CANE FIELD. HE HAD BEEN OVERSEAS ONLY A SHORT WHILE.

DEC 15 1944

R#2 PCW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (210)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TONIGHT (THU):

CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: ENGAGED GERMANS IN ARTILLERY DUELS; LINE UNCHANGED.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: STRUCK OUT BELOW JULICH, CAPTURING VICHHOFEN.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: WITH NINTH, EXTENDED ROER GRIP TO 14 MILES; TWO DIVISIONS ATTACKED ON BOTH SIDES OF ROER HEADWATERS, TAKING FOUR VILLAGES; PRESSED HARD TOWARD DUREN.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: WIDENED WEDGE IN SIEGFRIED LINE AT SAARLAUTERN; BATTLED BITTER RESISTANCE IN SAAR BASIN.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: ADVANCED TO WITHIN 1 1/2 MILES OF GERMAN PALATINATE.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: PROGRESSED SLOWLY NORTH OF COLMAR IN VOSGES FOOTHILLS.

--DASH--

3D ARMORED (FIRST ARMY): ELEMENTS HELD ROER POSITIONS NEAR CAPTURED HOVEN.

5TH ARMORED (1ST ARMY): ADVANCED ON DUREN, NORTHEAST OF GEY.

9TH INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): HELD ROER POSITIONS NEAR HOVEN.

26TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): PUSHED EAST FROM SARREGUEMINES.

35TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): CLUNG TO FOOTHOLD INSIDE REICH SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN.

DEC 15 1944

45TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): ADVANCED TOWARD GERMANY ON 365TH DAY IN COMBAT.

83RD INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): DROVE WITHIN FEW HUNDRED YARDS OF THE RO OPPOSITE DUREN; CAPTURED GURZENICH.

90TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): WIPED OUT NAZI SALIENT AT DILLINGEN AS MORE ARMOR CROSSED SAAR RIVER.

95TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): BATTLED FIERCE RESISTANCE IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

104TH INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): CLEARED SCHOPHOVEN.

TA936PEW

SOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:
CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: ENGAGED GERMANS IN ARTILLERY DUELS; LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S.NINTH ARMY: STRUCK OUT AGAIN BELOW JULICH, CAPTURING VICCHOFEN.
U.S.FIRST ARMY: TWO DIVISIONS ATTACKED ON BOTH SIDES OF ROER HEADWATERS; SCHOPHOVEN, ABOVE DUREN, CAPTURED.
U.S.THIRD ARMY: WIDENED WEDGE IN SIEGFRIED LINE AT SAARLAUTERN, BATTLED BITTER RESISTANCE IN SAAR BASIN.

30.24— 20259

30.24— 21259

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: ADVANCED TO WITHIN 3 1/2 MILES OF SAAR ON SOUTH; DOZEN MILES FROM SHELLED ZWEIBRUCKEN, PALATINATE CITY.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: PROGRESSED SLOWLY AGAINST TOUGH RESISTANCE NORTH OF COLMAR IN VOSGES FOOTHILLS.

--DASH--

DEC 15 1944

U.S.DIVISIONS
26TH INFANTRY: PUSHED EAST FROM SARREGUEMINES.
35TH INFANTRY: CLUNG TO FOOTHOLD INSIDE REICH SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN.
45TH INFANTRY (THUNDERBIRD, WITH 7TH ARMY): POISED BEFORE GERMANY ON 365TH DAY IN COMBAT.
--
EDS: IN THIRD PGH, READ IT VICHHOFEN--NOT VICCHOFEN.
5TH ARMORED (FIRST ARMLY): ADVANCED NORTH, EAST OF GEY.
83RD INFANTRY (FIRST ARMY): DROVE WITHIN FEW HUNDRED YARDS OF ROER OPPOSITE DUREN.
104TH INFANTRY (FIRST ARMY): CLEARED SCHOPHOFEN.

90TH INFANTRY: WIPED OUT NAZI SALIENT AT DILLINGEN AS MORE ARMOR CROSSED SAAR RIVER.

95TH INFANTRY: BATTLED FIERCE RESISTANCE IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

N945AEW

FIRST LEAD UNDATED JAPANESE B29S
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
ELEVEN AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESSES RAIDED THE PORT OF RANGOON IN SOUTHWEST BURMA ABOUT 1 P.M. (JAPANESE TIME) TODAY AND FIVE OF THEM WERE SHOT DOWN, THE TOKYO RADIO ANNOUNCED.
THE UNCONFIRMED BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID THE PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN BY JAPANESE ANTI-AIRCRAFT "WITHIN A FEW SECONDS" AND THAT THE OTHERS WERE DRIVEN OFF, PREVENTING DAMAGE TO GROUND INSTALLATIONS.
IT IS QUITE PROBABLE THAT THE B29S WERE PART OF THE FORCE WHICH WASHINGTON ANNOUNCED EARLY TODAY HAD RAIDED JAPANESE-DOMINATED THAILAND, ADJOINING BURMA.
A SINGLE SUPERFORT ETC. PICKING UP FIRST GRAF PRVS.
WW657APW

UNDATED JAPANESE PHONES (110)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A SHORTAGE OF TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT IN JAPAN PROMPTED A GOVERNMENT ORDER TODAY PLACING 3,500 PRIVATE TELEPHONES AT PUBLIC DISPOSAL, TTKYO RADIO REPORTED.
THE ORDER EMERGED FROM A MEETING OF CABINET VICE-MINISTERS, SAID THE BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, AND WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE JAN.1 IN DISTRICTS WHERE THERE IS A TELEPHONE SHORTAGE.
USE OF THE PRIVATE PHONES BY THE PUBLIC WILL BE RESTRICTED TO THE PERIOD FROM 8 A.M. TO 6 P.M., AND THE OUTSIDERS MUST PAY THE OWNERS THE PRESCRIBED TOLLS.
THE BROADCAST SAID THE VICE-MINISTERS ALSO DECIDED TO RAISE THE STANDARD TOLL FOR LOCAL TELEPHONE CALLS FROM FIVE SEN TO 10 SENT TO RELIEVE A SITUATION "RESULTING FROM THE DISTRIBUTION OF ALUMINUM COINS."
EW1009PCW

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
JAPANESE AUTHORITIES WERE CRITICIZED FOR "CONTRIBUTING TO THE SPREADING OF RUMORS BY CONCEALING THE DAMAGE DONE BY AIR RAIDS" AND THE PUBLIC WAS CENSURED FOR "THE TENDENCY TO SPREAD RUMORS" ACCORDING TO RADIO MOSCOW

WHTC H TODAY QUOTED AN ARTICLE IN TH

AND THE PUBLIC WAS CENSURED FOR "THE TENDENCY TO SPREAD RUMORS" ACCORDING TO RADIO MOSCOW WHICH TODAY QUOTED AN ARTICLE IN THE TOKYO SHIMBUN.

DEC 15 1944

THE RUSSIAN BROADCAST, REPORTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, QUOTED THE JAPANESE SHIMBUN AS SAYING RUMOR-MONGERS "ARE MORE DANGEROUS THAN HIGH EXPLOSIVE AND INCENDIARY BOMBS," ADDING THAT "NO PUNISHMENT IS TOO SEVERE FOR THESE PEOPLE."

"EVERYWHERE, IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS, AND EVEN IN PLACES WHERE THE POPULATION IS DECENTRALIZED, THESE EXAGGERATED RUMORS ARE BEING SPREAD," THE JAPANESE NEWSPAPER WAS QUOTED. "NOW THAT THE ENEMY AIR RAIDS ON THE CAPITAL HAVE BECOME MORE FREQUENT, THE TENDENCY TO SPREAD UMORS IS INCREASING."

GG1130ACW

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GERMAN

ROLLESBROICH	ROH'-LES-BROIK
BICKERATH	BEE'-KAY-RAHT
SIMMERATH	SEE'-MAY-RAHT
SCHOPHOVEN	SHOP'-HOH-VEN

HUNGARIAN

RAKOSPALOTA	RAH'-KOHSH-PAH'-LOH-TAH
KISPET	KEESH'-PET
SZEPSI	SEP'-SHEE

GH1243PEW

EDITORS:

WASHINGTON--THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP TODAY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

(CONFIDENTIAL NOTE TO EDITORS AND BROADCASTERS--NOT FOR PUBLICATION OR BROADCAST)

"YOU ARE REQUESTED NOT TO PUBLISH OR BROADCAST ANY INFORMATION FROM SOURCES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES CONCERNING JAPANESE SUICIDE BOMBING OR CRASHING TACTICS AGAINST OUR SHIPS OR PLANES, OR CONCERNING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH TACTICS. ADMIRAL NIMITZ HAS ASKED ESPECIALLY THAT WE TELL THE JAPS NOTHING ABOUT THIS PHASE OF WARFARE; USUALLY THE ENEMY WILL NOT KNOW WHETHER A SUICIDE PLANE HAS CARRIED OUT ITS MISSION UNLESS WE TELL HIM. YOUR ATTENTION IS ESPECIALLY DIRECTED TO LETTERS FROM AND INTERVIEWS WITH SERVICE PERSONNEL WHO MAY INADVERTENTLY REVEAL THE USE OF CRASH TACTICS AND THE RESULTS.

"BYRON PRICE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP."

DEC 15 1944

THE A.P.

EG712PEW

30.24 — 21261

U. S. INVADES MINDORO

YANKEES DRIVE INTO PALATINATE

6th Army Troops In Bloodless Landing

New Beachhead Within 150 Miles of Manila—MacArthur Calls Move 600-mile Advance—Imperial Lifeline Imperilled—200 Jap Planes Destroyed, Perhaps 300 in Great Sweep—Guerrillas Give Effective Aid.

OCT 16 1944

By C. Yates McDaniel

MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 16 (AP) — A naval-borne U. S. Sixth Army force crossed the Philippines and gained a virtually bloodless beachhead on Mindoro island, within 150 miles of Manila, Friday morning (Philippine time), Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed today.

Spans Heart of Philippines

The daring amphibious brea spanning the heart of the Japanese-dominated Philippines established for the Americans an east-west corridor through the archipelago which will give them access to routes leading to the coast of China, the supreme commander said.

Swarms of carrier-based planes that day and the day before scourged virtually every Nipponese airfield in the farflung archipelago, destroying more than 200, perhaps 300, enemy aircraft.

The 600-mile overwater movement took the convoy from Leyte, where the Americans first landed Oct. 20, south and west past the Japanese-occupied islands of Mindanao, Bohol, Cebu Negros and Panay but heroic guerrillas meanwhile had turned it into a fairly safe convoy by seizing airfields and strategic ports along the way in secret actions just disclosed.

Coastlines of Other Islands Visible

Eyewitnesses told of the convoy going so close to these islands that the rugged coastlines were plainly visible.

Three beachheads were established quickly on southern Mindoro. Elmont Waite, Associated Press war correspondent, told of tanks rolling ashore, of bulldozers starting roads, of piers being erected and of engineers moving inland with the troops to construct base installations.

(Tokyo radio said the landings occurred near San Jose, which is on Mindoro's southwest coast and were made by about a division, which ordinarily would be around 15,000 men. The enemy broadcast was without Allied confirmation).

Amazing Ease of Landings

Waite emphasized the amazing ease of the landings by saying a sergeant moving inland with his company was halted only when a native woman seized him and embraced him.

Jim Hutcheson, another Associated Press War Correspondent with the invasion forces, reported the only persons encountered on one beach were some waving Filipinos and their carabaos.

Front line dispatches said the Japanese obviously fled inland when warships began shelling the beaches and the advancing Yanks still had not established contact with the enemy after pushing a considerable distance through the brush from the landing points.

Widespread Aerial Attacks

(Some of the enemy uncertainty possibly was due to widespread aerial attacks elsewhere on Japanese positions, particularly on Luzon, main island of the archipelago. In a two-day smash, U. S. Naval carrier planes on December 14-15 (Philippines Time) destroyed 224 enemy aircraft and raked the 100 or more Japanese airfields there).

From the Mindoro convoy, commanded by Rear Adm. A. D. Struble, Associated Press Correspondent Murlin Spencer reported the surprise was so complete that lights ashore were burning brightly when the Yanks moved in for the landing just before dawn.

Army Takes Over In Three Hours

Three hours after the first assault waves hit the beach the army took over, still without encountering resistance from shore. The convoy ships, protected throughout by Rear Adm. Russell S. Berkey's close covering force and 7th Fleet carriers under Rear Adm. T. G. Ruddock pulled away for the return voyage.

The Fifth Air Force and Navy and Marine planes fought off the best the Japanese could throw against the in-bound convoy but even the strongest air umbrella was not completely impervious to a determined enemy. A different story might have been told if the operation had not been coordinated with the heavy attacks on Luzon by Adm. William F. Halsey's Third Fleet.

The weather was with the Yanks, at least while the convoy was inbound and during the beach operations. A typhoon moving westward from the Pacific swerved to the north, otherwise aerial support would have bee nlimited if not recalled altogether.

(As it was, the Yanks went ashore in comparative peace, and one description of the operation gave it eve na pastoral tinge. George Folster, of NBC, said cruisers and destroyers lined up to shell the beach had to hold their fire "because a bunch of Filipinos was on the beach with their cattle—sort of a welcoming party.")

The new advance "threatens the supply and reinforcement of enemy troops" in the central Visayas group of the archipelago, MacArthur reported.

OCT 16 1944

Imperial Life-line Imperilled

The conquests of Japan to the south (of the newly created corridor) are rapidly being isolated, destroying the legendary myth of the greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere and imperiling the so-called "imperial life-line," the supreme commander added.

Guerrilla forces in the meantime have kept up aggressive operations against the Japanese on Mindanao island, to the south, and in the Visayan group, MacArthur reported, and have captured large areas, including coastal strongpoints and airfields.

This, he said, had seriously disrupted the enemy's communication lines and impeded free movement of Japanese reserves.

Japs Suffr on Other Islands

"Heavy casualties have been inflicted upon the enemy (by the guerrillas)," MacArthur reported. Specifically, on Mindanao, under the command of Col. Wendell W. Fertig of the Engineer Corps, they have invested numerous important coastal points and enemy held airfields and have liberated the entire provinces of Lanao and Misamis Occidental."

Guerrillas on Panay island, half way between northern Leyte and southern Mindoro, havecaptured several towns and are maintaining heavy pressure on the Nipponese. They are commanded by Col. McAriao Peralta, Jr.

On Negros island, southeast of Panay, infantry under Lt. Col. Salvador Abcede cut loose with a general offensive against the Nipponese and cleared the southern half of the island with the exception of the Dumaguette area, where the enemy was driven into a pocket and has been under siege. Positions on the Negros east coast also were taken.

Southern Part of Cebu

On Cebu, southeast of Negros, forces under Lt. Col. Charles Cushing of the Engineers Corps directly attacked the enemy and cleared most of the southern part of the island.

Far to the southeast, in the Sulu Archipelago, guerrillas under Lt. Col. Alejandro Saurez "pinned down enemy forces into small, restricted areas." Other forces have freed virtually the whole island of Bohol, to the southeast of Cebu.

Japs Concede New Invasion

By The Associated Press

Acknowledging American invasion of Mindoro in the Philippines, Tokyo radio said last night that about one division (upwards of 15,000 men) of ground troops went ashore near San Jose which is on the southwest tip of that island.

"Japanese garrison units intercepted the enemy forces and fighting is now in progress," said the broadcast recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

This claim was at variance with eyewitness accounts of war correspondents with the American invaders who agreed the landing was unopposed, the Nipponese having retreated inland.

1 GI Ambushed On Mindoro: Scared Native Girl Hugs Him

By ELMO

With Assault Forces at Mindoro, Philippines, Dec. 15 (AP)—Staff Sergeant William Hantone, of Canandaigua, N.Y., was the only man of his reinforced company who found his progress barred in today's invasion of Mindoro.

While pushing inland through brush from the northernmost beachhead, he suddenly was clasped tightly.

His "captor" was a native woman. In near-hysteria she exclaimed:

"Oh so happy to see you but so scared!"

Evidently what Japanese were on the island had retreated speedily inland as the dawn bombardment of our ships paved the way for the invaders.

A Football Game

Small units of troopers pushed swiftly after them with no immediate contact reported.

The Yanks stood up to watch and cheer our destroyers but Capt. Neil Taylor, of Greenwood, Miss., stopped that.

"What do you think this is?" he asked. "A Saturday afternoon football game?"

He grinned.

"Now get yourselves dug in."

The appearance of Japanese planes at that moment speeded up the digging. Anti-aircraft fire dotted the whole sky over the bay.

Ranging as far as the horizon southward from Captain Taylor's beach were other landing areas.

LST's nosed in to the sand. Bulldozers crawled out with a splash and began pushing piles of sand and dirt into driveways, or piers up to ships' ramps. Trucks and other vehicles began pouring out.

Meanwhile, double lines of men, facing each other three feet apart, formed from ship to shore. Along that double row came box after box of provisions. Each pair tossed the box to the next two men until the storage pile was reached.

Enginering parties already were speeding far inland.

One Lone Sniper

The only contact with the Japanese in the first few hours of invasion was a harassing air attack by a few enemy planes—that, plus a lone sniper, who didn't last long.

Filipinos greeted troops on the northern beachhead with great bunches of ripe bananas and fresh eggs. Two of them eagerly offered a native canoe as transportation to get this correspondent across a wide river and down to the southern beachheads. They refused pesos. They also refused American money — although their eyes gleamed at the sight of such souvenirs.

"No pay, no pay, very glad help Americans," they said.

JAPS SCARCELY OPPOSED FLEET

Mindoro Convoy Steamed Boldly Past Enemy-Held Shores

Aboard Admiral Struble's Flagship Off Mindoro, Philippines, Dec. 15 (AP)—Unchallenged and nearly untouched, the United States Navy in one of the boldest actions of this war steamed to Mindoro Island today and landed troops only 150 miles from Manila.

The amazing thing about this operation is that for two days the strong American force under Rear Admiral Arthur D. Struble moved boldly past Japanese strong points and the enemy was either disinclined or unable to make an attempt to stop it.

The convoy, predominantly made up of warships, passed Negros, Panay and Mindanao Islands, in the heart of the Japanese-dominated Philippines—passed so close that the rugged coastlines were plainly visible, and it was known that the enemy had airfields there.

Storm Ashore

Shortly before dawn today, Yank units stormed ashore on Mindoro with all their equipment, on three beaches on the southwestern part of the island.

It was what they officially call "an unopposed landing" and it was a great achievement for the Navy and air forces that the Japanese, in one of their strongest positions, could be pinned down to permit such an invading force to land unmolested.

Less than 24 hours after the convoy started for Mindoro the Japanese picked us up and attacked half-heartedly. Later that day, December 13, there was a second attack. But yesterday, which was considered the critical period because we were so close to key Japanese bases, passed without a single attack on the 20-mile-long convoy.

Halsey Sweeps Did It

When Admiral Struble was asked why the Japanese did not attack, he replied, "I guess Admiral Halsey's sweeps on the Japanese airfields have been pretty successful."

There were few periods of excitement in this long jump into Japanese territory—a jump which has advanced Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces 240 airline miles north of Leyte—one which United States forces would not have dared to try a few months ago.

Carrier and land-based planes gave the convoy constant protection, and in one fight destroyed four Japanese planes, one of which hit the water and bounced again into the air before going down for good.

Jap Transport Bombed

An unsuspecting Japanese transport cut across our path several miles ahead and was bombed by a Catalina patrol plane.

Attesting to the belief that the Japanese were not sure where we were headed was the fact that lights were seen ashore on Mindoro as we moved in for the attack. They blacked out only after the convoy neared shore.

After destroyers and rocket ships had bombarded Mindoro's flat shore line and the troops swept ashore the Navy's number one task was finished—the job of getting the men there without a single soldier being touched. The number two objective is to get back.

Japs All At Other End Of Mindoro

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Saturday*, Dec. 16 (AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur struck where the Japanese are weak in invading southern Mindoro—just far enough from where the enemy is strong to prevent him from opposing strength with strength.

The northern coast of Mindoro is separated from the rail and road center of Batangas on Luzon Island by 8½-mile Verde Strait. The southern tip of Mindoro is 155 miles due south of Manila.

But rugged 8,000-foot high mountain ranges block communication of northern and southern Mindoro except on the eastern seaboard where a coastal plain is traversed by a road.

It has an area of 3,794 square miles. Its longest coast, roughly in a north-south direction, is more than 100 miles in length and is 50 miles across at its widest point.

82,554 Jap Casualties Estimated.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—The first fifty-five days of American invasion of the central Philippines have cost Japan 82,554 casualties, or about 1,500 a day, Gen. Douglas MacArthur estimated today as the campaign on Leyte pressed ahead despite bitter resistance.

An American carrier raid on Luzon Island, which wiped out ninety-one enemy planes, and three fresh attacks on Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands, were reported simultaneously by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz at Pearl Harbor.

Gen. MacArthur gave the American casualties for the Philippines invasion up to the middle of this week as 10,409—2,176 killed, 7,976 wounded and 257 missing. The Japanese thus are losing eight men for every American. The General's figures, covering the Leyte and Samar Island fighting, listed 33,801 abandoned Japanese dead, some 30,000 drowned in the smashing of ten reinforcement convoys, 253 captured and an estimated 18,500 dead inside the enemy lines.

Capture Enemy Supplies.

Americans of the Senevty-seventh Division driving north from Ormoc, seaport on western Leyte captured last Sunday, seized the enemy's main supply depots one mile from the city after severe fighting, today's communique said. The Thirty-second Division maintained pressure at the north of the Ormoc corridor, where thousands of crack Japanese troops are bottled up.

Iwo Jima was raided on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday by land-based Liberators and Lightning fighters, all of which returned despite heavy anti-aircraft fire. Iwo Jima is an important base on the B-29 route between Saipan and Tokyo. Haha Jima, 650 miles south of Tokyo, was bombed on Sunday, and other bombers hit tiny Marcus Island, 1,000 miles southeast of Tokyo, on Monday.

In the Philippines, Liberators bombed Bacolod airdrome on Negros Island with eighty-eight tons of explosives. Three small freighters were sunk by patrol planes off the southwest Luzon coast. Petroleum installations on Borneo were set aflame for the fourth straight day. Two coastal vessels were sunk there.

224 Jap Warplanes Destroyed on Luzon

90 More Damaged on Ground—U. S. Fighters Blast Nearly 100 Enemy Airfields—First Major Night Offensive of Carriers.

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 15 (AP)—American carrier planes destroyed a total of 224 Japanese aircraft in a two-day smash at Luzon island in the Philippines, Dec. 13-14, and bombed and strafed 90 more enemy planes on the ground, the Navy announced today.

Add 133 Planes

Today's communique revised yesterday's report of 91 planes destroyed in these forays, adding 133 to the toll of enemy aircraft knocked from the skies or blasted on the ground by fighters and bombers.

Most of the enemy's 100 airfields on the island, on which Manila is situated, were swept in the raids.

The tactical purpose of the first full power carrier blow at Luzon since Nov. 24 apparently was to wipe out as many as possible of the air reinforcements which the Nipponese have been able to bring into the Philippines since that time.

In a dispatch from Vice Adm. John S. McCain's flagship, AP War Correspondent Rembert James said fighter patrols flew over the Luzon airfields through the night of Dec. 13, preventing the enemy from bringing in more aircraft.

This was the first major scale night offensive fighter operation attempted by U. S. carrier pilots, the world's most experienced and tactically expert fliers.

Carrier Fighters

Up to this time, carrier fighters have been employed on defensive patrols for intercepting enemy night air attacks on task forces.

The new fighter operation aims at stopping the enemy planes before they can get very far from their base fields.

While the fleet's powerful air arm struck at Luzon, the strategic air force's land-based Liberators hammered airstrips on Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands, 725 miles north of Saipan. They made two strikes, the 11th and 12th of this month.

The communique reported a second raid on Dec. 12, in addition to the heavy bombing the same day announced yesterday. The big Liberators hit the same targets again Wednesday and were opposed by a single Japanese fighter, which was shot down.

Important Development

James' description of offensive night operations by carrier planes discloses one of the Pacific war's most important developments.

Heretofore, when a carrier task force was attacking enemy land bases it was subject to air attack during the hours of darkness. Discouraged by antiaircraft power of battleships and cruisers screening American carriers, the Japanese have made their most vigorous air attacks on task forces during the night.

Instead of waiting for Japanese night attackers to come to the ships, American carriers apparently now are able to send a number of night interceptors off flight decks to stop the enemy planes at their fields before they can locate the task force.

Obviously many long hours of practice rehearsals have been necessary to train fliers in the difficult technique.

Nimitz To Move HQ Westward

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Pacific war has moved so far west of Pearl Harbor that Admiral Chester W. Nimitz soon will set up advanced headquarters in a forward area to control more effectively the ground, sea and air forces "as their operations converge on Japan."

Whether Guam and Saipan were

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uppermost among possible sites, as unofficially reported, the admiral would not say. Nimitz commands the Pacific fleet and Pacific Ocean areas.

Significantly, his announcement last night followed conferences embracing China and the Aleutians—conferences suggesting new strategic moves impending against Japan.

Main Post At Pearl Harbor

At either Guam or Saipan, the advanced fleet headquarters would be closer to the Japanese homeland than Nipponese planes were to the United States when they delivered their attack on Pearl Harbor from aircraft carriers December 7, 1941.

Main headquarters will remain at Pearl Harbor.

Last night's press release pointed out, however, that the "capture of the Gilberts, Marshalls, Marianas, Ulithi and Palau has permitted moving the center of gravity of the ground, sea and air forces, Pacific Ocean areas, far westward."

5,000-Mile Advance

American warships in Leyte Gulf are more than 5,000 miles from Pearl Harbor.

The big naval base which has been under construction at Guam since the recapture of that island last August is 3,800 miles southwest of Pearl Harbor.

In reporting during recent months warship shellings of the Volcano Islands and carrier-based attacks on Formosa and the Ryukyus, Nimitz's communiqués have covered naval operations occurring as much as 5,170 miles from Pearl Harbor and as near as within 400 miles of Japan.

U.S. Planes Pin Down Luzon's Air Force

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San Francisco, Dec. 15 (AP)—Some 400 American carrier planes, the Japanese news agency Domei said, struck at Japanese installations on Luzon Island in the northern Philippines today (Japan time).

By Rembert James

Aboard Vice Admiral McCain's Carrier Force Flagship off the Philippines, Dec. 14 [*AP—Via Navy Radio—Delayed*] — Employing startling new and devastating seaborne airplane tactics, Vice Admiral John S. McCain's great air armada by day and by night pinned down the Japanese air force on Luzon Island and held it there while others of his Hellcats sank their claws into Japanese military targets.

Every one of Luzon's airfields—numbering almost 100 and including Manila's Clark Field—were smothered by the rocket-bearing Hellcats. Of the Japanese 300 or more planes, few got their wheels off the ground.

Taken By Surprise

Admiral McCain's carrier planes swept in from cloudy morning skies, which gave good coverage, and caught the Japanese by surprise.

The effectiveness of the Hellcat umbrella over Luzon's 40,000 square miles was demonstrated by the helplessness of the Japanese to strike back by air. Pilots returning from the early strikes said they met no airborne opposition and that the planes they caught and destroyed in the air were there by accident.

Two Destroyers Fired

An early score indicated that at least 85 planes were destroyed—14 in the air and 71 on the ground.

[Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet commander, in a communiqué issued at Pearl Harbor, Thursday, said that American planes had destroyed 91 Japanese planes, 14 in the air and 77 on the ground.]

As a side dish, pilots shot up four trains, set two Japanese destroyers afire in Subic Bay, damaged one large cargo vessel, destroyed one small oiler off Iba and fired a medium oiler near Lingayen Gulf.

Hover Over Fields

While daylight combat air patrols were still circling the enemy's Luzon fields, night patrols took off from the carriers to hover over the Japanese fields and hunt targets of opportunity.

It was the first time American carrier planes had been over the Philippines since November 28, when the last of five major carrier strikes started against Luzon, seat of the Japanese-held Philippine capital.

Veteran pilots said that day and night patrols over almost a hundred enemy fields was something which has never been done before by carrier forces.

Can't Bring In Planes

The effectiveness of this airtight coverage by day and night lies in the fact that the enemy cannot bring in planes from the outside fields to replace planes destroyed in revetments and hiding places and thus field operation stops.

The Japanese, past masters of camouflage, have developed a great skill in hiding planes under trees and other places, pilots reported. There is one case in which planes taxied long distances down highways and were hidden in a thicket and buildings several miles from the nearest airport.

Crew Of B-29 Rescued From Pacific After Raid

Twenty-first U.S. Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 15 [*Via Navy Radio—AP*]—A United States destroyer yesterday picked up the entire eleven-man crew of a Superfortress bomber which landed in the water Wednesday night while returning from the big attack on Nagoya, Japanese industrial city.

It was the second such rescue since the start of Saipan-based B-29 raids on Honshu, the principal Nipponese island. None of the crewmen involved in this latest rescue was injured, although Bombardier Second Lieutenant Russell S. Morris, of Matthew, N. C., was thrown through the glass nose into the water.

[A 20th AAF communique from Washington Thursday reported that one B-29 was unreported and presumed missing from the Nagoya strike.]

15 SUBMARINE MEN DECORATED

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Ten officers and five enlisted men of the United States submarine service have been presented decorations by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific ocean areas.

A Gold Star in lieu of a second Navy Cross went to Commander Antone R. Gallaher, Newport, R. I., who penetrated a strong enemy escort screen to sink vessels totaling over 24,000 tons, the citation said.

The Navy Cross was awarded Captain William V. O'Regan of New London, Conn., for extraordinary heroism as submarine commander operating against the Japanese from June 14 to August 1, last.

Commander Eli T. Reich of Washington, D. C., also received the Navy Cross for torpedo attacks in which he sank 19,000 tons of enemy shipping.

Commander William Beckwith Perkins of Bon Air, Va., received the Legion of Merit for outstanding service as a submarine commander during a war patrol.

Commander Norvell G. Ward of Roanoke, Va., was presented a Gold Star. He assisted in extinguishing a fire on his submarine at Cavite in 1942. Later, Ward's skil as navigator of a submarine penetrating strange and confined waters contributed to the sinking of enemy ships totaling 53,000 tons and damaging another 10,000 tons, his citation said.

Lieut.-Commander Herbert I. Mandel of New London received a Gold Star for his work as assistant approach officer of a submarine which sank 17,000 tons of enemy shipping.

Silver Stars were awarded Lieut. (j.g.) William J. Godfrey of Manitowoc, Wis., diving officer of a sub which sank more than 22,000 tons of enemy ships and damaged over 20,000 tons more, all during one war patrol, and Chief Pharmacist's Mate Leslie J. Lindhe of Highland, N. Y.

Toyko Included In 3-way B-29 Raid On Japan

Nipponese Call Forays "Nuisance Raids"—Threaten Yank Airmen.

DEC 16 1944

By The Associated Press

The aerial invasion of Japan by American Superfortresses hit three areas, including Tokyo, Friday (Japanese time), the Tokyo radio said, labeling the forays "nuisance raids" and reiterating threats against Yank airmen.

The sky giants stabbed twice in small force at Tokyo, dropping incendiary bombs, said the unconfirmed broadcast. It was recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

Three Superforts appeared over the capital in the first thrust, about 3:30 a.m., said the enemy report, and a single plane attacked about two hours later. It added that there was "hardly any damage" from the raid.

Osaka, Kobe Hit

The Osaka-Kobe district on the east coast of Honshu, principal homeland island, was visited by a single B-29, which did not drop any missiles, Tokyo reported. Government monitors were unable, because of atmospheric conditions, to catch the name of the third area under attack or observation.

There was no claim that any of the raiders were shot down during the day's activity, nor was there any mention of aerial interception or antiaircraft fire.

The threat against American aviators was made by a political correspondent of the Japanese Domei news agency, broadcast in English to North America and recorded by FCC. He recalled the recent statement of the imperial government that it would hold responsible under international law "those enemy aviators who are clearly found to have deliberately broken the established practices of warfare."

Evacuation Continues

Evacuation of children, the aged, the ill and expectant mothers from Tokyo continued, Domei said, but had "not entered the compulsory stage."

As if to bolster his courage, the broadcaster said the people of Tokyo are "not a bit afraid of incendiaries." He added the city is being "littered" with air raid shelters.

"All in all," the broadcaster was quoted as saying, "Tokyoites and people in other cities are adjusting their daily occupation and living to the enemy nuisance raids with a view to keeping production at the highest level. . . . The American propagandists are badly mistaken and merely indulging in wishful thinking if they think that Tokyo people have been thrown into a panicky state."

Other Flights Reported

The radio told of flights by "lone B-29's" over two other Japanese areas. One went over the Osaka-Kobe district on the east coast of Honshu, main island of Japan, but because of atmospheric conditions Government monitors could not hear the name of the second area. No bombs were reported dropped by these planes.

The Japanese news agency Domei said the Japanese Government would "hold responsible under the stipulations of international law those enemy aviators who are clearly found to have deliberately broken the established practices of warfare."

"Nuisance Raid" Label

Nipponese propagandists labeled the attacks as "nuisance raids" and said:

"The Americans are badly mistaken and merely indulging in wishful thinking if they think that the Tokyo people have been thrown into a panicky state by the raids."

At the same time they announced "evacuation of children and expectant mothers, the aged and the ill' from Tokyo is proceeding. The broadcast asserted every attention is being paid to construction of bomb shelters. In fact, "Tokyo authorities intend to dig air-raid shelters at every available space in the capital. Tokyo is now being littered with dugouts."

Incendiaries Dropped On Tokyo, Japs Say

San Francisco, Dec. 15 (AP)—American Superfortresses, the Japanese announced in an unconfirmed broadcast, flew over Tokyo and dropped some incendiary bombs in two separate incursions today (Japanese time).

At the same time the Japanese branded American attacks as "nuisance raids," and repeated previous threats against American aviators.

Three Superfortresses hit the capital about 3.30 A. M. The broadcast recorded here said, while a lone B-29 paid a visit about 6 A. M.

103d Div. First In Crossing

Vanguards Come Under Fire of Siegfried Line Fortifications.

RACE TO REACH GERMANY FIRST

Third Army Enters Saar Basin Town of Nieder-Gailbach—First Annihilates Resistance.

DEC 16 1944

By Austin Bealmear

PARIS, Dec. 15 (AP)—Three divisions of the U. S. Seventh Army drove into Germany's industrial Palatinate today at three points along a 12-mile front, four months to the day after they stormed the Mediterranean shore and began chasing the Germans 500 miles across France.

103d Division First

The first to make the crossing was the 103d Division, which pushed across at 1:05 p.m., against sporadic opposition north of Climbach and four miles west of the French frontier city of Wissembourg in the northeastern corner of Alsace.

Forty-five minutes later the 45th Division crossed the border along wooded ridges at an undisclosable point, but in the same general area.

Ten minutes later, the 79th Division burst the Lauter river line at the frontier near Scheibenhard, nine miles east of Wissembourg, and plunged into the fastnesses of Bien Wald forest on the Rhine plain some 11 miles west of the Baden province capital of Karlsruhe.

Comes Under Siegfried Line Fire

A late front dispatch said the vanguards of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's divisions, which moved up to the frontier while the Siegfried line's guns were singularly silent, had come under fire of the fortifications and were pressing against outpost bunkers and pillboxes.

Other elements of the 103d Division, overrunning at least seven towns in their path, were within a mile and a half south of Wissembourg, standing at the entrance of a gap leading into Germany.

79th Smashes Into Lauterbourg

Forces of the 79th Division smashed into Lauterbourg, at the east end of the invasion front between the Vosges and the Rhine, and were fighting within 10 miles of Karlsruhe, which is across the Rhine.

In their spectacular six-day dash that virtually routed the Germans from northern Alsace, the Americans seized 2,087 prisoners.

Cracking of the German border by the doughboys, who pounded 80 miles in little more than a month, placed all four American armies on the western front inside the Reich for the showdown battles of the winter offensive designed to

AMERICANS CROSS BORDER OF BAVARIA

KENNEDY
DEC 16 1944

Two Spearheads of Patch's Forces Enter Germany—Six Armies Are Now Beyond Frontier of Reich.

Paris, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—The United States Seventh Army, becoming the sixth Allied Army to invade Germany, drove two spearheads today over the boundary near the fortress city of Wissembourg and near Scheibenhard.

The crossing at Scheibenhard was only three and a half miles west of the easternmost tip of France and thirty-five miles south of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen. This was the easternmost point Allied armies have reached in northwest Europe.

Three Seventh Army divisions made the crossing into the Palatinate of Bavaria before 6 P. M., two plunging across the line west of Wissembourg while the Seventy-ninth Infantry established a bridgehead over the Lauter River near Scheibenhard.

Fighting Still Rages.

Stiff fighting still raged tonight in both Scheibenhard and Lauterbourg, just across the river in Germany.

The 103d Infantry division, one of those which crossed west of Wissembourg, first cleared the towns of Climbach, Cleebourg, Keffenach, Birlenbach, Drachenbronn and Bremmelbach on the French side of the frontier. (The third division involved was not immediately identified.)

These forces had not yet reached the main Siegfried defenses, although they were under fierce German pillbox and bunker fire.

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To the north the United States First Army clinched firmer control of a fourteen-mile stretch of the west bank of the Roer by driving a mile beyond Kufferath and seizing high ground dominating the river three miles south of Duren.

First Army Gains.

The First Army's right wing also pushed forward a mile and a quarter in the Kesternich area northeast of Monschau, and advanced to within 1,000 yards of Siegfried Line forts in the forest area behind Strauch.

The Seventh crossed the frontier exactly four months after wading ashore on the French Riviera, 425 air line miles to the south, but much farther as it wound through the mountains of southern and eastern France.

The First and Ninth armies, first to break into Germany, were drawn up along the Roer River fifteen miles beyond Aachen where the Siegfried Line was first broken in September. The bitter fighting appeared to be subsiding.

The Third Army, which crashed into the industrial Saarland last month, was hacking its way slowly forward in the first works of the Siegfried fortifications on the Seventh Army's left.

Six of Gen. Eisenhower's armies now are inside Germany.

The British Second Army holds a bit of Reich soil around Geilenkirchen. The Canadian First Army is in the De Wyler Forest, six miles from Kleve, northern end of the Siegfried Line. The Allied First Airborne and the French First armies have not yet entered Germany, but the French are on or near the Rhine for seventy-five air line miles from Strasbourg south to Switzerland.

Lieut.-Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army shock troops crossed the frontier at 1:50 P. M. A month earlier, he broke the strong German line in the Vosges east of Luneville and drove from there ninety miles northeast to the point of invasion.

Staten Island Man Among First.

Doughboys realized they had reached the border when they spotted a boundary sign. Among the first across was Lieut. Norman J. Young of Staten Island, N. Y., and the first tank to rumble over the frontier in this sector was manned by Sergts. Elmer Weber, Fort Scott, Kan.; Edward Farquhar, Dallas, Tex., and Pfc. Edward Dowd, Red Bank, N. J.

When the Americans crashed into Lauterbourg and Scheibenhard, they found the bridges at both points destroyed. Major Merritt (Dutch) Hursh of Paterson, N. J., led the Americans at Lauterbourg.

The Siegfried Line was being shelled at perhaps its weakest points. The Germans said that American artillery was cratering Karlsruhe itself.

Gen. Hermann Balck, commander of German Army Group G, rushed reinforcements to his buffeted First and Nineteenth armies. He also tried to relieve pressure by reinforcing the 600-square-mile pocket around Colmar, below Strasbourg.

Menaced by Devers's Troops.

His counterpart, Lieut.-Gen. Jacob L. Devers, threatened envelopment of the Palatinate and the Saarland to the west from the rear. Gen. Devers's fourteen or more American and French divisions stood on or near the Rhine for 105 miles from Switzerland to the border town of Lauterbourg, against which the Americans were charging.

The United States Third Army of Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr., continued its indecisive battering of the Siegfried fortifications in the Saarland at Saarlautern and Dillengen. This force, on Gen. Devers's left flank, widened its front inside Germany by crossing the border six miles east of Sarregumines.

The United States First Army strengthened its positions on the Roer River before Duren by capturing Birgel, less than two miles to the southwest. The 104th and Ninth divisions cleared all the west bank of the Roer from Mariaweiler north to Shophoven, deploying at places within twenty and a half miles of Cologne.

Less Than Mile From Duren.

The First Army finally reduced the northernmost pocket of German resistance on the Roer front, the G[illegible]ns in the Mullenack castle. The Ninth Division mopped up the Mariaweiler factory area less than a mile from Duren. The Fifth Armored Division pushed due east from Gey for two miles into Kufferath, where bitter, close quarter fighting developed.

The 7th Army, commanded by Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch and included in Devers's 6th Army Group, was immediately southwest of Lauterbourg and presumably was closest to Karlsruhe on the Rhine just east of the town.

Karlsruhe is a strongly fortified city in the Siegfried Line, six miles beyond the Rhine. Mannheim is a great chemical and munitions center and close by the university city of Heidelberg. Ludwigshafen is a twin city of Mannheim lying across the Rhine in Bavaria. All three threatened places have been frequent bomb targets.

Shelling Siegfried Line

Patch, indeed, had already opened his assault upon the Siegfried Line with 8-inch guns and 240-millimeter howitzers. Allied planes bombed the West Wall defenses and railroads supplying the German front and funneling in reinforcements.

His arrival at the Bavarian boundary represented an advance of more than 500 miles since his veteran 3d, 36th and 45th divisions waded ashore in southern France exactly four months ago today.

Among the towns toppled by the 7th Army were Riedseltz, two miles from Wissembourg; Sambach, a mile from the frontier corner; Munchhouse, Schaffhouse, Wintzenbach and Neewiller, the last but a mile from the frontier. The latest reports of 7th Army progress lagged hours behind the action.

7th's Front 35 Miles

In the Karlsruhe corner between Wissembourg and the Rhine, the Germans had been forced from French soil except for sacrificial rear guards. The 7th was moving forward on populous, industrial areas on a 35-mile front.

Once the 7th crosses the Palatinate border, it will be against the Siegfried Line. But because of the speed of the advance, the line likely will be less strongly manned than at any other place. This was the situation which precipitated the shattering of the Siegfried Line east of Aachen and led to the present battle for the Roer.

Once Haguenau, a key base and traffic center fifteen miles south of the frontier fell, German defenses gave way. The enemy, however, retired skillfully through northeastern Alsace and now apparently plans to try to slow down the 7th Army in front of the Siegfried Line so that it will not be able to hit the line with full momentum.

Mullenack Castle Taken

The 1st Army finally reduced the northernmost pocket of German resistance on the Roer front, the Germans in the Mullenack Castle.

The 9th Division mopped up the Mariaweiler factory area less than a mile from Duren. The 5th Armored Division pushed due east from Gey for two miles into Kufferath, where bitter, close quarter fighting developed.

The 83d Division in Gurzenich and Birgel fought off two counterattacks supported by tanks, of which four were destroyed.

Nazis Regain Some Ground

On the southern section of the 1st Army front, resistance stiffened in difficult terrain, thickly mined. Cannon broke up a German attack at Simmerath. The Nazis fought back into Kesternich, but virtually all of the hamlet remained in American hands. Around Vossenack, Nazi patrols infiltrated United States lines and gained some ground.

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The 1st Army took 647 prisoners yesterday, raising its total to 213,526. Since D-day General Eisenhower's armies have captured at least 763,819 prisoners, more than 77,000 of them in the current offensive.

crush Hitler's Germany.

Third Enters Nieder-Gailbach

The U. S. Third Army on the Seventh's left flank, in a mile and a half gain six miles east of Sarreguemines, entered the Saar basin town of Nieder-Gailbach. It drew up its lines inside or within a mile of the border from the south on a 10-mile front east of the Saar river.

The U. S. First Army wiped out the last organized resistance west of the Roer in the vicinity of the Rhine plain's fortress of Duren, taking over high ground commanding all the west bank from Duren seven miles south to Bergstein. Two more fortified villages were captured.

Hold 27 Miles On Roer

With the U. S. Ninth Army, massed to the north, the Americans now hold undisputed sway over 27 miles of the west bank of the Roer, greatest single natural obstacle short of the Rhine itself, from Linnich to Bergstein.

On the southern Alsatian sector, the French First Army beat off furious counterattacks by reinforced Germans northwest of Colmar, where enemy infiltration for a time menaced supply lines, and at Selestat, farther north. On the south, the Germans threw in Panther tanks between Belfort and Mulhouse, but the situation was reported under control.

Race To Enter Germany First

As Patch's forward elements crossed the border—some of them so intent on being the first to enter Germany that they refused rest leaves—follow-up forces cracked into Lauterbourg and nearby Scheibenhard, and were engaged in hard fighting.

Before the forces battling through the two towns stood only the Lauter river. Once across it they will come to grips with the Germans in the Siegfried fortifications, 35 miles from the busy war factory cities of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen which face each other on opposite sides of the Rhine.

The Seventh crossed into Germany at a point where the border deserts the Rhine and cuts westward to Luxembourg.

Point Of Invasion

It chose for a point of invasion the Rhine plain east of the high Vosges mountains, where the going should be easier.

The Germans were meeting the surge of the Seventh with artillery, machineguns and tanks, operating from bunkers and pillboxes in front of the Siegfried line, and threw in a strong counterattack 23 miles west of Wissembourg near the Maginot fortress town of Bitche.

Wissembourg, last northern Alsatian city still in German hands, was closely pressed from east, south and west as the Seventh took seven towns along its approaches, including Cleebourg, but two and a half miles south.

Patch's seasoned Mediterranean campaigners had driven 17 miles north in three days after the capture of Haguenau, fighting across difficult wooded hills country and a plain laced by numerous streams.

The first crossings at 1:50 p. m. today were little more than a month after the Seventh broke the Germans' Vosges line and smashed through to the Rhine at Strasbourg. Ten minutes later the 79th hammered out its bridgehead inside the Reich across the Lauter.

Germans Skillful In Retreat

The German retreat from Haguenau was skillful, avoiding entrapment of any sizable forces, and the enemy plan appeared to be to slow the Americans before the Siegfried fortifications so they would be unable to strike it with full momentum.

The French First Army, at grips with a reinforced enemy on the southern Alsatian plain, repulsed counterattacks at Mulhouse and on the Rhine at Loeschle, six miles north of the Swiss border.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army was driving the Germans across the Roer south of Duren and 14 miles to the southwest finally cleared the Germans from Kesternich, previously reported captured, in a one-mile advance.

The Fifth Armored Division captured Kufferath, three miles south of Duren, and ranged on a mile east, seizing high ground dominating the Roer.

A mile to the north, the 83d Division erased the German stand inside iBrgel. In the area from Kufferath and Birgel north to Duren there still were isolated pockets, but north of Duren the 104th and Ninth Divisions had completely cleared the Roer's west bank to Schophoven.

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More Trained Troops Needed As Replacements in Europe

GALLAGHER

Shortage Laid to Washington's Policy in Sending Heavy Commitments to Pacific Theater of War.

With the United States Ninth Army in Germany, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Already plagued by shortages of ammunition and tires, American forces on the western front now are confronted with the problem of obtaining trained infantry replacements.

Instead of a steady flow of such replacements direct from the United States, men are being taken from newly arrived divisions or from quiet sectors to fill the ranks of divisions which have had high battle casualties.

The replacement problem as yet has not impaired seriously the overall fighting efficiency of Gen. Eisenhower's forces, but some local commanders feel it has worked hardships on them.

[Much the same situation existed in the American expeditionary force of world war I. Several divisions sent overseas as combat units were made depot or replacement divisions on arrival in France.

[An indication of efforts to meet the replacement problem was Washington's announcement early this week of a tightening of draft regulations affecting men in the 26 through 37 age group.]

The assertion is made here that the situation on the western front is due to short-sighted and optimistic planning in Washington which led to heavy commitments for the Pacific theater along with general cuts in munitions and men in the belief that the European war would be over this year.

In some cases divisions newly arrived in Europe have been drawn on heavily to replace losses in some veteran divisions. Field commanders have asserted that such scrambling is bad for morale.

"One of the chief reasons soldiers fight well is pride in their divisions and confidence in their local commanders," one officer said. "A division becomes a soldier's home and when he is yanked out and sent to some other outfit where he does not know any one his morale goes down, for a while at least."

[A Rome dispatch said United States forces in the Italian theater already had begun retraining soldiers from other branches to become infantrymen. These include anti-aircraft gun crews, who have little to do since the decline of the German Air Force. Several hundred men already are undergoing such training, with thousands scheduled to follow.]

Many senior officers fighting on the western front have become convinced that the day of separately organized infantry and armored divisions is ended. They believe the Army must create a new division of mixed armor and infantry forces. The general proportion suggested is three battalions of tanks and six battalions of infantry.

"As things stand, we are doing about that now," one high officer said. "When one of our tank divisions makes an attack, it usually has an extra infantry regiment attached, or if an infantry division attacks, it gets a couple of extra tank battalions.

"The trouble now is that in such cases the infantry is not trained to operate with tanks and tanks are not trained to operate with the infantry, and worse still, the infantry commanders don't know how to use tanks properly."

The new theory of these officers, mostly young professionals who may be guiding Army policy in years to come, is that with one type of division trained to work as a unit, any combination can be achieved of trained men by breaking the division into combat teams to fit particularly the task of welding divisions together into larger striking forces.

Such a system, they pointed out, would greatly simplify training and supply problems and end a good deal of unnecessary conflict among infantry and tank men on how the war should be fought.

The veteran German Army has come to a similar conclusion with the creation of armored and grenadier divisions which have a higher proportion of infantry in them than the old armored divisions.

Allies, Foe Share Same House In Battle Area

NORDHESS

With British Troops in Holland [*AP—Delayed by Censor*]—Allied troops smashed headlong into a small Dutch village and discovered to their great astonishment that 80 American and British paratroopers and pilots and one Polish officer already had "liberated" the town.

But these ragged, bearded and emaciated paratroopers were elated to see the British troops, for, as they said, the British had "damn well" liberated them.

In Same Building As Nazis

In the group were paratroopers who had been slated for the airborne invasion of Holland and some glider pilots who had been shot down by ack-ack fire. They hid in the woods, buildings and ditches—often within yards of the enemy—and one time they were in the same building and using the same washroom facilities as the Germans.

When the British arrived, the 80 had eleven German prisoners in tow, including one Austrian Officer who had deserted to them.

"It was difficult to avoid the Germans," said Sergt. Paul R. Moukad, of Brooklyn. Moukad's group of fifteen, including a glider pilot, had been knocked down by flack September 18, eight mlies northwest of the village. They dashed into a woods, stayed there several hours and then entered the village and met 28 British paratroopers. Moukad's men found living space in the second floor of a house and the British group moved on to an adjacent hamlet.

Move To Another House

The Americans stayed in this house for only a few hours because some Germans moved into a building across the street an dit got hot. They shifted into another house during the night.

"That was really tough," said Tech. 4/g Terry Lair, of Springfield, Ill. "We were there only an hour when a German *Luftwaffe* headquarters moved in downstairs. Gosh, there was only one toilet. We used to put on a robe we found in the room and go down in that. We would pass the Germans, snitch cigars or cigarettes off their desks and they never got wise."

"We even had the Heinies peeling potatoes for us, but they did not know it," laughed Moukad. "They would peel them and we would sneak down and grab handfuls of them. But it was tough to speak in whispers all the time and be quiet so the Jerries couldn't hear us."

All Meet In Woods

After a time they sneaked away and found more Americans and British in the woods near a farmhouse. It was in these woods that all the American and British paratroopers and pilots finally gathered. All of the groups had amazing adventures.

"Three British officers and one Polish officer landed with two jeeps," related Pfc. Charles Toepker, of Cincinnati. They started down a road on the wrong side—you know how they drive in England—and darn near ran down a German convoy coming straight at them.

"So they got over on the right side. Then, as the convoy approached, they opened up on the convoy at point blank range, let loose with machine-gun speed, fire and splattered that convoy all over the place. The surprised Jerries were flopping all over like chickens with their heads cut off, trucks were jumping ditches and smashing into trees and the men were squealing. They sure did their part in the war that day."

Baltimorean's Story

A glider pilot, Flight Officer Philip Jacobson, 5105 Palmer avenue, Baltimore, told how they had fixed up an altar. "All of us attended that service. It was so nice some of us kinda cried. I guess we weren't as tough as we looked."

Sergt. John J. Burke, of Cleveland, said the men became discouraged when the battlefront became quiet. He said the weather was miserable and the half-hungry and cold soldiers felt they couldn't keep away from the Germans forever.

Go In Fighting

"Finally," Burke reported, "when the battle sounded as though it was coming closer, we decided to hell with it, we would go into the village and go in fighting. We did and killed several, wounded more and captured six.

"The civilians came out and threw us flowers, kisses, coffee and food. They thought we had liberated them. Then, a day and a night after our arrival, the real liberators—charging British troops and tanks—got into the town. Boy, were we glad to see them. A few hours behind the enemy lines seemed like years."

NAZI CASUALTY RATE IS HIGH

BRADLEY

Bradley Reports Many Green Troops Are Captured

U.S. 12th Army Group Advanced Headquarters, Dec. 15 (*AP*)—Lieut. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, United States 12th Army Group commander, said today that German battle casualties are greater than American and that the offensive is being pressed despite poor weather because the Germans cannot long stand their losses.

Remarking that the Americans are capturing a considerable number of "green" enemy troops, Bradley pointed out the advantage of attacking them now instead of waiting until they get several months' experience.

"If we had three months of good weather, it would make a whale of a difference," he told a press conference. "We are going ahead as best we can without it because time is playing in favor of the enemy."

Arms Superiority Noted

The heavier German attrition rate is due, he said, to American superiority in air support, artillery, equipment and infantry. However, he warned against overoptimism, saying: "We are now suffering from the optimism of August, September and October, and the war is being prolonged on account of it."

Ground troops, Bradley observed, at first were skeptical of air support, but since air and ground combat teams gained battle experience, they now have "full confidence in it."

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"Now our armies never hesitate to call for air support even 500 yards or less from our front lines," Bradley said. "Even the German air force in its heyday had nothing like the fine co-operation that exists between our ground and air forces. Only because of this co-operation were we able to advance as fast as we did, commencing with the St. Lo breakthrough and continuing through France."

Luftwaffe Kept Away

Bradley added that the 9th Air Force also "has been keeping the German air force off our necks. Now you ride around without even looking up. It was different in Africa."

Maj. Gen. Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg, commander of the 9th Air Force, disclosed that since D-day his outfit has destroyed 1,408 enemy aircraft; 15,851 motor transports; 1,462 armored vehicles and tanks; 9,432 railroad cars and 2,296 locomotives, in addition to gun positions, ammunition dumps, bridges and power stations.

GI Patients' Enjoy Series; Players Talk

By William F. Boni

WITH THE FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY, Dec. 15 (*AP*)—Convalescent patients in the First Army's hospital in Belgium, plus several hundred other G. I.'s, saw the official American League film of the 1944 World Series last night and then heard brief, entertaining talks by Mel Ott, Dutch Leonard, Bucky Walters and Frankie Frisch.

J. Roy Stockton of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch was the master of ceremonies.

Each of the ball-playing entertainers was equally amusing in his own way—Ott telling of the New York Giants' peaceful games with the Brooklyn Dodgers; Leonard recounting anecdotes about some of baseball's daffiest players; Walters describing the difficulties of pitching in Philadelphia's Baker Bowl "where usually you pitched with the bases loaded;" and Frisch telling about his jousts with the umpires.

It was the fourth show of the day for the athletes and they had driven 100 miles to keep their appointment here but they made it all seem fresh and staged a fitting climax by tossing baseballs to all who asked questions.

Ott is the manager of the Giants; Frisch bosses the Pittsburgh Pirates; Walters is star right handed pitcher of the Cincinnati Reds and Leonard is the knuckle-ball king of the Washington Senators.

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Dutch Troops Assume Army Occupation Duties

U.S. 9th Army, Inside Germany, Dec. 15 (*AP*)—Dutch volunteer troops recruited in Holland assumed army occupation duties in Germany today on a limited scale.

The Dutch, under direction of a 9th Army provost marshal, will guard bridges and depots and take over some military police duties now discharged by Americans. The Dutch Government assigned their countrymen.

A Belgian brigade is being formed for the same purpose.

Lieut. Col. Vernon Smith, Franklinton, La., provost marshal of one corps, said the Dutch were eager to take over occupation duties after four years of occupation by the Germans.

Eisenhower Tells Nazis They Can Form Unions

Bars Strikes and Lockouts That Threaten Security

LONDON, Dec. 15 (*AP*).—General Dwight D. Eisenhower told German workers today they would be permitted to form democratic trade unions under Allied military government but served notice that "strikes threatening military security, directly or indirectly, will be prohibited."

"So will lockouts," the supreme commander's spokesman said, in the twelfth of a series of broadcasts to the German people.

The Nazi-controlled Labor Front will be abolished at once, Eisenhower said, and all deductions of pay or collections from workers for its support will cease.

"Deductions of payments for social insurance, unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation of normal Reich taxes will be continued," he said. Collective bargaining with employers will be permitted, but for the time being the limits on wages will be maintained as under the most recent

German regulations.

Eisenhower said that civilian labor requirements of Allied military forces will be given the first priority but due recognition will be given to the retention of key civilians in public services, utilities for essential industries.

"It is the policy of the supreme commander," he said, "to insure fair and reasonable working conditions for Germans who are employed by the Allied military forces."

AMG To Set Up Trade Unions In Reich

New York, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Nazi-controlled Labor Front will be dissolved in conquered Germany along with other party organizations, but German workers will be allowed to form democratic trade unions "when circumstances permit," a proclamation broadcast in the name of General Eisenhower said today.

The broadcast was reported here by the Office of War Information.

The twelfth in a series outlining to the German people the plans of Allied Military Government for ruling their country, the proclamation said that "all forms of free economic association and combination among workers will be permitted, provided that they do not assume any political or militaristic complexion."

Collective Bargaining

The trade unions will be permitted to bargain collectively with employers, the proclamation said, but "strikes threatening security, directly or indirectly, will be prohibited" and "so will lockouts."

Pay deductions for the benefit of Nazi party organizations will cease, the Germans were told, but "deductions of payments for social insurance, unemployment insurance, workman's compensation, or normal Reich taxes will be continued."

Workers Must Register

For the time being, German regulations concerning wages will remain in force, the proclamtion said, and "existing laws, decrees and regulations regarding the registration of labor will continue," so that all workers will be required to register.

The Germans were told that "it is the policy of the supreme commander to insure fair and reasonable working conditions for Germans who are employed by the military forces."

His Arm Nearly Cut Of Yank Sticks To Job

A U.S. 8th Air Force Bomber Station, England, Dec. 15 (AP)—His right arm nearly severed by a jagged piece of flak over Germany recently, Lieut. Frederic T. Kiessel, Los Angeles, Cal., a Flying Fortress bombardier, regained consciousness in time to aim his bombs at the target.

Kiessel now is in a hospital recuperating from his injuries. His arm had to be amputated.

While on a recent bombing mission over Ludwigshafen, Kiessel's ship was hit by flak. He was thrown into a corner, his arm severely cut and his hip stinging from another piece of shrapnel. But Kiessel regained consciousness and dragged himself back to his station to do his job.

Reds Invade W. Slovakia To Open Vienna Roads

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By W. W. Hercher

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 16 (AP)—Russian troops, invading western Slovakia for the first time, yesterday captured Ipolysag (Sahy) Junction, 85 miles east of Bratislava, Slovak capital, in a bold operation aimed at cutting off German troops far to the east and breaking open the roads to Vienna, 115 miles to the west.

Cross Ipoly Frontier

Red Army troops, crossing the Ipoly River frontier from Hungary at a point 34 miles northwest of besiged Budapest, actually broke into Ipolysag Thursday, crushing the Axis garrison after a bitter all-night fight, Moscow announced. Eight hundred Germans were killed trying to hold this key town on the Budapest-Bratislava-Vienna highway, a midnight bulletin said. Ipolysag is a half-mile inside Slovakia, and in taking it the Russians skirted the 2,700-ft. Borzsony mountains, between the town and the big Danube bend to the south, and reached a road network radiating into central and western Slovakia. To the west the roads lead down into the plains before Bratislava and Vienna.

Budapest, already two-thirds en-

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circled; thus was further outflanked on the northwest, and the Red Army also increased the danger of encirclement to large numbers of Germans holding a big salient jutting eastward as far as the Presov-Kassa Line in Slovakia.

Soviet Troops

Soviet troops were steadily driving the Germans back into Slovakia from Hungary on a 125-mile front extending from Ipolysag eastward to Satoraljaujhelly, and Berlin told of renewed Russian attacks in southern Poland in the Debica-Tarow area.

These latter thrusts may be the beginning of a northern envelopment movement against Slovakia, and Berlin also speculated on the possibility of the opening of Russia's Winter offensive there, aimed at Krakow, 44 miles west of Tarnow. Krakow is the big German base defending German Silesia.

Moscow said the Germans threw in an SS (Elite Guard) assault brigade and some tank units in their unsuccessful effort to hold Ipolysag.

The stroke by Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army also was likely to draw out into the open again a compact fighting force of 25,000 free Czecho-slovak troops which not long ago were driven out of their headquarters at Banska Bystrica, 46 miles north of Ipolysag.

Mountain Edge Seized

Without relaxing their grip on Budapest, two thirds of which was encircled, Marshal Malinovsky's troops skirted the northern edge of the 27,000-foot Borzsony Mountains and reached a road leading downhill into the plains stretching westward to Bratislava and Vienna.

The Russians gained up to 5 miles on a 50-mile front in their fighting arc above Miskolc, and were folding back the German southern line while Gen. Ivan Petrov's 4th Ukraine Army hammered the Germans in eastern Slovakia.

The communiqué said that 1,015 German and Hungarian troops were captured in Thursday's fighting in the area above Miskolc.

In Freezing Weather

Moscow dispatches said that the new battle across the Ipoly River in western Slovakia was fought in freezing weather, and pictured it as a determined attempt to break the stalemate at Budapest and carry the battle into the little Hungarian plain between the capital and Vienna, Austrian capital.

Heavy rains have impeded the Russian encircling movement around Budapest, but Moscow said that freezing weather now had descended on the Hungarian front. The Germans still were throwing in reinforcements, including SS (Elite) troops, in an effort to save Budapest and keep the battle away from Austria.

Soviet front reports quoted fugitives as saying that a Nazi reign of terror was under way in the capital, with "one pogrom after another" directed against Jews and anti-Axis Hungarians.

Elsewhere on the comparatively quiet Eastern front, Germany's high command reported that Russian bombers were making "violent" attacks against the West Latvian port of Liepaja.

Seventeen miles northwest of Miskolc, which is eighty-five miles northeast of Budapest, the Russians seized Sajovelezd, five miles from the Slovak frontier and only two miles southeast of Putnok junction, whose capture would cut an important Axis rail escape railway from Russian-held Eger to the south.

Savage Fighting Flares East Of Bratislava

London, Dec. 15—The Paris radio said today Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Szalasi has been seriously wounded in an attempted assassination. A week ago Szalasi was reported to have visited Adolf Hitler at the Fuhrer's secret headquarters.

Moscow, Dec. 15 (AP)—Russian mechanized infantry columns have engaged a German Elite SS force in savage battle along the Ipoly River north of the Danube bend and little more than 85 miles east of the Slovakian capital of Bratislava, field dispatches said today.

This powerful thrust by parts of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army was closely coordinated with joint operations by his right wing and Gen. Ivan Petrov's 4th Ukraine Army seeking to cut off the Germans in eastern Slovakia from a chance of escape.

Drive At Ipolysag Tried

[Although this dispatch did not make clear whether Malinovsky's forces had invaded western Slovakia, a Berlin broadcast said they had attempted to storm Ipolysag, a half-mile north of the border.]

These Russian attacks against the strongest natural defenses still guarding the shortest invasion route to Vienna, 115 miles to the west, came while Budapest, the outflanked Hungarian capital, quivered under siege warfare.

It is expected that if Malinovsky is able to consolidate and reinforce his position along the Ipoly his next great lunge forward would be aimed at reaching the immediate approaches of Bratislava and the Vienna Plain.

Nazis Bring In Reserves

The German command, however, is reported here to have rushed reserves into the line to meet the threat.

A Russian communique said Red army troops yesterday drove forward six miles to within two miles of the rich iron and coal center of Szendro, 95 miles northeast of Budapest. The gains carried the Russians to within nine miles of the central Slovakian border at two points.

[The Moscow communique did not mention the Budapest battle, but a German broadcast said "the next few days will decide whether concentrated German and Hungarian forces will be able to stop the Russians."]

Red-backed Poles Return to Lublin

MOSCOW, Dec. 15 —Polish leaders of the Soviet-sponsored National Liberation Committee have returned to Lublin in Poland after talks with Russian officials here, and agitation is reaching a climax for the formation of a provisional government.

The Russian press again generously reported a popular demand in liberated Polish territory for elevation of the committee to governmental status and Boleslaw Berut, president of the committee's council, this week forecast that the next session of the council at Lublin would construct such a government. That development would leave the London Polish Exile regime out in the cold, observers were convinced.

Russia Says Poles Favor Lublin Leaders

Moscow, Dec. 15 (AP)—Agitation for formation of a Polish provisional government from the Soviet-sponsored Committee of National Liberation reached a climax today as Polish committee leaders returned to Lublin after a series of conferences in Moscow.

The Russian press printed in considerable length stories reporting a growing popular demand in liberated Polish territory for elevation of the committee to governmental status.

Play About U.S. Sausage King Gives Russ Audience Laugh

By Daniel De Luce

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Moscow, Dec. 15 (AP)—Alexander Korneichuk, the amiable playwright who used to be a Vice Foreign Commissar of the Soviet Union, tickled Moscow theatergoers last night by injecting a shot of laughing gas into Russian-American relations.

Arrayed in a wrinkled blue suit, Korneichuk stood nervously in the wings of the Satire Theater while his newest production, a three-act comedy entitled "Mr. Perkins's Mission to the Land of the Bolsheviks" was presented to an audience of 867 Russians and three Americans.

Chicago Sausage King

Any resemblance between Mr. Perkins and any American big business man who [illegible] toured Russia in wartime was, of course, purely coincidental. The three Americans out front—all journalists—decided that Korneichuk's dramatic potpourii combined a number of ingredients, including corn, but as an effort to extract fun from contemporary history the play was a success. It not only laughed at but with Americans.

In brief, the story follows the travels of Mr. Perkins, a sausage king from Chicago who has come to Russia to "see Mr. Stalin and learn the weaknesses there must be in this system." In journeying from Moscow to a collective farm and a front-line dugout he rubs

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shoulders in robust friendliness with every Russian he meets.

Villain Is U.S. Journalist

The villain of the piece is a rodent-faced American journalist who accompanies Mr. Perkins on his tour, always skeptical and sneering at the Russian character and accomplishments. He finally is disowned by his millionaire patron, who tells him:

"The only weakness I've found in the Soviet system is that it doesn't know its own strength."

Idea Of American Traits

The audience was much amused at the supposedly American traits attributed to Mr. Perkins. When a charming girl guide asks Mr. Perkins whether he would like to see Anna Karenina," his reply, "I haven't time for women," brought howls of laughter from the spectators, most of whom had seen that play here recently.

The audience was equally appreciative when a captured German parachutist slurs President Roosevelt in Mr. Perkins's presence and is promtply knocked down by a handsome Russian sergeant who says:

"You can't do that in front of our Allies."

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White Laughs, "Won't Sue"

Kornechuk's satire is the second Russian criticism of American journalists to appear in a week. Last Saturday a "Pravda" commentator bitterly criticized William L. White, journalist-author of a book on Russia, who accompanied Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce, on a trip to the Soviet Union last summer. Mr. White, who is visiting in New York, laughed yesterday as he heard about the play and said: "A sense of humor on both sides of the Atlantic is a healthy thing at any time, and particularly this one. I hope the play is a success. I won't sue."

Supreme Soviet Defers Elections For Year

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Moscow radio announced today that elections to the Supreme Soviet—legislative body of the Soviet Union—have been postponed until December, 1945, because of the war.

The present members, elected for a term of four years, will carry over to that time.

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Churchill Backs Red Demands in Poland

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In Historic Speech to Commons, British Leader Dumps Polish Exile Govt.—Redraws Map of Central Europe—Calls for Big 3 Meeting.

By Alex H. Singleton

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP) — Prime Minister Churchill dumped overboard the present Polish exile government today, backed Russia's demand for a new western frontier, and drew a map for central Europe in which Germany would lose vast tracts of her northern and eastern territory.

Historic Address

In an historic address, he suggested a "practical" approach by the United States to Poland's future and, inferentially, to that of all Europe, and disclosed a mysterious misfire in plans for a new meeting with President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin.

Rivalling in world significance his dramatic "blood, toil, sweat and tears" pronouncement which rallied Britain four years ago, Churchill bluntly made these main points today in the House of Commons:

Poland must accept Russia's demands for a western boundary running along the old Curzon Line, including the loss of Lvov.

Poland, with British-Soviet backing, would be free to expand to the west, taking over all of East Prussia south and west of Konigsberg, including once-free Danzig, and enjoying a 200-mile Baltic coastline rather than the old, narrow Polish corridor.

Remainder to Russia

By implication, through omission of mention, Russia would receive the remainder of East Prussia to the north.

President Roosevelt has been kept fully informed of Russian-British agreements on the future of Poland.

Mass transfers of population would be made to prevent war-breeding minority problems.

The whole story cannot yet be told because, "I find great difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined with the precision his Majesty's government have thought wise to use."

Restoration of the German populations inside reduced postwar boundaries would cause no great difficulty because "six or seven million Germans" already have been killed" and more will be killed."

"The fighting which will occupy the Spring and Summer x x x will involve the fiercest and largest battles fought in this war.

Meeting Impossible

"It has been found impossible to arrange any meeting of the three great powers. x x x We had grounds for believing we might have met before Christmas. x x x Nothing definite has been settled. There ought to be a meeting of the three great powers at the earliest moment."

"It seems unlikely that the evil forces in Germany x x x will have the power to restrict the decisions of a peace conference."

In tones of solemn significance—his word reflecting an obvious anxiety over apparent lack of full accord among the United Nations on all the snarled problems of Europe—he reminded the United States of "how much a failure on the part of the three greatest powers to work together would damage all our hopes for the future of world government."

To a tense House of Commons—sometimes sharply caustic in its criticism of his policy and clearly divided in its reception of his stand—the 70-year-old Churchill served notice he had no confidence in the recently-reconstructed Polish government-in-exile.

Wants Mikolajczyk

With all the eloquence at his command, Churchill made it clear that he wanted to see peasant-born Stanislaw Mikolajczyk immediately restored as Polish premier and lead the way to an accord with Russia and the Soviet-sponsored Polish National Liberation Committee which has set up shop in Lublin.

Dolefully, he implied that even that move might now be too late, that the Poles in London had delayed too long, that the authority of the Lublin committee would grow and its contacts with the Soviet government will become more intimate and strong.

"I do not know what misfortunes will attend such developments," said Churchill.

"In this diplomatic crossroads of world affairs, there has been ever-growing anticipation that Russia soon would recognize the Lublin committee as the provisional government.

"Grim, Bare Bones"

While the bulk of his speech dealt directly with the "grim, bare bones of the Polish problem," Churchill's implications went far beyond that immediate issue as he strove to bring the proposed Anglo-Soviet solution within the tenets of the Atlantic charter.

Solemnly he contended that there were no divergencies from that policy in a solution which would give Russia part of Poland and Poland part of Germany, contending that words were inserted in the charter which permitted such changes before the peace table provided they are "mutually agreed."

Coming as it does at the end of the war—a speech which drew from one member the comment that the Atlantic Charter has become a ghost—the Prime Minister also appealed to President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin to meet with him "at the earliest possible moment."

Apparently distraught over diplomatic developments which have raised differences among the United Nations, the Prime Minister confessed disappointment that it had "been found impossible to arrange any meeting of the three great powers."

[This coincided with a copyright Associated Press dispatch from makers what he called "the bare grim bones of the Polish problem," Washington forecasting no such meeting could take place before the end of January.]

Churchill said President Roosevelt had been informed of Russian-British decisions of Poland, but "I find difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined with precision. However, he said, "the President is aware of everything that has passed."

Three Proposals Set Forth

Placing before Britain's law-Churchill made these points:

1. The Poles have no alternative but to meet Russia's demands for a western frontier along the Curzon Line.

2. In return, Poland would be compensated with territory "at Germany's expense," including Danzig and all of East Prussia south and west of Konigsberg.

3. Mass transfers of population would be made to prevent minority disputes from troubling the future peace.

Russian Agreement Hinted

Between the lines of Churchill's speech apparently lay agreement between Britain and Russia on perhaps even more than the problems of Poland.

His pronouncements took on increased significance in the light of Britain's policy in the affairs of Europe's restive lands, contrasting to the hands-off attitude laid down by the United States.

From one of the first members to rise after Churchill concluded—Henry Raikes, Conservative barrister who once served in the RAF—came the sharp retort that "the Atlantic Charter has become a ghost." "And," he said, "that ghost was laid today."

Big Three Could "Effect" Transfer

Churchill said he had no doubt "that the great powers, if they agree, can effect" the transfer of population implicit in the assignment of part of East Prussia to Poland. It was here, he added, that he found "great difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined with the precision which the British Government have thought it wis to use."

"We know, however," he said, "that the Government and the people of the United States have set their hearts upon a world organization to prevent the outbreak of future wars, and this world organization will be fatally ruptured by a quarrel between any of the three most powerful empires which compose the grand alliance of the United Nations. The President is aware of everything that has passed. . . ."

Takes Exiles To Task

Churchill took Poland's exiled Government to task for what he called its delaying tactics.

As a result, he contended the authority of the rival, Soviet-sponsored Polish National Liberation Committee, will "grow and its contacts with the Soviet Government will become more intimate and strong."

Loses Confidence

Although he said "we still recognize the Polish (exiled) Government," Churchill made it clear that he held no confidence in its administration, since it was reconstituted "in a form which in some respects I certainly am not able to applaud."

In an apparent last desperate effort to obtain a compromise between the Lublin and London Poles, he heaped tributes upon Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, who stepped out as Premier of the London group recently. It was clearly a bid to persuade Mikolajczyk and his Peasant party to return to the coalition government in the leading role.

Will Meet Anywhere

Although suggesting Britain as a meeting site for the Big Three, Churchill agreed to go "any place" if such a session could be arranged.

"There ought to be a meeting of the three great powers at the earliest moment," he told the House of Commons. "So far as I and the Foreign Secretary (Anthony Eden) are concerned we will proceed to any place at any time under any conditions where we can meet the heads of our two chief allies.

Would Like To Be Host

"We should welcome above all a meeting in this island—a meeting in Great Britain which has waged the war from the outset and risked without flinching national annihilation in the cause of freedom."

The House rang with cheers.

The Churchill speech today was perhaps the first chief-of-state declaration that Germany would be sliced up after victory.

Mutual Agreements Excepted

"Our British principle," he said, "has been enunciated that all territorial changes must await the conference at the peace table after victory has been won, but to that there is an exception in principle. That exception is changes mutually agreed. That must not be forgotten."

Of Poland's loss in land in the east, he said flatly "this is a great gift they have to give to Russia."

Suggest Transfer Of People

"I cannot believe such an offer could be rejected by Poland," he emphasized, adding that it would have to be accompanied "by a disentanglement of populations in the west and north and the transfer of several millions of people from the east to the west and north, and the total expulsion of the Germans."

Standing before a tensely attentive House, Churchill drew a new map of central Europe.

Polish Gains Listed

"If Poland gives Lwow and the surrounding area on the south known as the Curzon Line—if Poland makes this concession and these lands are joined to the Ukraine, Poland will gain in the north all of East Prussia south and west of Koenigsberg, including Danzig, one of the most magnificent cities in the world, famous for centuries and a great gathering place for the trade of the Baltic, and indeed, of the world."

He said that "instead of the threatened and artificial corridor built up so laboriously after the last war, Poland would stretch broadly across the Baltic along 200 miles. The Poles are free so far as Russia and Britain are concerned to extend their territory at the expense of Germany to the west."

No Polish Sacrifice

He scoffed at opposition protests made previously by Poles here that a plan along this line would mean sacrifice of one third of Poland.

"That," he said, "includes vast tracts of the Pripyat Marshes, a most desolate region which, though it swells the acreage, does not add to the wealth of those who own it."

He emphasized that there must be a clean sweep—a transfer to prevent a "mixture of population to cause endless struggle as in Alsace-Lorraine."

Transfers Easier Now

He maintained that such "transferences" are "more possible than they ever were before, through modern conditions."

"Nor do I see," he said, "that there should not be room in Germany for the German population of East Prussia and of the other territories I have mentioned. After all, six million or seven million Germans have been killed already in this dreadful war into which they did not hesitate for a second time in a generation to plunge all Europe and the world.

More Germans To Be Killed

"At present we are told that there are ten million or twelve million prisoners or foreigners used as slaves in Germany who will, we hope, be restored to their own homes and lands when victory is gained. Moreover, we may expect that many more Germans will be killed in the fighting which will occupy the Spring and Summer and which will involve the fiercest and largest battles fought in this war."

Significantly, Churchill's speech drew a reaction sharply contrasting to that which followed his address just a week ago on Britain's policy in Greece, Italy and Belgium.

Conservatives Criticize

This time, it was members of his own Conservative party in Commons who arose to criticize,

Early Meeting Of Big 3 Is Called Imperative

DEC 16 1944

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—Siding with Russia in the Polish dispute, Prime Minister Churchill today confessed disappointment at delays in reconvening the Big Three and bespoke unity among the great powers lest a new structure of world government die in inception.

The Prime Minister virtually abandoned the London Polish Government, at least as now constituted, and supported as reasonable the Russian demands for territory in old Poland which the exiled government has refused to yield. Once Churchill spoke of conditions "if" the great powers agree. Again, he mentioned "how much a failure on the part of the three greatest powers to work together would damage all our hopes for the future structure of world government." A quarrel among these powers, he declared, would fatally rupture this world organization.

He said Russia was entitled to certain territory in the east of old Poland as a matter of reassurance about her western frontiers.

Poland, Churchill said, would be compensated for its sacrifice of Lwow and territory near the Ukraine by tracts of East Prussia and Danzig, to be wrested from Germany.

Suggest Big Three Parley

In one of the most significant

and those who lean to the Left who gave him support.

From Laborite Morgan Phillips Price came the assertion:

"Some Poles . . . live in the land of make-believe. They still think that Russia can be kept back as a weak power. The time has come to speak plainly. Our patience is not inexhaustible. The Polish Government is fast losing its appeal."

Exiled Poles Defended

Conservative Alan Graham sharply inquired: "It is any wonder that Mikolajczyk and the Polish Government refuse to set their hands to what would be nothing less but the suicide warrant for their nation."

On the other hand, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, an independent, struck out at what she called a "growing disposition to treat Russia as a nerve doctor treats a highly hysterical patient."

"If we are to look forward to years of postwar co-operation with Russia—let us put it plainly—Russians have to get accustomed, whether they like it or not, to our habit of speaking our minds," she said.

Atlantic Charter Cited

Conservative K. W. Pickthorn jibed at Churchill with the suggestion that the Prime Minister did not appear to have read the Atlantic Charter.

"I don't know who composed it," he said, and I do not suppose Mr. Churchill has read it. Mr. Churchill has told the House that there was a special proviso in the Atlantic Charter about mutual agreement for territorial changes. There was nothing of the sort.

Little Hope For Exiles

As Churchill opened debate on the "grim bare bones of the Polish problem," he indicated he had little hope that the newly reorganized Polish exiled government in London could reach an accord with Russia or with the rival Soviet-sponsored Polish Committee of National Liberation.

"Already," he said solemnly, "I imagine the prospects of reconciliation between the Polish Government and the Lublin Committee with the Soviet Government behind them have definitely receded, though they might perhaps advance again were Mr. Mikolajczyk able to speak with authority for the fortunes of the Polish nation."

Early Solution Imperative

Churchill reminded Commons that he had cautioned Mikolajczyk of the danger of delaying efforts to reach a solution.

He maintained that if Mikolajczyk had been able to return to Moscow "after the very friendly conversations which passed between him and Marshal Stalin" and members of the rival Soviet-sponsored National Liberation Committee, "the difficulties inherent in the formation of a Polish government in harmony with the Lublin Committee might well have been overcome."

Regrets Withdrawal

Intimating strongly that Britain seriously regretted Mikolajczyk's withdrawal from the exiled government, Churchill said the peasant-born ex-premier "and his colleagues were more qualified to fill the place" of the late Polish patriot leader General Sikorski "than any other of the Polish leaders."

He told Commons that if Mikolajczyk had returned to Moscow "he would be at this moment at the head of a Polish Government on Polish soil, recognized by all the United Nations and awaiting the advance of the Russian Army moving further into Poland as the country was delievered from the Germans."

Churchill On Polish Question

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—Part of the text of Prime Minister Churchill's address in the House of Commons today follows:

Opening this debate, I find myself in a position to read to the House again some extracts from the carefully considered statements that I made to them in February after I returned from Tehran, and also in October of the present year. . . .

It is not often that one wishes to repeat what one has said two months ago, still less ten months ago. But I propose to do so, because in no other way and in no other words can I remind the House and bring home to them the grim, bare bones of the Polish problem.

On February 22 I said that at Tehran I took occasion to raise personally with Marshal Stalin the question of the future of Poland. . . .

It was with great pleasure that I heard from Marshal Stalin that he, too, was resolved upon the creation and maintenance of a strong, integral, independent Poland as one of the leading powers in Europe.

He several times repeated this declaration in public. I am convinced that that represents the settled policy of the Soviet Union. Here I may remind the House that we ourselves have never in the past guaranteed on behalf of the British Government any particular frontier line to Poland.

Russia's Right

I have intense sympathy with the Poles: . . . And I also have sympathy with the Russians. . . . Russia has the right of reassurance against future attacks from the west: and we are going all the way with her to see that she gets it—not only by the might of her arms but with the approval and assent of the United Nations. . . .

I cannot feel that Russia's demands for reassurance about her western frontiers goes beyond the limit of what is reasonable or just. Marshal Stalin and I also spoke and agreed upon the need for Poland to obtain compensation at the expense of Germany, both in the north and in the west.

The hopes I thought it necessary to express in October have failed. When Mr. (former Prémier) Mikolajczyk left Moscow my hope was that he would return within a week or so with the authority of the Polish Government in London to agree about the Polish frontier on the basis of the Curzon Line and its prolongation to the southward. . . . I have several times drawn up Mr. Mikolajczyk's attention to the dangers of delay. Had he been able to return . . . with the assent of his colleagues I believe that the difficulties inherent in the formation of a Polish Government in harmony with the Lublin Committee might well have been overcome.

Respects To Mikolajczyk

In that case he would be at this moment at the head of a Polish Government on Polish soil recognized by all the United Nations and awaiting the advance of the Russian armies moving farther into Poland as the country was delivered from the Germans. . . .

I have the greatest respect for Mr. Mikolajczyk and his able colleagues whom we met, Mr. Romer and Mr. Grabski.

I am sure that they are more qualified to fill the place of the late General Sikorski than any other of the Polish leaders. After endless discussions, into some of which we were drawn on Mr. Mikolajczyk's return from Moscow, the Poles utterly failed to obtain agreement.

In consequence, on November 21 Mr. Mikolajczyk and Mr. Romer and the other Polish Ministers resigned from the Polish Government, which has been almost entirely reconstituted in a form which in some respects I certainly am not able to applaud. . . .

Mr. Mikolajczyk's ordeal has been a most severe and painful one, torn between love of his country and the intense desire to reach a settlement with her mighty neighbor which was most abhorrent to many of his fellow-countrymen, and confronted with the obstinate and inflexible resistance of his London colleagues. . . . In these circumstances, Mr. Mikolajcyk decided to resign.

Almost a month has passed since then and now I imagine the prospects of reconciliation between the Polish Government and the Lublin Committee with the Soviet Government behind them have definitely receded, though they might perhaps advance again were Mr. Mikolajczyk able to speak with authority for the Polish nation. . . .

Lublin Authority To Grow

As . . . the Germans are expelled from large new tracts of Poland the authority of the Lublin Committee and the area it administers will grow and its contacts with the Soviet Government will become more intimate and strong.

I do not know what misfortunes will attend such developments. The absence of an agreement may well be grievous for Poland, and the relationship and misunderstanding between the advancing Russian armies and the Polish underground movement may take forms which will be most painful to all who have the permanent well-being of Poland and the relationship between Poland and Russia at heart.

. . . we still recognize the Polish Government as the Government of Poland, as we have done since they reached our shores in the early part of this war. This, of course, has been continued up to the present by all the rest of the United Nations except Russia only, which is the power most concerned and the power whose armies will be the first to enter the heart of Poland.

Recompense

. . . I cannot accept the view that the arrangements proposed about frontiers are not solid and satisfactory, or that they would not give to Poland that abiding home I spoke about in February. If Poland gives Lwow and the surrounding area on the south known as the Curzon Line; if Poland makes this concession and these lands are joined to the Ukraine, Poland will gain in the north all of East Prussia south and west of Konigsberg, including Danzig. . . .

Instead of the threatened and artificial corridor built up so laboriously after the last war, Poland would stretch broadly across the Baltic along a front of 200 miles. The Poles are free so far as Russia and Great Britain are concerned to extend their territories at the expense of Germany to the west.

I do not propose to go into exact details, but the extension will mean in the west and north territories more important and more highly developed than those they lose in the east.

Marshes To Be Ceded

We hear one third of Poland is to be ceded, but that includes vast tracts of the Pripyat marshes, a most desolate region, which, though it swells the acreage, does not add to the wealth of those who own it.

Thus I have set before the House what in outline is the offer which the Russians, on whom the main burden of liberation still falls, make to the Polish people. I cannot believe that such an offer should be rejected by Poland. It has, of couse, to be accompanied by the disentanglement of peoples in the west and north.

The transference of several millions of people would have to be effected and . . . total expulsion of the Germans from the areas to be acquired by Poland in the west and the north. There will be no mixture of population to cause endless struggle as in Alsace-Lorraine. A clear sweep will be made.

Nor do I see that there should be room in Germany for the German population of East Prussia and of the other territories I have mentioned. After all, 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 Germans have been killed already in this dreadful war, into which they did not hesitate for a second time in a generation to plunge all Europe and the world. . . . Moreover, we may expect that many more Germans will be killed in the fighting which will occupy the spring and summer and which will involve the fiercest and largest battles fought in this war.

First Arose At Tehran

When these matters which arose at the Tehran conference were first foreshadowed by me to the House, the British and American armies had not landed on the Continent. France was not liberated. . . . Then the armies of General Eisenhower were still gathering in this island and not along the Rhine, where they are growing in strength as the great waves of American manhood cross the Atlantic and take their place in the crusade and in the line of battle. Nor had the Russians advanced to the Vistula. . . .

In those days the Poles might well have had some show of reason in asking whether the great Allies would have the power, even if they were so minded, to deliver the new territory to Poland which was to compensate her for what she was giving up in the East.

But the situation has changed vastly in favor of the Allies, and it seems also extremely unlikely that after the spring and summer campaigns have been fought—if it be necessary to go so far in to business, and we shall go whatever distance is necessary to complete our object—it seems unlikely that the evil and hateful forces in Germany who conceived, planned and began this war, will have the power to restrict the decisions of a peace conference or an armistice peace conference at which the principal victorious powers will be assembled.

U.S. Views Undefined

The prospects of final victory have in the time that has passed since these matters were first discussed at Tehran become for the Allies solid and spacious. Therefore, I say what has always been said by the Poles when I have been discussing with them: "Here we know what we have to give up: what certainty have we of receiving compensation in other quarters?"

They have much more certainty of it now than they had at this time last year. I cannot see any doubt whatever that the great powers, if they agree, can effect this transference of population.

I find great difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined with the precision which the British Government have thought it wise to use. The friendship of the United States Government for Poland, no less than our own, the large mass of Poles who have made their homes in the United States and who are or are becoming American citizens, the constitutional difficulties of the United States in making treaties or making foreign agreements of every kind—all these have not enabled the Government of that great nation to speak in the terms which I have thought it my duty, with the assent of my colleagues, to use in this House.

We know, however, that the Government and people of the United States have set their hearts upon a world organization to prevent the outbreak of future wars, and this world organization will be fatally ruptured by a quarrel between any of the three most powerful empires which compose the grand alliance of the United Nations.

The President is aware of everything that has passed and of what is in the minds of the Russians and of the British. He had at Moscow in Mr. Averell Harriman, the Ambassador, a most accomplished representative in the capacity of observer, and he was present at all, or nearly all, of our Polish talks on the occasion of our last visit.

The President therefore has been kept fully informed, not only by the British Government but also by his own highly competent and distinguished representative and by all the many sources and channels that are open to the unceasing vigilance of the State Department.

Why Except Poland?

I am particularly careful not ever to pretend to speak in the name of any other power unless so directed beforehand, and I hope the House will make allowance for the care with which I pick my words upon this point. All I can say is that I have received no formal disagreement during all these long months upon the way in which the future of Poland seems to be shaping itself or is being shaped.

There is no doubt that when the time comes the United States will make their own pronouncement upon these matters, bearing in mind, as they will, the practical aspects which these matters assume and also how much a failure on the part of the three greatest powers to work together would damage all our hopes for the future structure of world government, which, whatever else it might fail to do, will at any rate be equipped with all the powers necessary to prevent an outbreak of further war.

It is asked: why cannot all questions of territorial changes be left over to the end of the war? I think that is a most pertinent question, and it is in fact the answer which I and the foreign secretary gave in almost every case that has been presented to us: They must wait until the end of the war. . . . So why should Poland be excepted from this general rule?

Deals With Russian Armies

It is only for the Polish advantage and to avoid great evils which might occur. Russian armies—I know nothing of their intentions, but speaking only of what is obvious to anyone who studies war maps—the Russian armies will probably during the early part of next year traverse large areas of Poland, driving the Germans before them.

If during those marches fierce quarrels and fighting break out between large sections of the Polish population and the Russian troops, very great suffering which can still be avoided will infallibly occur and new poisoned wounds will be inflicted upon those who must dwell side by side in peace, in confidence and in good neighborliness.

They must dwell side by side in peace and friendship if the tranquility of Europe is to be assured, or the smooth working of the world organization for the maintenance of peace is to be created and maintained. . . . Our British principle has been enunciated in what I have said: that all territorial changes must await the con-

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ference at the peace table after victory has been won. But there is an exception in principle, and that exception is "changes mutually agreed." It must not be forgotten that words are inserted in the Atlantic Charter "no changes before the peace table except changes mutually agreed."

To Poland's Interest

I am absolutely convinced that it is in the profound future interest of the Polish nation that they should reach agreement with the Soviet Government about their disputed frontier in the East before the march of the Russian armies through the main part of Poland takes place. . . . I must, however, say . . . that at that conference we shall adhere to the line which I am now unfolding to the House, and shall not hesitate to proclaim that the Russians are justly and rightly treated in being granted the claim they make to the Eastern frontiers along the Curzon Line as described. . . .

We have never weakened in any way in our resolve that Poland shall be restored and stand erect as a sovereign, independent nation, free to model her social institutions or any institutions in any way her people choose; provided, I must say, that these are not on Fascist lines, and provided that Poland stands loyally as a barrier and friend of Russia against German aggression from the west.

In the task, of course, Poland will be aided to the full by a Russian-British guarantee and assistance, and will also, I cannot doubt—though I cannot declare—be aided by the United States of America, acting at least through the world organization which we are determined to erect. . . .

Big-3 Meeting Waits

I have spoken of fading hopes and of disappointment at the failure to reach a Russo-Polish agreement. But there has been another disappointment. It has been found impossible to arrange any meeting of the three great powers. We had good grounds for believing we might have met before Christmas. Indeed, I confidently expected that we should. So far, however, although the prospect is earnestly desired and looked forward to, nothing definite has been settled.

Therefore, the strong and authoritative if provisional decisions which are now required, not only on the Russo-Polish question, but on a host of vital matters—political, international, military, economic . . . stand at the bar and wait.

There ought to be a meeting at least of the three great powers at the earliest possible moment. So far as I and the foreign secretary are concerned, we can only repeat what we have so often said, that we will proceed to any place at any time under any conditions where we can meet the heads of our two chief allies: and that we should welcome above all a meeting in this island—in Great Britain, which has waged the war from the very outset and risked, without flinching, annihilation in the cause of freedom.

DEC 16 1944

By The United Press.

LONDON, Dec. 15—The text of Prime Minister Winston Churchill's address on Poland in the House of Commons today follows:

In opening this debate I find myself in a position to read to the House again some extracts from the carefully considered statement that I made to them in February after I returned from Teheran and also in October of the present year.

When I read them over again last night in preparation for this debate, I found it very difficult to improve upon them or to alter them in any way. This may accuse me of infertility of mind, but it also gives me some confidence that I have not misled the House or felt myself stultified, in all respects at any rate, by the harsh, unforeseeable movement of events.

It is not often that one wishes to repeat what one has said two months ago, still less ten months ago. But I propose to do so because in no other way and in no other words can I remind the House and bring home to them the grim, bare bones of the Polish problem.

On Feb. 22 I said that at Teheran I took occasion to raise personally with Marshal Stalin the question of the future of Poland. I pointed out that it was in fulfillment of our guarantee to Poland that Great Britain declared war on Nazi Germany and that we had never weakened in our resolve, even in the period when we were all alone, and the fate of the Polish nation held prime place in the thoughts and policies of the British Government and the British Parliament.

Stalin's Promises Cited

It was with great pleasure that I heard from Marshal Stalin that he, too, was resolved upon the creation and maintenance of a strong, integral, independent Poland as one of the leading Powers in Europe. He several times repeated this declaration in public. I am convinced that that represents the settled policy of the Soviet Union.

Here I may remind the House that we ourselves have never in the past guaranteed on behalf of the British Government any particular frontier line to Poland. We did not approve the Polish occupation of Vilna in 1920, and the British view in 1919 stands expressed in the so-called Curzon Line, which attempted to deal, at any rate partially, with the problem.

I have always held the view that all questions of territorial settlement and adjustment should stand until the end of the war and that the victorious Powers should then arrive at a formal and final agreement governing the articulation of Europe as a whole.

However, the advance of Russian armies in the Polish regions in which the Polish underground army is active makes it indispensable that some kind of friendly working agreement should be arrived at to govern wartime conditions and to enable all anti-Hitlerite forces to work together against the common foe.

During the last few weeks the Foreign Secretary and I have consulted with the Polish Government in London, with the object of establishing a working agreement upon which the fighting forces can act and upon which I trust a loyal comradeship may be built between Russians and Poles.

Intense Sympathy With Poles

I have intense sympathy with the policies of that heroic race, whose national spirit centuries of misfortune cannot quench, and I also have sympathy with the Russians. Twice in our lifetime Russia has been violently assaulted by Germany, many millions of Russians have been slain, and vast tracts of Russian soil have been devastated as a result of repeated German aggression. Russia has the right of reassurance against future attacks from the west and we are going all the way with her to see that she gets it, not only by the might of her arms, but with the approval and assent of the United Nations.

The liberation of Poland may presently be achieved by Russian armies after those armies have suffered millions of casualties in breaking the German military machine. I cannot feel that Russian demands for reassurance about her western frontiers go beyond the limit of what is reasonable or just. Marshal Stalin and I also spoke of, and agreed upon, the need for Poland to obtain compensation at the expense of Germany, both in the north and west. I said that nearly a year ago. I have nothing to alter in it from the point of view of His Majesty's Government.

On Oct. 27, more recently, I reported upon my last visit to Moscow and said the most urgent and burning question was, of course, that of Poland. Here again I speak words of hope, of hope reinforced by confidence—but I am afraid this does not hold in the same degree at the present time. To abandon hope in this matter would indeed be to surrender to despair.

Two Crucial Issues Involved

In this sphere there are two crucial issues. The first is the question of the western frontier of Poland and new territory to be added to Poland in the north and west. The second is the relation of the Polish Government with the Lublin National Liberation Committee. On these two points, apart from many subsidiary and ancillary topics, we held a series of conferences with both parties.

I could tell the House we reached a solution of these problems. It is certainly not for want of trying. I am quite certain we have got a great deal nearer—this is subject to some review in the light of events. I hope Mikolajczyk will soon return to Moscow and it will be a great disappointment to the sincere friends of Poland if an agreed arrangement cannot be made which will enable him to form a Polish Government on Polish soil, a Government recognized by the Great Powers and indeed by all these Governments of the United Nations which now recognize the Polish Government in London.

Though I do not underrate the difficulties which remain, it is a comfort to feel that Britain and Russia and, I do not doubt, the United States are all firmly agreed on the re-creation of a free, independent, sovereign Poland, loyal to the Allies and friendly to her great neighbor and liberator Russia.

Speaking more particularly for His Majesty's Government, it is our persevering and constant aim that the Polish people, after their suffering and vicissitudes, should find in Europe an abiding home and resting place which, though it may not entirely coincide or correspond with the pre-war frontier of Poland, will nevertheless be adequate for the needs of the Polish nation and not inferior in character and quality, taking the picture as a whole, with that they previously possessed.

Warns Against Waste of Time

These are critical days and it would be a great pity if the time were wasted in indecision or protracted negotiations. If the Polish Government had taken the advice we tendered at the beginning of this year, the additional complications produced by the formation of the Polish National Committee of Liberation at Lublin would not have arisen; and anything like prolonged delay in settlement can only have the effect of hampering common action which the Poles and Russians and the rest of the Allies are taking against Germany. I hope no time will be lost in pressing these discussions to a successful conclusion.

The hopes I thought it necessary to express in October have failed. When Mikolajczyk left Moscow, my hope was that he would return within a week or so with the authority of the Polish Government in London to agree about the Polish frontier on the basis of the Curzon Line and its prolongation to the southward called the Curzon Line "A," which passed on the Russian side of Lwow.

I have several times drawn Mikolajczyk's attention to the dangers of delay. Had he been able to return after the very friendly conversations which passed between him and Mr. Stalin and also the conversations which he had with the members of the Lublin National Committee—had he been able to return with the assent of his colleagues, I believe that the difficulties inherent in the formation of a Polish Government in harmony with the Lublin Committee might well have been overcome.

In that case he would be at this moment at the head of a Polish Government on Polish soil recognized by all the United Nations and awaiting the advance of Russian armies moving farther into Poland as the country is delivered from the Germans. He was also assured in this task the friendship and friendly help of Marshal Stalin.

Respect for Polish Leaders

Thus he could, at every stage, have established good relations between the Polish underground movement and the advancing Russians, and a Polish administration would have been set up by him in newly delivered regions as they expanded. I have the greatest respect for Mr. Mikolajczyk and his able colleagues whom we met, Mr. Romer and Mr. Grabski. I am sure that they are more qualified to fill the place of the late General Sikorski than any other of the Polish leaders.

After endless discussions, into some of which we were drawn on Mr. Mikolajczyk's return from Moscow, the Poles utterly failed to obtain agreement. In consequence, on Nov. 21 Mr. Mikolajczyk and Mr. Romer and other Ministers resigned from the Polish Government, which has been almost entirely reconstituted in a form which, in some respects, I am certainly not able to applaud.

Mr. Mikolajczyk and his friends remain, in the view of His Majesty's Government, the only light that burns for Poland in the immediate future. Just as I said that if the Polish Government had agreed in the early part of this year upon a frontier, there never would have been any Lublin Committee to which Soviet Russia has committed herself, so now I say that if Mr. Mikolajczyk could swiftly have returned to Moscow early in November, as he hoped and expected to do, with the power to conclude an agreement of frontier line, Poland might now take her full place in the ranks of the nations contending against Germany and would have the full support and friendship of Marshal Stalin and the Soviet Government.

That opportunity too is for the time being suspended. This prospect vanished like the last and it remained one of the stories of the Sibylline Books in which, on every occasion, the price remained the same and the number of volumes decreased until at the last they had to be bought on the most unfavorable of terms.

Severe Ordeal for Mikolajczyk

Mr. Mikolajczyk's ordeal has been a most severe and painful one. Torn between love of his country and intense desire to reach a settlement with her mighty neighbor, which was most abhorrent to many of his fellow-countrymen, and confronted with the obstinate, inflexible resistance of his London colleagues and their veto, like the veto which played so great a part in the former ruin of Poland, in these circumstances Mr. Mikolajczyk decided to resign.

Almost a month has passed since then and, I imagine, the prospects of reconciliation between the Polish Government and the Lublin Committee with the Soviet Government behind them. They have definitely receded, though they might perhaps advance again were Mr. Mikolajczyk able to speak with authority for the Polish nation. The consequence of this recession of hopes of this working agreement between Russia and the Poles has been masked to British eyes by the fact that the Russian armies on the long Vistula front have been motionless and if and when they move forward, as move forward they surely will, and the Germans are expelled from large new tracts of Poland, the authority of the Lublin Committee and the area it administers will grow in its contacts with the Soviets more intimate and strong.

I do not know what misfortunes will attend such developments. The absence of agreement may well be grievous for Poland and the relationship and misunderstanding between the advancing Russian armies and the Polish Underground movement may take forms which will be most painful to all who have the permanent well-being of Poland and the relationship between Poland and Russia at heart.

The fact that a Prime Minister resigns from a Government and that a new Government is born does not, of course, affect the form of diplomatic relationships between States. We still recognize the Polish Government as the Government of Poland, as we have done since they reached our shores in the early part of this war. This, of course, has been continued up to the present by all the rest of the United Nations, except Russia only, which is most concerned and is the power whose armies will be the first to enter the heart of Poland.

200 Miles on Baltic for Poland

It is a source of grief to me that these forces have not been joined together more closely against the common foe. I cannot accept the view that the arrangements proposed about the frontier are not solid and satisfactory or that they would not give to Poland that abiding home I spoke about in February.

If Poland gives Lwow and the surrounding area on the south known as the Curzon Line A, if Poland makes this concession and these lands are joined to the Ukraine, Poland will gain in the north all of East Prussia south and west of Koenigsberg, including Danzig, one of the most magnificent cities in the world, famous for centuries and the great gathering place for the trade of the Baltic and indeed of the world. Instead of the threatened and artificial corridor built up so laboriously after the last war, Poland would stretch broadly along the Baltic on a front of 200 miles. The Poles are free, so far as Russia and Great Britain are concerned, to extend their territories at the expense of Germany to the west.

I do not propose to go into the exact details, but an extension in which they will be supported by Britain and Russia, bound together as they are by a twenty-year alliance, this extension will

mean in the west and north territories more important and more highly developed than those they lose in the east.

We hear of one-third of Poland to be ceded, but that includes vast tracts of the Pripet Marshes, a most desolate region which, though it swells acreage, does not add to the wealth of those who own it.

Thus I have set before the House what, in outline, is the offer which the Russians, on whom the main burden of liberation still falls, make to the Polish people. I cannot believe that such an offer should be rejected by Poland. It has, of course, to be accompanied by the disentanglement of peoples in the west and north and transference of several millions of people would have to be effected from east to west, or to north, and because that is what is proposed, the total expulsion of Germans from the areas to be acquired by Poland in the west and north, for expulsion is the method which, so far as we have been able to see, will be most satisfactory and lasting.

No Mixture of Population

There will be no mixture of population to cause endless struggle, as in Alsace-Lorraine. A clean sweep will be made. I am not alarmed at the prospect of the disentanglement of population nor even am I alarmed by these large transferences which are more possible than they ever were before, through modern conditions.

The disentanglement of populations which took place between Greece and Turkey after the last war was in many ways successful and has produced friendly relations between Greece and Turkey ever since. That disentanglement which at first seemed impossible to achieve and about which it was said that it would strip Turkish life in Anatolia of so many extra services, and about which it was said that the extra population could never be assimilated and sustained by Greece, that disentanglement solved problems which before had been the cause of immense friction, of wars and of rumors of wars.

Nor do I see that there should not be room in Germany for the German population of East Prussia and of other territories I have mentioned. After all, six million or seven million Germans have been killed already in this dreadful war into which they did not hesitate for a second time in this generation to plunge all Europe and the world.

At present we are told that there are ten million or twelve million prisoners, or foreigners, used as slaves in Germany, who will, we hope, be restored to their own homes and lands when victory is gained. Moreover, we may expect that many more Germans will occupy spring and summer will be killed in fighting which and which will involve the fiercest and largest battles fought in this war.

When these matters which arose were first foreshadowed by me to the House, British and American armies had not landed on the Continent. France had not been liberated. She was powerless, not like now when she is rising with great rapidity to a strong and fine position among the nations of the world. The armies of General Eisenhower were still gathering on this island and not along the Rhine where they are now growing in strength as great waves of American manhood cross the Atlantic and take their place in the crusade and in the line of battle.

Nor had the Russians advanced to the Vistula. Vast distances separated them even from the frontiers of Poland. Nor was one large German Army cut off in the peninsula which has Memel and Libau as its bases. There was not that great position which Russian armies hold in the extreme north, nor was their left hand reaching out beyond Budapest in the south, threatening advance into the very heart of Austria. Nor had Rome been occupied, nor the Apennines pierced.

Situation Has Changed Vastly

In those days the Poles might well have had some show of reason in asking whether the Great Allies would have power, even if they were so minded, to deliver new territory to Poland which was to compensate her for what she was giving up in the east.

But the situation has changed vastly in favor of the Allies and it seems also extremely unlikely that after the spring and summer campaigns have been fought, if it be necessary to go so far in the business, and we shall go whatever distance is necessary to complete our object, it seems extremely unlikely that the evil, hateful forces in Germany who conceived and planned and began this war will have power to restrict the decision of the peace conference or armistice-peace conference at which the principal victorious powers will be assembled.

The prospects of final victory have in the time that has passed since these matters were first discussed at Teheran become for the Allies solid and spacious. Therefore I say what has always been said by the Poles when I have been discussing with them: "Here we know what we have to give up; what certainty have we of recovering compensation in other quarters?"

They have much more certainty of it now than they had at this time last year. I cannot see any doubt whatever that the Great Powers, if they agree, can effect this transference of population.

I find great difficulty in discussing these matters because the attitude of the United States has not been defined with the precision which the British Government have thought it wise to use. The friendship of the United States Government for Poland, no less than our own, the large mass of Poles who have made their homes in the United States and who are, or are becoming, American citizens, constitutional difficulties of the United States in making treaties—all these have not enabled the Government of that great nation to speak in terms which I have thought it my duty, with the assent of my colleagues, to use in this House.

President Aware of Everything

We know, however, that the Government and the people of the United States have set their hearts upon world organization to prevent outbreak of future wars and this world organization will be fatally ruptured by a quarrel between any of the three most powerful empires which compose the Grand Alliance of the United Nations.

The President is aware of everything that has passed and of what is in the minds of the Russians and British. He had at Moscow in Mr. Averill Harriman a most accomplished representative in the capacity of observer and he was present at all, or nearly all our Polish talks on the occasion of our last visit. The President, therefore, has been kept fully informed, not only by the British Government but also by his own highly competent and distinguished representative and by all the many sources and channels that are open to the unceasing vigilance of the State Department.

I am particularly careful not ever to pretend to speak in the name of any other Power unless so directed beforehand and I hope the House will make allowance for the care with which I pick my words upon this point. All I can say is that I have received no formal disagreement during all these long months upon the way in which the future of Poland seems to be shaping itself, or is being shaped.

There is no doubt that when the time comes the United States will make their own pronouncement upon these matters, bearing in mind, as they will, the practical aspects which these matters assume and also how much failure on the part of the three greatest Powers to work together would damage all our hopes for the future structure of a world government which, whatever else it might fail to do, will at any rate be equipped with all powers necessary to prevent outbreak of further war.

It is asked why cannot all questions of territorial changes be left over to the end of the war. I think that a most pertinent question and it is one, in fact, which I and the Foreign Secretary gave in almost every case that has been presented to us. They must wait until the end of war. Armies, it is said, move here or there as they advance or recede. They may be in occupation of this ground or the other, but it is at the peace table alone that the permanent destiny of any land or people will be decided. Why cannot that be said in this case? It may be said in every case, or almost every case except in that of Poland. So why should Poland be excepted from this general rule?

Sees Trouble for Russian Armies

It is only for the Polish advantage and to avoid the great evils which might occur. Russian armies—I know nothing of their intentions, but speaking only of what is obvious to anyone who studies war maps—Russian armies will probably during the early part of next year traverse large areas of Poland, driving Germans before them. If during those marches fierce quarrels and fighting break out between large sections of the Polish population and Russian troops, very great suffering, which can still be avoided, will infallibly occur and new poisoned wounds will be inflicted upon those who must dwell side by side in peace and in confidence and in good neighborliness.

They must dwell side by side in peace and friendship if the tranquillity of Europe is to be assured or a smooth working world organization for the maintenance of peace is to be created and maintained. All these matters are among the most serious which can possibly be imagined so far as our present lights allow.

Our British principle has been enunciated in what I have said, that all territorial changes must await the conference at the peace table after victory has been won, but there is exception in principle and that exception is "changes mutually agreed." It must not be forgotten that words are inserted in the Atlantic Charter, "No changes before the peace table, except changes mutually agreed."

I am absolutely convinced that it is in the profound future interest of the Polish nation that they should reach an agreement with the Soviet Government about their disputed frontier in the east before the march of Russian armies through the main part of Poland takes place. That is the great gift that they have to give Russia, a settlement now at this time which gives firm title of mutual agreement to what might otherwise be disputed at the peace conference.

I must, however, say, because I am most anxious that the House should understand the whole position, speaking on behalf of His Majesty's Government, and in a way which I believe will probably be held binding by our successors, that at that conference we shall adhere to the line which I am now unfolding to the House and shall not hestiate to proclaim that the Russians are justly and rightly treated in being granted the claim they make to the eastern frontiers along the Curzon Line as described.

The Foreign Secretary and I have labored many months. We have spared no labor or travel, no risk of political rebuffs and consequent censure in our efforts to bring about that good understanding between the Poles, whom we still recognize, and the mighty ally which has so heavily smitten German military power.

"Poland Shall Be Restored"

We have never weakened any way in our resolve that Poland shall be restored and stand erect as a sovereign independent nation, free to model her social institutions, or any institution, in any way her people choose. Provided, I must say, that these are not on Fascist lines and provided that Poland stands loyally as a barrier and friend of Russia against German aggression from the west.

In this task Poland will be aided to the full by Russian and British guarantee and assistance and will also, I cannot doubt though I cannot declare, be aided by the United States, acting at least through world organizations which we are determined to erect, which she and the whole of the United Nations are determined to erect for the salvation of mankind toiling here below from the horrors of repeated wars.

Another great war, especially an ideological war, fought as it would be not only on frontiers but in the heart of every land with weapons far more destructive than men have yet wielded, will spell doom perhaps for many centuries of such civilization as we have been able to erect since history began to be written. It is that peril which, according to the best judgment of this National Government of all parties, has so lately renewed its troth to stand together for the duration of the war against Germany, that we have labored and are striving sincerely and faithfully to ward off.

Other powerful States are with us on every side, some more powerful, perhaps, than the British Empire and Commonwealth of Nations. We can only trust and can only try our best, and if we cannot solve the problems, we can at least make sure that this problem is faced in all its somber magnitude while time remains. I have spoken of fading hopes and of disappointment at failure to reach a Russo-Polish agreement.

But there has been another disappointment. It has been found impossible to arrange any meeting of the Three Great Powers. We had good grounds for believing we might have met before Christmas. Indeed, I confidently expected that we should. So far, however, although the prospect is earnestly desired and looked forward to, nothing definite has been settled. Therefore, strong authoritative, if provisional decisions which are now required, not only on the Russo-Polish question, but on a host of vital matters, political, international, military, economic—apart from such progress as can be made by correspondence and individual visits, so far these decisions stand at bar and wait. There ought to be a meeting at least of the Three Great Powers at the earliest possible moment.

So far as I and the Foreign Secretary are concerned, we can only repeat what we have so often said, that we will proceed to any place at any time, under any conditions where we can meet the heads of our two chief allies and that we should welcome above all a meeting in this island, in Great Britain, which has waged war from the very outset and risked, without flinching, annihilation in the cause of freedom.

Charter Called 'Ghost'

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP).—No vote of confidence was involved in the House of Commons discussion today of the Soviet-Polish problem and no such vote was sought by Prime Minister Churchill, for criticism came from his own supporters among the Conservatives. In contrast with what happened just a week ago when he defended his policy of intervention in Italy, Greece and Belgium, it was from the Laborites of Left-Wing leanings that he found his support today.

A Conservatitve M. P., Henry Raikes, protested: "The Atlantic Charter has become a ghost, and that ghost was laid today."

From Morgan Philips Price, Laborite, came the assertion: "Some Poles . . . live in the land of make-believe. They still think that Russia can be kept back as a weak power. The time has come to speak plainly. Our patience is not inexhaustible. The Polish government is fast losing its appeal."

Nazis Denounce Polish 'Sell-Out'

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—The German radio tonight denounced what it called Prime Minister Churchill's "shameful selling out" of Poland. It jeered that Churchill's proposal to compensate Poland with parts of East Prussia and Danzig was "astounding" in its moderation.

"The plan to give certain German territories in the east to a Soviet Poland has long been known to German political quarters," Berlin said. "The only astounding point is that Churchill merely referred to East Prussia including Danzig, while the Lublin (Polish National Liberation) Committee has extended its aims much farther to the west.

"But all this includes a lot of wishful thinking which has yet to materialize and we may answer Churchill with that well-known British saying: 'It's a long way to Tipperary.'"

American Poles Send Protest on Russia to Eden

Urge Britain to Persuade Stalin to Adopt Hands-Off Policy on Borders

CHICAGO, Dec. 15 (AP).—The Polish American Congress, which says it represents six million Americans of Polish descent, has told British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden "it will be to the best interests of England to persuade Russia to adopt a hands-off policy with reference to her peaceful neighbors."

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"The fate of the democracies is tied up with the fate of Poland," said the Congress's cablegram, sent to Mr. Eden Tuesday and disclosed today by its president, Charles Rozmarek. He said it was sent for "full consideration" before the opening of discussion of the Polish problem today in the House of Commons.

"The fact that already armed bands of Communists are trying to incite civil war in China, Greece, France, Italy, Belgium and Poland in order to gain control of their governments cannot be passed off as a mere incident," the message said. "It is the logical sequence of a foreign policy based upon concessions aimed at placating the growing might of a wayward ally. There can be no basis for the assumption that Russia wants democratic neighbors. . . . Russia has a right to expect friendly neighbors, but the plain fact is that it is not the small countries but Russia who refuses to be a friendly neighbor."

The message said that England's "solemn obligations, recorded in treaties, are now apparently being interpreted to the detriment of Poland's right to equality, freedom and territorial integrity. It is disturbing to learn that increasing pressure is being exerted upon the Polish government to accept a fatal course of appeasement tantamount to national suicide."

Churchill's Polish Stand Attacked In Senate

Washington, Dec. 15 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill's pronouncement on Poland today produced a none too favorable reaction in the Senate.

Senator Connally (D., Texas), chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said it meant another Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin meeting was necessary because America "must be consulted" on European boundaries.

To Senator Taft (R., Ohio) the Prime Minister's declaration "looks like the end of the Atlantic Charter and a return to power politics." Echoing Taft on power politics was Chairman Reynolds (D., N.C.) of the Military Committee.

Reynolds added that it was disheartening to find Churchill "acquiescing in the dismemberment of territories and the enslavement of a people for whom he advised going to war."

Senator Austin (R., Vt.), member of the Foreign Relations Committee, suggested boundary settlements should wait on the creation of a world peace organization.

Another committee member, Senator Pepper (D., Fla.), put it in slightly different form—that issues which often breed war should be settled not by two nations but by the United Nations, "with a decent respect for the opinion of mankind in general."

1,200 U.S. Planes Raid Rail Centers

London, Saturday, Dec 16 (AP)—More than 500 RAF Lancasters attacked Ludwigshafen, 65 miles east of the Saarbrucken front, with more than 3,000 tons of bombs last night after some 1,200 American bombers and fighters had pounded the rail hubs of Hannover and Kassel with 2,000 tons of explosives in a daylight assault.

Four of the United States 8th Air Force's bombers and two fighters were missing from the attack.

Meanwhile RAF Lancasters escorted by Spitfires bombed a boat pen at Ijmuiden, entrance to the North Sea Canal running to Amsterdam in northern Holland, and Italian-based American Fortresses and Liberators hit supply and other targets in Rosenheim and Amstetten, Linz and Salzburg and rail yards at Innsbruck, northern terminus of the Brenner Pass route.

GERMANY BLASTED BY TWO AIR FORCES

London, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—United States heavy bombers from Britain and Italy struck Germany multiple blows today.

Fortresses and Liberators of the Italy-based Fifteenth Air Force bombed the Innsbruck railyards, which make up the northern terminus of the Brenner Pass route. They also hit targets at Linz, Salzburg, Rosenheim and Amstetten.

More than 650 Flying Fortresses from Britain hammered the western Germany rail and industrial centers of Hannover and Kassel with more than 2,500 tons of bombs.

The bomber fleet, from the Britain - based United States Eighth Air Force, was accompanied by 550 Mustang and Thunderbolt fighters.

ROBOTS HIT ENGLAND

London, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—For the thirtieth night in a row, the Germans attacked southern England with V-bombs last night.

The Air Ministry's announcement today was confined to the routine "damage and casualties have been reported." But London newspapers played up scenes of recent devastation with pictures of labor corps—British and American—already beginning the preliminary job of patching up the battered capital to relieve a serious housing shortage.

Meanwhile, the German radio defended use of the flying bomb as a "strictly military weapon."

"It is not a terror weapon as is shown by the comparatively small number of fatal casualties caused by it," the broadcast said.

Attacker of Giraud to Die

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP).—An Algerian military tribunal has sentenced to death a Senegalese soldier charged with shooting and slightly wounding General Henri Giraud at Oran early in September, the Paris radio said today. The Senegalese was declared drunk at the time.

Nazis Halt Bonuses For War Prisoners

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—The German Government has stopped sending special monthly allowances to her war prisoners in Britain, it was learned today.

With the end of this novel Nazi "bonus" plan, thousands who maintained their defiant arrogance long after their capture have now agreed to work on the land for cigarette money.

Under the Geneva Convention of rules for war, commissioned officers are paid by their captors, and this is charged against their own country. There is no provision for paying other soldiers, however.

The Nazis instituted a "bonus plan" whereby noncommissioned officers were sent $5 and others $3 monthly, shortly after D-day. The funds, estimated at about $4,000,000 a month, were transmitted through Switzerland.

Decision On Wodehouse Attacked In Commons

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—Three members of Parliament demanded today that the Government reconsider its decision not to prosecute P. G. Wodehouse and other British subjects who broadcast over the German radio.

Quintin Hogg (Conservative), Harold Nicolson (National Labor) and Clement Davies (Liberal) insisted in Commons that the Government let a jury decide whether the author's purpose in broadcasting was treasonable.

Hogg said the Government decision was "an affront to the conscience of this nation."

Sir Donald Somervell, the Attorney General, replied that a careful investigation of available evidence failed to justify criminal proceedings, but that if further evidence became available "this case and others will be reconsidered."

Birthday Ball Given by King

London, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—King George VI, who was 49 years old yesterday, gave a birthday ball at Buckingham Palace last night, the first dance there since the start of the war. It was the first ball attended by both Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret Rose in London. Guests numbered about 100.

George VI On Air Dec. 25

LONDON, Dec. 15 (AP).—King George VI will make his seventh annual Christmas broadcast, to the empire at 3 p. m. (10 a. m. New York time) Dec. 25, it was announced tonight.

Churchill Must Go, H. G. Wells Declares

London, Dec. 15 (AP)—Novelist H. G. Wells declares that Prime Minister Churchill has "outlived" his role as Britain's fighting symbol and asserts that "it is high time he retired upon his laurels before we forget the debt we owe him."

In an article published yesterday in the *Weekly Tribune*, the historian said the Prime Minister's intervention in the Greek situation was a "discredit" to the nation. He declared Churchill had "lost his head completely" and become a "would-be British Führer."

Wells asserted the British policy in Greece resulted from Churchill's "pro-Royalism," his "snobbishness" and "limited range of ideas." The article was entitled "Churchill Must Go."

Nazis Move Vienna Factories

Bern, Switzerland, Dec. 15 (AP)—The *Basler Arbeiter Zeitung* said today the Germans are hastily dismantling Vienna's armament factories and transporting them to Straubing, Regensburg and Linz. The factories have been employing about 1,600,000 persons, the paper said.

Tirpitz Casualties Set at 1,542

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 15 (AP).—Forty-two German officers were killed and 1,500 members of the crew were either killed or injured when the battleship Tirpitz was sunk by British bombers at Tromsoe, Norwegian Legation officials said tonight.

Says 250,000 Died at Warsaw

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 15 (AP).—Between 250,000 and 300,000 Poles were killed in the unsuccessful Warsaw uprising this fall, a Swedish woman who lived through the long battle told reporters on her return here today. The eyewitness was Elna Gistedt, a one-time Warsaw grand opera star. She said the destruction in 1939 when the Germans took the city was slight "compared with the present situation."

NAZIS IN ITALY TIGHTEN LINES

Veteran Troops Brought Up To Meet Canadian Drive

Rome, Dec. 15 (AP) — Canadian troops fought hard tonight to expand a newly won bridgehead across the Naviglio Canal west of Ravenna as the Germans threw more reinforcements into a fierce and tenacious defense of the eastern Po Valley.

The Canadians established their mile-wide bridgehead in a night attack northeast of Bagnacavallo, road center 10 miles northeast of Faenza, and held it against day-long counterattacks by Nazi infantry and Panther and Tiger tanks.

The original Canadian bridgehead over the Lamone river east and south of Bagnacavallo had been expanded to a width of 10 miles and was approximately 2½ deep. Fighting raged today only a mile from Bagnacavallo, whose church towers were being used by the Germans as observation posts.

500 Prisoners Taken

Since they crossed the Lamone Sunday night the Canadians had captured 500 Nazis, killed or wounded hundreds more and destroyed twelve enemy tanks and self-propelled guns. Their drive was bringing terrific pressure on Faenza, Po Valley terminal of railway through the Apennine Mountains from Florence.

As the Germans saw their Po Valley defenses slowly crumbling they began rushing picked units from other sectors in a desperate effort to stop the Canadians. The veteran 98th Infantry Division has been brought from below Bologna and thrown into the fighting around Bagnacavallo.

Germans Claim Victory

Thirteen miles west of Faenza and south of Imola British troops of the United States 5th Army continued mopping-up operations in Tossignano and Borgo Tossignano after repulsing repeated German counterattacks. Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy.

[The German radio declared that a battalion of the 6th British Tank Division had been "annihilated" by a Nazi counterattack in the fighting southwest of Imola.]

In their efforts to "starve out" German front-line troops Allied fighters and fighter-bombers yesterday cut railway lines in northern Italy in 42 places, destroyed four rail bridges and cut or damaged seven others.

Eighth Army Troops Cross Canal In Italy

Rome, Dec. 15 (AP) — Canadian troops of the 8th Army have established a bridgehead west of the steeply banked Canale Naviglio in a night attack northeast of Bagnacavallo and are holding it against strong opposition, Allied headquarters announced today.

The advance was made by the same forces who two days ago smashed their way through stiff German defenses in crossing the Lamone River due west of Ravenna. The attack threatened the road center of Bagnacavallo, ten miles northeast of Faenza in the Po Valley.

Nazi Blows Repelled

Allied headquarters said the Canadians turned back a number of German counterattacks but heavy fighting continued.

On the 5th Army front, British troops were cleaning the last Germans from the villages of Tossignano and Borgo Tossignano, southwest of Imola.

Despite German opposition, the Canadians expanded their foothold west of the canal to 1,500 yards in width. The canal parallels the Lamone more than two miles to the west and runs south almost to the Rimini-Bologna highway.

British Honor Kelly

Fort Benning, Ga., Dec. 15 (AP)—The British Military Medal has been presented to Tech. Sergt. Charles E. (Commando) Kelly, winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor and the Silver Star.

The British decoration was pinned on Sergeant Kelly's tunic yesterday by Maj. Gen. Fred L. Walker, commandant of the infantry school here in the name of "His Majesty the King of England."

General Walker was commander of the 36th Division in Italy when Kelly's exploits won him the Medal of Honor. Kelly is a member of the academic regiment at the infantry school here.

The citation accompanying the Military Medal said for "gallantry and intrepidity beyond the call of duty," on September 13, 1943—the same action that brought Kelly the Medal of Honor from the United States.

Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark, then commanding the 5th Army in Italy, recommended Kelly for citation and it was approved by Gen. H. R. Alexander, of the British Army.

SICILIANS ATTACK DRAFT OFFICES

Rome, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—A Government decree summoning the classes of 1921 and 1922 to the Italian colors touched off a series of riots yesterday in Catania, Sicily, during which guards were reported to have fired upon a crowd attempting to storm recruiting headquarters.

Dispatches from Sicily said that a number of university students had taken part in the demonstration and one had been killed.

The independent daily Il Tiempo said that rioters succeeded in setting fire to the city hall, conscription headquarters, the courthouse, Bank of Sicily building and the tax collection offices. They attempted to storm the jail but were driven off.

The Government said that necessary measures had been taken to restore order and a large number of arrests were reported. Italian press dispatches said Sicilian Separatists leaflets

had been distributed among the rioters.

It was the second such outbreak in Sicily in two months. Nineteen persons were killed and more than 100 wounded at Palermo in October.

Before the audience the legislators bought medals and rosaries for blessing. The Pope gave each a small autographed picture and a rosary, white for Mrs. Luce and black for the men.

Taylor Asks Food for Italy

Tells Congress Group American Attention Should Be Called to Hunger Problem.

Rome, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's representative in the Vatican, says he believes that if Communism makes headway in Italy "it will do so on empty stomachs because we can't feed the country properly."

Speaking to the visiting United States House Military Affairs Committee yesterday, Mr. Taylor appealed for American attention to the problems of the Italian people. The discussion developed at a dinner given the committee in Rome.

Mr. Taylor said today that he had nothing to add to his statement.

Pope Pius XII received the touring American committee today and at the conclusion of the audience asked Representative John M. Costello, a California Democrat, to convey greetings to President Roosevelt.

The pontiff said that he was sending a special blessing to the United States. He expressed the hope for a peace based on understanding, justice and charity, and added that a great obligation rested upon legislators and those responsible for government to see that such a peace is established throughout the world, the congressmen said later.

The committee was received in the pontiff's library privately and then together with other members of the party, including several military policemen assigned to the group.

Representative Costello and Representative J. Parnell Thomas, a New Jersey Republican, thanked the Pope for the honor of an audience. Representative Clare Boothe Luce, Connecticut Republican, said "women always had less be than men in peace by force 2 more in peace through unde standing and charity.

Nazi Peace Feeler Denied

ROME, Dec. 15 (AP).—A high Allied diplomat, accredited to the Vatican, described today as "absolutely without foundation" reports published abroad that the Germans were seeking through the Holy See to obtain a more precise definition of the Allies' demand for unconditional surrender.

Greek Regency Seen Solving Athens' Crisis

Fighting Continues, However, in Rain-soaked Capital.

By Stephen Barber

ATHENS, Dec. 15 (AP).—An agreement in principle that a regency might solve the strife in Greece was reported tonight although fighting continued in the rain-soaked capital.

The regency question was discussed at a lengthy conference among Reginald Leeper, the British ambassador; Harold MacMillan, British resident minister in the Middle East; and Themistokles Sophoulis, Greek elder statesman who has acted as an intermediary between the opposing forces.

It was understood that appointment of a regency council of three was suggested by Greek Premier George Papandreou. Proposed members were said to have been Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs Philip Dragoumis and Gen. Nicholas Plastiras, who led the Greek revolution of 1922.

One-man Regency

However, it was expected the eventual agreement would call for a one-man regency of the archbishop of Athens.

Informants said Damaskinos had been approached and had accepted. Some Athens sources, on the other hand, said there was no indication that King George of Greece, now in London, would agree to this plan—which is said to call for the regency to continue until a plebiscite has determined whether Greece will remain a monarchy or become a republic.

The regency was a point in armistice terms believed to have been presented by the warring Greek left-wingers.

"I am informed reliably that the EAM (National Liberation Front) leaders' proposal contained three main terms:

Amnesty for leaders in the civil strife.

A national government representing all parties.

Creation of a regency.

The offer was withdrawn temporarily to meet British insistence that it be signed by heads of the ELAS, military arm of the EAM, as well as by the EAM central committee, but it was reported unofficially that the British would agree to the proposals as the basis for an armistice.

There was a flurry of conferences among the British commander, Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie; the British Ambassador, Reginald Leeper; the British Resident Minister in the Middle East, Harold MacMillan, with Greek Premier George Papandreou and Themistokles Sophoulis, old-time political leader who is deemed acceptable to all parties.

Archbishop Mentioned As Regent

The possibility also was mentioned that the Archbishop of Athens might be named temporary regent pending a plebiscite to determine whether Greece is to remain a monarchy or become a republic. Some Athens sources said, however, that there was no indication that King George of Greece, now in London, would agree to this plan.

Meanwhile, fighting went on, with the ELAS hammering at British positions with fresh artillery and with a renewal of sniping.

British 25-pounder guns shelled ELAS concentrations in the hills behind the stadium at Zappion Park, and British reinforcements continued to come in despite road [illegible] erected by the ELAS on boundary streets.

Scobie Tells Of Attack

The British cleared mines which the ELAS laid during the night in Omonia Square.

General Scobie's communiqué said today "at 7.25 o'clock this morning insurgent forces launched an unprovoked attack against Indian troops on the mainland of Greece north of Patras," and that "guerrilla activity in the Aslonika area continued," while fighting continued generally in the Piraeus and Athens areas.

Brig. Gen. P. L. Sadler, head of the American wing of the military relief organization, took the occasion to explain that Americans in Greece "are not connected with the operations in any way. We are concerned solely with relief and rehabilitation essential to relief."

"So far," he said, "we have managed to keep hospitals of both sides in medical supplies and food."

GREEK LEFTISTS SUBMIT TERMS TO END REVOLT

Proposals May Be Accepted by British as Basis for Armistice.

ELAS CONTINUE FIGHTING

Amnesty, National Government and Plebiscite Chief Points in Peace Program.

Athens, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Greek insurgents have handed the British terms for ending the thirteen-day Leftist revolt, the Associated Press was informed by a reliable source tonight, with the possibility the British would accept them as a basis for an armistice.

Meanwhile, however, the ELAS hammered British defense positions in central Athens with fresh bursts of artillery and rifle fire and attacked Indian troops on the mainland north of Patrai.

The ELAS' reply to British proposals for ending the conflict was reported to contain three main points—amnesty for the rebellious political leaders, a national government representing all parties and a regency to rule until a plebiscite decides whether the country will remain a monarchy or become a republic.

Demand EAM Sign.

The reply was temporarily withdrawn to meet British insistence that it be signed by ELAS military leaders as well as the parent organization, the EAM central committee.

British Ambassador Reginald Leeper sent for Emmanuel Sophoulis, Greek political leader who is believed acceptable to all parties, drawing speculation that negotiations for a new Government were under way.

The possibility that the Archbishop of Athens might be named regent also was reported.

The cleric was believed ready to attempt formation of a government acceptable to all parties, pending a plebiscite to decide whether the country is to remain a monarchy or become a republic. However, in Athens there was no indication that King George would agree to the plan. The King is in London.

Infiltrating ELAS entered Omonia Square during the night, laid teller mines and engaged in a brief skirmish with British parachute troops before withdrawing. British headquarters said that they retired before the mines were properly laid, and the explosives were later cleared.

The British reported further progress by British reinforcements in Piræus, the port of Athens, where the neck of the main peninsula has been secured.

ELAS forces demolished a number of lath-and-plaster buildings in Athens and barricaded entries to the city through narrow side streets. Apparently they hoped to contain British troops in the central area with the intention of mounting assaults later on both ends of British-held University street which connects the two principal ELAS objectives, Omonia and Constitution squares.

British reinforcements, including tanks and artillery, continued to reach the Athens area, and Major-Gen. Ronald Scobie was believed to consider the military situation improving.

Militiamen Called Up

Three additional classes of militiamen were called to the colors today by Premier Papandreou.

Seven age groups now have been called up by Papandreou's British-supported Government, but it was questionable how many men the latest summons would bring in, inasmuch as only five square miles of Athens and about twenty per cent of the port of Piraeus are under the Premier's immediate control.

Two-Hour Conference

Rain and low-hanging clouds hindered operations of RAF planes which attempted to check on the regrouping operations of ELAS elements in their mountain hideouts outside Athens yesterday afternoon, although the air scouts dropped down almost to rooftop level on the lookout for new Partisan moves.

Rumors still were current that Gen. Nicholas Plastiras, who led the Greek revolution in 1922, might attempt to form a new government acceptable to all factions and bring an end to the strife, but there was no confirmation. Plastiras conferred for two hours yesterday with Papandreou, but declined to make a statement.

Later the Premier conferred for 90 minutes with Harold MacMillan, British resident Minister in the Mediterranean, who arrived here Tuesday.

Food Plan Collapses

It became apparent, meanwhile, that regardless of the outcome, it will take several months to restore normal relief administration. At present there are only eighteen trucks available for relief work in the entire city, and it has been necessary to cancel a plan for opening soup kitchens because of the transportation shortage.

Under a bilateral agreement with the ELAS, Swiss and Swedish Red Cross committees were to issue and ration flour, but the plan collapsed because bakers lacked fuel.

A limited distribution plan provides four ounces of flour per head, but so far only 75,000 of the city's 1,500,000 people have been reached.

New Delhi, Nov. 21 [AP—Delayed]—Air smuggling — fabulous by comparison with the most notorious exploits of the old sea-runners—is estimated to have netted Americans $4,000,000 in two years of flying over the "top of the world," it was learned today.

Scores of Americans soldiers and civilians in the C-B-I theater have been court-martialed or arrested for operations between India and China over the world's highest and most hazardous airline.

The vast trade involved British, Chinese and Indian racketeers while the Americans were only "small fry"—mostly "fall guy go-betweens" who transported contraband.

Directed By Baltimorean

The crackdown by United States Army criminal investigators, working in co-operation with British, Chinese and Indian officials, also largely smashed an international syndicate which traded in stolen lend-lease supplies, Government property, gold, currency and other goods flown into isolated, inflation-ridden China. This syndicate was composed of Far Eastern gangsters and wealthy Chinese and Indians who instigated and financed smuggling activities.

The investigators are being directed by the theater provost marshal, Col. Harry Cooper, 3401 Pinkney road, Baltimore.

Profits of American participants in the India-China trade totaled an estimated $4,156,000 in 87 major and 213 minor cases in which army criminal action has been completed or is under way. Major cases are those classified as involving profits of more than $5,000 each.

Famed "Flying Tigers" Involved

Air Smuggling Racket In C-I-B Theater Bared

Americans "Only Small Fry," But Net Millions. Baltimorean Directs War On Syndicate

These cases, covering activities during 1941, 1942 and early 1943, involved, the Army said, famed "Flying Tigers," employés of the China National Airways Corporation, United States Army personnel, American Red Cross workers, technical representatives of Ameri-

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can manufacturers and British. Indian, Chinese and other civilians. The Army withheld the names.

The records showed some American officers and enlisted men made staggering profits. Some officers of one American troop carrier squadron, including the commanding officer, amassed an estimated $50,000 before the authorities stepped in.

A staff sergeant cleaned up over $5,000 by smuggling gems and gold money in a few months' flights to China and by selling Government property in China's black market.

Fallen Plane Loaded With Loot

One plane which crashed in the Burma jungle en route to China was found overloaded with loot. The crew members involved used every available space on the plane to hide contraband.

Plane crewmen often concealed gems in plane instruments and in their underwear. The authorities found 500 cartons of British-issued cigarettes under the floorboards of a China-bound plane.

One American soldier and four Chinese aides were caught in Kunming with $7,000 worth of sulfanilimide pills in suitcases. In most instances, the drugs were Government property.

Then Syndicate Takes Over

Most of the Americans involved started in a small way by carrying into China only such things as cigarettes. Later, a wealthy organization of Chinese, Indians and Greeks with British citizenship enticed some American Air Force men and civilian pilots to enter their plans by painting "get-rich-quick" schemes.

Smuggling and black-market activities are continuing and the Army's criminal investigation division is working on many more cases. However, the large-scale operations are believed to have been wiped out.

Cooper Promoted In March

Col. Harry Cooper, in charge of investigation of smuggling and black-market activities in the China-Burma-India theater, was promoted last March from lieutenant colonel.

A member of the Corps of Military Police, he served for many years as a member of the United States Secret Service. His stations included Washington, Cleveland, Boston, Omaha and Des Moines.

Unit in Bhamo

Burma Town's Garrison of 1,200 Crushed; British Press on Toward Akyab

DEC 16 1944

MYITKYINA, Burma, Dec. 15 (AP).—What was left of a Japanese suicide force, originally estimated at 1,200 men, was crushed today in by-passed Bhamo by the Chinese 38th Division.

Besides a few snipers, the only Japanese remaining in the town were dead or wounded. The capture of Bhamo is expected to release another powerful Chinese force to push south toward the old Burma Road.

Bhamo's fall came suddenly but was no surprise. Squeezed into the southwest corner of the town, the Japanese soldiers took a terrific pounding day and night from bombers and artillery for more than two weeks.

Under the cover of darkness in the early morning, about 200 Japanese managed to escape through the Chinese ring around Bhamo, but they were trapped at a point three miles down the Irrawaddy River by a column of pursuing Chinese.

Meanwhile, forward units of the British 14th Army advanced southeast of Maungdaw to within forty miles of Akyab on the west Burma coast, under combined Anglo-American air cover.

In the Arakan hills, all the territory west of the Kalapanzin River has now been reoccupied. Other British forces have cleared Buthedaung, sixty miles north of Akyab, and have continued their advance southward along the dense Mayu Range terrain.

troops before the monsoon, now has been reoccupied, the bulletin said.

In the North Burma fighting zone, some 800 Japanese troops of a suicide force commissioned to fight to the death at Bhamo have been squeezed into an area of about 6,000 square feet in the southwestern part of the town, as the 38th Chinese Division made gains in the northern sector.

Chinese Plan Cited

The Japanese "teakwood fortress" at Bhamo on the east bank of the Irrawaddy River has been under siege by the Chinese for more than two weeks. The garrison was said to have sufficient food and ammunition, but there were indications it was suffering heavy casualties.

The present Chinese plan apparently is to bring heavy artillery to bear on what has been described by American liaison officer as "the best defense system yet encountered in North Burma."

Recently a heavy Chinese artillery barrage of 70 rounds from 155-mm. guns was hurled into one section of Bhamo. Ten direct hits were scored on one bunker before is was knocked out.

Many dugouts are under fifteen feet of teakwood logs, each log and earth position supported by two other dugout positions.

Lakes Form Moats

The 38th Division is facing a series of connecting lakes on the perimeter of the Japanese Bhamo defenses, which serve as moats.

To the west in the Indaw-Katha region, the British 36th Division consolidated positions and engaged in light patrol action. On the Chindwin front the 11th East African Division captured Shwegyin and pushed on up the Shwegyin-Yeu road to a village two miles to the north.

Allies Push Toward Akyab

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 13 (AP)—Advance Allied elements have reached positions fourteen miles southeast of Maungdaw, on the west coast of Burma, and are within 40 miles of the important west coast of Akyab, a Southeast Asia communique disclosed tonight.

Jap Troops Squeezed

These elements have cleared Buthiedaung, 60 miles above Akyab in the Arakan district, and have continued the advance down the Mayu Range. All the territory to the west of the Kalapanzin, which had been vaacted by Allied

Chinese Mop Up Enemy Suicide

Chinese Begin To Surround Kwangsi Town

Three Columns Fan Out For Assault on Hochih.

CHUNGKING, Dec. 15. (AP)—Chinese forces counter-attacking against the recent Japanese drive into Kweichow province made further gains today. They now are closing in on and out-flanking the town of Hochih in Kwangsi province on the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad 95 miles northwest of the former American air base at Liuchow, the Chinese high command announced.

Chinese units, now 40 miles inside Kwangsi, have fanned out in three columns in preparation for the assault on Hochih. One column is driving straight along the railway line and now is 15 miles from the town; another is 12 miles west of Hochih and a third is 18 miles southwest of the city, the announcement said.

Because of the current Chinese effort which halted and then threw back the lightning Japanese thrust, China's military situation has become further stabilized, according to Maj. Gen. Chang Tung-Chuen, an Army spokesman who claims there has been no indication that the enemy plans to re-invade Kweichow.

Enemy Forces

The bulk of enemy forces still remain concentrated along an irregular line from the Changsha area, through Hengyang and Kweilin, both former 14th Air Force bases, and southwestward to the Liuchow district, the officer said.

The current Chinese ground successes have come at a time when, according to U. S. ambassador, Maj. Gen. Patrick Hurley, the nation is "tired, bruised and bleeding after nearly eight years of war."

"In my opinion," Hurley added. "China is eager to meet the invader in battle . . . and she will fight to victory."

According to a statement issued yesterday by the American diplomat there has been "no animosity or ill feeling of any kind" between Chinese and American authorities with regard the recent recall of Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell to Washington.

Reports that the United States had been "exerting pressure" upon China before the Stilwell recall were assumed by Hurley to be "propaganda not emanating from the Allies."

CHINESE TROOPS CLOSING ON HOCHIH

Chungking, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Counterattacking Chinese are closing in on Hochih and at the same time executing an outflanking movement against that city on the Kweichow-Kwangsi Railroad, the Chinese High Command said today. Hochih is ninety-five miles from lost Liuchow, former site of an important U. S. air base.

A point about five miles northwest of Hochih was recaptured last night, the High Command reported.

Major-Gen. Chang Tung Chuen, an army spokesman, calling the military situation further stabilized, said there was no indication of a renewed Japanese plan to invade Kweichow province.

In the west the Chinese pressed northeast toward Wanting, city on the Burma border in Yunnan province, where the Burma road cuts across the frontier. They captured a village eight miles from Wanting, the High Command said.

Hurley Denies Chinese Rift

Chungking, Dec. 15 (AP) — Maj. Gen. Patrick Hurley, United States Ambassador to China, said today there had been "no animosity for ill feeling of any kind" between Chinese and American authorities in connection with the recent recall of Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell to Washington.

Reports that the United States had been "exerting pressure" upon China before Stilwell's recall were denied by Hurley, who said he assumed such reports were "propaganda not emanating from the Allies."

"No Ill Will Nor Acrimony"

While there may have been arguments and straight talk, he added, "there was no ill will nor acrimony, but always a desire for unification of all forces for defeat of the enemy."

Hurley said his own relations with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek have been direct and cordial. "We've not only become friends," he declared, "but have established a degree of comradeship."

"One Team, One Objective"

Hurley expressed the conviction that recent changes in the Chungking Government "all are intended to promote co-operation and efficiency," and said they are in large measure responsible for the fact that "the Chinese Government, United States headquarters and this embassy are one team with one objective."

He said that he had participated in conversations affecting the Chinese communists and had made a trip to Yenan, where communist headquarters are located. He declined to elaborate, however, beyond saying:

"I hope every element of our own forces and all the strength of China will be united to defeat the invader.

"China is tired, bruised and bleeding after nearly eight years of war," Gen. Hurley added, "but in my opinion China is eager to meet the invader in battle again. I've no qualms about China's attitude. She will fight to victory."

CONGRESS GROUP VISITS AUSTRALIA

Melbourne, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Ten members of the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee of Naval Affairs arrived here today on a continuation of their tour of Pacific battlefronts. They came here after visiting the Superfortress base at Saipan.

Expressing satisfaction that a powerful British fleet is to join the United States and Australian navies in the Pacific, Chairman James E. Heffernan (D.-N. Y.) said that the touring members have been impressed by the co-operation the United States has been getting from Australia.

Mr. Heffernan said the committee was particularly impressed by the miracles achieved in Saipan where a base was being built for an intense aerial offensive against Japan.

El Salvador Uprising Reported Near Capital

Rebels Believed Fighting in Santana, Radio Asserts

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Dec. 15 (AP).—Radio station La Voz de Guatemala said today that an armed uprising broke out this morning in Santana, El Salvador's second largest city, twenty-five miles from San Salvador, the capital.

The sation said armed civilians were storming a government barracks while a revolutionary contingent was advancing toward Santana from neighboring Ahuachapan.

[Earlier in the day the Salvadorean Foreign Minister lodged a formal protest with the Guatemalan Minister, asserting that arms captured from revolutionists in Ahuachapan apparently had belonged to the Guatemalan Army.]

Big 3 Plan Conference Early In 1945

DEC 15 1944

Grave Concern Exists Over Divergent Courses of Allies.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—A second Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference at last has been arranged—for late January or early February.

Dictating the need for it were new demands on both sides of the Atlantic for consultations at top levels and grave concern over divergent courses of Allied diplomacy.

The principal factor governing the time apparently is President Roosevelt's schedule. It calls for a fourth term inauguration on January 20. The meeting will be held soon thereafter unless world events force a change in plans. The place is expected to be somewhere outside the United States.

Disclosure of the decision for another meeting follows weeks of discord, some under the surface, some in the open, over Allied policies toward Greece, Italy, Poland and other areas once infested by Nazis.

Personal Attention

While there has been evidence of progress toward restored harmony, the size of the problems was such as to call for the personal attention of the big three. In addition, they have numerous other issues of war and peace requiring their attention—perfection of the Dumbarton Oaks security plan, for instance.

Among signs that some of the Allies are approaching a greater degree of agreement, at least bilaterally, was Churchill's announcement to Parliament today that Britain was switching toward Russian views on Polish boundary and pop-

ulation problems.

It followed a greater measure of accord achieved by Britain and the United States over Italian politics.

Furthermore, Secretary of State Stettinius promised a statement soon of America's views toward British and Russian steps in Europe. Stettinius may accompany the President to the forthcoming conference.

Unfavorable Reaction

While the decision that the meeting will be held soon after the inauguration helped allay some uneasiness over trends in Europe, Churchill's pronouncement on Poland produced a none too favorable reaction in the Senate.

Chairman Connally (D-Tex) of the foreign relations committee said it meant another Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin meeting was necessary because America "must be consulted" on European boundaries.

To Senator Taft (R-Ohio) the prime minister's declaration "looks like the end of the Atlantic charter and a return to power politics." Echoing Taft on power politics was Chairman Reynolds (D-NC) of the military committee.

Reynolds added that it was disheartening to find Churchill "acquiescing in the dismemberment of territories and the enslavement of a people for whom he advised going to war."

Senator Austin (R-Vt), member of the foreign relations committee, suggested boundary settlements should wait on the creation of a world peace organization.

Another committee member, Senator Pepper (D-Fla) put it in slightly different form—that issues which often breed war should be settled not by two nations but by the United Nations, "with a decent respect for the opinion of mankind in general."

Signs Legislature

President Roosevelt signed legislation authorizing "admirals of the fleet" and "generals of the army," and quickly sent the names to the Senate.

They are:

For the new Nevy rank—Admiral William D. Leahy, the President's personal chief of staff; Admiral Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the fleet and chief of naval operations; and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet and of the Pacific ocean areas.

For the new Army rank—General George C. Marshall, chief of staff; General Douglas MacArthur, commander in the southwest Pacific; General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander in western Europe; and General H. H. Arnold, commander of the Army Air Forces.

Alct Swiftly

The Senate acted as swiftly as the White House, approving the nominations unanimously without even referring them to committee, despite scattered questions on the wisdom of the move.

Senator Russell (G-G.) told the Senate he thought it "perfectly absurd" to create a "super rank to compete with that of Field Marshal" and other high-sounding titles of top-ranking Allied officers.

"There's no use getting into a contest," he said. "Some one might create the rank of super-duper field marshal."

Senator Clark (D-Mo) seconded him.

Military Pranks

"This business of creating military ranks may ultimately become the subject of international treaties to permit nations to go so high and then stop," commented Senator Chandler (D-Ky).

All three joined in the confirmations, however, asserting their views on the need for higher ranks were not intended to reflect on the "character, courage or ability" of any of the seven.

The legislation authorized advancement of four in each service to the new ranks and Mr. Roosevelt surprised by nominating only three admirals of the fleet. Beforehand speculation had been that the title would go to the three who were named and also to Admiral William F. Halsey who has led the forces carrying out the Pacific war plans laid by King, Leahy and Nimitz.

Navy Chief of Chaplains

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—Legislation creating a Navy chief of chaplains was passed by the House today and sent to the President. "This will bring religious aid and comfort to our boys and girls in the Navy," Representative Charles A. Plumley, Republican, of Vermont, said.

The new officer would hold the rank of rear admiral and his office would exist only during the present war. His duties would include general supervision of all naval chaplains and religious matters pertaining to the Navy. At present the Navy usually designates some officer to handle such work, but he has only "a courtesy title" and his responsibilities are not specific.

7 Officers Boosted To Five-Star Rank

DEC 16 1944

FDR Signs Bill Creating New Positions—Nominates Leahy, King, Nimitz, Marshall, MacArthur, Eisenhower, Arnold —Senate Confirms.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—Seven officers—top field and fleet commanders and the over-all Army and Navy chiefs—were boosted swiftly today to new five-star rank.

8 ACES STILL ARE ON ACTIVE DUTY

One Is Dead, One a Prisoner and Three Missing.

Washington, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Eight of the nineteen top-scoring aces of the American airforces are still on active duty today, with continuing opportunity to increase their totals.

Six others are in the United States on leave, serving as instructors, or recuperating from illness; one is a prisoner of war; one is dead and three are listed as missing in action.

Leading the list on the basis of number of planes shot down is Major Richard Ira Bong of Poplar, Wis., who this week received the Congressinal Medal of Honor for his exploits which include shooting down thirty-eight enemy planes. He still is on duty with the Fifth Air Force in the Pacific.

In second place is Commander David S. McCampbell, West Palm Beach, Fla., who has destroyed thirty-four Japanese planes in the air, including nine he bagged in a single fight. He now is on leave after a tour of duty as commander f Air Group 15 aboard the Carrier Essex.

Others still on the fighting fronts in the Army, Navy and Marine Corps records show, are:

MAJOR THOMAS B. McGUIRE JR., whose father lives at 51 Chestnut street, Ridgewood, N. J., and whose wife lives in San Antonio, Tex., who has been credited unofficially with thirty victories and officially with twenty-four. He is with the Fifth Air Force in the Pacific.

MAJOR GEORGE E. PREDDY of Greensboro, N. C., twenty-four victories, with the Eighth Air Forces.

LIEUT. CECIL HARRIS of Cresbard, S. D., who destroyed twenty-four Jap planes while flying with Navy fighters, on duty in the Pacific.

MAJOR FRED J. CHRISTENSEN JR., of Watertown, Mass., twenty-two victories, with Eighth Air Force in England.

MAJOR JAY T. ROBBINS of Coolidge, Tex., twenty-one victories, with Fifth Air Force in Pacific.

CAPT. JOHN J. VOLL of Goshen, Ohio, ttwenty-one victories, with Fifteenth Air Force in the Mediterranean.

The ranking ace of the Marines, Major Gregory Boyington of Okanagan, Wash., is listed as missing in action. He was shot down on January 3, 1944, on the same flight in which he destroyed his twenty-sixth Japanese plane.

Others missing in action are:

COL. NEEL E. KEARBY of Dallas, Tex., missing since March 5, credited with twenty-two victories while with the Fifth Air Force in the Pacific.

COL. JENN E. DUNCAN of Houston, Tex., credited with twenty-one and one-half planes before he was listed as missing while with the Eighth Air Force in England.

Among other top-scoring aces, with their total victories, are:

LIEUT.-CO. FRANCIS S. GRABESKI of Oil City, Pa., twenty-eight victories with the Eighth Air Force before he was reported a prisoner of war on July 20, 1944.

MAJOR ROBERT S. JOHNSON of Lawton, Okla., twenty-seven victories with Eighth Air Force before returning to United States for training duty.

MAJOR JOE FOSS, Marines, of Sioux Falls, S. D., twenty-six Japanese victories, now in hospital at Klement Falls, Ore., suffering from malaria.

FIRST LIEUT. ROBERT HANSON, Marines, of Newtonville, Mass., killed over Rabaul after shooting down twenty-five Jap planes.

CAPT. DON S. GENTILE, of Piqua, Ohio, twenty-three victories with Eighth Air Force before returning for assignment to experimental work at Wright Field.

CAPT. KENNETH A. WALSH, Marines, of Washington, D. C., twenty Jap victories, now an instructor at Jacksonville, Fla.

CAPT. DONALD ALDRICH, Marines, of Chicago twenty Jap victories, now instructing Marine Corsair pilots.

MAJOR WALKER M. MAHURIN, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., twenty victories with Eighth Air Force before assignment to duty in the United States.

DEMANDS ACTION TO SAVE THE JEWS

FEB 16 1944

Washington, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Senator Gillette (D.-Iowa) called today for drastic action to halt what he said was an unabated German campaign of mass murder against Jews in Axis-occupied Europe.

Urging that the United Nations issue a joint declaration proclaiming that crimes against Hebrews in Europe be considered war crimes and punishable as such, Mr. Gillette declared in a prepared Senate address:

"There are still approximately 1,500,000 Hebrews in slave labor battalions, in concentration camps and in other areas in German-occupied territories. Unless some new and drastic measures be undertaken by our Government and the other governments of the United Nations, even these survivors will be slaughtered by the Germans."

He said the United Nations War Crimes Commission in London does not consider the murder of Jewish people a war crime since the Hebrews are not recognized as one of the United Nations.

"We must let Germany and the world know that we consider these atrocious murders war crimes," he said.

Gabreski

G. I.'S ALIEN CHILDREN

Washington, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Commenting in the House on his bill to amend the nationality act of 1940 so that children born of American service men under 21 now overseas would be United States citizens, Representative Dickstein (D.-N. Y.) said:

"I am told that in Australia there are at least 11,000 to 14,000 American men under 21 years of age who have married and have children. These children, under present law, will have to be considered aliens."

Objecting on the grounds that the amendment would "liberalize the immigration laws," Representative Sumner (R.-Ill), a woman, said the bill would give foreign women, "that much more incentive to go after these minors who could not get married under the same circumstances in the United States without the consent of their parents."

Notwithstanding, the Dickstein amendment was approved by the House and is now in the Senate.

Cost Rica Envoy Confirmed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—The Senate confirmed today the nomination of Hallett Johnson, of New Jersey, to be Ambassador to Costa Rica.

U.S. Won't Release Funds For Finland to Pay Debt

New State Department Policy Is Not Clear to Treasury

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—Finland offered to pay today her $235,445 war-debt installment but apparently it will not be accepted.

The Treasury Department, which would have to grant a license before Finland could use part of her frozen funds to pay the installment, said it had asked the State Department for guidance but a Treasury spokesman said:

"We have received a letter from the State Department which appears on the surface to state a new policy but the policy is not clear to us. We will have to study it before we can make any statement."

It was understood the State Department felt the government should accept the payment, even though it had broken off diplomatic relations and officially considers finland "enemy territory."

It was also understood the Treasury is opposed to releasing the frozen assets on the grounds that by so doing it would set up the United States government as a preferred creditor of Finland.

The Treasury recently refused to allow Finland to use part of the blocked bonds to pay interest on Finnish government bonds. Treasury officials were reported to feel that releasing the funds to pay the United States would be inconsistent with the previous decision.

Nelson Back in Washington

Is Silent on China Trip Pending Report to Roosevelt

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—Donald M. Nelson has returned to Washington from a second mission to China.

The White House said today he would report to President Roosevelt as soon as possible, but would have nothing to say about his trip before seeing the Chief Executive.

The former War Production Board chairman, who became a personal assistant to the President with the equivalent of Cabinet rank, has been in China attempting to stimulate greater war production there. He flew back by way of Australia.

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Fate of State Dept. Nominees Doubtful

Chandler Insists Senate Act on Hurley, Heller First—Sizeable Group Favors Presidential Reconsideration—Filibuster Possible.

DEC 16 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—The fate of the State Department's big reorganization remained in doubt tonight as an end-of-the-session jam held up Senate action on six disputed nominations.

Chandler Insists

Senator Chandler (D-Ky) insisted that the Senate act first on the nominations of Robert A. Hurley and Lt. Col. Edward Heller to the surplus property board. The Hurley-Heller nominations held priority on the calendar over those of Joseph C. Grew as undersecretary of state and of five newly appointed assistant secretaries of state.

Chandler's strategy was welcomed by a sizeable Senate group antagonistic toward some if not all of the men nominated by President Roosevelt as assistants to Secretary of State Stettinius.

Chandler in a sharp encounter late today blocked an effort to take up the State Department nominations immediately. He turned a deaf ear to Republican pleas to put off the surplus board nominations until tomorrow.

Earlier, Senator Pepper (D-Fla) told a reporter he and others opposed to the State Department slate would resist any effort to take their names up in advance. He expresed hope the President might "reconsider these nominations."

Into Filibuster

Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich) wanted to know if Chandler was "proceeding into a filibuster."

Chandler denied any knowledge of a filibuster.

Chandler began an appeal for confirmation of Hurley and Heller after a confusing barrage of parliamentary points of order betrayed the bitterness engendered over the State Department nominations.

Failing to gain recognition for their consideration, Chairman Connally of the foreign relations committee, troubled by many fights within that group, expressed only the hope that the Senate would act on them "with all speed."

"This is a very critical period in our foreign relations," he said. "It is of the highest importance that the secretary of state have his choice of subordinates, who are also the choice of the President."

With Acting Minority Leader White, Senator Austin (R-Vt) and others asking the surplus property nominations go over until tomorrow, Chandler declared:

"I'm going to keep the floor, or else nobody else is going to have it."

Nominees Are

In addition to Grew, former ambassador to Japan, the nominees are W. L. Clayton, former surplus property administrator; Nelson Rockefeller, coordinator of inter-American affairs; Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes; James C. Dunn, and Archibald MacLeish, the poet who became librarian of Congress. The confirmation of all has been recommended by the foreign relations committee by margins varying from 15 to 4 for Holmes to a shaky 11 to 10 for MacLeish.

An unusual Saturday session of the Senate was in prospect, and it appeared likely that most—maybe all—of the day would be devoted to the surplus property nominations and the consideration if last-minute conference reports on pending bills. Thus it may be Monday before the Senate can get started on the State Department officials. When that debate will end is anybody's guess.

Opponents of the appointments may turn to their advantage the scantiness of time remaining in the current session, which must be closed out by Jan. 3. Leaders now are hopeful of ending the session by the middle of next week. The invitation to a filibuster was obvious.

4,700 Soldiers Released For War Production

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Army announced today it is furloughing 4,700 soldiers to work in plants producing artillery and mortar ammunition, military tires and cotton duck.

The announcement said that the soldiers are being sent to 180 plants in which manpower shortages have been retarding production. Every effort is being made to get the men into the factories before Christmas.

The War Department said this was a "temporary emergency measure to help meet urgent demands from Gen. Eisenhower and Gen. MacArthur for increased shipments to the battlefronts of critical military supplies." As rapidly as civilian workers come forward to fill jobs, the furloughed soldiers will be returned to military duties, the Army said.

No soldier who has been alerted for overseas duty or who is assigned to the infantry or undergoing aircraft training will be furloughed for industrial work.

Widows' Bill For Veterans of 1918 Is Signed

Pensions Granted Families of Deceased World War Men; $74 a Month Top

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—President Roosevelt signed today a bill providing pensions for widows and children of deceased veterans of the World War.

Estimated to cost $37,000,000 in its first year, the pension system provides benefits up to $74 a month for families of men who served in the World War.

The measure extends coverage to the families of virtually all World War veterans, since it provides pensions regardless of the cause of death. Previously, pensions were allowed widows and children only if the veteran died of a disability connected with his war service or if he died of some other cause, but had been disabled in the war.

Widows without children will get $35 a month. A widow with one child will receive $45, and $5 will be paid for each additional child.

A child of a deceased veteran, whose mother is also dead, will get $18. Two orphans will receive $27, three will get $36, and for each additional orphan, $4 is provided.

No childless widow can draw a pension unless her annual income is under $1,000, nor can a widow with children qualify for an income unless her income is less than $2,500.

A veteran must have served at least ninety days for his family to be eligible. And, to discourage women from marrying veterans with the idea of obtaining pensions, the law says that any woman who has married a veteran after the effective date of the act must have been married to him for ten years to receive the pension upon his death.

Air Group Lost 2,400 Planes Against 5,600

Washington, Dec. 15 (AP) — The Italy-based 15th Air Force has lost approximately 2,400 planes in combat and suffered 16,000 casualties while flying 150,000 sorties, the War Department reported today.

Summarizing operations by the force since its activation November 1, 1943, the department said that planes of the 15th had flown more than 150,000,000 miles and dropped 200,000 tons of bombs on 630 industrial and military targets in twelve countries.

The B-17's and B-24's of the 15th destroyed 3,660 enemy planes in combat and more than 2,000 on the ground.

The 12th Tactical Air Force, in fifteen months of flying from Mediterranean bases, dropped 127,371 tons of bombs and destroyed 752 enemy planes in aerial combat. The 12th lost 1,173 planes to anti-aircraft fire and in aerial combat. The announcement did not report the number of enemy planes destroyed on the ground by the Tactical Air Force.

Shipment Stopped Of Civilian Munition

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15—(AP)—Shipments of civilian shotgun shells and rifle ammunition have been halted at the factory, War Production Board sources disclosed tonight.

The freeze was agreed upon informally several days ago by WPB and the manufacturers, to conserve supplies until it can be ascertained how much civilian ammunition, if any, can be made after this month.

The army's small arms ammunition expansion—called for after commanders reported four times as many bullets being spent on the Siegfried line as military men had anticipated—will take up the bulk of output of commercial firearms companies, WPB officials said, as well as government plants.

There was indication, however, that some civilian production will be maintained. Its volume probably will be the minimum necessary for law enforcement agencies and for farmers and ranchers who need ammunition to protect crops and livestock.

Hunters and sportsmen probably will lose their present ammunition rations when controls over retail sales are tightened to match the reduced output, it was stated. Hunters have been eligible since late August for the same quota as farmers.

Draft of More Men Ages 26-37 Ordered

Selective Service Rules That Registrants Whose Job Shifts Not in Best Interests of War Effort Be Put in 1-A.

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP) — Selective Service announcing a "much larger" proportion of older men will be inducted after February 1, tonight sent out instructions implementing the government's "produce or fight" edict.

For Induction

It ordered that registrants in the 26 through 37 age bracket whose job shifts are not in the best interests of the war effort should be put in 1-A and placed near the top of the list for induction.

Draft boards were directed that when these registrants are put in 1-A after leaving essential jobs they should be made available for service "in the same manner as registrants who leave agriculture x x x"

This would make them available immediately after volunteers and "delinquents"—those who violate draft regulations.

In leaving to local boards determination as to which changes will aid in prosecution of the war, the agency made it clear that in some cases a switch may be approved even though consent of the board was not obtained prior to a move.

It also ruled that men who changed jobs before Dec. 12 are excluded from the new provision for clearance through local boards.

Boards Instructed

The memorandum instructed boards to "give greater determent consideration to registrants 26 through 37 who are engaged in war production or in support of the war effort, than those engaged in activities not supporting immediate prosecution of the war."

Implementing a directive of the Office of War Mobilization and reconversion, the revised regulations provide that registrants who are now in war industries "must stay on or run the risk of losing their occupational deferment classification."

The memorandum said registrants of lesser skills in war plants "may be found more important to the war effort than those of greater skills in other activities not in direct support of the war effort."

While the primary aim of OWMR Director James F. Byrnes' directive of last week-end is to curb labor turnover in critical war programs, selective service pointed up the need for replacements for the armed services.

"Estimates of available men indicate that the armed forces' calls after Feb. 1 cannot be filled substantially from men aged 18 through 25. The larger number of American divisions now actually engaged in combat, the continuing pressure against the enemy has increased the requirements for physically fit soldiers and sailors.

$848,620,000 Surplus Goods Held By U.S.

Washington, Dec. 15 (AP)—Federal agencies as of November 30 had declared surplus $848,620,000 worth of capital and producers' goods, including aircraft, Jesse Jones, Secretary of Commerce, reported today.

He said the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, disposal agency for such equipment, has sold $112,975,000 worth of the surplus goods, receiving $84,391,000 for it.

Of the total declared surplus, property costing $635,855,000 came from other Federal agencies—including $520,686,653 of aircraft and aircraft equipment—and $212,765,000 represented property owned by the RFC itself.

Maritime Board Accused in Deal With N. J. Yard

Contract Favoritism Charged by House Committee in East Coast Company Case

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—The Maritime Commission was accused today by a Congressional committee of favoritism in its dealings with the East Coast Shipyards, Inc., at Bayonne, N. J.

The House Merchant Marine Committee made the accusation in a report on an investigation of East Coast's operation of a Bayonne yard after taking it over from the Marine Maintenance Corporation by the comimssion's order.

"Provisions in the contract (with the commission) providing for the payment of fees and costs favored East Coast as compared to the situation common to other yards," the report said.

It also recommended that the commission "proceed immediately an adjustment of the rights of the Marine Maintenance Corporation subject to a satisfactory reimbursement to the Maritime Commission for the increased facilities placed in the yard."

The committee said that through one contract arrangement between the commission and the firm regarding operation of a Bayonne shipyard "the government has been paying East Coast a profit on material which the government purchases and owns, and which was transferred to East Coast solely by a bookkeeping entry . . . thus, in effect, presenting East Coast with hundreds of thousands of dollars of additional working capital."

East Coast took over the yard in February, 1943, when the commission ordered its work transferred from the Marine Maintenance Corporation.

The committee said that commission action "was justified on the basis of the facts as they appeared at that time, but the method of substituting a new control with the equity interest vested in a single individual is subject to serious questioning."

"Certain inadequacies in the financial structure and working capital of East Coast were evident from the time it took over. . . . On various occasions East Coast failed to take cash discounts, although the contracts provided for taking them," the committee said. "There is also evidence that East Coast was permitted to take over the job with a smaller capital than other applicants were told would be necessary. . . . The contract

was granted to East Coast although it had but $600 in equity, $50,000 in debentures and but $200,000 in bank credit.

"In most cases, 50 per cent of the fee is paid on launching and the remainder on completion of the vessel, but the contract with East Coast provided that the payment was to be made in ten semi-monthly installments."

Pay Increase Urged To Stop Labor Shortage

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP)—Higher pay for workers in some industries and a stepped-up recruiting program were proposed today as methods of wiping out the manpower shortage in war plants.

The higher pay suggestion came from Chairman Mead (D-N.Y.) and Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) during a Senate war investigating committee hearing at which the War Manpower Commission's recruiting plan was outlined by WMC Deputy Chairman Charles M. Hay.

Cornerstone of the WMC plan is increased pressure to channel workers to war plants from less essential industry.

Ferguson and Mead both expressed belief that the greatest shortage of manpower is in the ranks of workers performing heavy labor on unskilled tasks in "unattractive industries," such as foundries, steel mills and cehmical works.

These jobs, they declared, could and should be made "more attractive" through pay boosts, along with improved housing facilities.

Expressing impatience that the manpower problem had not been solved long ago, Ferguson blamed the failure on "propaganda" used to persuade workers into war industries.

Chandler Asks Approval For Hurley, Heller

Senate G.O.P. Prepares to Fight Disposal Board Nominees.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15. (AP)—Senator Chandler (D-Ky) asked the Senate today not to reject the nomination of Robert A. Hurley for chairman of the Surplus Property Board "just because he was defeated for governor."

Chandler defended President Roosevelt's appointment of Hurley and Lieut. Col. Edward H. Heller, army finance officer, to the three-member board. Republicans made ready to fight them at tomorrow's unusual Saturday session.

Hurley, a former Democratic governor of Connecticut, made an unsuccessful race for that office in the November 7 election.

Austin Opposes

Senator Austin (R-Vt) served notice he will take the floor at the 11 a. m. session, an hour earlier than the regular convening time, in opposition to confirmation.

Chandler asserted there was nothing in the record of Senate military hearings to justify a disqualification of Hurley, former vice president of the Narragansett Machine Co., of Pawtucket, R. I., subject of a House Military Committee investigation several months ago.

The Kentuckian devoted most of his speech to praise of Col. Heller, a wealthy resident of San Francisco, now assigned to the army fiscal office at Boston.

Referring to a $2,000,000 loan made to the Narragansett Co., under a War Department guarantee, Chandler said the action was urged by the Boston ordnance district, and that Heller's part in recommending it was "justified" by the emergency.

Hurley has testified he had nothing to do with the concern's financing.

Senators Vote Rise to Selves For Clerk Hire

Approve $4,020 to $5,040 More Yearly; House Voted Itself a $3,000 Increase

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—Senators today voted themselves an additional $4,020 to $5,040 yearly for clerk hire in passing a $564,000,000 supplemental appropriation bill.

The measure, carrying $165,000,000 more than the House previously approved, was sent back to that body for consideration of the amendment, which was immediately accepted.

The House recently voted in another bill to allow its own members an additional $3,000 each for clerk hire.

The increase for members of both houses would become effective Jan. 1.

Under the Senate's action, Senators from states having a population of 4,000,000 or more would have an additional $5,040 allowance, those from smaller states $4,020.

No basic objection was voiced, although some Senators from smaller states objected to the larger increase for Senators from more populous states.

The Senate appropriated $30,000,000 to the Agriculture Department for obtaining foreign farm laborers. The House had allowed only the $8,000,000 balance from a previous appropriation and authorized contract commitments for a additional $10,000,000.

A major part of the money in the bill is for the Navy, with the Bureau of Yards and Docks getting $250,000,000. The biggest addition made by the Senate was $100,000,000 for the Smaller War Plants Corporation.

Other Senate additions included $10,000,000 for war housing, $7,500,000 for community facilities to be administered by the Federal Works Agency, $13,000,000 to the Agriculture Department for conservation work and $2,000,000 for the Colorado-Big Thompson reclamation project in Colorado, including the Alva B. Adams Tunnel.

A possibility arose today that the House and Senate would be unable to agree on a half-billion-dollar post-war rivers and harbors bill. The bill got involved in parliamentary procedure when the Senate refused to approve a compromise version drawn up by a conference committee and sent it back to conference. The House refused to name a new conference committee to reconsider the bill and sent it back to the Senate.

The Byrd economy committee reported today that Federal appropriations or authorizations totaling $87,509,000,000 remained unobligated as of last Oct. 1.

Including obligated funds, the committee said $151,233,000,000 were available for expenditure on that date.

The committee pointed out that the $87,509,000,000 figure does not include deficiency and supplemental appropriations which will be made during the rest of the current fiscal year. Those appropriations, the report predicted, will increase the unobligated balance "considerably."

The War Department had $49,318,000,000 available during the year ending June 30, 1945, of which $8,266,000,000 had been obligated through September. Comparable figures for the Navy were $32,043,000,000 and $5,340,000,000.

The committee recommended that the Bureau of the Budget be required to submit a report to Congress "showing the condition of the balances of appropriations and contract authorizations at any time prior to, but not later than six months after, the conclusion of the European and Japanese wars and that Congress consider unexpended balances then current and provide legislation to lapse or cancel out all unnecessary balances."

Noble Denies Pressure In Purchase of WMCA

Says Corcoran Was Not Asked to Head Off Investigation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 (AP).—Edward G. Noble, former Under Secretary of Commerce, characterized as "ridiculous" today allegations that he employed "pressure" in purchasing radio station WMCA in New York.

At the same time, Mr. Noble, who acquired the station in 1940 for $850,000 from Donald Flamm, denied he had called Thomas G. Corcoran, early New Deal braintruster, to use his influence in heading off a Congressional investigation of the station's sale.

Mr. Flamm has charged he was coerced into the sale.

Mr. Noble made his remarks to reporters after emerging from a closed House subcommittee hearing investigating the Federal Communications Commission.

His only contact with Mr. Corcoran at the time he bought the station, Mr. Noble told reporters, was prior to the purchase when he questioned him regarding the qualifications of William Dempsey, an attorney he subsequently hired to represent him in the WMCA negotiations.

"I haven't done a thing that couldn't be shouted from the housetops," Mr. Noble told reporters.

Hancock Named Head Of Commodity Credit

Washington, Dec. 15 (AP)—Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, announced today the designation of Frank Hancock, former North Carolina Representative, as president of the multibillion-dollar Commodity Credit Corporation.

Hancock, a native of Oxford, N.C., succeeds J. B. Hutson, who last week was named assistant to War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes to plan agriculture's reconversion to peacetime conditions.

Selection of Hutson, a career man in the Agriculture Department, to help formulate future Administration farm policies, has led to speculation that he may later be named Secretary of Agriculture.

S.A.L. HEARINGS START MONDAY

Mediation Board To Take Up Labor Dispute

Washington, Dec 15 (AP) — A three-man board named by President Roosevelt to mediate a dispute of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen on the Seaboard Air Line Railway will begin hearings here Monday morning.

The President intervened late last night, after the brotherhood called a strike to begin at noon today on the Seaboard, which operates between New York city and Florida. The White House action automatically put off the strike.

Chairman To Be Picked

Mr. Roosevelt named David J. Lewis, former Congressman from Maryland; Huston Thompson, Washington attorney, and Maj. Gen. William H. Tschappat (retired), of Virginia, to the board.

Thompson said no plans for a meeting of the emergency board had yet been made, but that the three probably would get together and pick a chairman in advance of the Monday hearings.

PUBLIC DEBT $1,800 PERSON

Byrd Group Reports 87 Billion Of Unobligated Funds

Washington, Dec. 15 (AP)—The Byrd Economy Committee called today for a balanced postwar budget and a peacetime taxing program favoring the maintenance of "high levels" in business activity and employment.

Noting that the public debt on November 29, 1944, totaled $214,077,915,000, the committee termed this a "tremendous sum" requiring annual interest charges of nearly $5,000,000,000.

Per Capita Debt Is Heavy

"The measure of the public debt," the committee said, "may be more fully realized in the fact that it will mean a per capita debt equivalent to $1,800 for every man, woman and child in the United States."

Translating this in terms of working people, the committee said it would mean a per capita debt "equivalent to approximately $4,200 for each employable person."

Unobligated Funds High

The committee's views on the postwar budget were embodied in a report recommending Congressional action shortly after the war to wipe out "unnecessary" unobligated balances on Federal appropriations or contract authorizations.

Unobligated funds on October 1, the committee said, amounted to $87,509,000,000 exclusive of anticipated deficiency and supplemental appropriations which will boost the unobligated balance "considerably." Approximately $151,000,000,000, including obligated funds, was available for expenditure on that date, the committee reported.

illegal and uneconomic, at hearings yesterday and today. It was advised by the board to meet the terms of WLB directives before the deadline, or, in effect, to take the consequences.

This means sending the whole file of cases in which the firm has been found to be in non-compliance within the last two years to economic stabilizer Fred M. Vinson—the first step toward presidential intervention.

The Justice department was directed by the President to take over Wards big Chicago plant last Spring to end a strike there. The civilian agency was backed up by the army in the seizure, climaxed by the removal of Sewell L. Avery, chairman of the board, from his offices by two soldiers.

This time the Chicago properties affected are the printing department and display factory.

Staring at the vacant chairs for company attorneys in the crowded hearing room, Samuel Wolchok, president of the CIO Retail Employes Union, assailed Avery today as "bending over backwards" to hurt labor.

Wolchok said the board, by acting swiftly, could avert the spread of the Detroit strike to Denver and Jamaica, where he said his union represents the workers. He spoke also for the Chicago plants. Yesterday he told a news conference

Ward Stores Threatened With Government Seizure

By Harold W. Ward
Associated Press Labor Writer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15 — Pre-Christmas seizure of Montgomery Ward properties in seven cities was threatened today.

The War Labor Board reaffirmed all its orders against the company and demanded compliance by Monday night.

Plants Included

The stores and plants include four retail outlets in Detroit, where the CIO-Retail Employes Union has been on strike for a week and pickets have attempted to discourage holiday shoppers. Others are located in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.

The big mail order firm which has refused to comply with WLB orders on the ground that they are his union with a "large majority" of the 60,000 to 65,000 Ward employes, was "ready for an economic showdown with the company."

There are approximately 500 stores, mail order units and plants.

Harry Bridges' International Longshoremen and Warehousemen, rival CIO union in the Ward properties, drew some fire from the chunky retail union chief, after Douglas Hall, attorney for the

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ILWU, who said that group would continue to obesrve the no-strike pledge at the St. Paul plant "regardless of the provocations of the company."

Some People

Said Wolchok: "Some people want to ride on somebody else's back."

But, he said, his union was reluctant to strike, and he said the labor groups representing Ward workers in the seven cities were unanimous in wanting the board to force the company to comply.

The AFL teamsters, through Frank Tobin, represented the Portland, Ore., employes, and the AFL retail clerks represented those at San Rafael.

The board ordered the company to enforce maintenance of union membership at all seven places, and established minimum wages and other conditions at some.

Flying Axis Planes Excite U.S. Air Spotters

Wright Field, Ohio, Dec. 15 (AP)—Two captured enemy aircraft flew across the western United States today—and spotters along the route lifted their brows and began notifying the military authorities promptly.

The Air Technical Service Command announced it had received reports after the planes, accompanied by an American plane, sped southwest from Kansas City this morning en route to an Army Air Force show at Los Angeles.

The enemy ships are a German JU88 and a Japanese Zeke, both shot down in combat theaters.

CASUALTIES SET AT 40 MILLIONS

Historian Says War Losses Top Those for 8 Centuries.

Oklahoma City, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Dr. Lee Owens, head of the Oklahoma City University history department, predicts that nine European countries will suffer more casualties in this war than they have in a combination of all other wars fought during the past 825 years.

Dr. Owens has just completed a study of war casualties of England, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Austria, Lithuania, Denmark and Spain for the period between 1101 and 1925.

His figures show that during that period the total army strength of these countries was 171,607,600 men and there were 35,416,485 casualties. This does not include those who died from epidemics or other causes indirectly associated with war. He estimates the casualties of the nine countries at 40,000,000 in this war.

Russia Not Included.

Dr. Owens did not include Russia, he says, because he considers it an Asiatic nation which was not engaged in any major wars until comparatively late in its history.

Dr. Owens said that during the twelfth century less than 3 per cent of the men engaged were casualties while for the first twenty-five years of this century casualties numbered over 35 per cent.

"A reason for the higher number of casualties now is that war has grown incessant. There is hardly a minute when fighting is not going on some place. Before 1900 most wars were fought on-and-off."

Lists Losses by Centuries.

There were 60,425,000 men in the armed forces and 22,035,150 casualties for the quarter century, while the total for the eight centuries was a fighting force of 112,182,600 with 13,381,335 casualties.

Dr. Owens's figures:

Year.	Army Strength.	War Casualties.
1101-1200	1, 161,000	29,940
1201-1300	2,372,000	68,440
1301-1400	3,947,000	149,929
1401-1500	6,910,000	364,220
1501-1600	16,707,300	896,185
1601-1700	25,796,000	3,711,000
1701-1800	31,055,500	4,505,950
1801-1900	24,253,800	3,625,627
1901-1925	60,425,000	22,035,150

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LEGIONNAIRE PROTESTS

San Francisco, Dec. 15 (A. P.).—Erasure of the names of sixteen Hood River, Ore., Japanese-American soldiers from the county honor roll today drew the fire of Robert D. Cozzens, assistant director of the War Relocation Authority, who placed blame on the Hood River Post of the American Legion.

Mr. Cozzens announced that he had written a protest to Commander Jess Edington of the Legion post, speaking "as a member of the American Legion and as a veteran of World War I."

"I know that your disgraceful act cannot be condoned by a vast majority of American Legionnaires," the letter said, "nor by the Lost Battalion rescued in this war by Nisei. . . . You have betrayed the Legion by a deliberate insult to our Army, its uniform and the brave men who wear it. . . . You desecrate the grave of the unknown soldier."

ADD LONDON XXX TIPPERARY

"CHURCHILL'S ABILITY TO JUGGLE FIGURES WHICH ARE STAINED WITH THE BLOOD OF MILLIONS IS TOO WELL KNOWN TO CAUSE SURPRISE IN GERMANY OVER HIS SUGGESTED SOLUTION BY DRAGGING AWAY MILLIONS OF EAST GERMAN PEOPLE FROM HEARTH AND HOME.#

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ADD LONDON - CCHAMBERLAIN) XX ROUTE

WHILE THE U.S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE FLEET OF MORE THAN 650 BOMBERS WAS BLASTING KASSEL WITH ITS 14TH ATTACK OF THE WAR AND HANNOVER WITH ITS SIXTH, 550 ESCORTING MUSTANGS AND THUNDERBOLTS PROWLED GERMAN SKIES FOR A FIGHT, BUT THE LUFTWAFFE STAYED AGROUND.

THE FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS CARRIED OUT THEIR MISSIONS THROUGH HEAVY ROLLING CLOUDS AGAINST ONLY LIGHT FLAK. FIGHTER PILOTS SPRAYED GROUND TARGETS.

0624PEW

ADD LONDON - (MERCHER) XX SOUTH

ALTHOUGH MOSCOW DID NOT MENTION THE AREA THE GERMANS ALSO TOLD OF HEAVY FIGHTING AROUND SZECSENY, 25 MILES EAST OF IPOLYSAG, AND 17 MILES SOUTH OF THE SLOVAK RAIL TOWN OF LOSONC (LUCENEC).

IN THIS AREA THE RUSSIANS WERE ONLY 45 MILES SOUTHWEST OF THREATENED PUTNOK AS THEY SOUGHT TO ENVELOP GERMAN ALPINE TROOPS FIGHTING IN THE MATRA AND BUKK MOUNTAINS OF NORTHEASTERN HUNGARY JUST BELOW THE SLOVAK FRONTIER.

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THE RUSSIANS GAINED UP TO FIVE MILES ON A 50-MILE FRONT IN THEIR FIGHTING ARC ABOVE MISKOLC, AND WERE FOLDING BACK THE GERMAN SOUTHERN LINE WHILE GEN.IVAN PETROV'S FOURTH UKRAINE ARMY HAMMERED THE GERMANS IN EASTERN SLOVAKIA.#

ADD LONDON- CSINGLETON) XX AGREED

ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO POLL OF POLISH OPINION ON THE SUBJECT, CHURCHILL APPARENTLY TOOK THE POSITION THAT AGREEMENT BY BRITAIN AND RUSSIA AND THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE--MET THAT CONDITION.

THERE WAS NO VOTE OF CONFIDENCE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE, AND NONE SOUGHT BY CHURCHILL, FOR THIS TIME THE CRITICISM CAME FROM HIS OWN SUPPORTERS AMONG THE CONSERVATIVES. IN SHARP CONTRAST TO JUST A WEEK AGO WHEN HE DEFENDED HIS POLICY OF INTERVENTION IN ITALY, GREECE AND BELGIUM, IT WAS FROM THE LABORITES OF LEFT-WING LEANINGS THAT HE FOUND HIS SUPPORT TODAY.

CONSERVATIVE HENRY RAIKES PROTESTED: "THE ATLANTIC CHARTER HAS BECOME A GHOST, AND THAT GHOST WAS LAID TODAY."

ANOTHER CONSERVATIVE MEMBER INQUIRED SARCASTICALLY WHETHER CHURCHILL HAD EVER READ THE CHARTER.

LABORITE M.PHILLIPS PRICE, MAINTAINING THAT "THE TIME HAS COME TO SPEAK PLAINLY," CONTENDED THAT "SOME POLES LIVE IN THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE."

THE TENOR OF CHURCHILL'S SPEECH--HIS STRONG BACKING OF RUSSIA'S STAND, HIS ATTITUDE OF REPROOF TOWARD POLAND'S EXILED GOVERNMENT--OFFERED FRESH INDICATION THE AND STALIN HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT ON SEPARATE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE IN EUROPE.

BLUNT DENIALS FROM INFORMED WASHINGTON QUARTERS OF ANY KNOWLEDGE THAT SUCH SPHERES EXIST WOULD APPEAR TO INDICATE THAT, IF SUCH ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE BY CHURCHILL AND STALIN AT THEIR [illegible] MEETING, AMERICAN STATESMEN WERE NOT IN ON THE DECISIONS.

ANOTHER ANGLE WHICH PROVOKED SURPRISE HERE WAS THE DEFEINITE INDICATION FURNISHED TO LONDON NEWSPAPERMEN THAT A NEW MEETING OF THE BIG THREE WAS IMMINENT, WHILE ONLY YESTERDAY THEIR WASHINGTON COLLEAGUES WERE GIVEN A DIRECTLY OPPOSITE TIP.

OBVIOUSLY, IT WAS NOT CHURCHILL WHO THREW THE MONKEY WRENCH INTO THE PLANS. WHILE HOPEFUL THAT THE MEETING COULD BE HELD IN BRITAIN, HE TOLD COMMONS THAT HE AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY EDEN WERE READY TO "PROCEED TO ANY PLACE, AT ANY TIME, UNDER ANY CONDITIONS WHERE WE CAN MEET THE HEADS OF OUR TWO CHIEF ALLIES."

RQ341PEW

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LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEADING COPPER PRODUCERS IN CANADA HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON A PLAN FOR ORDERLY MARKETING OF COPPER RESERVES AND WAR-SCRAP COPPER, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

A FOUR-MAN DELEGATION, SPEAKING FOR THE MOST POWERFUL COPPER INTERESTS IN THE DOMINION, CONCLUDED TALKS TODAY WITH MINISTRY OF SUPPLY OFFICIALS AFTER SEVERAL CONFERENCES WITH CABINET MINISTERS, TREASURY OFFICIALS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES. AN OFFICIAL SOURCE SAID DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE DISCLOSED BUT BOTH SIDES WERE "COMPLETELY SATISFIED."

THE LAST FULL-SCALE COPPER TALKS IN BRITAIN WERE IN OCTOBER, 1939, WHEN PRODUCERS IN CANADA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE EMPIRE AGREED NOT TO INCREASE THEIR PROFIT DEMAND IN SALE OF COPPER TO BRITAIN DURING WARTIME.

LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-THE BRITISH LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE TODAY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION DEMANDING RELEASE OF INDIAN POLITICAL LEADERS TO FACILITATE NEGOTIATIONS FOR SOLUTION OF THE LONG-STANDING PROBLEM.

THE RESOLUTION URGED "IMMEDIATE ENDING OF THE POLITICAL DEADLOCK BY NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALL LEADERS OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE WITH A VIEW TO THE FORMATION OF A RESPONSIBLE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL RALLY THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF INDIA TO THE ANTI-FASCIST CAUSE."

RQ1248PEW

LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-ANTHONY EDEN TOLD THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TODAY THAT BY MIXING INTO THE SOVIET-POLISH DISAGREEMENT "WE HAVE, IF YOU LIFE, BURNED OUR FINGERS."

THE GOVERNMENT KNEW THE RISK BEFORE IT ATTEMPTED TO BRING ABOUT A SETTLEMENT, HE SAID, BUT THOUGHT THE HOPED-FOR GAIN WORTHWHILE--IF PREMIER MIKOLACZYK'S GOVERNMENT COULD AGREE WITH MOSCOW ON FRONTIERS, THEN "WE KNEW THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT WOULD MAKE A CIVIL AFFAIRS AGREEMENT WITH THE POLISH GOVERNMENT ON EXACTLY THE SAME LINES AS WE HAVE MADE WITH THE BELGIANS AND FRANCE."

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CB9 PEW

LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-THE POLISH GOVERNMENT IN EXILE MAINTAINED OFFICIAL SILENCE TODAY ON PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S ADDRESS, BUT POLES HERE EXPRESSED BELIEF IT MEANT THAT BRITAIN WOULD RECOGNIZE THE SOVIET-SPONSORED LUBLIN COMMITTEE UNLESS EX-PREMIER STANISLAW MIKOLAJCZYK WAS BROUGHT BACK INTO THE LONDON GOVERNMENT. THE SPEECH SPREAD GLOOM OVER PREMIER THOMASZ ARCISEZWSKI'S SUBORDINATES.

(MAY BE INSERTED IN LONDON CHURCHILL)

RQ102PEW

BY JOHN A.PARRIS, JR.

LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-POLISH QUARTERS INTERPRETED PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S SPEECH TODAY AS A STRONG BRITISH ATTEMPT TO BRING FORMER PREMIER STANISLAW NIKOLAJCZYK BACK INTO POLAND'S STRIFE-TORN EXILED GOVERNMENT.

IF THIS FAILS, POLISH QUARTERS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT THE BRITISH WOULD RECOGNIZE THE SOVIET-SPONSORED LUBLIN COMMITTEE AS THE PROVISIONAL REGIME OF POLAND. THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL POLISH COMMENT ON CHURCHILL'S BLUNT CRITICISM OF THE EXILED GOVERNMENT'S INABILITY TO REACH ANY SORT OF AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIA AND THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE, BUT THE EFFECT OF HIS WORDS SPREAD GLOOM OVER SOCIALIST PREMIER ARCISZEWSKI'S FLOUNDERING REGIME.

SOME DIPLOMATIC QUARTER BELIEVED GEN.DEGAULLE'S FRENCH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WAS LIKELY TO FOLLOW UP CHURCHILL'S SPEECH BY RECOGNIZING THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE. THERE WERE REPORTS THAT THE FRENCH LEADER HAD COMMITTED HIMSELF TO SUCH A COURSE DURING HIS RECENT TALKS WITH MARSHAL STALIN.

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POLISH QUARTERS AGREED THAT CHURCHILL HAD LEFT NO DOUBT HE HAD BECOME COMPLETELY FED UP WITH THE EXILED POLISH GOVERNMENT'S FAILURE TO REACH A DECISION WITH THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE.

SOURCES CLOSE TO ARCISZEWSKI'S GOVERNMENT WERE OF THE OPINION THAT CHURCHILL HAD HELD OUT ONE LAST SPARK OF HOPE TO THE LONDON POLES, NAMELY, TO BRING MIKOLAJCZYK BACK, BELIEVING HE COULD REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIA AND THE LUBLIN POLES. BUT THEY DOUBTED THIS WOULD HAPPEN.

INSTEAD, THEY BELIEVED THERE WOULD BE A LULL DURING WHICH RUSSIA WOULD TRY TO STRENGTHEN THE LUBLIN COMMITTEE IN AN ATTEMPT TO BRING FULL RECOGNITION FROM ALL THE UNITED NATIONS.

POLISH QUARTERS ADMITTED POLAND "WOULD BE HAPPY TO GET" EAST PRUSSIA AND UPPER SILESIA, BUT DECLARED "WE DON'T LIKE TO MAKE AN EXCHANGE OF LVOV FOR GERMAN TERRITORY."

SHOULD BRITAIN, THE UNITED STATES, RUSSIA AND FRANCE AGREE AS A BODY TO RECOGNIZE THE LUBLIN POLES AS THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, ONE OF THE BIG PROBLEMS WOULD CONCERN THE LARGE POLISH ARMY WHICH IS UNDER THE LONDON POLISH REGIME. WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THIS ARMY HAS POSED A BIG QUESTION THAT DIPLOMATIC QUARTERS INVARIABLY ANSWER WITH A "WE DON'T KNOW."

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LONDON, DEC. 15-(AP)-THE U.S. ARMY'S FAR EASTERN AIR FORCE--NOW BLASTING THE JAPANESE HOMELAND WITH SUPERFORTRESSES--CONSISTED IN JANUARY, 1942, OF 10 BOMBERS AND A FEW FIGHTER PLANES, CAPT.DURWARD W.FESMIRE, PORTALES, N.M., RECALLED TODAY.

HE BEGAN THE FIRST OF HIS 125 HEAVY BOMBER MISSIONS--AN UNOFFICIAL RECORD--AS A MEMBER OF THIS MAKESHIFT FORCE, WHICH ESCAPED TO AUSTRALIA FROM THE PHILIPPINES AFTER THE JAPANESE STRUCK.

ONE OF THE FIGHTERS WAS FORCED TO USE A TWO-BY-FOUR BOARD AS A TAILSKID.

FESMIRE JOINED THE ARMY AIR FORCE IN 1930 WHEN HE WAS 19. AS A MASTER SERGEANT, HE SERVED AS BOMBARDIER ON THE "SUZY Q" THROUGH 92 MISSIONS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

HE NOW IS ON HIS SECOND TOUR OF DUTY IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER AS A SQUADRON BOMBARDIER OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE. HE HOLDS ABOUT EVERY DECORATION BUT THE PURPLE HEART.

"I'VE SEEN HEAVIER CONCENTRATIONS OF FLAK IN THE PACIFIC THAN OVER HERE, BUT IT WAS NOT ACCURATE," SAID FESMIRE, ADDRESSING A PRESS CONFERENCE.

"WE NEVER USED TO FLY MORE THAN 13 OR 14 PLANES ON ONE MISSION OUT IN THE PACIFIC, AND I NEVER FLEW WITH FIGHTER ESCORT WHILE I WAS THERE. BUT, GOSH, OVER HERE WE GO UP IN FORMATIONS OF 1,000 OR SO BOMBERS WITH HUNDREDS OF FIGHTERS."

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PMS

BY LOUIS P.LOCHNER

LONDON, DEC.15-(AP)-PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL WITTINGLY OR UNWITTINGLY RENDERED MARSHAL STALIN A THREE-FOLD SERVICE TODAY BY HIS FORCEFUL INTERVENTION IN POLISH AFFAIRS.

FIRST, HE SUPPORTED UNCONDITIONALLY THE RUSSIAN PREMIER'S DEMAND FOR THE ANNEXATION TO THE U.S.S.R. OF POLISH LANDS EAST OF THE CURZON LINE, AREAS IN WHICH LWOW HAS BEEN THE CHIEF BONE OF CONTENTION.

BEYOND THAT, HE AGREED BY IMPLICATION TO RUSSIA'S ANNEXATION OF A LARGE SLICE OF EAST PRUSSIA LYING BETWEEN KONIGSBERG AND SOVIETIZED LITHUANIA, AND INCLUDING A PRIZE ALL-YEAR SEAPORT, MEMEL.

CHURCHILL CONFINED HIS ANALYSIS TO STATING WHAT POLAND WOULD GET AT GERMANY'S EXPENSE AS COMPENSATION FOR THE LOSS OF LANDS EAST OF THE CURZON LINE. HE DID NOT SAY THAT RUSSIA, TOO, WOULD FALL HEIR TO GERMAN TERRITORY. YET NO OTHER INTERPRETATION SEEMS POSSIBLE THAN THAT SUCH PORTIONS OF GERMAN EAST PRUSSIA AS LIE NORTH AND EAST OF KONIGSBERG WILL BE AWARDED TO RUSSIA BY BRITISH CONSENT. OTHERWISE THERE WOULD ONCE AGAIN ARISE THE PROBLEM OF A GERMAN CORRIDOR TO WHAT WOULD BE LEFT OF EAST PRUSSIA AFTER THE AREAS FROM DANZIG EAST TO KONIGSBERG HAVE BEEN DOLED OUT TO POLAND. CHURCHILL MADE IT CRYSTAL CLEAR HE DESIRES NO NEW CORRIDOR.

RUSSIA THUS WOULD FALL HEIR TO A BALTIC SEA FRONTAGE OF ABOUT 200 MILES, OR AS MUCH AS CHURCHILL EXPRESSLY OFFERED TO POLAND. THAT SECTION OF THE BALTIC IS FAMED FOR ITS SUMMER RESORTS. TO

(over)

WHICH THOUSANDS OF GERMANS FLOCKED EVERY YEAR. HITLER TRIUMPHANTLY ENTERED MEMEL FROM THE SEASIDE MARCH 23, 1939, AFTER BROW-BEATING LITHUANIA INTO CEDING MEMELLAND. THE SECTION ALSO INCLUDES AS THE PRINCIPAL INLAND CITY OF THIS SECTION, HISTORIC TILSIT WITH 50,000 POPULATION.

THIS SECTION IS, HOWEVER, NOT NEARLY AS VALUABLE AS THE PORTIONS OF EAST PRUSSIA OFFERED TO POLAND, ESPECIALLY NOT THE COASTAL AREA BETWEEN THE TWO OUTSTANDING PORTS OF DANZIG AND KONIGSBERG. CONSIDERING THAT POLAND ALREADY HAS THE ULTRA MODERN HARBOR OF GDYNIA, CHURCHILL'S REARRANGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN MAP WOULD MAKE POLAND A FORMIDABLE BALTIC SEA POWER.

THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER BY IMPLICATION THREW THE ATLANTIC CHARTER INTO THE SCRAP HEAP THEREBY, IT MAY BE ASSUMED, PLEASING STALIN, WHO NEVER WAS A DECLARED PARTY TO THAT CHARTER.

BY LOUIS P.LOCHNER

AMS

LONDON, DEC.15-(AP)-JOSEPH STALIN SHOULD BE THE MOST PLEASED MAN IN EUROPE TODAY.

WINSTON CHURCHILL FREED HIM FROM ANY MORAL OBLIGATION TO ADHERE TO THE ATLANTIC CHARTER, OFFERED THE NORTHERN TIP OF GERMAN EAST PRUSSIA TO THE SOVIETS, PROPOSED "COMPENSATIONS" TO POLAND WHICH WOULD ENABLE RUSSIA TO GARNER A SIZABLE SLICE OF POLISH TERRITORY, AND SENT HITLER'S CHICKENS HOME TO ROOST IN THE SENSE OF MOVING VAST POPULATIONS IN GIGANTIC "VOELKERWANDERRUNGS."

CHURCHILL TECHNICALLY REMAINED WITHIN THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE ONE OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER IN THAT HE SOUGHT "NO AGGRANDIZEMENT, TERRITORIAL OR OTHERWISE," FOR GREAT BRITAIN, BUT HE DISCLOSED NO INHIBITIONS ABOUT APPROVING TERRITORIAL DESIRES ON THE PART OF HIS ALLIES.

FOR POLAND, ACCEPTANCE OF CHURCHILL'S PROPOSAL WOULD MEAN ESTABLISHING HERSELF FORMIDABLY AS A BALTIC SEA POWER, FOR IN ADDITION TO HER EXCELLENT PORT OF GYDNIA SHE WOULD GAIN PILLAU AND DANZIG.

FOR RUSSIA IT WOULD MEAN GAINS OF BOTH POLISH AND GERMAN TERRITORY, AND AN INCREASE OF HER PORTS ON THE BALTIC BY ONE OF THE BEST IN NORTHEASTERN EUROPE--THAT OF MEMEL.

MARALLY

NOTHING AT LEAST THE SCORE STOOD: ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL SPONSORS OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER; STALIN NEVER PERSONALLY COMMITTED TO ITS PROVISIONS BUT ALSO NOWHERE ON RECORD AS DISAVOWING IT. ON THE CONTRARY, THE IMPRESSION WAS DEFINITELY LAUNCHED AFTER THE TEHRAN CONFERENCE THAT, SINCE THERE WAS FULL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BIG THREE, THIS MUST ALSO APPLY TO THE FUNDAMENTALS FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF WHICH THE WESTERN POWERS WERE FIGHTING.

CHURCHILL TODAY MADE SHORT SHRIFT OF ARTICLE TWO OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER, WHICH READS, "THEY DESIRE TO SEE NO TERRITORIAL CHANGES THAT DO NOT ACCORD WITH THE FREELY EXPRESSED WISHES OF THE PEOPLES CONCERNED."

(CHURCHILL TOLD THE HOUSE OF COMMONS LAST MAY 24 THAT THE ATLANTIC CHARTER "IN NO WAY BINDS US ABOUT THE FUTURE OF GERMANY. IT HAS NO QUALITIES OF A BARGAIN OR CONTRACT WITH OUR ENEMIES," AND "THERE IS NO QUESTION OF GERMANY ENJOYING ANY GUARANTEE THAT SHE WILL NOT UNDERGO TERRITORIAL CHANGES IF IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE MAKING OF SUCH CHANGES RENDERS MORE SECURE THE PEACE OF EUROPE.")

THE PRIME MINISTER APPEARED TO BE FULLY AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY SO-CALLED IRREDENTISTS, THAT IS, DISSATISFIED SECTIONS OF ONE NATIONALITY INCORPORATED IN THE TERRITORY OF ANOTHER COUNTRY, ONE CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF WHICH WAS THE SUDETENLAND. HE THEREFORE STIPULATED THAT ALL GERMANS MUST BE CLEARED OUT OF EAST PRUSSIA.

CHURCHILL'S REVELATION OF WAR AIMS IN EASTERN EUROPE WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT HE BELIEVES THE TIME IS PAST WHEN THE EFFECT OF ALLIED UTTERANCES UPON GERMAN FIGHTING MORALE NEED BE CONSIDERED. FOR, THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT IN THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO FOLLOW GERMAN

OME FRONT PROPAGANDA THAT JOSEPH GOEBBELS WILL HAVE A FIELD DAY DENOUNCING THE UNITED NATIONS AS DISCIPLES OF POWER POLITICS.

THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER EVIDENTLY IS SO CONVINCED OF COMPLETE, SMASHING VICTORY THAT HE IS WILLING TO LET THE GERMAN PROPAGANDISTS GET WHAT COMFORT THEY CAN FROM WHATEVER INTERPRETATION THEY CHOOSE TO PLACE UPON HIS WORDS.

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THE BRITISH STATESMAN APPARENTLY SOUGHT ALSO TO "SMOKE OUT" THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE AMERICAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE. IT WILL BE UP TO ROOSEVELT AND STETTINIUS TO INDICATE WHETHER AMERICA APPROVES OF CHURCHILL'S PROPOSED SOLUTION OF THE POLISH QUESTION AND WHETHER THE ATLANTIC CHARTER IS STILL THE BASIS OF THE FIGHT AGAINST NAZISM.

PS337PEW

PARIS--THIRD ADD FIRST LEAD WESTERN FRONT X X X OFFENSIVE.

THE THIRD ARMY'S 95TH DIVISION IN THE SAARLAND CLEARED OUT THREE MORE BLOCKS OF FRAULAUTERN AND HAD MORE THAN HALF OF THIS SAARLAUTERN SUBURB UNDER CONTROL AFTER A DOZEN DAYS OF FIGHTING. (KENNEDY)

OTHER ELEMENTS PUSHED AHEAD A FEW MORE BUILDINGS IN NEARBY ENSDORF, LIKEWISE HALF CAPTURED. OTHER TROOPS HOLD ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF SAARLAUTERN-RODERN, ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SAARLAUTERN RIDGE.

THE 90TH DIVISION REPORTED NO CHANGES AT ITS SAAR CROSSING AREA AROUND DILLINGEN. ITS FIRE POWER AND ARMORED STRENGTH WERE INCREASED AGAIN OVERNIGHT.

THE 35TH DIVISION MOPPED UP HABKIRCHEN, ACROSS THE BLIES RIVER FRONTIER, AND FOUGHT GERMANS HOLED UP IN FORTIFIED FARM HOUSES ON THE NORTH. NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES, OTHER INFANTRY UNITS CLEARED THE VILLAGE OF RIMLING AND ADVANCED ANOTHER HALF MILE EASTWARD.

THE THIRD ARMY'S SLOW CRAWL THROUGH THE FIRST OBSTACLES OF THE SIEGFRIED FORTIFICATIONS DEFINITELY DID NOT MEAN THAT PATTON'S FORCES WERE TEARING THEMSELVES TO PIECES IN INCESSANT BLOODY COMBAT, A FRONT DISPATCH SAID. RATHER IT MEANT THAT IN THE FACE OF THE TRULY FORMIDABLE DEFENSES, MANNED BY FAIR TO POOR GERMAN TROOPS, THE AMERICAN INFANTRY COMMANDERS WERE FEELING THEIR WAY SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY TO SAVE LIVES.

AS STRONGPOINTS ARE LOCATED, THEY ARE WATCHED BY PATROLS WHILE ARTILLERY IS BROUGHT TO BEAR UPON THEM. IF THE SHELLS DO NOT CRACK THE FORTS, AN EFFORT MAY BE MADE TO EFFECT A SURRENDER. NOT INFREQUENTLY, THIS WORKS. IF IT FAILS, DEMOLITION CHARGES ARE SHOVED AGAINST THE WALLS BY INFANTRY CRAWLING UP CLOSE.

ALL THIS TAKES TIME. BUT IS THRIFT OF MANPOWER.

THE SEVENTH'S HEAVY ARTILLERY BEGAN ARCHING SHELLS INTO SIEGFRIED LINE FORTIFICATIONS LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. THE BERLIN RADIO SAID SOME FELL IN THE BIG INDUSTRIAL CITY OF KARLSRUHE, CAPITAL OF BADEN PROVINCE TEN MILES NORTHEAST OF LAUTERBOURG ACROSS THE RHINE.

THE SEVENTH ARMY THUS WAS CHALLENGING THE GERMANS AT A POINT WHERE A BREAK THROUGH THE SIEGFRIED LINE WOULD IMPERIL THE RHINELAND CITIES OF LUDWIGSHAFEN AND MANNHEIM, 35 MILES TO THE NORTH.

GAINS NORTHWARD WERE REGISTERED ALL ALONG THE SEVENTH'S 35-MILE FRONT AND A DOZEN FRENCH TOWNS WERE CAPTURED. THE 79TH DIVISION, SPEARHEADING THE DRIVE TOWARD LAUTERBOURG AND THE ADJACENT FRONTIER VILLAGE OF SCHEIBENHARD, THRUST FORWARD SEVEN MILES FROM DAWN TO DUSK. RESISTANCE WAS COMPARATIVELY LIGHT.

THE 79TH REACHED SALMBACH, WHICH IS A MILE FROM THE FRONTIER THREE MILES WEST OF LAUTERBOURG, AND RIEDSELTZ, WHICH IS TWO MILES SOUTH OF WISSEMBOURG, FRONTIER CITY LOATED ON THE LAUTER RIVER NINE MILES NORTHWEST OF LAUTERBOURG. SEVEN MILES SOUTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG THE 103RD DIVISION SEIZED THE MAGINOT FORTRESS TOWN OF LEMBACH, TWO MILES FROM THE BORDER.

A DISPATCH FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT THOBURN WIANT SAID THE GERMANS WITHDREW SO RAPIDLY THAT TOWNS SEIZED YESTERDAY WERE ONLY SLIGHTLY DAMAGED.

AS PATCH'S TROOPS PULLED UP TO THE FRONTIER, THUNDERBOLTS POUNDED THE GERMANS LODGED IN THE HEAVY FORST BEYOND, ESPECIALLY AT BUCHELBERG, LOCATED IN A CLEARING JUST NORTH OF LAUTERBOURG. THE AIRMEN REPORTED NEARLY 100 PILLBOXES AROUND BUCHELBERG.

ON THE SEVENTH'S EXTREME LEFT FLANK, THERE WERE INDICATIONS THE GERMANS MAY HAVE ABANDONED THE OLD MAGINOT FORTRESS CITY OF BITCHE. IT WAS VIRTUALLY ENCIRCLED AS THE AMERICANS LUNGED TO WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE BORDER.

POSSIBLY IN AN ATTEMPT TO RELIEVE THE PRESSURE AGAINST THE KARLSRUHE AREA, THE GERMANS HAVE RUSHED FRESH TROOPS WESTWARD ACROSS THE RHINE IN SOUTH CENTRAL ALSACE. THEY LAUNCHED FUTILE ATTACKS YESTERDAY AGAINST AMERICANS NORTH OF COLMAR AND AGAINST THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY TO THE SOUTH.

YESTERDAY'S ADVANCES GIVE LT. GEN. JACOB L. DEVERS' SIXTH ARMY GROUP A HOLD ON 50 UNBROKEN MILES OF THE WEST BANK OF THE RHINE NORTH AND SOUTH OF STRASBOURG AS WELL AS SOME 12 MILES IN THE SOUTH FROM MULHOUSE TO THE SWISS FRONTIER.

THREE OTHER AMERICAN ARMIES ALREADY FIGHTING ON GERMAN SOIL ALSO MADE OUTSTANDING GAINS YESTERDAY.

ON THE COLOGNE PLAIN, THE U.S. FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES SET UP A SOLID 15-MILE FRONT DIRECTLY ON THE WEST BANK OF THE ROER RIVER FROM THE DUREN AREA NORTHWARD.

FIRST ARMY ARTILLERY WAS DRAWN UP OPPOSITE DUREN. THE 83RD DIVISION SEIZED THE SUBURBAN VILLAGE OF GURZENICH, JUST TO THE WEST. THE RETREATING GERMANS BLEW UP THE LAST THREE BRIDGES OVER THE ROER IN THAT AREA, INCLUDING ONE ON THE COLOGNE SUPERHIGHWAY. THE RIVER AT THAT POINT IS 150 FEET WIDE AND RUNNING BANK FULL.

THE U.S. THIRD ARMY, OPERATING INSIDE AND ALONG THE SAARLAND FRONTIER, MADE A NEW PENETRATION OF THE ENEMY'S HOMELAND SIX MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES, CAPTURED STRONGLY-FORTIFIED HABKIRCHEN NEAR WHERE IT MADE ITS FIRST INVASION OF THE SAAR FROM THE SOUTH, AND PUSHED A MILE BEYOND.

INSIDE THE SAAR ABOVE SAARLAUTERN, THE THIRD ARMY'S 90TH DIVISION ROOTED OUT FOUR SMALL FORTS AND TOOK 60 PRISONERS IN THE DILLINGEN AREA. THERE WAS NO WORD OF ANY CHANGES AROUND SAARLAUTERN OR ON THE APPROACHES TO SAARBRUCKEN.

(EDITORS: YOUR ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THOBURN WIANT'S SEVENTH ARMY STORY IN THE NIGHT REPORT)

-JRS

THEN THERE WAS C-47 PILOT LT.WILLIAM F.BAK.., 308 HOWELL ST., FLORENCE, ALA., WHO WAS SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF HIS CREW FOR A TIME AND FOUND SOME OTHER PARATROOPERS. "BOY, THEY SURE WERE A GRAND BUNCH," HE SAID. (EDITORS' NOTE:-DELETIONS HERE BY CENSOR).

T/4 DEVAN F.JOHNSON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., SAID: "ONCE WE AMBUSHED SOME GERMANS AND CAPTURED TWO BICYCLES. THEY CAME BACK THOUGH, AND IN A FIGHT WE WOUNDED SEVERAL."

"MANY TIMES WE HAD DETERMINED TO BREAK THROUGH TO OUR OWN LINES," RELATED SGT.W.R.VOUGHT, OF 444 STONER AVE., SHREVEPORT, LA. "THE GERMANS NEVER BOTHERED US BUT OUR OWN LINES CERTAINLY DID. THEY WOULD SEND THROUGH SUCH A BARRAGE OF MORTAR, ARTILLERY AND MACHINEGUN FIRE, WE WOULD HAVE TO RETREAT."

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STANLEY A.SULIMA, 6215 SOUTH KOLMAR AVE., CHICAGO, ILL., (NO RANK GIVEN) TOLD HOW THEY CAPTURED FIVE GERMANS, INCLUDING AN AUSTRIAN CAPTAIN. THE GERMANS SAID THEY WERE WANTED FOR ALLEGED COMPLICITY IN THE HITLER DEATH PLOT.

AMONG THE PARATROOPERS WHO WERE LIBERATED WERE: SGT.JACK B.ALM, 21 ELEANOR AVE., YOUNGSTOWN, O.; CORP.GROVER LEE PORTER, TABOR CITY, N.C. PVT.NESTOR LEMOINE, JR., MAUREVILLE, LA.; F/O ARTHUR MOSS, CHICAGO, ILL.; PFC.DEWEY MITCHELL, MAUREVILLE, LA.; PVT.MERVIN STOMBERG, PEORIA, ILL.; T/4 ROBERT FRANKS, UNIONTOWN, PA.; PVT.ELIJAH PELLMAN, GREEN POND, S.C.; PVT.JOSEPH NYESTE, BARBERTON, O.; PFC MICHAEL BOKESCH, YOUNGSTOWN, O.

PVT.PETE TAMBORINI, SOMERVILLE, IND.; PVT.ELDON HANER, MISHAWAKA, IND.; PVT.EDWARD LYKAWA, SYRACUSE, N.Y.; PVT.JOHN H.MOORE, CUMBERLAND, MD.; PFC.STANLEY J.WRZESIEN, BUFFALO, N.Y.; F/O JAMES CLEARY, CORNING, CALIF.; PFC.ARTHUR ROBINSON, MT.VERNON, N.Y.; SGT.T.G.CONNELL, MINDEN, LA.; SGT.WILLIAM HINEY, LINN, W.VA.; PVT.EUGENE CORN, STENDAL, IND.; PFC.JOHN KOTLARCZYK, DETROIT, MICH.; PFC.JAMES SCHOENBORN, MILWAUKEE, WIS.; PFC.WALTER CONNELL, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

KK417AEW

A215 DO PARIS - (BEALMEAR) KK SCHOPHOVEN

THE NINTH DIVISION LIQUIDATED ONE POCKET IN A FACTORY NEAR MARIAWEILER, WEST OF DUREN, AND THE 104TH SQUEEZED THE ENEMY FROM A CASTLE SOUTHWEST OF SCHOPHOVEN, NORTH OF DUREN.

THE 83RD DIVISION AROUND BIRGEL BEAT OFF TWO TANK-SUPPORTED COUNTERBLOWS YESTERDAY, KNOCKING OUT FOUR TANKS.

NINE MILES SOUTH WEST OF DUREN IN THE VOSSENACK SECTOR STRONG ENEMY PATROLS SUCCEEDED IN REGAINING SOME GROUND WITH INFILTRATION TACTICS.

THE FIRST ARMY TOOK 647 PRISONERS THURSDAY, MAKING ITS TOTAL 12,411 SINCE THE OFFENSIVE BEGAN NOV. 16 AND 213,511 SINCE D-DAY.

LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S THIRD ARMY WAS GOUGING SLOWLY DEEPER INTO THE SAARLAUTERN AREA, STILL COUNTING GAINS BY YARDS, AND WAS RUNNING INTO NEW DEFENSIVE TACTICS IN ITS INVASION OF THE SAAR FROM THE SOUTH.

THE 35TH DIVISION, AFTER MOPPING UP HABKIRCHEN, THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES, FOUGHT ON INTO WHAT LOOKED LIKE OPEN COUNTRY SOUTH OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE ONLY TO FIND THE GERMANS DEFENDING FARM HOUSES LIKE FORTS.

NINE MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES, OTHER INFANTRY UNITS CLEARED RIMLING, AND FANNED OUT NORTH AND EAST. ONE FORCE WENT ON A MILE EAST. ANOTHER ENTERED ERCHING, ONE MILE NORTH AND THREE-FOURTHS OF A MILE FROM THE SAAR BORDER.

THE 95TH DIVISION'S 377TH REGIMENT CLEARED THREE MORE BLOCKS IN FRAULAUTERN, GIVING IT CONTROL OF MORE THAN HALF OF THIS SAARLAUTERN SUBURB AFTER 12 DAYS OF HARD FIGHTING.

OTHER ELEMENTS PUSHED AHEAD A FEW MORE BUILDINGS INSIDE NEARBY ENSDORF, AND NOW HOLD ALMOST HALF OF THIS SIEGFRIED LINE TOWN.

THE 90TH DIVISION REPORTED NO CHANGES IN ITS SAAR CROSSING AREA AROUND DILLINGEN, THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN, BUT MORE TANKS AND GUNS WERE BROUGHT UP OVERNIGHT FOR RENEWED ASSAULTS.

RQ403PEW

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BY WILLIAM F. BONI

LAMMERSDORF, GERMANY, DEC. 15-(AP)-U.S. INFANTRYMEN HAVE FOUGHT OUT OF THE WOODS IN A SALIENT POINTING EAST FROM HERE TOWARD THE SIEGFRIED LINE AND WHILE THEY ARE DOING WELL AND HAVE CLEARED THE GERMANS FROM A NUMBER OF VILLAGES IT'S HARDLY A HAPPY POSITION.

THERE IS A SINGLE ROAD THAT LEADS EAST AND SOUTH FROM HERE, AND IT IS ONE OVER WHICH MUST BE MOVED SUPPLIES FOR TROOPS IN XXX ROLLES-

BROICH, BICKERATH, SIMMERATH AND KESTERNICH.

FOR ALMOST ALL THE WAY, ONCE IT TAKES LEAVE OF THE LAST HOUSE IN LAMMERSDORF, THAT ROAD IS UNDER DIRECT OBSERVATION AND THE ACCURATE FIRE FROM GERMAN GUNS IN AND THIS SIDE OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

THUS, ~~XNXRXK~~ UNTIL THE GERMANS WERE DRIVEN BEYOND ROLLESBROICH AND FROM KESTERNICH ALL THE SUPPLIES, AMMUNITION AND FOOD HAD TO BE CARRIED IN BY HAND AND THE WOUNDED BROUGHT OUT THE SAME WAY.

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~~XNXX~~ THE CLEARING OF KESTERNICH FINALLY WAS ACCOMPLISHED AFTER INFANTRYMEN WENT OVER IT WITH "A FINE TOOTH COMB" TODAY, ACCORDING TO REPORTS TO MAJOR JOSEPH O. KAISER, 120 SOUTH BOULDIN, BALTIMORE, MD.

BRINGING OUT THE WOUNDED WAS TOUGHER THAN IT SOUNDS. ON ONE STRETCH THEY HAD TO BE TAKEN DOWN A 200-FOOT HILL, WHOSE GRADIENT IN PLACES WAS 70 DEGREES. THE BEARERS SIMPLY HAD TO TAKE THE WOUNDED FROM ~~XNNNX~~ LITTERS AND BRING THEM DOWN THERE ON THEIR BACKS.

WITH THE CLEARING OF ROLLESBROICH AND KESTERNICH THE AMERICANS HAVE GAINED SOME INVALUABLE HIGH GROUND, BECAUSE IN THIS FINGER OF AMERICAN-HELD OPEN COUNTRY PROBING INTO GERMANY THE ENEMY IS ON DOMINATING HEIGHTS AT SEVERAL POINTS.

HIGH GROUND NORTH OF ROLLESBROICH WAS TAKEN WITH A MAXIMUM OF ARTILLERY AND A MINIMUM OF INFANTRY LOSSES.

THE HILL WAS KNOWN TO BE CONSIDERABLY FORTIFIED WITH A NUMBER OF CONCRETE BUNKERS. BUT GUNS OF THE ENTIRE AREA WERE CALLED DOWN ON THE OBJECTIVE, INCLUDING EIGHT-INCHERS, AND AS A RESULT IT TOOK A RELATIVELY SMALL FORCE UNDER LT. IRVIN MAGHRAM (HOME TOWN UNAVAILABLE) TO TAKE THE POSITION.

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NOW THE AMERICANS COMMAND A CONSIDERABLE AREA FARTHER NORTH AND EAST INTO WHICH THE GERMANS HAD BEEN RUNNING SELF-PROPELLED GUNS WITH GREAT FREEDOM.

IN ROLLESBROICH THE LAST ENEMY STRONGHOLD WAS ~~XNX~~ A FORTIFIED HOUSE AT A ROAD JUNCTION. IN ASSAULTING IT, SEVEN OF OUR MEN WERE WOUNDED. THE GERMANS CAME OUT UNDER A RED CROSS FLAG AND TOOK THEM INSIDE ALONG WITH AN AMERICAN MEDIC.

A FEW MOMENTS LATER TWO AMERICANS, CONVOYED BY FIVE GERMANS, WERE SEEN MAKING A RUN FOR THE ENEMY LINES. OUR MACHINEGUNS CUT DOWN TWO OF THE GERMANS.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE THREE REMAINING GERMANS AND THE TWO AMERICANS CAME OVER, THE YANKS HAVING PERSUADED THE TRIO THAT THIS WAS THE BEST MOVE. THE GERMANS SAID TEN MEN WERE LEFT INSIDE THE HOUSE AND WERE WILLING TO GIVE UP, BUT THE SINGLE OFFICER REFUSED. WHEN THE STRONGPOINT WAS TAKEN THE GER OFFICER WAS CAPTURED AND THE FIVE OTHER WOUNDED AMERICANS WERE RETRIEVED.

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SIMERATH WAS CLEARED YESTERDAY BY TWO PLATOONS OF A COMPANY COMMANDED BY LT. JEFFERSON SHERMAN, LITTLE ROCK, ARK. THE REGIMENTAL COMMANDER CALLED HIM AND TOLD HIM TO ATTACK THE TOWN.

"I'VE ALREADY DONE IT SIR," SHERMAN REPLIED, "AND WE'RE SITTING IN HERE WAITING FOR YOU."

BY TOM YARBROUGH

ON THE ROER RIVER FRONT IN GERMANY, DEC. 15-(AP)-AN UNUSUALLY HIGH PRICE IN AMERICAN BLOOD AND HUMAN MISERY WAS PAID FOR ANCIENT, MOATED MULLENARK CASTLE NEAR SCHOPHOVEN, ONE OF THE LAST TWO KNOTS OF GERMAN RESISTANCE THIS SIDE OF THE ROER NORTHWEST OF DUREN.

A SINGLE COMPANY OF THE 104TH DIVISION ATTACKED THIS MEDIEVAL-STYLE STRONGPOINT BEFORE DAWN WEDNESDAY AND WAS PINNED DOWN, WATER-SOAKED AND ALMOST FREEZING, IN THE MUD OUTSIDE THE MOAT.

THEY HAD TO LIE THERE, STIFFENING SLOWLY IN THE COLD, WHILE MORE THAN 200 GERMANS FIRED AT THEM FROM THE WINDOW SLITS AND THE RAMPARTS.

CAPT.FRANK BOWMAN, 3118 UPTON AVE., NORTH, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., COMPANY COMMANDER, WAS SO HOARSE AND FULL OF COLD HE CROAKED LIKE A CROW AS HE TOLD THE STORY.

HE LAY IN THE MUDDY, WAIST-DEEP WATER UNTIL DARKNESS THURSDAY NIGHT AND THEN GROPED AMONG HIS MEN UNTIL THEY COULD IMPROVE THEIR PRECARIOUS POSITIONS.

"WE ALL REALIZED," BOWMAN SAID, "THAT IF WE GOT PINNED DOWN WE WOULD HAVE TO SUFFER ALL HELL, BUT WE ALSO KNEW THAT WE WERE GOING TO TAKE THAT CASTLE AT ALL COSTS."

THEIR HELL WAS LYING IN THOSE HOLES FOR 24 HOURS AND MORE UNDER CONTINUAL FIRE; THEIR COST WAS HIGH--HIGHER THAN CAN BE TOLD BY A SPECIFIC NUMBER.

WHEN THE SECOND MORNING CAME, MANY WHO WERE NOT EVEN WOUNDED WERE SO STIFF FROM THE COLD THEY COULD NOT MOVE. ONLY ONE PLATOON HAD GOT ACROSS THE MOAT THE FIRST DAY. ON THE WAY ACROSS THE CASTLE YARD, THE PLATOON PASSED A GERMAN MORTAR POSITION AND HERE OCCURRED ONE OF THOSE QUEER QUIRKS OF WAR.

A GERMAN FROM THE POSITION MOTIONED TO THE AMERICANS TO COME OVER. THE PLATOON LEADER SHOOK HIS HEAD AND MOTIONED TO THE GERMAN. THE GERMAN STAYED WHERE HE WAS, AND FOR SOME REASON DID NOT SHOOT.

THREE MEN IN THE COMPANY WHO DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES WERE LT. GEORGE R.DAY, NORMANDIE VILLAGE, LOUISVILLE, KY., STAFF SGT. THOMAS B.TENBREV, NEW BRIGHTON, PA., AND SGT.DALE HITCHCOCK, HOOKER, OKLA.

IN THE EARLY STAGE OF THE BATTLE, OUR MEN WERE THROWING GRENADES FROM ROOM TO ROOM IN THE DARKNESS OF A SUBORDINATE STRUCTURE OUTSIDE THE MOAT.

MULLENARK CASTLE FINALLY WAS CLEANED OUT THURSDAY AFTERNOON BY THE COMPANY'S REMAINING EFFECTIVES, SUPPORTED BY ARTILLERY AND TANKS. SOME GERMANS HAD PULLED OUT DURING THE NIGHT DESPITE THEIR NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY.

THE CLEANUP OF THE SECOND STRONGPOINT, A TEXTILE FACTORY NEAR MARIAWEILER ABOUT FIVE MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST, WAS A HAPPY CONTRAST TO WHAT HAPPENED AT THE CASTLE.

A NINTH DIVISION COMPANY COMMANDED BY LT.JUDSON GATCH, COLUMBIA, S.C., TOOK THE FACTORY AND 92 PRISONERS IN TWO DAYS AT A COST OF FOUR MEN KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED.

WE951PEW

BY INGBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY IN GERMANY, DEC. 15-(AP)-SPEARHEADS OF THREE SEVENTH ARMY DIVISIONS HAD CROSSED INTO GERMANY BY 6 P.M. (1 P.M., EASTERN WAR TIME) TODAY.

TWO OF THEM PLUNGED ACROSS THE FRONTIER WEST OF WISSEMBOURG. THE THIRD--THE 79TH DIVISION--ESTABLISHED A BRIDGEHEAD AT SCHEIBENHARD.

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THE AMERICANS HAVE NOT YET REACHED THE MAIN SIEGFRIED LINE DEFENSES. IN SOME AREAS THE GERMANS ARE RESISTING FIERCELY FROM BUNKERS AND PILLBOXES IN THE LINE'S OUTER DEFENSES. IN OTHER CASES THE GOING WAS EASIER. SOME UNITS PUSHING ALONG A WOODED RIDGE MET ONLY LIGHT RESISTANCE FROM REARGUARD GERMAN MACHINEGUNS AND MORTARS.

THESE CROSSINGS INTO GERMANY CAME JUST FOUR MONTHS AFTER LT.GEN. ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S SEVENTH ARMY WADED ASHORE IN THE INVASION OF

SOUTHERN FRANCE.

DOUGHBOYS REALIZED THEY HAD REACHED THE BORDER WHEN THEY SPOTTED A BOUNDARY SIGN. AMONG THE FIRST ACROSS WAS LT.NORMAN J.YOUNG OF STATEN ISLAND, N.Y., AND THE FIRST TANK TO RUMBLE OVER THE FRONTIER IN THIS SECTOR WAS MANNED BY SGTS.ELMER WEBER, FORT SCOTT, KAS.; EDWARD FARQUHAR, DALLAS, TEX., AND PFC.EDWARD DOWD, RED BANK, N.J.

PVT.SILAS NEWMAN OF KENNETT, MO., WAS AMONG THE FIRST ENLISTED MEN IN THE INFANTRY TO STEP OVER THE BORDER.

WHEN THE AMERICANS CRASHED INTO LAUTERBOURG AND SCHEIBENHARD, THEY FOUND THE BRIDGES AT BOTH POINTS DESTROYED. DEC 16 1944

MAJ.MERRITT (DUTCH) HURSH OF PATERSON, N.J., LED THE AMERICANS AT LAUTERBOURG.

OVER A TELEPHONE FROM A DIVISION COMMAND POST, LT.COL.JOHN A. GLORIOD OF GULFPORT, FLA., SAID:

"I JUST WANT TO REMIND YOU--YOU ARE IN THE LAST TOWN IN WHICH YOU CAN FRATERNIZE WITH CIVILIANS."

BUT THERE WAS NO TIME FOR FRATERNIZATION.

"IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE GEOGRAPHICAL LINE, IT WOULD BE JUST LIKE ADVANCING ANYWHERE ELSE," SAID LT.STUART NOVINS, FORMER CBS ANNOUNCER, OF BOSTON, MASS.

"WE ARE MEETING WHAT AMOUNTS TO 'NO OPPOSITION,'" SAID LT.COL. EVERETT DUVALL OF SPOKANE, WASH.

HERE THE BIG SIEGFRIED GUNS WERE STRANGELY SILENT AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF NOISY OPPOSITION AS THE AMERICANS DROVE TOWARD THE BORDER.

ALL THREE DIVISIONS KEPT CLOSE TAB ON EACH OTHER IN THE NECK AND NECK RACE TO CROSS THE GERMAN BORDER.

WHEN MAJ.GEN.IRA T.WYCHE OF PINEHURST, N.C., THE 79TH'S COMMANDER, WAS INFORMED THAT THE SCHEIBENHARD BRIDGEHEAD HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED, HE COMMENTED, "THIS IS A GOOD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PRESENT FOR MY WIFE."

THE TERRAIN AHEAD AT WISSEMBOURG IS HEAVILY FORESTED AND HILLY, WHILE AT SCHEIBENHARD THE YANKS ARE DRIVING INTO THE THICK BIENWALD FOREST.

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PSAOSPEW

BY THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE 79TH DIVISION INSIDE GERMANY, DEC.15-(AP)-A BATTALION OF HARD-SLUGGING DOUGHBOYS FOUGHT WITHOUT SLEEP THROUGH THREE NIGHTS, SAVED BRIDGES IN THE PATH OF THE 79TH DIVISION AND MADE POSSIBLE ONE OF TODAY'S THREE PENETRATIONS OF GERMANY.

THE 79TH DIVISION CROSSED INTO GERMANY NEAR SCHEIBENHARD TEN MINUTES AFTER ELEMENTS OF THE 103RD DIVISION CROSSED AT WISSEMBOURG, NINE MILES FARTHER WEST. THE VETERAN 45TH DIVISION PUNCHED OVER THE BORDER THREE-QUARTERU OF AN HOUR LATER.

IN THE NECK AND NECK RACE TO BE THE FIRST OF LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S SEVENTH ARMY TO ENTER GERMANY, THE THREE DIVISIONS HAD KEPT A CLOSE CHECK ON ONE ANOTHER'S PROGRESS THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

BUT THIS IS PRIMARILY THE STORY OF THE YEOMAN SERVICE OF THE SLEEPLESS BATTALION OF THE 79TH, COMMANDED BY LT.COL.ROY V.PORTER, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA, WHICH KEPT THE DIVISION ROLLING SWIFTLY.

PORTER AS WELL AS HIS MEN VOLUNTARILY WENT WITHOUT SLEEP, SHOOTING THEIR WAY THROUGH TOWNS, SEIZING AND HOLDING BRIDGES BEFORE THE RETREATING GERMANS VXVMMMMCOULD BLOW THEM.

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SOME TIMES IT WAS CLOSE.

THERE WAS THE TIME AT BIRCHWILLER, WHERE 25 MEN LED BY CAPT.

WILLIAM MCKEAN, BRAINTREE, MASS., A BATTALION EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BRAVED 88 ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND MACHINEGUN FIRE AND PREVENTED THE SUICIDAL ATTEMPT OF FIVE GERMANS TO PULL THE FUSE ON A 500-POUND BOMB ATOP A HEAVILY-MINED BRIDGE.

PORTER TOLD THE STORY AS WE SAT IN THE BATTALION COMMAND POST EATING FRIED CHICKEN AS GERMAN SHELLS LANDED 200 YARDS AWAY.

MCKEAN AND THE OTHERS KNEW THE BRIDGE MIGHT EXPLODE IN THEIR FACES, BUT THEY ALSO KNEW THAT THE 79TH WOULD BE GREATLY DELAYED IF THE 150-FOOT SPAN WAS WRECKED.

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LT.VERNON L.HAYDEN, TYLER,TEX., AND A CREW OPERATING 57-MM GUNS BLAZED AWAY AT THE GERMANS, KEEPING THEM FROM THE OPPOSITE END OF THE BRIDGE.

THE GERMANS TOOK SHELTER IN A HOUSE. THEN ONE OF THEM DARTED OUT TOWARD THE BRIDGE AND WAS DRILLED BEFORE HE TOOK TEN STEPS. ANOTHER MET THE SAME FATE.

THEN THE GERMANS TRYING TO PROTECT THE SUICIDE SQUAD OPENED WITH EVERYTHING THEY HAD.

"IT WAS SO NOISY," SAID HAYDEN, "THAT I COULDN'T MAKE MY MEN HEAR ME, EVEN BY SHOUTING."

A THIRD GERMAN WAS SHOT IN THE FOOT BY LIT.LUCIUS W.JORDAN, KOSCIUSKO, MISS., AND WAS CAPTURED BY SGT.JOHN R.WILLIS, BOUND BROOK, N.J., WHO WAS COVERING JORDAN WITH A MACHINEGUN.

A FOURTH GERMAN CAME WITHIN INCHES OF BLOWING THE BRIDGE. HE RAN OUT ON IT AND HAD HIS HAND OUTSTRETCHED TO PULL THE FUSE WHEN JORDAN DROPPED HIM BESIDE THE BOMB. STILL ALIVE, THE GERMAN TRIED TO SQUIRM TO THE FUSE BUT JORDAN FINISHED HIM WITH SEVERAL MORE ROUNDS.

THEN MCKEAN RAN OUT ON THE BRIDGE AND TRIED TO CUT THE WIRE FROM THE BOMB TO THE DYNAMITE UNDERNEATH. THE ENEMY FIRE WAS SO INTENSE HE JUMPED OUT ON THE BANK, DIVED UNDER THE BRIDGE, AND CUT THE WIRE THERE.

"I'M IGNORANT ABOUT EXPLOSIVES," MCKEAN CONFESSED, "SO I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER HANDLING THE WIRE WOULD SET OFF THE TNT. I FELT PRETTY GOOD WHEN NOTHING HAPPENED."

SGT.MERRILL CUMMINGS, ATLANTA,GA., WHO HAD FRIED THE CHICKEN HANDED ANOTHER PIECE TO MCKEAN.

ON THE WEST, THE FIRST OF MAJ.GEN.CHARLES C.HAFFNER S 10.RD DIVISION TO CROSS THE FRONTIER WAS A COMPANY COMMANDED BY LT.WILLIAM MCCUTCHEON ST JOSEPH MO A FEW MINUTES LATER ANOTHER COMPANY LED BY CAPT JOSEPH F KASON BISBIE ARIZ ALSO DROVE ACROSS

IT WAS A WALK OVER IN THIS SECTOR LT COL EVERETT D.VALL SPOKANE WASH SAID THERE WAS NO OPPOSITION THE BIG SIEGFRIED LINE GUNS, WHICH HAD BEEN SHELLING THE AMERICAN ADVANCE FOR THE LAST FEW DAYS WERE STRANGELY SILENT

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WHEN MAJ GEN I T WYCHE PINEHURST N C COMMANDER OF THE TH WAS INFORMED THAT HIS DIVISION HAD ENTERED GERMANY HE DECLARED: "THIS IS A GOOD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY PRESENT FOR MY WIFE."

TONIGHT THE 79TH WAS PUSHING INTO THE THICK BIEN WALD FOREST.

RH1018PEW

BY ROBERT WILSON

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY NEAR THE GERMAN BORDER, DEC. 15-(AP)-FOR THE 45TH DIVISION--VETERANS OF SICILY, SALERNO AND ANZIO--TODAY'S INVASION OF THE REICH WAS JUST A WALK OVER.

TONIGHT THE DIVISION HAD TROOPS ACROSS THE BORDER ON A 1,000-YARD

FRONT WEST OF WISSEMBOURG IN SOME DEPTH AND WAS PUSHING AHEAD AGAINST SMALL ARMS FIRE.

MEN OF COMPANY L, 180TH REGIMENT, LED BY LT. WILLIAM DENHAM, 232 NORTH ADELE ST., DELAND, FLA., SAW THE SIGN AHEAD WHICH SAID: "ACHTUNG, FRONTIER."

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ALONG WITH COMPANY K, WHICH FOLLOWED THEM, THESE MEN WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN PULLED OUT OF THE LINE FOR A REST, BUT THEY ASKED TO BE LEFT IN UNTIL THEY CROSSED THE BORDER.

IN THE PARTY WERE SGTS. JOHN KAUFFMAN, LONG BEACH, CALIF., AND JOSEPH EVANS, NATHALIA, VA., PFC JOHN L. DUKE, CHARLESTOWN, S.C., AND PVT. JAMES J. LYNCH, JERSEY CITY, N.J.

COMPANY K, WITH PFC STANLEY OGINSKI, APOLLI, PA., IN THE VAN, HAD COME SLIPPING THROUGH THE WOODS, BUT L COMPANY WON THIS LITTLE CONTEST, BECAME THE FIRST TO CROSS, AND WILL GET THE BOTTLE WHICH XXXXXXXXXXXX LT. NORMAN YOUNG, STATEN ISLAND, N.Y., K COMMANDER, HAD BET DENHAM.

OTHERS IN THE WALK ACROSS THE BORDER INCLUDED LTS. RICHARD BARNES, SILOAM SPRINGS, ARK.; PAUL FRANK, 1968 89TH ST., BROOKLYN, N.Y., AND HUGH DOLAN, MEHEANBORO, ILL.

"THIS," SAID DENHAM, "IS A PRETTY GOOD START FOR OUR NEW YEAR."

THIS WAS THE 367TH DAY OF ACTUAL COMBAT FOR THIS VETERAN OF THE ITALIAN AND SICILY LANDINGS.

THE BIG SIEGFRIED LINE GUNS, WHICH HAD BEEN BOOMING NOISLY THE LAST FEW DAYS, WERE STRANGELY SILENT AS THE AMERICANS ADVANCED ON THE BORDER, PUSHING ALONG A WOODED RIDGE.

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"IF IT WEREN'T FOR THE GEOGRAPHICAL LINT, IT WOULD BE JUST LIKE ADVANCING ANYWHERE ELSE," SAID LT. STUART NOVINS, FORMER RADIO ANNOUNCER FROM BOSTON, MASS.

"WE ARE MEETING WHAT AMOUNTS TO 'NO OPPOSITION,'" AGREED LT. COL. EVERETT DUVALL, SPOKANE, WASH.

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP IN FRANCE, DEC 15-(AP)-THE GERMANS HAD COUNTERATTACKED AT SELESTAT AND SGT. BERNARD BETZ, AUGUSTA, MICH., SAW FOUR OF THE ENEMY SLIPPING ALONG A DRAINAGE DITCH.

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HE CUT LOOSE WITH HIS RIFLE, WOUNDING ONE AND CAPTURING ANOTHER.

PFC CLARENCE LASKY, PORTLAND, CONN., COMBAT CORRESPONDENT IN A NEARBY HOUSE WRITING A STORY, RAN OUT TO SEE WHAT THE SHOOTING WAS ABOUT. HE SAW THE ONE WOUNDED GERMAN AND THE TWO OTHERS FLEEING. THE THREE SURRENDERED TO THE REINFORCED BETZ. LASKY WENT BACK INSIDE, TAPPED OUT A STORY ABOUT BETZ TAKING HIS PRISONERS.

MK120AEW

BY ROGER D.GREENE

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN HOLLAND, OCT.22-(DELAYED)-(AP)-EXULTANTLY SINGING "THE VOLGA BOATMAN" UNDER A HAIL OF GERMAN MORTAR FIRE, 138 MORE SURVIVORS OF THE ILL-FATED ARNHEM BATTLE HAVE WITHDRAWN ACROSS THE RHINE.

NOW RESTING AT A HOSPITAL SAFELY WITHIN THE BRITISH LINES, THEY APPEARED TOO EXHAUSTED TO TALK MUCH. BUT ONE WEARY WARRIOR SAID: "IT'S LIKE COMING BACK FROM THE DEAD."

AFTER THE FIRST EVACUATION OF SEVERAL THOUSAND SURVIVORS OF THE BRITISH 1ST AIRBORNE DIVISION IN LATE SEPTEMBER, MORE THAN 100 MEN REMAINED IN HIDING IN THE NAZI-HELD ARNHEM AREA. LIAISON WAS ESTABLISHED, AND AT A PRE-ARRANGED HOUR KNOWN TO BRITISH TROOPS ON THE SOUTHERN BANK OF THE RIVER A LONE BRITISH OFFICER CRAWLED THROUGH THE WOODS TO THE ENEMY-HELD NORTHERN BANK AND FLASHED A RED LIGHT. IT WAS THE SIGNAL FOR BRITISH TROOPS TO SEND ACROSS SMALL RUBBER ASSAULT BOATS.

THEN, IN THE PITCH DARKNESS, THIS RAGGED, HALF-CRIPPLED BAND OF "RED DEVILS" WAS LED TO THE RIVER-EDGE BY THE FLASH OF BOFORS GUNS WHICH WERE FIRED ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE RHINE.

AT FIRST THEY MOVED SILENTLY. BUT ONCE IN THE BOATS SOMEONE BEGAN TO SING. IN AN INSTANT, AND DESPITE GERMAN MORTAR SHELLS SPLASHING ON ALL SIDES, THE MEN TOOK UP THE SONG IN A WILD, FULL-THROATED CHORUS.

IN ADDITION TO THE MEN OF THE BRITISH DIVISION, FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS, TWO CANADIAN FLIERS, TWO RAF MEMBERS AND TWO RUSSIANS WERE RESCUED.

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, FRANCE, DEC. 15-(AP)-KATHARINE CORNELL, BRAIN AHERNE AND THEIR COMPANY ARRIVED IN SOUTHERN FRANCE TODAY FROM THE ITALIAN FRONT TO PRESENT "THE BARRETTS OF WIMPOLE STREET" TO U.S. SEVENTH ARMY AUDIENCES.

TA1208AEW

PARIS, DEC.15-(AP)-THE FRENCH POLICE TONIGHT BANNED DANCING IN THE PARIS AREA ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT IS TOO FRIVOLOUS WHILE THREE MILLION FRENCHMEN ARE IN PRISON CAMPS AND SOLDIERS ARE DYING AT THE FRONT.

THE BAN APPLIES TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS AS WELL AS TO THE FRENCH PEOPLE IN NIGHT CLUBS AND DANCEHALLS BUT THE RED CROSS AND OTHER SERVICE CLUBS WERE EXCEPTED FROM THE ORDER.

WM1153PEW

ROME, DEC.15-(AP)-ITALIAN TROOPS WERE SENT TO CATANIA FROM ALABRIA TODAY TO MAINTAIN ORDER FOLLOWING A SERIES OF RIOTS IN THE ICILIAN CITY YESTERDAY, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR REPORTED.

A MINISTRY SPOKESMAN SAID THE CATANIA PREFECT HAD INFORMED UTHORITIES HERE THERE HAD BEEN NO INDICATIONS OF RENEWED UTBREAKS.

THE RIOTING BEGAN FOLLOWING A GOVERNMENT ORDER SUMMONING THE LASSES OF 1921 AND 1922 TO THE COLORS, AND GUARDS WERE REPORTED O HAVE FIRED INTO A CROWD WHICH TRIED TO STORM RECRUITING HEADQUARTERS. SICILY DISPATCHES SAID ONE UNIVERSITY STUDENT WAS KILLED.

SIMILAR OUTBREAKS AGAINST THE CALL-UP ORDER OCCURRED IN PALERMO ND ENNA, THE ALLIED COMMISSION ANNOUNCED, BUT THERE WERE NO ASUALTIES AND THE SITUATION WAS SAID TO BE UNDER CONTROL.

THE DEMONSTRATORS SET FIRE TO THE CATANIA CITY HALL, CONSCRIPTION EADQUARTERS, THE COURT HOUSE, THE BANK OF SICILY AND THE TAX OLLECTION OFFICES, THE NEWSPAPER IL TIEMPO REPORTED, ADDING HAT AN ATTEMPT TO STORM THE JAIL HAD FAILED.

WM1148PEW

ROME, DEC 15-(AP)-BRIG.GEN.PAUL W.KENDALL OF PALO ALTO, CALIF., NOW IS COMMANDING THE 88TH "BLUE DEVIL" DIVISION OF THE U.S. FIFTH ARMY.

THE HUSKY, HARD-JAWED VETERAN DOUGHBOY OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR, SUCCEEDED MAJ.GEN.JOHN E.SLOAN, WHO RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES ILL. SLOAN LED THE DIVISION THROUGH THE GOTHIC AND HITLER LINES IN ITALY AND ON THE MARCH TO ROME. ALL ITS TROOPS WERE FURNISHED BY SELECTIVE SERVICE.

KENDALL HAS BEEN ACTING COMMANDER SINCE LATE AUGUST.

STRANGELY, THE DIVISION TOOK ITS NICKNAME FROM ENEMY RADIO BROADCASTS. THE GERMANS CALLED THE GIS BLUE DEVILS BECAUSE OF THEIR BLUE FOUR-LEAF CLOVER INSIGNIA AND BECAUSE OF THE WAY THEY FOUGHT ON THE GARIGLIANO RIVER BETWEEN NAPLES AND ROME, IN THEIR FIRST ACTION.

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THE NEW COMMANDER JOINED THE 88TH AS ASSISTANT DIVISION COMMANDER DURING ITS TRAINING AT CAMP GRUBER, OKLA., AND FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS. HE LED ADVANCE UNITS OF THE DIVISION OVERSEAS.

KENDALL WAS WOUNDED WHILE CROSSING THE RAPIDO RIVER NEAR CASSINO.

WHEN THE 88TH BROKE AWAY FROM THE GARIGLIANO LAST MAY AND THE INFANTRY TRAVELED SO FAST IT WAS OUT OF COMMUNICATIONS FOR DAYS, KENDALL WAS THE "GENERAL ON HORSEBACK" WHO WENT OUT TO FIND THEM.

ON ONE OCCASION, HE SHOT FOUR SNIPERS WHO FIRED AT HIM.

KENDALL WAS GRADUATED FROM WEST POINT IN 1918 AND WON THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR. HE SERVED WITH THE 27TH DIVISION IN SIBERIA LATER. HE ALSO HOLDS THE SILVER STAR WITH OAK LEAF CLUSTER, THE LEGION OF MERIT, THE PURPLE HEART AND TWO CROIX DE GUERRE.

JS1207PEW

ROME, DEC. 15-(AP)-THE MEDITERRANEAN INTER-ALLIED BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS MOVED INTO THEIR FIFTH DAY TODAY WITH UNITED STATES FORCES BATTLING AHEAD IN ALL BUT ONE OF THE SIX DIVISIONS IN

PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR CLASSES.

THE AMERICANS WERE SHUT OUT ONLY IN THE PROFESSIONAL FEATHERWEIGHT CLASS.

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THREE FINALS MATCHES ARE SET UP, ENTRIES HAVING FOUGHT THROUGH TO THE TITLE ROUND IN TWO PROFESSIONAL CLASSES AND ONE AMATEUR DIVISION.

IN THE PROFESSIONAL MIDDLEWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP SCRAP, SGT. RALPH BURNLEY OF PHILADELPHIA FACES MARCEL CERDAN, FRENCH SAILOR WHO HAS BEEN THE TOURNEY'S GLAMOR BOY THE LAST TWO YEARS. THE PROFESSIONAL WELTERWEIGHT TITLE ROUND FINDS TAU [illegible] OF BROOKLYN, [illegible], SWINGING AGAINST PVT. OMAR KOUDRI OF FRANCE, WHO TOOK A HIGHLY-DISPUTED DECISION YESTERDAY OVER LARRY CISNEROS OF LOS ANGELES, A MACHINE GUNNER WHO HAS SPENT 32 MONTHS AT THE FRONT.

PVT. VIC GIDARO OF MT. CARMEL, PA., AND SGT. ADOLPH LABRECQUE OF HOLYOKE, MASS., WILL BATTLE IT OUT FOR THE AMATEUR LIGHTWEIGHT LAURELS.

AMERICAN FINALISTS FOR WHOM OPPONENTS HAVE NOT BEEN QUALIFIED ARE: PROFESSIONAL - HEAVYWEIGHT, SGT. ANDREW ROY, CHARLESTOWN, W.VA.; LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT, PVT. EZZARD CHARLES, CINCINNATI, O.; LIGHTWEIGHT, PVT. MILTON GLASS, AKRON, O.

AMATEUR - HEAVYWEIGHT, CORP. JIM MCDONALD, E. ST. LOUIS, ILL.; LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT, CORP. LEROY JEFFREY, KANSAS CITY; MIDDLEWEIGHT, PVT. JULIUS WOODSE, BUFFALO, N.Y.; BANTAMWEIGHT, CORP. MELVIN PULLEN, DAYTON, O.; AND FEATHERWEIGHT, T/4 ARTHUR ATTLESON, VERNDALE, MINN.

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JB314AEW
BY SID FEDER

ROME, DEC. 15-(AP)-LINEUPS FOR TOMORROW'S FINALS IN THE SECOND ANNUAL MEDITERRANEAN BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS WERE COMPLETED TODAY WITH 29 U.S. SWATTERS IN THE RUNNING FOR THE 16 TITLES--EIGHT EACH IN THE AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL DIVISIONS.

THE POWERFUL NORTH AFRICAN SQUAD, MADE UP OF FRENCH AND AMERICAN SLUGGERS, PLACED SEVEN MEN IN THE FIALS, MOST OF THEM IN THE PRO CLASSES. OTHER SURVIVORS INCLUDED FIVE BRITISH AND ONE SOUTH AFRICAN BELTER.

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IN TODAY'S SCRAPS, SAPPER TOMMY MCGRATH, BRITISH ARMY, WAS FORCED TO PASS UP HIS AMATEUR MIDDLEWEIGHT CROWN BECAUSE OF TONSILITIES BUT HIS ALTERNATE, FRENCH SAILOR ABBEKKADER ABDADAINE, WAS GOOD ENOUGH TO WHIP PVT. VICTOR AMATO, FAVORED FIFTH ARMY BOXER FROM WEIRTON, W.VA., AND BROOKLYN.

TWO U.S. BOXERS WON FINALS BERTHS IN THE LAST OF THE PRELIMINARIES. PVT. WILLIE THOMAS OF TAMPA, FLA., OUTPOINTED PVT. ROBERT EWING OF PITTSBURGH, IN AN AMATEUR LIGHTWEIGHT BOUT WHICH WAS REFEREED BY FIDEL LA BARBA AND PVT. MANUEL FLORES, LOS ANGELES INFANTRY MAN WHO HAS BEEN WOUNDED IN ACTION TWICE, DEFEATED PVT. VERNON FREASE OF SACRAMENTO, CALIF., IN THE AMATEUR WELTERWEIGHT DIVISION.

PVT. CHERIFF MAAMAR OF THE FRENCH ARMY, REACHED THE PRO LIGHTWEIGHT TITLE ROUND BY SUBDUING PVT. MURRAY CAIN, FORMER NEW YORK GOLDEN GLOVER.

WILLIAM B. KING
ON THE U.S. FIFTH ARMY FRONT, ITALY, DEC. 15-(AP)-LT. GEN. [illegible]RK W. CLARK TODAY TOLD U.S. FIFTH ARMY OFFICERS AND MEN THAT "AS [illegible]TH ARMY GROUP COMMANDER, I WILL DRIVE THE U.S. FIFTH AND BRITISH [illegible]GHTH ARMIES WITH EVERY OUNCE OF ENERGY I HAVE TO HELP BRING THIS [illegible]AR TO AN EARLY CLOSE."

CLARK, WHO WILL TAKE OVER HIS NEW ALLIED COMMAND SHORTLY, [illegible]ECORATED 60 OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE FIFTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS [illegible]TAFF AND PROMOTED 30 OTHERS. HE EXPRESSED REGRET AT LEAVING THE [illegible]IFTH ARMY BUT SAID THAT HE WAS HAPPY AND PLEASED TO BE MOVING ON TO [illegible]HE 15TH ARMY GROUP ASSIGNMENT AND ITS GREATER DUTIES AND [illegible]ESPONSIBILITIES.

THE NEW COMMANDER SAID THERE WAS NO ONE TO WHOM HE WOULD RATHER [illegible]URN OVER THE AMERICAN FIFTH ARMY THAN LT. GEN. LUCIAN K. TRUSCOTT, [illegible]R., HIS SUCCESSOR.

WM1141PEW

ORAN, ALGERIA, DEC. 15 -(AP)- A MILITARY TRIBUNAL IMPOSED THE DEATH PENALTY YESTERDAY ON ROUATY MOULOUD AHMED, A SENEGALESE SENTRY WHO, WHILE ON DUTY HERE AUG. 24, SHOT AND SLIGHTLY WOUNDED GEN. HENRI GIRAUD IN THE FACE.

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THE STORY OF THE ATTACK ON GEN. GIRAUD, FORMER CO-PRESIDEN WITH GEN. DEGAULLE IN FRENCH NORTH AFRICA, AS TOLD BY INFORMED MEMBERS OF GIRAUD'S ENTOURAGE WAS THAT WHEN THE GENERAL WAS WITHIN 12 OR 15 YARDS OF HIS VILLA THE ARAB SENTRY OPENED FIRE WITH A RIFLE FROM ABOUT ONE-YARD RANGE. AT THAT INSTANT GIRAUD TURNED HIS HEAD AND THE BULLET STRUCK HIM IN THE NECK AND CAME OUT THROUGH THE CHEEK.

DURING AN INVESTIGATION OF THE SHOOTING BY FRENCH MILITARY AUTHORITIES, THE ASSAILANT ---A MARABOUT, FANATICALLY RELIGIOUS MOSLEM --- WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "ALLAH TOLD ME I KILL GIRAUD."

THE FRENCH GENERAL, LONG SINCE RECOVERED FROM THE WOUND, NO IS LIVING QUIETLY IN SOUTHEASTERN FRANCE.

GJP/ GLEISER 01190...30,24 18817/ 426P

BY STEPHEN BARBER

ATHENS, DEC. 15 -(AP)- PVT. JOSEPH VOGEL OF 974 CHESTNUT ST. UNION, N.J., HAS CLOCKED 1,000 MILES ON HIS JEEP --- MOST OF THEM THROUGH HOTLY-CONTESTED GREEK TERRITORY IN DAILY RUNS BETWEEN THE U.S. AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND'S ATHENS BOOKING OFFICE AND THE AMERICAN AIRFIELD.

HE HAS BRAVED BOTH ELAS AND BRITISH FIRE ON A ROUTE WHICH TAKES HIM THROUGH BRITISH-HELD CENTRAL ATHENS, ACROSS THE OMONIA SQUARE BATTLEGROUND --- PAST HIS OWN BILLET WHICH IS IN THE MIDDLE OF A SNIPER-INFESTED AREA --- THENCE ALONG PIRAEUS ST. WHERE, DESPITE THE STARS AND STRIPES INSIGNIA ON HIS WINDSHIELD ELAS HEAVY MACHINE GUNS SOMETIMES LET FLY AS HE DASHES OUT OF TOWN.

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"ELAS FORCES HAVE BUILT A SERIES OF ROADBLOCKS OUTSIDE THE CITY," VOGEL EXPLAINED. "SOME OF THEM ARE DESIGNED TO SLOW YOU DOWN AND HAVE "S" BEND GAPS LEFT IN THEM WHILE OTHERS BLOCK THE ROAD.

"ELAS GUIDES TAKE ME OVER DETOURS TO GET AROUND THESE, AND BOY, THOSE DETOURS REALLY TAUGHT ME WHAT A JEEP CAN DO. ONE OF THEM TAKES ME DOWN THE EDGE OF A SMALL MOUNTAIN, INTO THE BED OF A STREAM AND UP THE OPPOSITE BANK." VOGEL SAID.

DESCRIBING HOW ELAS ROADBLOCKS ARE BUILT, VOGEL SAID,

"WOMEN AND CHILDREN CARRY BOULDERS ON THEIR BACKS TO WHERE TI

MEN LAY THEM IN PLACE."

"WE'RE STRICTLY NEUTRAL BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE ALWAYS RECOGNIZED," VOGEL SAID. "WE'VE HAD IT BOTH WAYS --- ELAS SNIPERS INSI ATHENS WHERE THEY CAN'T ALWAYS SPOT WHETHER YOU'RE BRITISH OR AMERICAN AND BRITISH BEAUFIGHTERS OUTSIDE THE CITY."

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ONCE WHEN VOGEL WAS DRIVING INTO TOWN WITH MAIL HE WAS STOPPEI BY A FRANTIC ELAS GUARD. "I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT," VOGEL RELATED. "BUT HE MADE SIGNS, GRABBED ME BY THE ARM AND PULLED ME FROM THE JEEP AND INTO A DITCH. A FEW SECONDS LATER A BRITISH PLANE SWOOPED DOWN AND BLASTED A NEARBY ROADBLOCK WITH ITS 20-MILIMETER GUNS

ANOTHER TIME VOGEL WAS SAVED FROM DANGER BY A 14-YEAR-OLD ELAS FIGHTER WHO STOPPED THE GI'S JEEP JUST IN THE KNICK OF TIME 100 YARDS FROM A BLAZING AMMUNITION TRUCK.

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, CEYLON, DEC. 15-(AP)-AS FORWARD UNITS OF THE BRITISH 14TH ARMY ADVANCED SOUTHEAST OF MAUNGDAW AND WITHIN 40 MILES OF AKYAB ON THE WEST BURMA COAST UNDER

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COMBINED ANGLO-AMERICAN AIR COVER. IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT A SUICIDE GARRISON OF ABOUT 800 JAPANESE, ORDERED TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH AT BHAMO IN THE NORTH BURMA AREA, WERE WEDGED INTO A 6,000-SQUARE-FOOT POCKET IN THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE TOWN.

IN THE ARAKAN HILLS, ALL THE TERRITORY WEST OF THE KALAPAN-TIN RIVER WHICH HAD BEEN ABANDONED BY ALLIES TROOPS BEFORE THE MONSOONS, HAS NOW BEEN REOCCUPIED. OTHER BRITISH FORCES HAVE CLEARED BUTHEDAUNG, 60 MILES NORTH OF AKYAB, AND HAVE CONTINUED THEIR ADVANCE SOUTHWARD ALONG THE DENSE MAYU RANGE TERRAIN.

AT BHAMO, WHERE AN ENEMY SUICIDE FORCE HAS BEEN HOLDING OUT IN A "TEAKWOOD FORTRESS" UNDER HEAVY CHINESE SIEGE FOR MORE THAN TWO WEEKS, THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT HEAVY JAPANESE CASUALTIES WERE BEING SUFFERED.

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APPARENTLY THE CHINESE PLAN WAS TO USE HEAVY ARTILLERY ON THE STRONGHOLD OF THICK TEAKWOOD LOGS--WHICH IS PART OF WHAT AN AMERICAN LIAISON OFFICER DESCRIBED AS "THE BEST DEFENSE SYSTEM YET ENCOUNTERED IN NORTH BURMA." MANY DUGOUTS ARE UNDER 15 FEET OF LOGS. CHINESE 36TH DIVISION TROOPS FACE THE FURTHER PROBLEM OF A SERIES OF CONNECTING LAKES WHICH SERVE AS MOATS FOR THE JAPANESE DEFENDERS.

DURING RECENT FIGHTING A HEAVY CHINESE BARRAGE OF 70 ROUNDS FROM 155-MILIMETER GUNS WAS LAID ON ONE SECTION OF BHAMO AND 10 DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED ON ONE BUNKER POSITION BEFORE IT WAS WIPED OUT.

WEST OF BHAMO, IN THE INDAW-KATHA AREA OF THE GANGAW RANGE, THE BRITISH 36TH DIVISION CONSOLIDATED ITS POSITIONS AND CARRIED OUT LIGHT PATROL OPERATIONS.

THE 11TH EAST AFRICAN DIVISION ON THE CHINDWIN FRONT TOOK THE VILLAGE OF SHWEGYIN AND DROVE ON UP THE SHWEGYIN-YEU ROAD TO A TOWN WO MILES TO THE NORTH.

PS353PEW

BY JOHN GROVER

WITH THE BRITISH 15TH CORPS, ARAKAN FRONT, BURMA, DEC. 14-(DELAYED) (AP)-THIS WAS D-DAY FOR BRITISH REGIMENTS RECRUITED FROM THREE CON-

TINENTS WHICH HAVE SMASHED FORWARD FROM THREE TO 17 MILES IN THE OPENING PHASE OF A TWO-PRONGED DRIVE TO RECLAIM THE ARAKAN DISTRICT, AND ADVANCE ELEMENTS ALREADY HAVE PUSHED TO WITHIN 40 MILES OF THE PORT OF AKYAB ON THE WEST BURMA COAST.

AS THE DRIVE STARTED, LT.GEN.SIR PHILIP CHRISTISON, COMMANDER OF ARAKAN FORCES, ENJOYED COMPLETE AIR SUPERIORITY OVER THE JAPANESE DEFENDERS, AMERICAN B-25 MEDIUM BOMBERS P-38 AND P-47 FIGHTERS AND RAF FIGHTERS SUPPLIED CLOSE SUPPORT FOR THE JUNGLE ADVANCE. NOT A SINGLE ENEMY PLANE WAS ENCOUNTERED.

ALL ALONG THE FRONT INFANTRYMEN REPORTED JAPANESE TROOPS WERE HIGH-TAILING IT WITHOUT OFFERING TO FIGHT.

BUTHEDAUNG, 60 MILES NORTH OF AKYAB, WAS CLEARED OF JAPANESE BUT BRIGADE COMMANDERS WARNED THAT THE WITHDRAWAL MIGHT MEAN THAT THE ENEMY PLANNED TO MAKE A STAND ON THE KNIFE-LIKE HILL FEATURE SOUTH OF THE TOWN.

A TRIPLE SERIES OF BRIDGES GUARDING THE APPROACH TO BUTHEDAUNG WERE TAKEN WITHOUT A STRUGGLE. ONLY STRAY ENEMY SHOTS WERE HEARD AS THE BRITISH APPROACHED THE TOWN AND THE KALAPANZIN RIVER.

AIR COMMODORE THE EARL OF BANDON, COMMANDER OF AIR OPERATIONS IN ARAKAN, SAID THUNDERBOLT AND LIGHTNING SQUADRONS HAD FIGURED IMPORTANTLY IN CLOSE SUPPORT FOR THE INFANTRY ADVANCE.

THE BUTHEDAUNG PINCERS ITSELF WAS SPLIT INTO SEVERAL COLUMNS WHICH PROBED ALL THE TOWN'S APPROACHES, AND BY NIGHTFALL RNE COLUMN HELD POSITIONS IN THE NORTHWEST SECTOR WHILE ANOTHER ENTERED FROM THE WEST. A THIRD ELEMENT ADVANCED SOUTH OF THE TOWN.

AS GRINNING WEST AFRICANS, BARE TO THE WAIST, SWEPT THROUGH THE JUNGLE, THE COASTAL PINCERS REACHED OVER THE NARROW MAYU PLAIN FROM T SEA TO THE WESTERN FOOTHILLS IN A RAPID ADVANCE.

CHUNGKING, DEC. 15-(AP)-FUNDS ARE BEING SOLOCITED FROM THE PUBLIC TO PROVIDE EVERY CHINESE SOLDIER WITH SOME "LUXURIES" HE HAS NOT HAD BEFORE:

A QUART OF SOYA BEAN MILK DAILY; AS MUCH WATER AS HE WANTS TO DRINK; A BATH ONCE A WEEK; A TOWEL FOR HIS OWN USE; AND TREATMENT OF EYE AND SKIN DISEASES.

THIS MOVEMENT, ONE OF MANY, IS STIMULATED BY ACUTE REALIZATION OF THECONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CHINESE SOLDIERS ARE FIGHTING, CONDITIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN APPRECIABLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY REVERSES IN THE FIELD.

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THE CHINESE PRESSIS CONTINUING TO CLAMOR FOR BETTER KMT FOOD, AMMUNITION AND WEAPONS FOR THE ARMY.

ONE PAPER NOTED THAT FIGURES ON CHINESE MILITARY STRENGTH MUST BE DISCOUNTED TO ALLOW FOR THE SICK, THE WEAK AND AGED IN THE RANKS ANOTHER SAID TROOPS BOUND FOR THE FRONT HAD TO WALK WHILE CIVILIANS RODE IN CARS AND SAID THETIME HAD COME FOR CIVILIANS TO UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WAS THEIR WAR, TOO.

PKL MOOSAS 10420 PM19 1229P

ADD MAC'S HQ PIPS - (MC DANIEL) XXX CEBU

THESE GUERRILLA OPERATIONS HAVE CREATED FRIENDLY SHORES ALONG THE 600-MILE INLAND SEAS STRETCH BETWEEN LEYTE AND MINDORO.

THE JAPANESE KNEW THEY WERE FACING ANOTHER ADVANCE LANDING IN THE STRATEGIC PHILIPPINES BECAUSE THEY REPEATEDLY ATTACKED THE MINDORO-BOUND CONVOY BUT THEY WERE TAKEN BY SURPRISE AS TO THE LANDING PLACE, GENERAL MACARTHUR SAID. RESISTANCE ON MINDORO WAS NEGLIGIBLE, HE ADDED.

(NO PICKUP)

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X425PPW

ADD 21ST BOMB. CMD - (MAUGLAND) XX STRIKE

MORRIS SAID HE "HUNG ONTO THE PROPS UNTIL I GOT MY BREATH BACK."

THE PLANE REMAINED AFLOAT MORE THAN 17 HOURS UNTIL THE DESTROYER ARRIVED AND THEN HAD TO BE SHELLED BEFORE IT WOULD GO DOWN.

THE CREW SPENT THE NIGHT IN TWO RUBBER RAFTS. WHEN DAYLIGHT ARRIVED THURSDAY, HOWEVER, THE PLANE'S COMMANDER, 1ST LT. LINDSEY M.SILVESTER OF (1804 37TH ST.NW.) WASHINGTON,D.C., AND THE CO-PILOT, 2ND LT.KENNETH M.SNOW, SAN FRANCISCO, CLIMBED BACK INTO HER DESPITE THE DANGER OF SINKING AND SALVAGED ANOTHER LIFERAFT, FOOD, WATER AND SUPPLIES.

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THE MISSING PLANE WAS FIRST SIGHTED BY A PBY SEARCH PLANE FROM SOMEWHERE IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS. HE SAW THE SUN'S GLINT ON THE SUPERKORT'S TAIL AT A POINT 85 MILES NORTH OF SAIPAN JUST BEFORE NOON, THURSDAY, AFTER A SIX-HOUR SEARCH. HE SUMMONED A DESTROYER AND CIRCLED OVER THE SPOT FOR FOUR AND A HALF HOURS UNTIL THE WARSHIP ARRIVED.

SILVESTER SAID THE CREW TOOK THE CRASH LANDING CALMLY. THE RADIOMAN, CPL.PAUL J.LALKA OF (308 E.70TH ST.) NEW YORK CITY, HAD THE ONLY DIFFICULTY. HE FOUND THE FRONT EXIT JAMMED AND CLIMBED THROUGH THE LONG TUNNEL TO THE WAIST, WHERE THE EXITS ALSO WERE CLOSED.

CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL SGT.JOSEPH SCHUCH OF (9,008 GRAVOIS ROAD) T.LOUIS,MO., AND LEFT GUNNER SGT.PETER BUTSCHER OF LINDSEY, O., WHO ALREADY HAD ESCAPED AND WERE ON TOP OF THE PLANE, CHOPPED THROUGH THE PLEXIGLASS DOME WITH KNIVES TO FREE LALKA.

SILVESTER, FORMER WEST POINT FOOTBALL END, SAID THE PLANE USED ON THE NAGOYA RAID WAS CALLED THE "UMBRIAGO" AND NORMALLY WAS ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER CREW. AMONG LATE PLANES OVER THE TARGET, THE UMBRIAGO RAN OUT OF GAS AND "MADE A NORMAL LANDING WITH WHEELS UP AND ONE ENGINE FEATHERED," SILVESTER SAID.

THE ONLY ONE WHO GOT WET BESIDES MORRIS, SILVESTER AND SNOW WAS TAILGUNNER SGT.JAMES E.FOLEY OF (292 LONG HILL ROAD) EAST HARTFORD, CONN.

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OTHERS MERELY STEPPED INTO INFLATED RAFTS. THEY WERE LALKA, SCHUCH, BUTSCHER AND FLIGHT ENGR.2ND LT.ROBERT UNGER, (13306 CAINE) CLEVELAND,O.; RIGHT GUNNER PVT.OSCAR H. YENSAN, (74 HARRIET ST.) TONAWANDA,N.Y.; ELECTRICAL SPECIALIST SGT.JOHNNY D.BROWN, (1223 E.46TH ST.) CHICAGO, AND THE NAVIGATOR, WHO ASKED THAT HIS NAME NOT BE USED.

UNGER, WHO WENT TO COLLEGE AT ATHENS,O., SAID HE HAD "LOTS OF FRIENDS IN DES MOINES."

LT.COMDR.JAMES D.ADAMS OF WESTCHESTER,PA., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT CORONADO,CALIF., IS SKIPPER OF THE AIR-SEA RESCUE OPERATIONS IN THE MARIANAS AREA. HE SAID HIS "DUMBOS" HAD ASSISTED IN THE RESCUE OF ABOUT 43 FLIERS FROM EIGHT PLANES

SINCE THE MARIANAS CAMPAIGN STARTED LAST JUNE.

COMMENTING ON THE RESCUE, SILVESTER SAID: "THE NAVY DID A WONDERFUL JOB--AND THE B29 IS A FINE SHIP. IK IT WEREN'T, IT WOULDN'T FLOAT THAT LONG."

IT WAS THE UMBRIAGO'S FIFTH MISSION AND THE SECOND FOR SILVESTER CREW.

DV831PCW

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ASFX

ADMIRAL NIMITZ, WHO EMPHATICALLY HAS STATED THE ALLIED OFFENSIVE MUST DRIVE WEST TO LANDINGS ON THE COAST OF CHINA WHERE THE WAR WILL BE WON, DISCLOSED LAST NIGHT THAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE TO CHINA HAD CONFERRED WITH HIM AT PEARL HARBOR WHILE ENROUTE TO WASHINGTON. THE REPRESENTATIVE, DONALD M.NELSON, HAS SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN CHUNGKING SINCE THE RECALL OF GEN. JOSEPH STILWELL TALKING WITH THE CHINESE GENERALISSIMO, CHIANG KAI-SHEK

NELSON WAS IN POSITION TO GIVE NIMITZ A FULL PICTURE OF THE CHINESE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION.

EARLIER THIS WEEK, NIMITZ DISCLOSED HE HAD HELD A STRATEGY CONFERENCE WITH ARMY AND NAVY COMMANDERS OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC AND ALEUTIAN THEATERS. THESE CONFERENCES APPEARED ON THE SURFACE TO DEAL WITH THE ALEUTIANS BUT ALSO CONSIDERED THE LONG RANGE OBJECTIVE OF JAPAN ITSELF.

MM1155PPW

BY DEAN SCHEDLER

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, SATURDAY, DEC. 16-(AP)-GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR TODAY LIFTED THE VEIL ON THE LONG-GUARDED ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN AND FILIPINO GUERRILLA FORCES, ACTIVE AGAINST THE JAPANESE SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE PHILIPPINE WAR IN 1942.

MACARTHUR SAID "THE FORCES IN THE WESTERN VISAYAS AND MINDANAO HAVE SUSTAINED AN AGGRESSIVE OFFENSIVE AGAINST ENEMY GARRISONS ON SEVERAL MAJOR ISLANDS."

ON LUZON, COL.WENDELL W.FERTIG FOUGHT THE EARLY DAYS OF THE BATTLE OF BATAAN, FROM WHERE HE WENT TO MINDANAO. DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS HE HAS DONE THE MAJOR PART OF THE WORK IN UNIFYING SEVERAL AMERICAN AND FILIPINO BANDS INTO AN EFFICIENT STRIKING FORCE.

MACARTHUR SAID UNITS UNDER COLONEL FERTIG'S COMMAND LIBERATED THE ENTIRE PROVINCES OF LANAO AND MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL.

LT.COL.CHARLES CUSHING, WHO ELUDED THE JAPANESE WHEN THEY OVERRAN CEBU, LED FORCES IN CLEARING THE ENEMY FROM THE MAJOR PART OF SOUTHERN CEBU.

GUERRILLAS HAVE BEEN A CONSTANT THORN IN JAPAN'S "GREATER EAST ASIA" PROGRAM FOR THE PHILIPPINES. THE SMALL BANDS HAVE DISTRIBUTED AMERICAN PROPAGANDA MATERIAL UNDER THE VERY NOSE OF HIGH JAPANESE OFFICERS IN ADDITION TO MAINTAINING DISRUPTIVE ATTACKS AGAINST NIPPONESE LINES OF SUPPLY.

TODAY'S COMMUNIQUE, DISCLOSING THEIR WELL-SECRETED ACCOMPLISHMENTS, DETAILED CONQUESTS ALL THE WAY ALONG THE ROUTE TAKEN BY THE CONVOY.

(APPARENTLY THE CONVOY SAILED THROUGH SURIGAO STRAIT BETWEEN SOUTHERN LEYTE AND NORTHERN MINDANAO, THROUGH THE MINDANAO SEA BELOW BOHOL, CEBU, AND NEGROS THEN NORTH THROUGH THE SULU SEA PAST NEGROS AND PANAY TO MINDORO).

ON MINDANAO, THE GUERRILLAS HAVE CLEARED THE CONNECTING PROVINCES OF LANAO AND MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL, WINNING THEM AIRFIELDS AND A COASTLINE OF 125 MILES SKIRTING ILIGAN BAY.

ON BOHOL, THE NEXT ISLAND WEST OF SOUTH LEYTE, THE GUERRILLAS HOLD ALL BUT THE AREA AROUND THE TOWN OF TAGBILARAN ON THE SOUTHWEST.

ON THE NEXT ISLAND, CEBU, THE GUERRILLAS DROVE THE JAPANESE OUT OF THE SOUTH PART WHICH JUTS DOWN TO THE MINDANAO SEA.

WESTWARD, ON NEGROS, IN THAT ISLAND'S SOUTHERNMOST PART WHICH GUARDS THE WESTERN ENTRANCE OF THE MINDANAO SEA, THE GUERRILLAS CLEARED OUT ALL BUT THE DUMAGUETTE AREA. HOWEVER, THEY OUTFLANKED IT BY SEIZING THE TOWNS OF SIBUTAN AND LUZURIGA ON EITHER SIDE. SEVERAL AIRFIELDS WERE SEIZED.

ON PANAY, FLANKING THE SULU SEA APPROACH TO MINDORO, THE TOWN OF PATNONGON ON THE SOUTHWEST WAS CAPTURED, THE TOWNS OF SAN MIGUEL AND ZARRAGA ON THE SOUTHEAST AND ESTANCIA ON THE NORTHEAST AS WELL AS SEVERAL VITAL AIRFIELDS.

STILL OTHER GUERRILLAS FAR TO THE SOUTH BETWEEN MINDANAO AND BORNEO PINNED DOWN JAPANESE IN SMALL RESTRICTED AREAS IN ISLANDS OF THE SULU ARCHIPELAGO.

MM&HW627PPW NM

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BY REMBERT JAMES (320)

ABOARD ADMIRAL MCCAIN'S FAST CARRIER FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF THE PHILIPPINES, DEC 15-(AP)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-SUPPORTING GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S NEW LANDINGS ON MINDORO ISLAND TO THE SOUTH, THE U.S. PACIFIC FLEET SHOWED THE WORLD A NEW TRICK IN CARRIER WARFARE TODAY BY TAKING AROUND-THE-CLOCK CONTROL OF THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES AIR.

FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS VICE ADM.JOHN S.MCCAIN'S PLANES HAVE DENIED THE JAPANESE USE OF THEIR ALMOST 100 AIRFIELDS ON THE GREAT ISLAND OF LUZON. STRONG AMERICAN COMBAT AIR PATROLS STERILIZED THE ENTIRE ISLAND OF ENEMY AIRCRAFT YESTERDAY AND STILL HELD FULL SWAY TODAY.

DURING ALL LAST NIGHT DOZENS OF AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES RANGED LUZON SKIES BOMBING AND DESTROYING AND GIVING THE ENEMY NO REST.

REVISED FIGURES SHOW ENEMY LOSSES FOR THE 24-HOUR PERIOD AS 37 PLANES SHOT OUT OF THE AIR AND 139 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND OR ON THE WATER, AND 80 DAMAGED ON THE GROUND.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD A MEDIUM-SIZED FREIGHTER WAS HIT AND EXPLODED AND A MEDIUM OIL TANKER WAS SUNK OFF THE WEST COAST OF LUZON.

A SMALL TROOP CONVOY IN THE SAME AREA WAS SURPRISED AND ATTACKED WITH BOMB ROCKETS AND STRAFED, AND ONE LARGE TRANSPORT LADEN WITH TROOPS WAS LEFT DAMAGED AND SMOKING FROM ROCKETS.

SMALLER TRANSPORTS, ALSO TROOP-FILLED, AND TWO ESCORT WARSHIPS IN THE CONVOY ALSO WERE DAMAGED.

IT WAS THE BIGGEST DAY IN MANY WEEKS FOR MCCAIN'S FLIERS, WHO OPERATEE ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WITH NAVY HELLCAT FIGHTERS EQUIPPED WITH BOMBS AND ROCKETS. THEY ACHIEVED APPARENTLY FULL SURPRISE IN OPENING THE ATTACK, FINDING IN ONE INSTANCE AT SOUTH APARRI AIRPORT CATTLE WANDERING OVER THE RUNWAY.

THE GREATEST BAG OF THE DAY CAME LATE IN THEAFTERNOON WHEN ONE FLIGHT OF 27 ENEMY PLANES, APPARENTLY FROM FORMOSA, TRIED TO LAND IN NORTHERN LUZON. AMERICAN FIGHTERS SHOT DOWN 18 OF THIS GROUP AND ALSO BAGGED ONE OF A FLIGHT OF EIGHT OTHER PLANES.

ON THE WATER THEY DESTROYED SEVEN TO TEN LARGE FLYING BOATS AT

:AVITE SEAPLANE BASE AND SHOT DOWN ANOTHER SEAPLANE WHICH WAS
:SCORTING AN ENEMY CONVOY OFF LUZON.
THREE LARGE TRANSPORT PLANES WERE DESTROYED, TWO OF THEM BLOWN
PART ON THE GROUND.
IN SWEEPS AROUND CLARK FIELD, WHICH HAS MANY SEPARATE RUNWAYS,
TRAFINGPLANES HIT FOUR FUEL DUMPS AND BLEW UP AN AMMUNITION DEPOT.
MM&HW1016PPW NM

DEC 16 1944

BY JAMES HUTCHESON
ABOARD A COVERING FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF MINDORO, PHILIPPINES,
DEC 15-(AP)-WAVES OF AMERICAN TROOPS ARE POURING ASHORE UNOPPOSED
ON MINDORO ISLAND AFTER A SLOW CONVOY TRIP OF 600 MILES THROUGH SUPP-
OSEDLY JAPANESE DOMINATED WATERS WITH INCREDIBLY LIGHT AIR OPPOSITION.
THE ONLY HITCH IN THE LANDING CAME WHEN A WARSHIP
SIGNALLED: "BEACH IN FRONT OF OUR BOMBARDMENT SECTOR IS CROWDED
WITH WELCOMING FILIPINOS AND CARABAOS (WATER BUFFALOS). WHAT SHALL
WE DO?"
REAR ADM.RUSSELL S.BERKEY REPLIED: "WITHHOLD FIRE."
THE FIRST ACTION TODAY CAME JUST BEFORE DAWN WHEN A PATROLLING
CATALINA PLANE SCORED A BOMB HIT ON A JAPANESE FREIGHTER WHICH
APPARENTLY DRIFTED UNWITTINGLY ACROSS THE CONVOY'S COURSE. BUT ENEMY
AIR ATTACKS ON THE SPRAWLING CONVOY WERE SO SPORADIC AND LIGHT THE MEN
WENT BELOW FOR THE TRADITIONAL PRE-LANDING STEAK BREAKFAST.
ARMY LIGHTNINGS, MARINE CORSAIRS AND NAVY WILDCATS OVERHEAD
FURNISHED CONFIDENCE BUT THE MEN ABOARD THIS FLAGSHIP BREATHED
MORE EASILY WHEN THEY HEARD THAT ADM.WILLIAM F.HALSEY'S PLANES HAD
GIVEN NEARBY LUZON ISLAND AIRFIELDS A HEAVY PLASTERING.
TWILIGHT THE FIRST DAY OUT BROUGHT THE MOST CONCENTRATED
JAPANESE ATTACK. AFTER THE SHOOTING SUBSIDED OUR
LOUDSPEAKER ANNOUNCED:
"TWO JAPANESE PLANES IS THE SCORE FOR THE FIRST INNING."
THE VOYAGE'S MOST SPECTACULAR DOGFIGHT WAS SILHOUETTED
AGAINST A CLOUD-BANKED SULU SEA HORIZON. TWO AMERICAN CARRIER
WILDCATS GOT ON THE TAIL OF AN ENEMY LIGHT BOMBER. THE JAPANESE PLANE
DIVED ALMOST TO THE WATER'S SURFACE BUT THE WILDCATS BORED IN RELENT-
LESSLY AS THE ENEMY CRAFT'S REAR GUN FLASHED IN A FUTILE EFFORT TO
BEAT OFF THE PURSUIT.
THE ENEMY PLANE HIT THE WATER AND BOUNCED TWICE BEFORE
SINKING.

"THAT'S THE BEST DOGFIGHT I'VE SEEN IN THREE YEARS ON THIS SHIP," SAID LT. (JG) CARL MINNIEAR, SAN DIEGO, CAOIF. DEC 16 1944
LT. RICHARD MOLTEN, SHIP'S AVIATION OFFICER FROM COLUMBIA,
S.C., ADDED "I HAVE TO GIVE THAT JAP CREDIT FOR SOME SKILLFUL
EVASION FLYING."

THROUGH ALL THE ACTIONS THE MEN AT THEIR STATIONS BELOW
DECKS HEARD A RUNNING DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGHT OVER THE LOUD-
SPEAKER.

XZ1201ACW

30 24 — 21295

BY REMBERT JAMES
ABOARD A FLAGSHIP OF A FAST CARRIER FORCE OFF THE PHILIPPINES,
DEC 14-(DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES
TODAY SENT UP CONTINUOUS COMBAT AIR PATROLS OVER EVERY ONE OF THE ALMOS
100 JAPANESE AIRFIELDS ON LUZON ISLAND, SMOTHERING THE JAPANESE
AIR FORCE IN THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES IN ONE OF THE MOST STARTLING TACT
OF NAVAL AVIATION.
SWEEPING IN EARLY IN THE MORNING FROM CLOUDY SKIES, FIGHTER TEAMS OF
CARRIER PLANES, MANY OF WHICH CARRIED BOMBS AND ROCKETS, CAUGHT THE
JAPANESE BY SURPRISE.
DURING THE FIRST FEW HOURS THE AMERICAN DETECTED SLIGHTLY OVER
300 ENEMY PLANES, ONLY A FEW OF WHICH WERE AIRBORNE.
THE YANKS DESTROYED AT LEAST 85 JAPANESE
PLANES, 14 IN THE AIR AND 71 ON THE GROUND.
IN ADDITION TWO JAPANESE DESTROYERS WERE SET AFIRE IN SUBIC BAY;
ONE LARGE CARGO VESSEL WAS DAMAGED; ONE SMALL OILER WAS DESTROYED OFF
IBA, AND A MEDIUM OILER SET AFIRE NEAR LINGAYEN GULF.
(ADMIRAL CHESTER W.NIMITZ PACIFIC FLEET COMMANDER IN A COMMUNIQUE
ISSUED AT PEARL HARBOR THURSDAY SAID AMERICAN PLANES HAD DESTROYED 91
JAPANESE PLANES, 14 IN THE AIR AND 77 ON THE GROUND)
MM1215APW NM

DEC 16 1944

U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES, PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, CENTRAL PACIFIC-
(BY MAIL)-(AP)-TWELVE NEW YORK STATE MEN HAVE BEEN AWARDED THE AIR
MEDAL FOR 7TH AAF MEDIUM BOMBARDMENT MISSIONS IN THE CENTRAL PACIFIC.

THE 7TH AAF CEREMONY AT WHICH THEY RECEIVED THE AWARDS WAS
PRESIDED OVER BY LT.GEN. MILLARD F.HARMON, COMMANDING GENERAL OF
ARMY AIR FORCES, PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE
20TH AAF; AND COL. J.R.ANDERSON, CHIEF OF STAFF, HEADQUARTERS,
ARMY AIR FORCES, PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, AT A BASE IN THE HAWAIIAN
ISLANDS.

THEY WERE CITED FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT IN FLIGHT. THE
CITATION READS IN PART:

"AS MEMBERS OF BOMBARDMENT TYPE AIRCRAFT CREWS, THEY DISPLAYED
HIGH PROFESSIONAL SKILL, COURAGE AND DEVOTION TO DUTY WHICH
EXEMPLIFIES THE HIGHEST TRADITION OF THE ARMY AIR FORCES."

THE MEN ARE:

SGT. ROBERT A.WORSHOP, SON OF MR. AND MRS. ARTHUR WORSHOP, 1

PINE STREET, ARDSLEY; S/[illegible] HARVEY L.JONES, SON OF MRS. PAULINE JONES OF BERLIN. HIS WIFE, BESSIE, LIVES AT 12 GEORGIA AVENUE, GREENVILLE, S.C.; SECOND LT. NICHOLAS F.LEIBROCK, SON OF MR. AND MRS. N.F. LEIBROCK, 3065 GODWIN TERRACE, THE BRONX. HIS WIFE, EDNA, LIVES AT 2540 32ND STREET, ASTORIA; SECOND LT. ISAAC J.LAPIN, SON OF LOUIS LAPIN OF 3459 FENTON AVENUE, THE BRONX; SECOND LT. ARNOLD C. SAYER, SON OF MR. AND MRS.ARNOLD C.SAYER, 3436 76TH STREET, JACKSON HEIGHTS, NEW YORK; SECOND LT. DONALD E.LIGHTHALL, SON OF MR. AND MRS. FRANK LIGHTHALL, 300 SOUTH WILLIAM STREET, JOHNSTOWN. HIS WIFE, EILEEN, LIVES AT 208 27TH STREET, OGDEN, UTAH.

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SGT. EDWIN P.SOBIECRAY, SON OF MR. AND MRS. F.SOBIECRAY, 463 PORTAGE ROAD, NIAGARA FALLS; SECOND LT. ANTHONY ROBERT ROSS, SON OF MR. AND MRS. GUY ROSS, 445 NORTH UNION STREET, OLEAN; STAFF SGT. ROBERT N.LUSS, SON OF MR. AND MRS.MERRILL A.LUSS, EAST EMERY STREET, SOUTHWALES; SECOND LT. JOHN M.EDENFIELD, SON OF MR. AND MRS.T.EDENFIELD, 55 SIMONSON AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND. HIS WIFE, MARY, LIVES AT 216 WEST 27TH STREET, NORFOLK, VA.; SECOND LT. HAROLD F.HOUGHTON, SON OF MR. AND MRS.C.H.HOUGHTON, 21 MCLAUGHLIN AVENUE, TUPPER LAKE; SECOND LT. HORACE L.FANTASIA, SON OF MR. AND MRS.F.FANTASIA, 142 DOBBS FERRY ROAD, WESTCHESTER.

SB537PEW

ADD SAN JOSE XXX ARMY

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN SAN SALVADOR, THE STATION SAID, TODAY DEMANDED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIETA ROSSI RELEASE IMMEDIATELY ALL OPPOSITIONISTS ARRESTED INSIDE THE BUILDINGS OF THE PERUVIAN AND FRENCH LEGATIONS AND THE BELGIAN CONSULATE ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE ARRESTS WERE A "VIOLATION OF DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY."

SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR, DEC. 15-(AP)-THE FOREIGN MINISTRY LODGED A FORMAL PROTEST WITH THE GUATEMALAN MINISTER TODAY ON THE GROUNDS THAT ARMS CAPTURED FROM REVOLUTIONISTS IN THE BORDER PROVINCE OF AHUACHAPAN APPARENTLY HAD BELONGED TO THE GUATEMALAN ARMY.

THE NOTE REQUESTED THAT SALVADOREAN REBELS ALLEGEDLY REFUGEEING IN GUATEMALA BE ROUNDED UP AND DISARMED.

(EARLIER A DISPATCH FROM COSTA RICA QUOTED A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SALVADOREAN "GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE" THERE AS SAYING THAT REVOLUTIONARY TROOPS HAD CAPTURED THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF AHUACHAPAN. THE SAME DISPATCH QUOTED CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM TRAVELERS THAT 600 REBELS ATTEMPTING TO INVADE AHUACHAPAN FROM GUATEMALA HAD BEEN SURROUNDED AND WERE BEING WIPED OUT.)

JR756AEW

MEXICO CITY, DEC. 15-(AP)-MARCOS KHOLY, NEW CUBAN AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, WILL ARRIVE SATURDAY BY PLANE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY LAST NIGHT.

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HE WILL BE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY THE PERSONNEL OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY AND THE CHIEF OF CEREMONIES OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE.

KHOLY WILL SUCCEED DR. JOSE MANUEL CARBONELL, WHOSE RESIGNATION OF HIS POST RECENTLY WAS ACCEPTED BY HIS GOVERNMENT AND WHO WILL SHORTLY LEAVE FOR HAVANA.

XA 17ACW NM

MEXICO CITY, DEC. 15-(AP)-U.S.AMBASSADOR GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE HERE TOMORROW FOR WASHINGTON, RETURNING AT THE END OF NEXT WEEK.

FD1006AEW

OTTAWA , DEC.15-(AP)-- THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT PILOT OFFICER JAMES ALLAN EARLE, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING ON ACTIVE SERVICE, NOW IS REPORTED A PRISONER OF WAR IN GERMANY. HIS MOTHER, MRS.E.E.M.SHOUP, LIVES IN WYANKA CITY, FLA.

OTTAWA DEC 15-(AP)-THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT FLYING OFFICER PHIL LEEDS, WHOSE MOTHER, MRS.MAURICE LEIBOWITZ, LIVES AT 2781 HAMPSHIRE ROAD, CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO, IS MISSING ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

KK418AEW

30. 24 — 21297

MONTREAL, DEC. 15-(AP)-RALPH HOWARD OF THE BENDIX AVIATION COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, TODAY WAS ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE EASTERN DIVISION OF THE UNITED STATES AERONAUTICAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT A JOINT MEETING OF THE CHAMBER AND THE CANADIAN AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY TRAFFIC COMMITTEE.

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OTHER OFFICERS ELECTED WERE: ELMER DUNN, BELL AIRCRAFT CORPORATION, VICE-CHAIRMAN; R. BONAGHUE, PRATT-WHITNEY AIRCRAFT COMPANY, EAST HARTFORD, CONN., CHAIRMAN, RATES AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE; S. ABELOW, CURTISS-WRIGHT AIRCRAFT COMPANY, CHAIRMAN OF THE EXPORT COMMITTEE, AND J. HUBERT, CURTISS-WRIGHT PROPELLOR DIVISION, SECRETARY FOR CENTRAL COMMITTEE CORRESPONDENCE.

JR1114PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 15-(AP)-GERMANY'S ABILITY TO MAKE STEEL--THE BACKBONE OF WAR--HAS BEEN CUT NEARLY IN HALF BY TERRITORIAL LOSSES, THE AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL INSTITUTE ESTIMATED TODAY.

BOMBINGS, PLUS SABOTAGE, MAY HAVE CUT ANOTHER 20 PER CENT FROM HER PRODUCTIVE ABILITY, THE TRADE ORGANIZATION SAID IN ITS PUBLICATION STEEL FACTS.

"AT THE CREST OF GERMAN POWER, CLOSE TO 60,000,000 TONS OF STEEL CAPACITY WAS AVAILABLE IN AXIS EUROPE, OF WHICH PERHAPS AS MUCH AS 28,000,000 TONS WERE IN GERMANY ITSELF," THE REPORT SAID.

"SINCE THEN, THROUGH THE LOSS OF MOST OF ITALY, FRANCE, BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG, THE BALKANS AND HUNGARY, THE AMOUNT OF STEEL CAPACITY AVAILABLE TO GERMANY HAS PROBABLY DECREASED TO NOT MORE THAN 36,000,000 TONS.

"HOW MUCH DAMAGE FROM BOMBING AND SABOTAGE HAS BEEN DONE TO THE VARIOUS PLANTS STILL CONTROLLED BY GERMANY IS CONJECTURAL, BUT THE LOSS IN PRODUCTION IS BELIEVED TO BE CONSIDERABLE--PERHAPS AS MUCH AS 20 PER CENT."

IN ADDITION, THE INSTITUTE SAID, PLANTS IN THE SAAR AND RUHR, WHERE BOMBING HAS BEEN HEAVY, WERE PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF HIGH QUALITY STEEL.

RQ1112AEW

DEC 16 1944

MT.VERNON, N.Y., DEC. 15-(AP)-EXPRESSING HOPE "THAT FOREIGN PROPAGANDA IN THE GUISE OF NEWS NEVER SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN BY OUR GOVERNMENT AFTER THE WAR," KEPT COOPER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, SAID TONIGHT:

"THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT AS TO WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT'S FUNCTION AS RESPECTS NEWS DISSEMINATION OUGHT TO BE.

"BUT BECAUSE OF RUMORS, AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT OF WHAT PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE AND WHAT ONES ARE TO HAVE CONSIDERATION IS DUE THE PUBLIC AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE."

COOPER WAS A SPEAKER AT A CELEBRATION IN HISTORIC ST.PAUL'S CHURCH, COMMEMORATING THE 153RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

THE QUAINT, 279-YEAR-OLD PARISH, DESIGNATED AS THE "NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS," ADJOINS A VILLAGE GREEN, SCENE OF THE GREAT ELECTION OF 1733, FOR THE TRUTHFUL REPORTING OF WHICH, JOHN PETER ZENGER WAS ARRESTED AND IMPRISONED. HIS SUBSEQUENT TRIAL AND ACQUITTAL ESTABLISHED FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN THE COLONIES.

AMONG OTHER SPEAKERS WERE JAMES E.STILES, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE, AND JOSEPH M.PROSKAUER, FORMER STATE SUPREME COURT JUSTICE.

STILES DECLARED THAT THE PRESS SHOULD BE MORE AGGRESSIVE BUT "CONTINUOUSLY ALERT AGAINST BECOMING THE VEHICLES THROUGH WHICH PRESSURE GROUPS EXPLOIT THEIR SELFISH INTERESTS UNDER THE GUISE OF SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT."

PROSKAUER APPEALED FOR "AN INTERNATIONAL BILL OF RIGHTS GUARANTEEING THOSE FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS WHICH ARE THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF EVERY HUMAN BEING CREATED IN THE IMAGE OF GOD."

DISCUSSING GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN THE NEWS FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES, COOPER SAID: "SOME INDIVIDUALS, HIGHLY PLACED, PATRIOTIC AND WELL-MEANING, FAVOR IT."

"UNFORTUNATELY," HE CONTINUED, "THEY ARE WHOLLY IGNORANT OF THE DANGERS INVOLVED AND THE DEGRADATION TO WHICH SUCH AN EFFORT WILL HAVE TO LOWER ITSELF."

THE PRESS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE THEN ASSERTED THAT ALLIED WAR AIMS SHOULD INCLUDE ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD-WIDE UNRESTRICTED NEWS AND ACTION "TO IMPOSE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ON GERMANY."

"MY DREAM," HE SAID, "IS THAT FREEDOM OF THE PRESS WITH WHICH ZENGER'S NAME IS HISTORICALLY CONNECTED CAN BE MADE WORLD-WIDE."

MAINTENANCE OF PEACE THROUGH THE NEWS, COOPER SAID, HAS BEEN FAVORABLY COMMENTED UPON BY THE PRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH, FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE HULL AND HIS SUCCESSOR EDWARD R.STETTINIUS. HE ADDED:

"THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TOLD ME THAT WITH THREE-FOURTHS OF THE WORLD IN DARKNESS THE IDEA IS 'SO RIGHT.'

"YET IT IS GOING TO TAKE THE PE T ENT, MILITANT DEMAND OF OUR PEOPLE TO BRING THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION TO EVERY COUNTRY.

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"WITHOUT IT NO ASSOCIATION OF NATIONS EVER CAN FUNCTION SUCCESSFULLY."

COOPER CONTINUED:

"IF A FREE PRESS AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ARE FORCED ON GERMANY AND PROTECTED AND FOSTERED BY US IN THE SURROUNDINGS WHERE WE SHALL HAVE TRANSPLANTED IT AFTER THE WAR, THE DAY CAN COME WHEN FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE OUR BENEFACTION.

"AND SO AT THIS SHRINE OF LIBERTY X X X I EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT EVERY AMERICAN WILL DEMAND OF HIS GOVERNMENT THROUGH HIS CONGRESSMAN, HIS SENATOR AND HIS PRESIDENT THAT UNSELFISH PLANS FOR WORLD WIDE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BE PUT INTO EFFECT WITH VICTORY."

(EDS:-IN PREVIOUS, FIRST GRAPH, READ: X X X WAR," KENT COOPER, ETC.)

BY MORRIS J.HARRIS
FORMER AP BUREAU CHIEF AT SHANGHAI

WASHINGTON,DEC.15-(AP)-AMERICAN LANDINGS ON MINDORO ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPINES PLACES MACARTHUR IN ONE BOLD STROKE WITHIN DEADLY RANGE OF THE GRAND PRIZE OF LUZON AND MANILA.

THE DARING THRUST HAS LOPPED OFF ABOUT HALF THE 315 AIR LINE MILES BETWEEN LEYTE AND MANILA BAY. IF AMERICAN AIR POWER CAN BE ESTABLISHED ON THE SOUTHERN SHORES OF MINDORO, LUZON AND ALL THAT

IT CONTAINS WILL BE IN STONE'S THROW DISTANCE TO U.S. FLYERS.
ANOTHER KEY TO THE RECAPTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES, CORREGIDOR ISLAND IN THE MOUTH OF MANILA BAY, ALSO COMES INTO EASY AIR DISTANCE WHEN A HOLD IS ESTABLISHED ON MINDORO.

THE MINDORO LANDING WILL BEYOND DOUBT THROW FURTHER CONSTERNATION INTO THE YAMASHITA FORCES OF JAPAN SEEKING TO STAY MACARTHUR. THE AMERICAN HAS ADVANCED DEEP INTO TERRITORY HELD BY THE JAPANESE. THAT HE HAS DONE IT PROVES HE BELIEVES HE HAS THE POWER TO MAINTAIN IT AND THAT VERY FACT WILL BE A FURTHER SMASHING BLOW AGAINST JAPANESE DETERMINATION TO CARRY ON THE FIGHT THROUGHOUT THE ISLANDS.

FROM A POSITION ON MINDORO, UNITED STATES FORCES WILL BE IN A POSITION TO DEAL WITH THE JAPANESE ISLAND-TO-ISLAND ROUTE BY WHICH THE ENEMY REINFORCES HIS TROOPS ON THE LEYTE BATTLEGROUND.

DESPITE THE SUPREME EFFORTS OF AMERICAN NAVAL AND AIR FORCES THE JAPANESE HAVE FILTERED A MORE OR LESS STEADY STREAM OF REINFORCEMENTS SOUTH THROUGH THE CHAIN OF ISLANDS AND WATERWAYS TO LEYTE.

EG640PEW NM

WASHINGTON,DEC. 15-(AP)-BRIG.GEN.CARLOS P.ROMULO, MINISTER OF INFORMATION OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, JUST BACK FROM THE FIGHTING IN LEYTE, TONIGHT DESCRIBED THE LANDINGS ON MINDORO ISLAND AS "DEFINITE PROOF THAT WE ARE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED ON LEYTE."

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ANNOUNCEMENT BY GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR THAT A FORCE OF THE SIXTH UNITED STATES ARMY HAD LANDED VIRTUALLY UNOPPOSED ON MINDORO SIGNIFICANTLY SHOWS "THAT SO FAR AS LEYTE IS CONCERNED, IT DEFINITELY HAS BECOME AN AMERICAN VICTORY," ROMULO ADDED.

ROMULO DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WHETHER THE MINDORO LANDINGS MEANT A SPEEDUP IN THE PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN, BUT ADDED, "IT IS ON SCHEDULE."

THE OPERATION AT LEYTE IS "PRACTICALLY OVER," THE PHILIPPINE OFFICER SAID, "OR THIS SECOND OPERATION AT MINDORO WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN STARTED."

THE SECOND SIGNIFICANT FACTOR IN THE MINDORO LANDINGS, ROMULO SAID, IS THE "IMPORTANCE THE PHILIPPINE GUERRILLAS ARE PLAYING IN THE OPERATIONS AS MAPPED OUT BY GENERAL MACARTHUR."

VX840PEW

FT.SHERIDAN,ILL.,DEC 15-(AP)-GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR ON A BREAD AND WATER DIET FOR FOUR DAYS WERE INFORMED TODAY THEY WOULD BE PERMITTED TO RETURN TO WORK MONDAY, AFTER THEIR SPOKESMAN REPORTED THEM READY TO ACCEPT WHATEVER CONDITIONS THE CAMP COMMANDER IMPOSED.

A 14-DAY BREAD AND WATER DIET WAS ORDERED BY MAJ.E.R.SCHUELKE, CAMP COMMANDER, TUESDAY MORNING BECAUSE OF A MASS REFUSAL TO WORK. THE SENTENCE WAS SUSPENDED, EFFECTIVE SUNDAY.

"THE SENTENCE WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL PRISONER DEPENDING ON HIS GOOD CONDUCT AND WORK," SCHUELKE SAID. "OTHER PRIVILEGES ACCORDED TO THE PRISONERS WILL BE RESTORED AS THEIR CONDUCT INDICATES COMPLETE COOPERATION."

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THE PRISONERS REFUSED TO WORK, THEIR SPOKESMAN SAID, BECAUSE ONE OF THEIR LEADERS WAS TAKEN OFF HIS JOB FOR FAILURE TO PERFORM HIS ASSIGNED TASK. THIS PRISONER AND OTHER RINGLEADERS OF THE STRIKE HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER POST.

WZ1017PCWNM

FLORENCE,ALA.,DEC.15-(AP)-LT.WILLIAM F.BAKER OF FLORENCE LITERALLY BEAT THE NEWS BACK FROM EUROPE--BUT THE GACE WAS CLOSE.

HERES HOW:

TODAY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS MOVED A DISPATCH--WRITTEN BY NED NORDNESS AND DELAYED BY CENSOR--TELLING HOW ALLIED TROOPS SMASHED INTO A DUTCH VILLAGE ONLY TO FIND THAT IT HAD BEEN LIBERATED BY 80 BRITISH AND AMERICAN PARATROOPERS AND PILOTS, INCLUDING LT.BAKER.

V THE STORY MOVED IN OVER THE AP PRINTER IN THE OFFICE OF THE FLORENCE TIMES, AND DURING ITS MOVEMENT, LT.BAKER WALKED IN TO VISIT FRIENDS THERE.

HE AND THE EDITORS HOVERED OVER THE PRINTEG WHILE IT CLACKED OUT THE STORY. LT.BAKER PASSED UP AN OFFER TO EDIT THE COPY. HE IS HOME ON FURLOUGH.

MK1022PCW NM

WX ONLY CENSORSHIP

THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED FOR CLEARANCE THROUGH THE OFFICE OF CENSORSHIP IN WASHINGTON AND IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION).

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KALISPELL,MONT.,DEC.15-(AP)-A HUGE, PEAR-SHAPED BALLOON BEARING A CIRCULAR INSIGNIA AND CARRYING A CONTRIVANCE SAID TO RESEMBLE AN INCENDIARY BOMB HAS BEEN FOUND 18 MILES WEST OF THIS NORTHWESTERN MONTANA CITY, IN THE HEART OF A TIMBER BELT.

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DEPUTY SHERIFF ROYAL HOPKINS SAID THE CIRCULAR EMBLEM WAS A "RISING SUN IN GREEN."

HOPKINS SAID THE BALLOON WAS DISCOVERED TUESDAY BY O.B.HILL AND HIS SON IN A STAND OF TIMBER, AND THAT "QUITE A FEW FOLKS HAVE BEEN OUT TO SEE IT."

THE FIND WAS CONFIRMED BY L.D.SPAFFORD, KALISPELL NEWSPAPER

30. 24—21299

PUBLISHER.

IN BUTTE, W.C.BANISTER, AGENT IN CHARGE OF THE MONTANA-IDAHO FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DISTRICT, COMMENTED, "I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT IT." THE INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING.

HOPKINS SAID THE BALLOON WAS "CREAM-COLORED AND ABOUT 250 FEET LONG AND 150 FEET AROUND."

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"THE BOMB-LOOKING THING WAS ATTACHED TO THE BALLOON AND THERE WERE SEVERAL FUSES ON IT," HE ADDED.

"THERE WAS A RISING SUN IN GREEN PAINTED ON IT, AND THERE WAS ORIENTAL PRINTING THAT LOOKED JAP TO ME."

FJ344ACW

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC 15--ROYAL ARCH GUNNISON, MUTUAL RADIO REPORTER IN THE PHILIPPINES, BROADCAST TONIGHT THAT GEN.MACARTHUR'S INVASION OF MINDORO ISLAND, ADJACENT TO LUZON ON WHICH MANILA IS SITUATED, "LEFT THE JAPANESE GASPING."

"HOWEVER," HE ADDED, "THE LANDING IS TOO CLOSE TO MANILA TO EXPECT THAT JAPAN WILL TAKE THIS BLOW WITHOUT A TERRIFIC COMEBACK."

HE QUOTED LT.GEN.WALTER KRUEGER, SIXTH ARMY COMMANDER, AS SAYING "WE MUST TAKE CHANCES WHEN THE CHANCES APPEAR WORTH THE RISK.

GUERRILLA ACTIVITY ON MINDORO IN THE PAST MONTHS MADE THE LANDING COMPARATIVELY EASY, GUNNISON SAID.

(EDITORS: THIS MAY BE BRACKETED IN MAIN PHILIPPINES STORY IF DESIRED).

DEC 16 1944

MM440PPW NM

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC 15--JAPANESE AIRCRAFT SPORADICALLY ATTACKED THE MINDORO INVASION CONVOY ALL DAY WEDNESDAY, NBC RADIO REPORTER GEORGE THOMAS FOLSTER BROADCAST TONIGHT, DESCRIBING THE AIR ASSAULTS AS "LIGHT BUT DESPERATE."

THE FOLLOWING DAY, PASSING THROUGH THE SULU SEA, "THE JAPS DIDN'T FIRE A SHOT ALL DAY, BUT DID DROP THREE BOMBS NEAR ONE OF OUR MINESWEEPERS," FOLSTER SAID. AS THE CONVOY NEARED A LANDING "A PARTY OF JAP SEARCH PLANES CAME OVER FOR WHAT LOOKED POSSIBLY LIKE A BUSY TIME, BUT TURNED OUT TO BE VERY QUIET."

FOLSTER SAID WHEN THE AMERICAN SHIPS APPROACHED THE MINDORO BEACH THEY HAD TO HOLD FIRE "BECAUSE A BUNCH OF FILIPINOS WAS ON THE BEACH WITH THEIR CATTLE--SORT OF A WELCOMING PARTY. OUR TROOPS GOT ASHORE WITHOUT OPPOSITION. THE BEACHHEAD IS OURS."

MM528PPW NM

BROADCAST

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC 15--TOKYO RADIO SAID TONIGHT IN A BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE BLUE NETWORK THAT A VIOLENT AIR AND SEA BATTLE IS RAGING IN WATERS OFF THE AMERICAN INVASION BEACHHEAD AT MINDORO IN THE PHILIPPINES.

UNDATED--FIRST ADD FIRST LEAD JAPANESE LUZON.

X X X (JAPAN TIME)

THE BROADCAST, UNCONFIRMED BY ALLIED SOURCES, SAID AT LEAST 100 OF THE PLANES HIT THE CLARK FIELD AREA AT 10 A.M. AT LEAST 300 OTHER PLANES RANGED OVER OTHER SECTORS OF LUZON AND VISAYAN AREA.

THE BROADCAST WAS RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

EARLIER THE JAPANESE RADIO ADMITTED THURSDAY'S (JAPANESE TIME) AMERICAN CARRIER STRIKE IN THE SAME AREA.

(NO PICKUP)

WW641APW NM

DEC 16 1944

UNDATED JAPANESE RAIDS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO RADIO SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT WHEN THE DIET CONVENES DEC.24 THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTENDS TO WORK FAST ON BILLS BECAUSE OF "THE POSSIBILITY OF UNDERGOING RAIDS."

THIS REPORT BY THE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY AND PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, RECALLED ANOTHER OF DEC. 10 WHICH SAID FULL PRECAUTIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN "TO ENABLE THE DIET TO REMAIN UNWAVERING IN SESSION."

SINCE THEN, THE HOUSE MET AND ARRANGED "TO EXPEDITE THE PASSAGE OF BILLS THROUGH PLENARY AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS."

WW603APW

NIGHT LEAD JAPANESE-LUZON

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A DOMEI JAPANESE NEWS AGENCY BROADCAST YESTERDAY (FRI.) REPORTED A POWERFUL ALLIED CONVOY HAD MOVED WESTWARD INTO THE SULU SEA THURSDAY (JAPAN TIME, WEDNESDAY U.S.) WHILE AMERICAN NAVY CARRIER PLANES POUNDED NIPPONESE AIRFIELDS ON LUZON, PHILIPPINES, TO THE NORTH OF THE SEA.

THE AGENCY'S REPORT FROM TOKYO, MONITORED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COOMISSION BUT UNCONFIRMED BY ALLIED SOURCES, INTERPRETED THE MOVEMENT OF THE CONVOY AS A MAJOR EFFORT TO EXPAND AMERICAN OPERATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

DOMEI ALSO SAID 400 AMERICAN CARRIER PLANES HIT JAPANESE AIRPORTS ON LUZON, INCLUDING CLARK FIELD NEAR MANILA, YESTERDAY (JAPAN TIME). THIS LIKEWISE WAS UNCONFIRMED, BUT IF TRUE WOULD BE A FOLLOW-UP OF THE PREVIOUS DAY'S BLOWS WHICH, ADM.CHESTER W. NIMITZ SAID, DESTROYED 91 ENEMY AIRCRAFT.

IN ATTACKING LUZON AIRFIELDS AND NSTALLATIONS THE U.S. NAVY WAS "INTENT ON PROTECTING AND AIDING THE UNITS ATTACKING IN THE SULU SEA, THE AGENCY DECLARED.

THE BROADCAST SAYING THE CONVOY HAD SAILED THROUGH MINDANAO STRAIT AND I TO THE SULU SEA WAS BEAMED TO THE JAPANESE-CONTROLLED PRESS IN THE ORIENT.

IT SAID "THIS ENEMY SURFACE UNIT IS NOTHING TO MAKE LIGHT OF" AND EMPHASIZED THAT "THE WAR SITUATION OF THE PAST FEW DAYS HAE BEEN THE MOST ACUTE SINCE THE START OF THE PHILIPPINES BATTLE."

DOMEI SAID "THERE IS NOT A SHADOW OF DOUBT THAT THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MOVE BY THE ENEMY TO TURN THE TIDE OF THE PHILIPPINE BATTLE IN HIS FAVOR BY EXTENDING HIS LINES WESTWARD WHILE MAINTAINING HIS PRESENT STATUS QUO ON LEYTE (PHILIPPINES.)"

IT GAVE THIS AS THE REASON FOR A "DEEP" FEELING THAT THE "PHILIPPINE BATTLE IS ABOUT TO EMERGE FROM A RESTRICTED LOCALIZED FIGHT-

ING TO A VAST EXTENSIVE THEATER."
(SINCE LAST SUNDAY, WHEN THE AMERICANS ON LEYTE ISLAND CAPTURED ORMOC, PRINCIPAL ENEMY SUPPLY PORT ON THE WEST COAST, THE JAPANESE STUATION HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR AS "DESPERATE."
(AMERICAN GROUND FORCES ARE PUSHING THE JAPANESE TROOPS INTO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LEYTE, MEANWHILE EXACTING HIGH CASUALTIES.
(JAPANESE OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT UPON THE OUTCOME OF THE BATTLE FOR THE PHILIPPINES DEPENDS THE FATE OF NIPPON IN THE WAR.)
DOMEI SAID THE CONVOY HAD MOVED INTO THE SULU SEA DESPITE ATTACKS BY JAPANESE LAND-BASED PLANES.
"JUDGING FROM THE TOTAL STRENGTH DEPLOYED BY THE ENEMY," THE AGENCY ASSERTED, "THE MAGNITUDE OF HIS HOPES PLACED ON THIS SINGLE OPERATION IS NOT HARD TO IMAGINE."

GH324PCW

UNDATED JAPANESE SHIPS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE JAPANESE--WHO OUGHT TO KNOW BY NOW--SAID TODAY IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO SINK "ENEMY TRANSPORTS AND CARGO SHIPS" THAN WARSHIPS.
LAST MONTH ALONE JAPAN LOST 87 TRANSPORTS AND CARGO SHIPS, PLUS 170 BARGES, LUGGERS AND OTHER CRAFT USED FOR HAULING.
A BROADCAST BEAMED TO ASIA BY THE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY AND PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID THE "KEY TO VICTORY" IN THE PACIFIC DEPENDS ON WHICH SIDE HAS THE SUPERIORITY OF AIR POWER AND SHIPPING.
THE UNITED STATES, DOMEI SAID, IS "TRYING TO ERECT A BRIDGE OF TRANSPORTS ACROSS THE PACIFIC AND THUS KEEP HER SUPPLY LINE INTACT.
"IN ORDER TO SMASH THE ENEMY AIR POWER, IT IS NECESSARY TO SEVER" THIS SUPPLY LINE."

GG820ACW NM

DEC 16 1944

UNDATED JAPANESE
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
ADMIRAL ISAMU TAKESHITA, RETIRED JAPANESE OFFICER, IS SURE THAT THE NIPPONESE WILL BE ABLE TO "TAKE CARE OF THE COMBINED NAVAL FORCES OF AMERICA AND BRITAIN," HE SAYS.
A TOKYO BROADCAST OF TAKESHITA'S REMARKS SAID HE SPECIFICALLY PROMISED THAT THE NEW AND POWERFUL H.M.S.HOWE, FLAGSHIP OF VICE ADMIRAL SIR BRUCE FRASER, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE BRITISH EASTERN FLEET, WOULD SHARE THE FARE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES AND REPULSE, BOTH SUNK BY JAPANESE ACTION EARLY IN THE WAR.
TAKESHITA SAID ADMIRAL SOEMU TOYODA, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE JAPANESE NAVY, WOULD SHOW THE AMERICANS AND BRITISH THE "REAL STRENGTH" OF THE JAPANESE NAVY.
THE BROADCAST WAS BEAMED TO THE UNITED STATES AND RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

DV10PCW

UNDATED CHURCHILL

S

SOCIATED PRESS
SIX MAIN POINTS WERE MADE BY PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL TODAY IN HIS HOUSE OF COMMONS SPEECH ON THE POLISH QUESTION. THEY WERE:
1. VIRTUAL ABANDONMENT OF SUPPORT OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT IN LONDON. CHURCHILL INDICATED HE HAD LITTLE HOPE THE RECONSTITUTED GOVERNMENT IN EXILE COULD REACH AN ACCORD WITH RUSSIA.
2. A NEW MAP OF CENTRAL EUROPE TO WHICH HE SAID BRITAIN AND RUSSIA HAD AGREED. POLAND WOULD GIVE A LARGE SECTION OF HER FORMER EASTERN TERRITORY UP TO THE CURZON LINE, BUT WIN THAT PART OF EAST PRUSSIA SOUTHWEST OF KONIGSBERG AND A SECTION OF EASTERN GERMANY. RUSSIA PRESUMABLY WOULD WIN THE PART OF EAST PRUSSIA NORTHEAST OF KONIGSBERG.
3. PROPOSED A HUGE SHIFT OF SEVERAL MILLIONS OF THE POPULATIONS TO MATCH THE CHANGES IN FRONTIERS.
4. DECLARED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT HAD BEEN KEPT INFORMED OF THESE POLICES, BUT "THE ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT BEEN DEFINED WITH PRECISION" TOWARD THEM.
5. APPEALED FOR A MEETING OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, PREMIER MARSHAL STALIN AND HIMSELF "AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT," IN BRITAIN OR ELSEWHERE.
6. WARNED THAT "THE LARGEST BATTLES FOUGHT IN THIS WAR" WILL OCCUPY THE SPRING AND SUMMER" AND REPORTED THAT 6,000,000 OR 7,000,000 GERMANS ALREADY HAVE BEEN KILLED.

B1134AEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

DEC 16 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TONIGHT (FRI):
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: WITH FIRST ARMY, MASSED ON SOLID 15-MILE FRONT ALONG ROER RIVER'S WEST BANK.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: HEAVILY SHELLED DUREN, ROER BASTION.
U.S. THIRD ARMY: INVADED REICH AT NEW POINT EAST OF SARREGUEMINES; CONTINUED BITTER FIGHTING IN SAARLAUTERN SECTOR.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: SENT SPEARHEADS OF THREE DIVISIONS ACROSS REICH FRONTIER, SHELLED SIEGFRIED LINE, MENACED PALATINATE.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: PUSHED SLOWLY AHEAD IN VOSGES FOOTHILLS AS GERMANS THREW IN FRESH ATTACKS.
--DASH--
U.S. DIVISIONS
FIFTH ARMORED (1ST ARMY): PUSHED INTO KUFFERATH FROM GEY, CLOSE TO THE ROER.
NINTH INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): REACHED ROER RIVER OPPOSITE DUREN.
35TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): MOPPED UP IN HABKIRCHEN INSIDE SAAR.
79TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): CROSSED GERMAN BORDER.
83D INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): CAPTURED GURZENICH, ACROSS ROER FROM DUREN.
90TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): SENT MORE TANKS ACROSS SAAR NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN.
95TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): STRENGTHENED WEDGE IN SIEGFRIED LINE NEAR FRAULAUTERN.
103D INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): TOOK LEMBACH, MAGINOT FORTRESS, AND ENTERED GERMANY.
104TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): CROSSED GERMAN BORDER.
WM1133PEW

--FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY--
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DEC.15, 1940--BRITISH TROOPS PENETRATE LIBYAN FRONTIER TO DEPTH OF EIGHT MILES. ITALIANS POUR REINFORCEMENTS INTO ALBANIA, CHECK GREEK DRIVE.

JP613AEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).
JP613AEW

30. 24— 21301

Americans 5 Miles Inland on Mindoro, Win Airfield, Fresh Troops Storm Ashore; 7th Pours Into Germany, Nazis Rush Tanks

WORK RUSHED ON AIRFIELD; ENEMY WEAK

Village Of San Jose, Five Miles From New Beachhead, Is Captured

DEC 17 1944

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Sunday*, Dec. 17 (AP). United States forces on Mindoro Island have taken the town of San Jose, 5 miles inland from their newly established beachhead, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The operation was covered in a broad advance of 7 to 9 miles and resistance was negligible.

Yank and Australian engineers were rushing work on an airfield.

Planes based there will be within easy flying range of Manila and its network of airfields 155 miles to the north.

New Crisis For Japs

The San Jose airfield is five miles inland and along the Busunga river.

The United States' 6th Army's invasion of Mindoro Island in the Philippines plus new American fleet tactics and Filipino guerrilla successes today put a crisis before Japanese war leaders.

Sailing 600 miles between islands which the Nipponese in nearly three years in the Philippines have failed to conquer wholly, the Yanks made their beachheads Friday morning on southern Mindoro with little loss, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said.

4 Ships Sunk, Japs Say

[Tokyo radio said a Japanese communiqué reported heavy fighting in Mindoro and that Nipponese "suicide" planes which attacked the convoy en route to that island sank four transports.

[The enemy broadcast also said 21 other vessels in the convoy including eight transports, two battleships and three cruisers, were damaged and set ablaze by the Japanese pilots. None of these claims have been confirmed by American official sources.]

To The China Coast

With American troops firmly established on Samar and Leyte Islands east of Mindora, MacArthur said the latest landing not only cut the Philippine archipelago in two but will enable the Allies to "dominate sea-and-air routes which reach to the China coast."

It put the Americans 155 miles from Manila to the north; 900 miles from the China coast to the northwest and about 800 miles from the French Indo-China coast directly west.

The crisis facing Tokyo leaders was summed up by MacArthur's statement that "conquests of Japan to the south are rapidly being isolated, destroying the legendary myth of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere and imperilling socalled 'Imperial lifeline.'"

[The Hsinking radio said Japanese Cabinet advisers and Premier Kuniaki Koiso met today for two hours to hear a report on the war situation by Maj. Gen. Shuitsu Matsumura, chief of the Japanese Army press section.]

Manila Hit, Tokyo Says

New knockout tactics of American carrier planes were demonstrated by Vice Admiral John S. McCain's task force flyers who destroyed or damaged 347 Japanese planes on Luzon Island airfields and sank twelve vessels in day and night thrusts while the Mindoro invasion convoy was under way and during the landing.

[Tokyo radio reported that waves of American planes hit Manila again today. The report was not confirmed.]

It was the first time that carrier planes had maintained day and night smothering flights, not only to blast enemy craft in the area but also to halt reinforcement enemy flights from Japanese home-island fields.

Filipino guerrillas, aided and sometimes commanded by Americans who had escaped capture when Bataan and Corregidor fell, are playing a star role in American Philippine successes, MacArthur said.

On major islands, such as Mindanao, Bohol, Cebu and Negros, the guerrillas have cleared some of the coast areas of Japanese, captured airfields and seriously disrupted Nipponese communications.

Troops, Tanks Put Ashore 155 Miles From Manila

(Map on Page A-3.)

By the Associated Press.

GEN. MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 16.—A huge, 20-mile-long American warship convoy, moving 600 miles along enemy islands of the Central Philippines while carrier planes knocked out more than 300 Japanese aircraft, landed mechanized troops yesterday on Mindoro within 155 miles of Manila, headquarters disclosed today.

The Yanks swarmed ashore "with little loss."

This bold stroke, unlocking the sea approaches to embattled China by crossing to the western side of the archipelago from Leyte, was completed with stunning ease, but preparations were made for violent Japanese reaction.

(Japanese imperial headquarters in an unconfirmed broadcast today said American and Japanese forces are engaged in "heavy fighting" on Mindoro and that Japanese planes inflicted heavy damage on the American convoy.

(The Japs claimed they sunk four transports, "heavily damaged and set ablaze" the following: Eight transports, two battleships, three cruisers, two cruisers or destroyers, six ships of unidentified category.

(In an earlier broadcast the Japs said a "violent sea and air battle" was unfolding in the Sulu Sea.

(The Japanese said about one division of American troops made the initial landings at San Jose, Southwestern Mindoro.)

Three Beachheads Overrun.

Three strong beachheads on Southern Mindoro were overrun at dawn yesterday by 6th Army troops of Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger, who were greeted excitedly by Filipinos, the Japanese having fled inland under bombardment of destroyers and rocket ships.

Between the Yanks' beachhead and the big American base on nearly conquered Leyte, Yank and Filipino guerrillas were disclosed today to have seized strategic airfields and ports on intervening Panay, Negros, Cebu and Bohol as well as a 125-mile stretch of coast on Northern Mindanao.

The guerrillas, some of whom fought the losing battle of Bataan, did their work so well that the huge convoy moving south and west from Leyte was able to steam within sight of the rugged coastline of those islands.

"The operation has driven a corridor from east to west through the Philippine archipelago, which is now definitely cut in two and will enable us to dominate the sea and air routes which reach to the China coast," some 900 miles away, Gen. MacArthur said.

Conquests Being Isolated.

"Conquests of Japan to the south are rapidly being isolated, destroying the legendary myth of the Greater East Asia co-prosperity sphere and imperilling the so-called 'imperial lifeline.'"

Employing new tactics, rocket-firing planes of a fast aircraft carrier task force of Vice Admiral John S. McCain kept Luzon's 100 airfields, including the network around Manila, under attack night and day for more than 24 hours.

More than 300 enemy planes were knocked out in raids which began the day before the Mindoro landing.

Covered by an umbrella of carrier and land based planes, the convoy, commanded by Rear Admiral A. D. Struble, left Leyte Gulf in midafternoon Tuesday.

"Less than twenty-four hours after the convoy started for Mindoro, the Japanese picked us up and attacked half-heartedly," reported Murlin Spencer, Associated Press War correspondent aboard Admiral Strubble's flagship, in a December 15 dispatch.

Attacks Die Down.

"Later that day, December 13, there was a second attack. But yesterday, which was considered the critical period because we were so close to key Japanese bases, passed without a single attack on the twenty-mile-long convoy."

Aboard a covering force flagship off Mindoro, Jim Hutcheson, Associated Press war correspondent, said:

"The only hitch in the landing came when a warship signaled: 'Beach in front of our bombardment sector is crowded with welcoming Filipinos and carabaos (water buffalos). What shall we do?'"

Rear Admiral Russell S. Berkey ordered "withhold fire" until the Filipinos could seek safety.

Greeted by Woman.

Elmont Waite, Associated Press war correspondent with the assault forces, said that the landing at 7:30 A. M. Friday on the northernmost beachhead was so bloodless that the only man in one company whose progress was impeded was Staff Sergt. William Hantone of Canandaigua, N. Y. Arms imprisoned him. When he broke the embrace—he confronted a native woman who was almost hysterical from joy and fright.

Mr. Waite saw tanks roll ashore, bulldozers begin clearing roads, piers pushed up to ships' ramps, trucks and vehicles rumble on the beach, engineering parties speed inland with the troops to start construction of military installations, double rows of men formed from ship to shore toss box on box in relays to a beach storage pile.

The elated Filipinos declined pay for their services, exclaiming:

"No pay, no pay, very glad help Americans."

Mr. James, aboard McCain's flagship, said that two enemy destroyers were set afire in Subig Bay. A small troop convoy off West Luzon was pounced on; a large transport loaded with troops was set ablaze by rockets; other troop-filled smaller transports were damaged. In the same area a medium-sized freighter was blown up and an oil tanker sunk.

Near Manila at the Cavite seaplane base, from seven to ten large flying boats were destroyed at anchor and another was shot down while escorting the convoy. Three large transport planes were included in the twenty-four-hour bag of the carrier-based raiders.

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Big Airfields Within Range.

Clark and Nichols fields, which will be within easy range of land-based planes once airfields are secured on Mindoro, were among the enemy bases hit.

Gen. MacArthur's disclosures concerning the guerrillas lifted the veil on activities of Americans and Filipinos in progress since the early days of 1942.

On Mindanao, they have cleared the northern provinces of Lanao and Misamis occidental, thus securing Iligan Bay.

On Bohol, just west of southern Leyte, they have cleared the Nipponese from all the island except the town of Tagbilarn on the southwest end.

On Cebu, they have driven the Japanese from the south end into the central sector and are playing havoc with communications there.

On Negros, all the south half is in guerrilla hands except the town of Dumaguette on the southeast and it is flanked by the capture of Sibutan and Luzuriga. They also hold Bais in the southeast, San Carlos in the northeast and Isabella in the central interior.

On Panay they have captured Estangia in the northeast, Zarraga and San Miguel in the southeast and Patnongon in the southwest. They hold several vital air-

fields on Panay, Negros and Mindanao.

Among the leaders of these guerrillas, reported Dean Schedler, Associated Press war correspondent, are such men as Col. Wendell W. Fertig, who fought the early days of the battle of Bataan before he escaped to Mindanao, and Lieut.-Col. Charles Cushing, who eluded the Japanese when they overran Cebu.

U.S. PLANES SINK 17 JAP VESSELS

Carrier Forces Destroy 235 Aircraft in Paralyzing Foe On Luzon.

By LEIF ERICKSON

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 16—(AP) American carrier planes in three nights of constant aerial blanketing of Luzon, Philippines, sank or damaged 17 Japanese ships, destroyed 235 aircraft and damaged 138 more planes, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The communique detailed the damage inflicted by the powerful carrier task force in unrelenting round-the-clock air attacks which sought to pin down and paralyze Japanese activity on Luzon, while Gen. Douglas MacArthur's troops invaded Mindoro island to the south.

The toll of enemy shipping included an oiler and small cargo ship sunk and four destroyers and destroyer escorts damaged.

Carrier Hellcat fighters and bombers started their forays through Luzon skies Wednesday. Their bombs and bullets hit Japanese land transport carrier planes as well as fighter aircraft, destroyed four locomotives and six railroad cars at San Fernando and 15 railroad cars and truck convoys at another transport yard near San Fernando.

Other Convoy Attacked

Four other enemy vessels, besides those listed as sunk or damaged, were attacked in a convoy. The communique report of shipping blasted was as follows:

One medium oiler sunk at Lingayen; one medium cargo ship exploded and left burning off Cape Bolinao; one small cargo ship destroyed west of Iba; three small cargo ships left burning at Olongapo; two small cargo vessels burning off Calatagan; three small cargo ships burning in San Miguel bay; one large transport left beached and burning in Subic bay; one medium oiler beached and set ablaze near Iba.

One destroyer or destroyer escort damaged off Vigan; one destroyer and one destroyer escort damaged near Subic bay, and one destroyer damaged in Manila bay.

The convoy which also was brought under attack included two cargo ships, destroyer and an escort vessel.

The communique said buildings and fuel and ammunition dumps were destroyed at Angeles and Clark airfields in the Manila area, and a sugarmill was damaged at San Fernando.

Reporting night operations of U. S. carrier planes in a communique for the first time, Nimitz said that "repeated night attacks were launched from our carriers Dec. 13, 14 and 15."

In a dispatch from Vice Adm. John S. McCain's flagship of the carrier force which made the strikes, Rembert James, Associated Press war correspondent, said the night air patrols over nearly 100 Luzon airfields had almost completely stopped Japanese attempts to bring in plane reinforcements from Formosa.

Meager Resistance

Nimitz tersely reported that "meager air resistance was offered by the enemy."

Besides balking Japanese efforts to use Luzon-based planes to interfere with MacArthur's Mindoro landings Friday morning, McCain's pilots prevented any effective Nipponese air attack on the U. S. task force vessels.

The communique said "an attack was attempted on our surface units Dec. 15, but all eight planes in the enemy force were intercepted and shot down."

Eleven Japanese planes were destroyed and 48 more damaged in the air sweeps over Luzon Friday, the latest foray in the three-day attacks reported in the communique.

Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's strategic airforce Liberator bombers continued their heavy daily battering of Iwo Jima island in the Volcano islands, 750 miles from Tokyo, hitting the two airstrips there Thursday, the communique said.

One of four attacking Japanese fighters were shot down over Iwo Jima and anti-aircraft fire damaged one of the Liberators, but all returned to their Saipan base 725 miles south of the Nipponese island.

Marine fighter planes also bombed and strafed Japanese supply areas on Babelthaup, largest island in the Palau group, on the same day of the Iwo Jima raid.

LEYTE BATTLE FOR GROVE WON

U. S. 77th Division Troops Stop Bitter Attacks.

With the Seventy-seventh Division at Leyte, Dec. 14 (Delayed) (A. P.).—The battle of Coconut Grove, north of the fallen city of Ormoc, was nearing its end tonight after three days of some of the most bitter fighting of the Leyte campaign.

Dug in behind heavily reinforced concrete and coconut blockhouses and machine gun positions, the enemy made a stand some 600 yards north of Ormoc on the road toward Valencia.

Three times the Nipponese counter-attacked before the tide was turned. Once, supported by mortars, machine guns and artillery they bent our lines slightly but the ground was later regained.

The enemy is paying a high price for his fanatical stand and his coconut grove stronghold is piled high with his dead. But he continues to make suicidal attacks and the doughboys of Major-Gen. Andrew D. Bruce are blasting every Japanese out of his hole.

During the heavy artillery concentration laid down by gun crews under Col. Roy L. Bruner of Palo Alto, Cal., the Japanese moved forward to avoid the shellacking and charged our lines. They were mowed down by machine guns. In yesterday's fighting alone an estimated 500 of the enemy were killed.

Infantrymen reported seeing Japanese bodies blasted into the air by artillery bursts but the Japanese kept bringing in new troops as others were wiped out in strongpoints.

A few enemy barges seen around the mouth of the river northwest of Ormoc were sunk by Corsairs sweeping in low.

Today the infantrymen of the Seventy-seventh were advancing through the blood-soaked coconut grove and on up the road, but they still were meeting stubborn resistance. Their line tonight stretches about 1,000 yards north of ruined Ormoc.

There are a few pockets of Japanese left in the coastal plain south of Ormoc where Major-Gen. Archibald V. Arnold's Seventh Division has been pounding them for three weeks.

His forces have driven what was left of them into heavily wooded mountains to the east where, it is estimated, 2,000 of them are encircled by Gen. Arnold's troops and other elements of the Sixth Army.

Rescued B-29 Flyers Return to Saipan Unit

Brooklyn and Neponsit Men Among Survivors

AT 21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Saipan, Dec. 16 (AP) (Via Navy Radio)—Ten happy men who survived a B-29 water landing in returning from the Tokyo raid of Dec. 3, and passed eleven days afloat on three rafts rejoined their unit today.

The airplane's co-pilot went down with the ship but the other ten escaped injury and weathered the long sea waft in such remarkably good condition that none was hospitalized upon his return here.

They were picked up by a destroyer, December 14, more than 300 miles north of Saipan almost at the same time that another destroyer was picking up eleven survivors from another B-29 crash about 300 miles away. This plane was returning from the Nagoya raid, December 13. These eleven were brought here yesterday.

The ten survivors of the Tokyo strike who were brought here, are:

Equipment Failed.

Airplane commander Capt. Francis James Murray of 8420 Third avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.; navigator Lieut. Alton C. Ayers of Corpus Christi, Tex.; flight engineer Second Lieut. Franklin I. Tennyson of Washington, D. C.; bombardier Flight Officer Thomas L. Waters of 230 Beach 146, Neponsit, L. I., N. Y.; central fire control Sergt. Franklin Moore Jr. of Oshkosh, Wis.; left gunner Sergt. Charles C. Dean of Camden, Ark.; right gunner Corporal Dale R. Coates of Madison, S. D.; radio operator Corporal Orville J. Granneman of St. Louis; electrical specialist Corporal Edward Yaeger of Battleground, Wash.; tailgunner Sergt. Clifton L. Sewell of Baltimore.

Capt. Murray, the skipper of the ill-fated B-29, told how the Superfortress became a terrible ice-encased trap over Tokyo, December 3, when the defrosting equipment failed.

Thick frost on the windows prevented the pilots from seeing other planes in their formation and forced them to drop out to avoid a collision.

Jap Fighters Attacked.

Bombardier Waters was unable to see when the other planes in the formation dropped their bombs and was forced to drop his by guess—probably in the center of Tokyo—and the gunners were unable to see the enemy fighters which concentrated their fury on the blinded B-29.

Due to enemy fire, which failed to injure any crew member, the plane lost first one engine and then another and finally a third just before she was "ditched" at 8:30 P. M. in the pitchblack night in heavy swells. The plane broke in two in the middle. All but the co-pilot got out within two minutes, Capt. Murray said. He added that the co-pilot was probably knocked out. He was never seen again.

The tail of the plane sank within ten minutes and the nose went down a half hour later.

For five days the men in the three rafts kept their position and then gave up hope and started sailing toward the Philippines with the wind and the current, Capt. Murray said.

"We rationed food and water. In ten days five planes passed over us very high without seeing us—B-24s. At 2:30 P. M., December 13, Yaeger (the electrical specialist) heard a plane which turned out to be another Navy B-24, in Navy terminology known as a PB4Y.

"Dean fired two rockets which the plane did not see, then he asked me for a third which had a punctured primer and would not work when we tried it before. This time it went off. The plane saw it and circled back.

"Every one of us cried and we are not ashamed to admit it."

The PB4Y dropped rations and flares and departed.

Next morning at 8, a Martin Mariner search plane piloted from a base somewhere in the Marianas by Navy Lieut. Robert W. Kobert of Sioux City, Iowa, sighted the men and dropped a note saying that they would be picked up within an hour by a destroyer. They were—at 9:15 A. M.

Japs' 100 Airfields on Luzon Kept Idle During New Landing

U. S. Carrier Planes Gave Enemy Flyers No Rest for 24 Hours During Invasion

By REMBERT JAMES,
Associated Press War Correspondent.

ABOARD ADMIRAL McCAIN'S CARRIER FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF THE PHILIPPINES, Dec. 15 (Via Navy Radio) (Delayed).—Supporting Gen. MacArthur's new landings on Mindoro Island to the south, the United States Pacific Fleet showed the world a new trick in carrier warfare today by taking around-the-clock control of the Northern Philippines air.

For more than 24 hours Vice Admiral John S. McCain's planes have denied the Japanese use of their almost 100 airfields on the great island of Luzon. Strong American combat air patrols sterilized the entire island of enemy aircraft yesterday and still held full sway today.

During all last night dozens of American carrier planes ranged Luzon skies bombing and destroying and giving the enemy no rest.

Revised figures show enemy losses for the 24-hour period as 37 planes shot out of the air and 139 destroyed on the ground or on the water and 80 damaged on the ground.

During the same period a medium-sized freighter was hit and exploded and a medium oil tanker was sunk off the west coast of Luzon.

A small troop convoy in the same area was surprised and attacked with bomb rockets and strafed, and one large transport laden with troops was left damaged and smoking from rockets.

Smaller transports, also troop-filled, and two escort warships in the convoy also were damaged.

It was the biggest day in many weeks for Admiral McCain's flyers, who operated almost exclusively with Navy Hellcat fighters equipped with bombs and rockets. They achieved apparently full surprise in opening the attack, finding in one instance at South Aparri Airport cattle wandering over the runway.

The greatest bag of the day came late in the afternoon when one flight of 27 enemy planes, apparently from Formosa, tried to land in Northern Luzon. American fighters shot down 18 of this group and also bagged one of a flight of eight other planes.

On the water they destroyed seven to 10 large flying boats at Cavite seaplane base and shot down another seaplane which was escorting an enemy convoy off Luzon.

Three large transport planes were destroyed, two of them blown apart on the ground.

In sweeps around Clark Field, which has many separate runways, strafing planes hit four fuel dumps and blew up an ammunition depot.

Pilots told scores of stories on attacks on enemy fields and shipping. One was related by Ensign Richard K. Reynolds, New Royal Oak, Mich., who caught a large Japanese troop ship off Western Luzon's coast and attacked it with rockets. "I stuck a rocket in her stern," he said, "and left her burning so badly she had to be abandoned."

Only a few minutes earlier, Ensign Reynolds along with Lt. (j. g.) R. L. Hunt, Kansas City, and other pilots destroyed a similar craft just off Iba, a thousand yards from the coast.

Telling about it, Lt. Hunt said: "Lt. Fred Keene, Douglastown, Long Island, hit it first with five 100-pound bombs. Then I flew in at masthead height and smacked it right amidships with a big one. She spiit in two."

Lt. Comdr. Leonard J. Check, Minto, N. Dak., a fighter squadron leader, killed two Japanese pilots and destroyed their planes and a truck in a deadly game of hide and seek this morning. It took two strafing runs but Comdr. Check caught both and set the truck afire. Then he went back to the field and strafed their planes.

But Comdr. Check's day was not over. He flew to nearby Clark Field, 50 miles north of Manila, and found two more enemy planes trying to land. He attacked one and shot it down while other flyers in his division got the other.

Two pilots who helped keep Luzon

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under combat patrol all last night told how they strafed a factory and railroad cars at the town of San Ferando; attacked shipping off the coast and heckled air fields.

Lt. Theodore Wolfe, Memphis, Tenn., flying along Subic Bay shore today spotted an enemy destroyer which he attacked and damaged.

Two Years In Pacific

Private Baker, 22, was employed as a salesman before joining the United States Marine Corps three years ago. His sister, an employé of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, lives at the Franklin street address.

A veteran of two years' duty with the Signal Corps in the Pacific theater, he has participated in numerous campaigns, including the Palau and New Britain engagements. He holds th eexpert rifleman's badge.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Baker, of Martinsburg, W.Va., he attended Martinsburg High School.

Baltimorean's Idea Brings Game Broadcast To Peleliu

DEC 1 - 1944

The following story, distributed by the Associated Press, was written by Sergt. William Boniface, of Bel Air, Md., Marine Corps combat correspondent formerly of The Evening Sun.

Somewhere in the Pacific—[Delayed]—A handful of battle-battered marines on Peleliu wanted to hear a football broadcast from San Francisco, some 8,000 miles away. They did—via a Japanese telephone.

A combination of endeavors by Pfc. Clyde Lucas, of McEwen, Tenn.; Pfc. Claude L. Baker, of 117 West Franklin street, Baltimore, and Sergt. John E. Morgan, marine combat photographer, of Nashville, Tenn., made the reception possible.

Picked From Jap Rubble

Lucas obtained the instrument itself, an old-fashioned French-style phone he picked from the rubble of a Jap command post.

When Morgan saw it he figured it might be put to use somehow, so Lucas gave it to him. But figuring didn't do any good for a while and the instrument knocked around Morgan's tent for a couple of weeks.

It was Baker who came through with the brilliant idea. Without a word, he went to see the communications officer in charge of the big radio set up at the command post. The next thing was to run wires from the command post to Morgan's tent.

They Laughed When He Said It

"They're for a loud-speaker and headquarters has agreed to tune in on the football scores in the morning," Baker said. This statement was greeted with loud guffaws because everyone knew there was not an extra loud-speaker within miles.

"Go ahead and laugh," Baker replied.

He had the last laugh, too. There was a broad grin on his face when he picked up the Jap telephone and in less than 5 minutes had the receiver working as a speaker, loud enough for everyone in the tent to hear.

Morgan's tent was always crowded after that when there was a good football broadcast.

Japs Admit Losses Now Are 162,159 In Philippines

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—The Tokyo radio, in a broadcast heard by NBC, admitted Japanese Army and Navy losses of 162,159 in the Philippines since November 1, but claimed, without Allied confirmation, that a half million Americans had been killed in that period.

The radio made this breakdown of Japanese losses: Army, 83,748; Navy, 78,411.

Japs Make Claim.

Japanese Imperial Headquarters in an unconfirmed broadcast today said that American and Nipponese forces are engaged in heavy fighting on Mindoro Island and that Japanese planes inflicted heavy damage on the American convoy, sinking four transports and damaging others.

Recorded by the FCC and reported by the A. P., the broadcast said between Wednesday and Friday Japanese planes in a series of attacks on the American convoy approaching Mindoro had, in addition to sinking four transports, "heavily damaged and set ablaze" eight transports, two battleships, three cruisers, two cruisers or destroyers and six ships of unidentified category.

New Yorker Blasts Japanese Tanker

A Naval Air Base, Philippines, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—A asingle Navy Liberator, swishing in at mast-head height, recently destroyed a 10,000-ton Japanese tanker and damaged another in that Celebes Sea. Lieut. Griswold Forbes of 522 East 86th street, New York, commander of the plane, dropped three bombs which scored directa hits on the tanker.

The same Liberator crew recently sank a small merchantman off Mindanao and lugger near Luzon, as well as destroying three enemy seaplanes in an attack on a Japanese base at Lapos, Celebes.

GERMANS ATTACK AT 12 POINTS ON FIRST ARMY LINE

Seek to Ease Pressure Against Duren Sector by Counter Thrusts.

LOOSE ARTILLERY FIRE

Heaviest Fighting Taking Place in Ardennes Forest Region.

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, Paris, Dec. 16. — (AP) German counterattacks were opened today at a dozen points on the 70-mile First U. S. army front between Duren and Trier, the heaviest fighting occurring in the Ardennes forest.

The counter thrusts were an apparent effort to draw off pressure against the Duren sector.

Although the full extent of the assault can not yet be determined, it included attacks at widely separated points including the area of Monschau, the neighborhood of Krewinkel, eight miles north of Prum, at Peterskirche, 14 miles southwest of Prum, and Echternach, 10 miles northwest of Trier.

The drive was pointed at the Ardennes region or mountain forests through which the German army passed in 1940.

The Germans drew an armored division from another front and hurled it today at the U. S. Seventh army, which poured more troops into the Reich's Palatinate after smashing the enemy stand in the French frontier city of Lauterbourg.

All along a front of more than 200 miles, where four American armies have invaded Germany, the enemy loosed artillery barrages which reached an intensity of 100 shells an hour on some U. S. First army sectors, and up to 250 an hour on the U. S. Third army front in the Saar basin.

Destroy Bridges

The thunder of explosions set off by the Germans destroying the last bridges across the Roer river indicated that they had given up hope of holding back the First army on the west bank of that stream.

The Germans counterattacked for the first time in two weeks against the U. S. Ninth army north of Lindern, but were thrown back.

(A German broadcast said the U. S. Ninth Army had turned on giant loudspeakers which blared out "advertising" of an impending offensive.)

The U. S. Third army bored 300 yards deeper into the Siegfried line in the western Saarland, and infantry crossed the southern border of the basin at a new point nine miles east of Sarreguemines.

Heavy fighting inside Germany was reported on Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army front as infantry took on the first Siegfried line pillboxes and supporting artillery answered the Siegfried's guns.

(U. S. Seventh army doughboys are driving deeper into Germany and have seized Scheibenhard, German border town near the Rhine, and a number of Reich villages, a dispatch from Thoburn Wiant and Robert C. Wilson, Associated Press correspondents, reported. They also said that Wissembourg and Lauterbourg, Alsatian border cities, had been seized by the Seventh).

There were four crossings on a 17-mile front into the old Bavarian palatinate, a region of war industry and agriculture, and already the Seventh was drawing off German strength and relieving pressure farther north on the western front.

Might Outflank Basin

The German high command was aware that to leave the Siegfried line lightly defended here was to invite a breakthrough that not only would menace such arsenal cities as Ludwigshafen and Mannheim, 35 miles farther down the Rhine, but might outflank the entire Saar basin, a coal and steel region of the ... importance.

first impe...

The panzer division reinforcement rumbled into battle as the Siegfried line guns poured heavy fire on the advancing Americans.

The 45th division was believed to be about two miles inside the palatinate west of Wissembourg, the 103rd division invaded in the same general area, and the 79th forged two bridgeheads across the borderline Lautern river near Lauterbourg, near the Rhine.

The heaviest fighting appeared to be on the 79th's sector, where the Germans had the advantage of the bunker-studded forest of Bien Wald.

Twenty-three miles west of Wissembourg around Bitche the Germans were fighting fiercely from the Maginot line, swinging the fortifications' guns around and blazing away at the Americans attacking from the south.

Other diversionary attacks were aimed by the Germans far to the south in Alsace around Colmar, but there the French First Army and elements of the U. S. Seventh held foothill positions and, fighting from behind flooded streams, could not be dislodged easily.

Rapidly squeezing the Germans from their last footholds west of the Roer, the First Army's 83rd Division captured Berzbuir, near the river three miles south of Duren, and made other gains up to 1,000 yards opposite that river stronghold.

The Fifth armored division coming up on the flank occupied more of the Roer's west bank.

the 1st Army's positions along the long-dormant front at the Luxembourg-German border.

The 3d Army's new entry into the Saar was made north of Erching, 9 miles east of Sarreguemines. A few miles west the 35th Division contained a counterblow north of Habkirchen.

Fighting In Dillingen

The 90th Division crawled ahead 300 yards along a 900-yard sector in the western Saar's fortified city of Dillingen and was hotly engaging German forces which had turned a church into a strong point.

Three miles south the 95th Division shoved another 250 yards deeper into Ensdorf. The Germans in this area, maintaining their strong resistance, threw 6,000 rounds of artillery into Saarlautern alone yesterday.

From the British-Canadian front in eastern Holland came reports of heavy German transport movement in the Ruhr. The Germans, trying to learn British intentions, tried vainly to raid an outpost east of Venray, along the Maas River.

More Of West Bank Occupied

The 5th Armored Division, coming up on the flank, occupied more of the Roer's west bank.

In the Monschau sector 20 miles southwest of Duren the 2d and 78th divisions pressed eastward along both banks of the Roer through pillboxes, barbed wire and mine fields of the West Wall.

Heavy enemy shelling was reported from the southern end of ... north, American First Army infantry and armor cleaned out more German pockets west of the Roer River and added to their holdings along a twenty-seven-mile stretch of the river's west bank. The Germans demolished the remaining bridges over the Roer—a sign they have abandoned hopes of holding anywhere on the west shore. Heavy German artillery fire harassed the First Army front.

Southward, the American Third Army scored fresh but slow gains. The Ninetieth Division crawled another 300 yards into Dillingen, with fierce fighting in the southern part of the city. The Ninety-fifth Division advanced 250 yards inside Ensdorf east of Saarlautern. Nine miles east of Sarreguemines, infantry moved half a mile beyond Erching and reached the German border.

The Forty-fifth, Seventy-ninth and 103d divisions of the Seventh Army were battling into Germany at points along a seventeen-mile front, meeting heavy resistance. American artillery thundered in a duel with Siegfried Line cannon.

Four crossings of the Nazi border were forged by Lieut.-Gen. Alexander M. Patch's veterans, with the 79th Division entering the Reich at two points near Lauterbourg, a city only two miles from the Rhine, but the 79th immediately ran into a stiff fight.

The German command pulled a Panzer division from another sector and flung it into battle to stop the threat to the chemical and industrial centers of Mannheim and Ludwigshafen thirty-five miles to the north.

Units of the 45th and 103rd divisions crossed at points west of Wissembourg, eleven miles west

U. S. Seventh Hits First Pillboxes of Siegfried Line in Palatinate

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Lauterbourg, 2 Miles From Rhine at Border, Falls to Patch's Men.

4 COLUMNS DRIVE FORWARD

First Army Mops Up West of Roer—Third Grinds On in Saar Sector.

Kennedy

Paris, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The American Seventh Army poured more troops into its four-pronged invasion of Germany today, seized the French border town of Lauterbourg only two miles from the Rhine, and beat against the first pillboxes of the Siegfried Line in the Bavarian Palatinate.

German West Wall artillery reacted violently, and a fresh Nazi armored division was flung in as reinforcement in attempts to stem the Seventh's thrust into the Palatinate.

Two hundred miles to the ...

of Lauterbourg, and were closing on that gateway city to Germany from northeastern Alsace.

Made Deeper Penetrations.

Both of these divisions apparently made deeper penetrations of Germany. The 45th advanced six miles Friday after opening its attack in the morning four miles below the border.

Third Army troops farther west again began boring through the serried Siegfried defenses in the Dillingen and Saarlautern zones and gained up to 300 yards today. But German artillery drumfire increased. The Germans slammed 6,000 rounds into the Saarlautern area alone yesterday.

Some Nazi Pockets Remain.

On the Duren front before Cologne the 1st and 9th armies occupied or controlled 27 miles along the west bank of the Roer from Linich down to Bergstein.

South of Mariaweiler a mile and a half west of Duren, there still were some German pockets, but these, dominated by American guns, were being mopped up. Fighter bombers battered at German fortified towns and supply centers across the Roer.

(The Berlin radio said today the United States 1st Army had thrown its latest attacks against German bridgeheads along the Roer west of Duren, and added without explanation that "smaller gaps made by the Americans were sealed up in counterthrusts.")

Supreme headquarters said the 1st Army had buried 17,078 Germans since D day.

Allied planes spotted heavy German transport movement in the Ruhr by road and rail, presumably indicating strong efforts to reinforce that great industrial area.

Planes Batter Rail Lines.

Ninth Air Force planes supporting the Third Army wrecked or damaged 170 railroad cars and seven locomotives. Black Widows at night punished a road convoy between Saarbrucken and Homburg.

Gen. Patch's Seventh Army became the sixth Allied Army to break down a western door to German soil.

The Seventh Army's attack was a major peril to the Germans, since a breakthrough in this sector could outflank Germans facing the Third Army on the Saar front.

In compelling the Nazi command to move an armored division into the Palatinate, the Seventh has already lightened the load of Allied armies pressing in elsewhere along a great arc.

The Germans in another counter-measure are reinforcing troops in the Alsace pocket around Colmar and counter-attacking in efforts to divert Seventh Army elements from northern Alsace.

In the Bitche area west of the Seventh's border crossings, Germans still battling on French soil continued tough resistance, using Maginot Line forts to good effect. Here they have turned about the Maginot's disappearing guns which swing on revolving turrets.

The French First Army scored an additional small gain near Selestat, north of Colmar.

Dugouts De Luxe On West Front

By ROBERT EUNSON

Somewhere in Holland, Dec. 16 (AP)—Dugouts on the Western front this winter season feature hot-and-cold running water, electric lights and shingled roofs made from mortar-shell boxes.

I have just visited a field artillery outfit in the Nijmegen sector, where bitter cold and misty rain have caused something of a stalemate, and found the crews enjoying the comforts of home.

One gu ncrew had sunk the body of a German truck in the ground and had remodeled the inside into a comfortable metal roofed home for four. Another dugout was a two-room suite beneath the roots of trees a half mile from the German lines.

Gift-Laden Christmas Tree

In one very elegant dugout there was a Christmas tree, complete with presents.

Hot water was provided by an ingenious if somewhat crude flash oil pan fire, designed by scientific minds in the battery who resorted to their knowledge of high-school physics.

Piped into the dugouts, the system made the morning shave less unpleasant and provided the underground kitchen with hot water at all times.

Flashlight bulbs inserted into reflectors made from tomato cans and powered by dry-cell batteries were vastly superior to old-fashioned lanterns.

In one artilleryman's elaborate flat a majestic grandfather clock ticked away.

—But Adds Time Plays in Favor of Nazis.

Twelfth Army Group, Advance Headquarters, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The offensive of the American First, Third and Ninth armies is a "paying proposition" and Lieut.-Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of the Twelfth Army Group, is going to push ahead regardless of poor weather.

At a press conference yesterday Gen. Bradley said German battle casualties were anywhere from three to five times greater than those of the Americans and the Germans cannot long stand this heavy rate of attrition.

Gen. Bradley said the Yanks were capturing a considerable number of green troops, and it was better to take them now than waiting until they had several months' experience.

"If we had three months of good weather it would make a whale of a difference," he said. "We are going ahead the best we can without it because time is playing in favor of the enemy."

Yanks Superior in Air.

The heavier German attrition rate, he said, was due to American superiority in air support, artillery equipment and the infantry.

However, he said "we are now suffering from the optimism of August, September and October, and the war is being prolonged on account of it."

Discussing Allied air superiority, Gen. Bradley said the Germans had flown only 6,500 missions against his troops since D day as compared to more than 190,000 sorties flown against the enemy by the Ninth Air Force—air arm of the Twelfth Army Group.

Gen. Bradley said ground troops at first were skeptical of air support after American bombs killed American troops at St. Lo, but since air and ground combat teams have gained battle experience, the doughboys now have "full confidence in it."

"Now our armies never hesitate to call for air support even 500 yards or less from our front lines," Gen. Bradley said. "Even the German air force in its heyday had nothing like the fine co-operation that exists between our ground and air forces. Only because of this co-operation were we able to advance as fast as we did, commencing with the St. Lo break-through and continuing through France."

Gen. Bradley added that the 9th Air Force also "has been keeping the German air force off our necks. Now you ride around without even looking up. It was different in Africa."

Maj. Gen. Hoyt Sanford Vandenberg, commander of the 9th Air Force, disclosed that since D day his outfit has destroyed 1,408 enemy aircraft, 15,851 motor transports, 1,462 armored vehicles and tanks, 9,432 railroad cars and 2,296 locomotives, in addition to gun positions, ammunition dumps, bridges and power stations.

Bans War Teaching In Reich

London, Dec. 16 (AP)—The Allies will ban teaching in German schools of military subjects or anything dealing with the "art of war," General Eisenhower told the German people today in a message broadcast by the Luxembourg radio.

Bradley Says Drive Pays Off

Asserts Foe Can't Stand Rate of Losses Long

Churchill Admits Error In Speech Before Commons

Aide Explains Reference to 'Territorial Changes' in Atlantic Charter.

LONDON, Dec. 16—(AP) Prime Minister Churchill had "a lapse of memory" when he erroneously told the House of Commons that an insertion in the Atlantic Charter permitted "mutually agreed" territorial changes prior to the peace, it was acknowledged today.

It was announced incidentally that he might "quite possibly" broadcast to the world Sunday night a review of the war and the political situation. He was believed working on this tentative address at his official residence, No. 10 Downing street, when there came from those hushed and scrupulously correct precincts the frank admission that Churchill had "just made a slip" in his speech yesterday.

Confused Statements

In a voice charged with all the solemn augustness of his position, one of the Prime Minister's private secretaries explained to the Associated Press that Churchill, while dealing with Polish territorial changes in his address to the House of Commons, had confused the wording of the Atlantic Charter with the British government's statement of foreign policy drafted in September, 1940.

While both sides of the Atlantic were considering the content of Churchill's statement that an insertion had been made in the Atlantic Charter, and mutually agreed on by the three great Allied powers, that territorial changes could be settled before the peace conferences, the secretary explained:

"Mr. Churchill was speaking from memory and just made a slip. What he attributed to the Atlantic Charter was actually in the British government's statement of foreign policy laid down in 1940. Later during yesterday's debate, Mr. Eden (Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden) pointed out that Mr. Churchill had erred."

He added that the Prime Minister had no prepared text for yesterday's speech. "He spoke from notes and memory and the Prime Minister made a slip."

If Churchill was disturbed over his "lapse of memory," there was no evidence of it tonight. Diplomatic quarters were of the opinion that the Prime Minister considered that Eden had explained his error and that the whole thing would be forgiven.

May Broadcast Today

At the same time a Downing street spokesman said it was "quite possible" that the Prime Minister would discuss the European political situation in a broadcast tomorrow.

The spokesman said the plans were still tentative and no hour had been fixed for the broadcast.

Although Churchill's statement was explained as a "lapse of memory," a feeling grew in diplomatic quarters that perhaps some changes may have been made in the Atlantic Charter which have not yet been disclosed.

It was recalled that the British press and certain members of Parliament earlier this year suggested revision of the charter in view of war developments.

Last April, the then United States Secretary of State Hull and Under Secretary Stettinius made statements that there was a growing concern on both sides of the Atlantic for a new interpretation of the Charter.

"Give Me Quarter Hour"

When asked by the Associated Press for an explanation of the Churchill statement of yesterday, a secretary at No. 10 Downing street said:

"Give me a quarter of an hour. I'll see what I can do."

Ten minutes later he telephoned back to say Mr. Churchill had just made a "slip."

Churchill in his statement before Commons said:

"Our British principle has been enunciated that, as I have said, all territorial changes must await conference at the peace table after victory has been won, but to that there is an exception in principle, and that exception is changes mutually agreed. It must not be forgotten that in the Atlantic Charter is inserted an exception that there should be no changes before the peace table except those mutually agreed."

Kenneth Pickthorn, a National Conservative member, immediately challenged the point and asserted that the Atlantic Charter contained no such insertion, but that the United Nations desired to see no territorial changes which did not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the people concerned.

Eden's Correction

Eden in the debate that followed said:

"What Mr. Churchill intended to convey was that, in the view of his Majesty's Government, there was an exception to the general principle that there should be no territorial changes before the peace table.

"Mr. Pickthorn was perfectly correct in pointing out that the exception is not in the Atlantic Charter.

"The exception was in cases where the changes were mutually agreed, but that is not part of the Atlantic Charter, but part of a statement of our own foreign policy which we made in September, 1940, when the Prime Minister said we had not at any time adopted since the war broke out the line that nothing could be changed in territorial structures of various countries."

Says Churchill Was Confused

Secretary Explains He Mixed Up Wording of Charter and Policy Statement.

London, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—One of Winston Churchill's private secretaries told the Associated Press today that the Prime Minister had a "lapse of memory" in speaking on Poland yesterday and confused the wording of the Atlantic Charter with a British Government statement on foreign policy drafted in 1940.

Mr. Churchill's sensational statement that there was an insertion in the Atlantic Charter that territorial "changes mutually agreed" upon could be made before the peace table, brought this explanation at No. 10 Downing street:

"Mr. Churchill was speaking from memory and just made a slip.

"What he attributed to the Atlantic Charter was actually in the British Government's statement of foreign policy laid down in 1940. Later during yesterday's debate Foreign Secretary Eden pointed out that Mr. Churchill had erred."

Was Answer to Question.

The Secretary's statement came when the Associated Press called the British Foreign Office to learn whether there was any explanation of Mr. Churchill's statement. A Foreign Office spokesman declined to comment, and suggested that No. 10 Downing Street be asked the question.

"Give me a quarter of an hour," a secretary at No. 10 said. "I'll see what I can do."

Ten minutes later he called back with the lapse of memory

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explanation.

The text of that section of Mr. Churchill's statement before the House of Commons yesterday was:

"Our British principle has been enunciated that, as I have said, all territorial changes must await conference at the peace table after victory has been won, but to that there is an exception in principle, and that exception is changes mutually agreed. It must not be forgotten that in the Atlantic Charter is inserted an exception that there should be no changes before the peace table except those mutually agreed."

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Statement Was Challenged.

In the debate which followed Kenneth Pickthorn, a National Conservative member, jumped on this point, asserting that the Atlantic Charter contained no such insertion, but that it said the United Nations desired to see no territorial changes which did not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned:

Mr. Eden, in the debate, said:

"What Mr. Churchill intended to convey was that, in the view of his Majesty's Government, there was an exception to the general principle that there should be no territorial changes before the peace table. Mr. Pickthorn was perfectly correct in pointing out the exception is not in the Atlantic Charter. The exception was in cases where the changes were mutually agreed, but that was not part of the Atlantic Charter, but part of a statement of our own policy, which we made in September, 1940, when the Prime Minister said we had not at any time adopted since the war broke out the line that nothing could be changed in territorial structures of various countries."

In diplomatic quarters, nonetheless, the feeling was growing that perhaps some changes had been made in the Atlantic Charter, but had not yet been disclosed. It was recalled that the British press and some members of the Commons early this year suggested that the Atlantic Charter should be revised in view of war developments. Last April Cordell Hull, then Secretary of State, and present Secretary Stettinius declared there was increasing concern on both sides of the Atlantic for a new interpretation of the Atlantic Charter.

Churchill Talk Shows Allied Unity Waning, London Paper Says

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The London Daily Mail declared today that Prime Minister Churchill's speech on the Polish question had made "very clear" that "the United Nations have drifted a long way from that fine accord they reached at Teheran."

DAY

The newspaper said the Prime Minister's plea for a new meeting between himself, President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin was an obvious proposal to obtain a full unity of purpose once more among the big three.

"We still are waiting to know where the United States stands in relation to Poland," the Daily Mail said.

The London Times observed that the changes in the map of Central Europe demanded by Russia and seconded yesterday by Mr. Churchill "might result in creating sounder political foundations, a stronger and more closely knit Polish nation."

The Moscow radio today broadcast a long extract of the Prime Minister's speech, but added no comment.

A German Foreign Office spokesman, in a broadcast today, described the Churchill speech as "a priceless contribution to Germany's war effort."

"The German people are grateful to Churchill for the brutal frankness with which he announced his plans of dividing and destroying Germany," he said. "We shall see to it that these plans are taught in every school, that every German soldier will carry them and they can be read on the walls of every factory."

Churchill May Broadcast Today

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AP).—A spokesman at No. 10 Downing Street said today it was "quite possible" that Prime Minister Churchill would discuss the European political situation in a broadcast tomorrow. He said that plans were indefinite and that no hour had been fixed.

Mr. Churchill voiced an intention to take the government's case to the people when he spoke in the House of Commons Wednesday.

Roosevelt View On Poles Sought In the Senate

Vandenberg Calls for It as Churchill Text Is Put in Congressional Record

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP).—A suggestion that President Roosevelt's views on Russian territorial claims against Poland be placed in the Congressional Record was made in the Senate today.

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Arising after Senator John H. Danaher, Republican, of Connecticut, had offered a text of Prime Minister Churchill's speech in Commons yesterday supporting the Russian claims, Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Republican, of Michigan, declared:

"I should greatly appreciate the inclusion also of a speech from the President should one become available for insertion in the Congressional Record."

Senator Vandenberg's brief comment came after Senator James J. Davis, Republican, of Pennsylvania, suggested the Administration "should make its position clear."

Subsequently, Senator Robert A. Reynolds, Democrat, of North Carolina, told the Senate in an extended address that he is today "more thoroughly in favor of isolationism" than ever before.

The retiring chairman of the Senate Military Committee—he did not seek re-election to the Senate for the term starting next January—spoke of what he called Prime Minister Churchill's "desertion of Poland."

Long a foe of Administration foreign policy, Senator Reynolds declared that "if we had attended to our own personal business, we would not be involved everywhere on the face of the earth."

Senator Vandenberg earlier had called for "plain speaking" by the United States "in relations with Russia and Britain."

As Washington watched with obvious concern diplomatic developments abroad, and as it was confirmed that Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill will meet early in 1945, Senator Vandenberg declared:

"The United States should not be the only silent partner in this command. I think it would be a shocking thing if so fundamental a question (as the Polish post-war problem) were to be determined to suit the self-interests of Moscow and London without either consultation or consent of Washington."

Commenting on Prime Minister Churchill's apparent abandonment of the London Polish government, Senator Vandenberg said if the United States has been consulted, "the matter is a state secret" and if it has not, it is a "state scandal."

It should be no threat to military unity, he asserted, "for us to be as plainspoken as our military allies."

ASKS ROOSEVELT FOR A SHOWDOWN ON POLISH CRISIS

Senator Vandenberg Holds It's Time for Candor by Washington.

Washington, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—Senator Vandenberg (R.-Mich.) called today for plain speaking by the United States in relations with Russia and Britain.

As Washington watched with obvious concern diplomatic developments abroad, and as it was confirmed that President Roosevelt, Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill will meet early in 1945, Senator Vandenberg declared:

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Senator Connally (D.-Tex.), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that the Prime Minister's pronouncement means a Big Three meeting is necessary because the United States must be consulted on European boundaries.

That the Big Three of the United Nations convene in late January or early February was confirmed yesterday by highly placed Washington officials.

This is the earliest date on which the three chiefs of State can gather despite Mr. Churchill's appeal to President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin to meet with him at the earliest possible moment.

President Roosevelt's tight home-front schedule precludes a Big Three conclave before his January 20 inauguration.

Though the time has been set definitely, the site is a subject of speculation. Premier Stalin may not be willing to leave Russia if the Red Armies uncork another winter offensive.

The leaders probably will rendezvous outside the United States.

Churchill Statement Stirs Senate Protest

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. — (AP) British-Russian plans for pushing Poland farther westward set off a string of verbal firecrackers on Capitol Hill today but the rest of official Washington remained silent.

Centering his fire on Premier Stalin of Russia, retiring Senator Reynolds (D-SC) declared that when the war ends the question will not be whether there is to be "power politics" in Europe but "whether Mr. Stalin is going to extend his rule to all of it."

Senate debate was touched off when Senator Danaher (R-Conn) offered a text of Prime Minister Churchill's House of Commons speech of yesterday for the official record.

Reynolds, chairman of the Military Affairs committee who did not seek reelection this year, declared he was "very unhappy" to learn from Churchill's speech that "our Allies have deserted Poland."

And Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich), who earlier had called for "plain speaking" in our relations with Russia and Britain said:

"I should greatly appreciate the inclusion also of a speech from the President should one become available for insertion in the Congressional Record."

A suggestion that the Administration "should make its position clear" was voiced by Senator Davis (R-Pa) as he inserted an editorial from the Philadelphia Inquirer. The editorial urged the earliest possible get-together of the heads of the "Big Three" as a result of "Mr. Churchill's surprising speech."

State Dept. Studying Stand

The State department labored through it all over the precise wording of an expression of views on the Polish question, a statement almost certain to have a profound impact on this country's relations with Britain and Russia.

Before being released, it probably will be submitted to President Roosevelt for his approval and may even be issued from the White House.

The department was urged in a telegram made public by Representative Barry (D-NY) to "inform Churchill that Poland is an ally and not an enemy nation, and that we Americans haven't suffered more than half million casualties to divide Europe between Great Britain and Russia."

STUTTGART YARDS BOMBED BY YANKS

Other U.S. Planes From Italy Hit Oil Plant

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London, Dec. 16 (AP)—A force of 100 United States heavy bombers dumped explosives on railroad yards north of Stuttgart today, blasting the enemy transportation hub for the second time in eight days in support of 7th Army columns invading Germany north of Strasbourg.

Pilots of 100 Mustangs which escorted the Flying Fortresses reported the Germans failed to intercept the attack concentrated on freight yards at Kornwestheim, northern Stuttgart suburb. One group of heavies bombed visually. Others used the "magic eye" in the overcast.

Today's mission was the smallest dispatched by the 8th Air Force in many months, but warnings from the German radio indicated much heavier attacks were being carried out by bombers of the 15th Air Force, which sent its heavyweights from Italy toward Munich and into Czechoslovakia.

Late in the afternoon, the RAF sent a force of Lancasters against the industrial and railway center of Siegen, about 45 miles east of Cologne. Fighters went along.

Many of the American bombers participating in the Stuttgart raid landed on the continent because of bad weather.

YANK BOMBERS HIT SOUTHWEST REICH

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London, Dec. 16 (AP)—German warnings said American bombers from Italy and Britain struck southwest Germany today for the fourth joint attack on the Reich in less than a week. British-based bombers hit the area in front of Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army invading the Palatinate.

Two groups of bombers from Italy were reported to have flown into Germany, one toward Munich and the second toward Czechoslovakia.

DAY

British night bombers climaxed yesterday's two-way attack on German rail and industrial centers with a heavy raid on Ludwigshafen which ran the 24-hour bomb weight dropped on the Reich to 6,000 tons. Hannover, Kassell and Osnabruck had been bombed earlier by British-based Fortresses, while United States Fifteenth Air Force bombers from Italy struck railway yards at Innsbruck and targets at Linz, Salsburg, Rosenheim and Amstetten.

German fighters again remained on the ground yesterday. From the combined fleet of Allied war planes approximating 1,700, eighteen failed to return. In addition British Lancasters with six-ton earthquake bombs struck German E-boat and R-boat pens at Ijmuiden, on the west coast of Holland.

Fighters and bombers assigned to support the Allied armies in France, Germany and Italy made more than 4,000 trips over the battlelines. Three hundred Amer-

ican medium bombers pounded five German villages east of Monschau and blew up an oil dump at Ruthen, seventy-five miles northeast of Cologne.

Strike In Sudetenland

Rome, Dec. 16 (AP)—Liberators and Fortresses of the United States 15th Air Force flew deep into enemy territory today and bombed a synthetic oil plant at Brux in Czechoslovakia's Sudetenland 49 miles northwest of Prague.

The bombers encountered intense flak and clouds, which necessitated bombing by instrument.

Other Liberator formations bombed Innsbruck, at the head of the Brenner rail route into Italy, for the second consecutive day.

United States 12th Air Force fighters and bombers launched another all-out assault at the enemy's strongholds and communications in the Po Valley.

Seven waves of American Thunderbolts dived under the clouds and plastered enemy troops near Toss Ignano, twenty miles southeast of Bologna.

Fortress Gets Back With Shell In Gas Tank

A U.S. Heavy Bomber Base, England, Dec. 16 (AP)—The crew of the Flying Fortress "Take It Easy" today considered themselves just about the luckiest ever.

On a recent raid on Merseburg, "Take It Easy" returned safely to its base with an unexploded German 20mm. shell sloshing around in a gas tank.

Lieut. Donald Sparttman, of Anderson, Ind., and Lieut. Charles Bomer, of Chicago, members of the crew, said the sky over Merseburg was "crammed with Nazi fighters, flaming Fortresses and exploding shells."

REDS DRIVING TOWARD VIENNA

Salient Extended Almost To Slovakia At New Point

London, Sunday, Dec. 17 (AP)—The Red Army salient 100 miles northeast of Budapest was extended almost to the Slovak border at a new point yesterday, while other Russian tanks and infantry smashed westward toward Vienna from the newly won bridgeheads at Ipolysag in western Slovakia northwest of the Hungarian capital.

Moscow's broadcast communiqué last night restricted itself to reporting gains some 27 to 30 miles north and northeast of Miskolc which is 85 miles north and north east of Miskolc, which is 85 miles northeast of Budapest, but the Germans announced withdrawals to new positions north and west of Ipolysag in the face of continual Russian assaults.

Strengthen Bridgehead

Unofficial Moscow dispatches also said the Russians were strengthening their bridgehead over the Ipoly River at Ipolysag and thrusting toward the Slovak capital of Bratislava, 87 miles to the west, and toward Vienna, 115 miles in the same direction.

The communiqué listed the capture of 30 towns, including Barakony, directly north of Miskolc and less than 4½ miles from the Slovak frontier and within 24 miles southwest of the already outflanked Nazi eastern Slovakian stronghold of Kassa (Kosice.)

The Germans were reeling backward along a 125-mile front into Slovakia extending from Ipolysag to Satoraljaujhely, and last night's communiqué listed the capture of Sarospatak, a large town on the Miskolc-Satoraljaujhely-Kassa railway 7 miles southwest of Satoraljaujhely.

Abaujszanto Falls

The Russians also listed the capture of Felsoregmec and Vitany, on the Czech border 6 miles north of Satoraljaujhely.

Abaujszanto, 18 miles northeast of Miskolc and 30 miles south of Kassa, also fell to the Russians. Abaujszanto is on another rail line leading north to Kassa.

The naval section of the communiqué announced the sinking of three German destroyers by the Red Fleet in the Baltic.

Possibly heralding the final big push to wipe out the remnants of the German Baltic armies pocketed on the Baltic coast of Lithuania and Latvia, the communiqué reported also the sinking of six German transports and the damaging of a seventh in a raid on the Germans' evacuation port of Liepaja.

Breaches Admitted

Malinovsky's drive into Slovakia turned attention from the battle for Budapest, where the Russians bored in upon the two-thirds encircled capital from the northeast and north through mazes of German traps and fortifications. They continued to encounter the bitterest resistance. Berlin admitted two breaches were carved in the city's defense arc, but said they were sealed off later.

The next goal of Malinovsky's forces was believed to be Leva (Levice), an important rail junction 18 miles northeast of Ipolysag and on the railway leading to Bratislava.

Czechs Still Operating

A strong thrust was likely toward Banska Bystrica, 46 miles north of Ipolysag. Banska Bystrica, seized by the Germans last October, was the headquarters for an estimated 25,000 free Czech fighting troops. They remain a formidable operating force with which Malinovsky may attempt to effect a juncture.

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau in London reported that the Germans in Bohemia and Moravia were feverishly fortifying the frontiers with Slovakia and Austria, and were drafting Czech peasant youths as fortification builders.

REDS CAPTURE VITAL TOWN IN WEST SLOVAKIA

Strive to Open Roads to Vienna and Trap Big Force to East.

GERMAN TROOPS REEL BACK

Berlin Says Russian Armies Are Attacking in South Poland—More Localities Freed.

London, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—Striking into western Slovakia for the first time, Russian troops today pressed a bold offensive from captured Ipolysag (Sahy) Junction, attempting to smash open the roads to Vienna, 115 miles to the west, and at the same time trap German divisions in the east.

Ipolysag, on the Budapest-Bratislava-Vienna highway, was seized by Red Army spearheads which bridged the Ipoly River frontier from Hungary thirty-four miles northwest of beleaguered Budapest, Danube-straddling capital already two-thirds encircled by the Soviets.

Moscow announced that Ipolysag fell Thursday after a bitter all-night fight in which 800 Germans were killed. It is a half-mile inside Slovakia. In taking it the Russians skirted the 2,700-foot Borzsony Mountains between the town and the big Danube River bend to the south.

Nazi Troops Reel Back.

German troops reeled back into Slovakia along a 125-mile front from Ipolysag eastward to Satoraljaujhely in the face of the increased tempo of the Russian drive.

Berlin reported the Russians also were attacking more heavily in the Debica-Tarnow area of southern Poland, and speculated these renewed thrusts may be the beginning of a northern envelopment movement against Slovakia as well as a winter offensive aimed at Krakow.

The stroke northward from Hungary by Second Ukraine Army troops appeared likely to aid a fighting force of 25,000 free Czecho-Slovak troops.

Nearing Bratislava Plain.

Other Red Army troops skirted the northern Borzsony Mountains and reached positions leading down hill into the plains extending westward to Bratislava.

Moscow said that the combined drives toward central and eastern Slovakia had swept through thirty-one more localities, among them the manganese center of Szendro, twenty miles north of toppled Miskolc and eighty-five miles northeast of Budapest.

Moscow pictured the fighting along the Ipoly River front as a determined effort to break the stalemate at Budapest, where heavy rains had interfered with progress of the huge Russian pincers strangling the strife-torn city.

Reds Sink Nine Nazi Ships

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AP).—A Russian communique tonight announced the sinking of three German destroyers in the Baltic Sea. The communique announced also that six German transports had been sunk.

RUSSIANS REVISE DESIGNS OF TANKS

Emphasis Put On Reducing Size And Adding Armor

By DANIEL DE LUCE

Moscow, Dec. 16 (AP)—A 35-year-old Soviet tank wizard, Lieut. Gen. Joseph Kotin, said today designers of the land dreadnaughts for the Red Army were doing their utmost to reduce their size and lighten running gear.

"Each kilogram that can be taken off the traction gear and other running parts means that much thicker armor and a larger caliber gun," explained Kotin, who created the "KV" tank.

In an experimental factory which he directs at the Kirov works he even used a wind tunnel to study aerodynamics as relating to the tank.

Cut Down Cooling System

"Wind-tunnel tests showed us how properly to direct the flow of air into the tank," he said. "As a result, we've cut the size of the cooling system. We've found we can do with one radiator instead of two. This gives us quite a bit of extra room."

Kotin was interviewed by the *Moscow News* at the People's Commissariat of the tank industry here. He was laying out a set of blueprints on a big drafting board for "a new one."

Once an apprentice fitter at the Kharkov boiler works, Kotin studied in night school to prepare himself for a technical college and the Red Army military academy. He entered the designing office of the Kirov works seven years ago.

Norway Sabotage Increase Noted

London, Dec. 16 (AP)—The Norwegian Government reported today that sabotage had broken out "throughout the length and breadth" of the homeland in the path of the Germans retreating from northern Norway before the Russians.

"Oslo in particular," said a spokesman, "has been subject to sabotage during the last month or six week, and hardly a night goes by without an explosion of some kind."

Norwegian patriots were credited with sinking two ships, including the 16,000-ton Schleswig, in Oslo harbor, blowing up a chemical factory and dynamiting the offices of quislings and storm troopers.

They were so active at Bergen, the spokesman declared, that the Germans had to impose a curfew after watching shipbuilding installations, transformers and an engineering workshop go up in flames.

The wave of sabotage was touched off with the Russian liberation of Kirkenes six weeks ago, the spokesman added, and anything of value to the enemy has been the target of saboteurs, from engineering shops to clothing cleaners—one of which blew up just after receiving 20,000 German uniforms.

ARCIZKEWSKI STILL HOPEFUL

Poles Preparing New Proposals In Russian Dispute

London, Dec. 16 (AP)—While official comment was withheld Tomasz Arciszewski, head of the Polish Government in exile, tonight called the plan to amputate the eastern part of Poland "unjustified" unless the Allies first give a formal and explicit guarantee of the nation's sovereignty and independence.

Arciszewski, in an interview with the *London Times*, said he still hoped for a settlement and his government now was preparing "a new set of proposals which we intend to submit in due time to the Soviet and other Allied governments after they have been approved by the underground state in Poland itself."

Gloom In Polish Circles

Prime Minister Churchill's statements in Commons on the Polish question generally spread gloom in Polish circles and one member of the exiled Government described it as an "unfair attempt to impose upon the Poles Tehran decisions taken without our knowledge or agreement."

"The Polish-Russian dispute can be divided into four parts," Arciszewski said. "One—guarantees for the re-establishment of a free, sovereign, independent Polish state; two—the frontier problem; three—civil administration in the territory liberated by the Red Army; four—the future of Polish-Russian relations.

Would Defer Frontier Issue

"With regard to the first problem, I greatly appreciate all the favorable statements about the future of the Polish state made by Mr. Churchill . . . but these do not seem to justify making the amputation of the eastern part of Poland—which is not all marshland but includes territory of vital importance—the preliminary condition of any Russian-Polish settlement.

"I believe we could base the future of a country faced with such enormous difficulties only on international treaties of an explicit character. My Government intends, therefore, to do the utmost to obtain—first of all—formal Allied guarantees for the re-establishment of the Polish state. When we have secured that, we can undertake discussion of frontier adjustment."

Masefield Pins Hope On Rus

Burcote Brook, Near Abingen, Berkshire, Dec. 16 (AP)—John Masefield, England's Poet Laureate, said today he believes Russia will be one of the strongest forces for peace in the postwar world.

"Russia seems determined there shall not be another European war; that the craze for conquest shall not again get out of hand on this continent," the 69-year-old gray-haired man of letters said in an interview.

Masefield predicted that Russia would come out of the war "with plenty of weight behind her convictions; for we have seen an astounding feat in the east, a profoundly significant rebirth of a vast nation within a generation.

"Voice Will Be Strong"

"Russia will emerge triumphantly from the war, knowing her political system will stand almost any shock and with the knowledge that she virtually has saved Europe. Her voice will be strong indeed in world councils."

Masefield said the two "danger points" in Europe as he saw them "are Germany and the Balkans. Russia will have her realistic way dealing with the Germans, and she may well be a means of controlling threats in the entire Balkan area. People of those lands, hot-tempered mountaineers, love fighting and thrive on national hatreds to a degree incomprehensible to us and especially to Americans.

"Most of the other European countries—even Italy should have had her fill of war—desire lasting peace. That will provide Russia with her golden chance. It should be our chance, too—to help build a practical community of nations in

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spirit of confidence and independence and a proud determination to achieve unprecedented national greatness in co-operation with her neighbors. I think that determination will be nobly fulfilled."

Fears Long War

Masefield expressed the fear that the war "might go on so long that war will become the chief occupation of all young men, and the world will become one vast military society."

Literature would cease to have meaning in human life then, he asserted, "and the great cultural and artistic values so necessary to civilization would all but disappear.

"If the war ends fairly soon, however, creative forces will be released and the impact upon the arts might be impressive. It must be remembered, though, that after the last war there was no stamina left in the peoples who had been fighting.

"Millions died from influenza and other diseases because their resistance was gone. That had its spiritual counterpart—'brain influenza' similarly affected a huge number of people. Perhaps we can avoid that this time."

Europe.

Masefield added, however, that "what I fear is that most of the European nations—perhaps all except Russia—will be too tired after the war, just as they were after the last war, to do what will be required to keep the peace.

"Nations will want to rest rather than to tackle peace problems boldly and vigorously. Alas, active scoundrels then will be quick to take advantage of such unguarded and apathetic times, just as they did before."

Masefield is more of a reporter-historian in wartime than a creater of poetry. He told the story of Dunkerque in "The Nine Days Wonder." His book about London's emergency health services under years of fire will be published soon. Now, with the accent still upon high heroism but shifted to an ancient age, he is translating Homer's Iliad.

To Be Solved By Europe

Masefield, who smiles gently but has the inward toughness of a man who has been a ship's cook, farm hand, hobo, dock walloper and New York saloon porter, did not wish to try to unravel the snarled skeins of conflicting motives in Greece, Italy and Poland.

He emphasized, however, that "most of the problems ahead of us will have to be solved by the European peoples."

"The United States will be able to help, of course, by counsel and by example of political morality and social consciousness, but by hardly more than that.

Gives Views On France

However well intended the United States may be, however generous of money and manpower, they are too far away to be able to play a really vital part in Old World reconstruction, and it is too difficult for Americans to understand our problems over here."

Of France, Masefield asserted, "That country will, I feel, amaze the world."

In short, this is why he thinks so:

"Whatever General de Gaulle may lack in long-range statecraft, he assuredly is the man for the moment. In him there is no compromise, no defeatism, no taint. Thanks largely to him, all feelings of martyrdom and self-pity have gone out of France.

"Now swelling in her are a new

Paris Paper Sardonic On Representative Luce

Paris, Dec. 16 (AP)—Under a sardonic headline, "Gay Paris," the Leftist newspaper *Franc-Tireur* today suggested that on the basis of Representative Clare Boothe Luce's reports, American women will be asking their husbands to send them packages of food and clothing from France.

The newspaper quoted a report which said the Connecticut Congresswoman, who visited Paris recently with the House Military Affairs Committee, cabled to the United States that French children were fat, healthy and richly clothed while English children were thinly clad.

In an allusion to the comforts Americans are alleged to be giving German prisoners, the paper remarked:

"Madame Luce certainly must think we are receiving benefits of the Geneva Convention."

Terms Of Russo-French Pact To Be Published

Paris, Dec. 16 (AP)—General de Gaulle returned to Paris from Moscow today and it was announced that the terms of the French-Soviet pact he concluded with Marshal Stalin would be announced simultaneously in Paris and Moscow at 7 P.M. tomorrow.

De Gaulle told ministers who met him at the airport that the results of his mission were good.

Two on Eisenhower's Staff Married

Paris, Dec. 16 (A. P.)—Two members of Gen. Eisenhower's staff, Wac Corporal Pearlie Hargrave of Pillager, Minn., and Sergt. Michael (Mickey) McKeogh, former New York bellhop, were married today. Gen. Eisenhower, Lieut.-Gen. W. B. Smith, his chief of staff, and other members of Supreme headquarters attended the ceremony, which was held in a chapel where royal weddings once took place. The Supreme commander later gave a reception for the couple.

The bride, who is a chauffeur for distinguished visitors to headquarters, was given in marriage by Lieut.-Col. Ernest R. Lee of San Antonio, Tex. Sergt. Margaret Chick of Toledo, Ohio, was the bridesmaid and Sergt. John Farr of Elmira, N. Y., was best man. Chaplain John Keegan of Boston, Mass., performed the ceremony.

Sergt. McKeogh is the son of Mrs. Mary K. McKeogh of 9810 35th avenue, Corona, N. Y.

PARIS POLICE BAR DANCING

Paris, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The French police today banned dancing in the Paris area on the grounds that it is too frivolous while three-million French-men are in prison camps and soldiers are dying at the front.

The ban applies to American soldiers as well as to the French people in night clubs and dance halls, but the Red Cross and other service clubs were excepted from the order.

8TH ARMY CLOSING RING ROUND FAENZA

British Gain Foothold on Ridge Dominating City—Fifth Army Beats Off Assaults

ROME, Dec. 16 (AP)—British and Polish troops and tanks, closing a ring around strategic Faenza, on the edge of the Po plain, gouged out a foothold today on a dominating ridge two miles west of the city as heavy fighting flared abruptly along almost half the Italian front.

The ridge runs from Celle, one and a half miles west of Faenza, to Pideura, four miles southwest. The Germans tried vainly to blast the British Eighth Army's forces from it with an artillery barrage. As the barrage lifted, four Mark VI tanks and infantry sprang to the attack, but they were hurled back and the Allies took more than 200 prisoners.

Steadily clearing the enemy from all high ground west of Faenza in this sector, the Poles stormed and captured strongpoints and a height southwest of Pideura. The enemy's reaction was equally violent and just as futile northeast of Faenza, where the Canadians maintained and widened to 3,000 yards a bridgehead over the Naviglio Canal, one of the waterways blocking an attack on the city from the east.

The Germans attacked all day yesterday and then gave ground slowly under Canadian blows. The Lamone River bridgehead in this sector, having been strengthened to a width of two miles, the Canadians in a surprise jab fought up the east bank of the Naviglio Canal to within 300 yards of the road center of Bagnacavallo, nine miles northeast of Faenza.

A number of German tanks were knocked out in close fighting in this push. The Germans are strongly entrenched in Bagnacavallo, however.

Some ten miles west of the Celle-Pideura fighting, the enemy counter-attacked viciously in an attempt to drive the British from Tossignano, eight miles southwest of Imola.

Nine miles due south of Bologna the Germans tried to encircle without success the Fifth Army's forces at Poggio di Spora. Another counter-blow was warded off northeast of Grizzana, eighteen miles southwest of Bologna.

Allies Renew Attack Southwest of Faenza

By the Associated Press.

ROME, Dec. 16.—British and Polish troops today renewed the attack southwest of Faenza and gained a foothold on the ridge running between Celle and Pideura, Allied headquarters announced.

Celle is less than 2 miles west of Faenza and below the Bologna-Rimini highway.

Canadian forces north of the highway tangled with the Nazis in fierce fighting and extended their newly-won bridgehead across the Naviglio Canal to 3,000 yards.

In the 5th Army sector fierce fighting continued. British troops repulsed a number of enemy attempts to recapture Tossignano.

Immediately south of Bologna Americans of the 5th Army repulsed a strong enemy attack. Heavies of the Italy-based United States 15th Air Force yesterday bombed strategic targets at Innsbruck, Linz, Salzburg, Rosenheim and Amstetten. Ten aircraft were missing.

Fascist General Gets Six-Year Jail Term

Rome, Dec. 16 (AP)—Attilio Teruzzi, lieutenant general of the Fascist militia who now is in German-occupied Italy, has been sentenced in absentia by the Rome Tribunal, Minor court, to six years and three months imprisonment.

He was charged with seizing from a judge by threats of violence valuables which had been confiscated from him after the overthrow of Mussolini.

RIOTING BREAKS OUT IN 10 TOWNS IN SICILY

ROME, Dec. 16.—(AP) New disorders have broken out in 10 towns in Sicily, including Palermo, an Italian government spokesman announced tonight, attributing the demonstrations largely to youths of the recalled military classes of 1921 and 1922.

These disorders, disclosed at a press conference, followed rioting at Catania Thursday in which one person was killed and public buildings were set afire.

Pope To Celebrate Mass At Midnight

Vatican City, Dec. 16 (AP)—Pope Pius XII will celebrate midnight mass Christmas Eve in St. Peter's for the first time since he became Pontiff in 1939, the Vatican announced tod...

St. Peter's will be open to the public, and Rome streets, ordinarily dark because of the shortag... electricity, will be lighted.

BRITISH SAY NO TO PEACE BID BY GREEK EAM

Offer Fails To Provide For Cessation Of Leftist Resistance

Athens, Dec. 16 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie rejected peace proposals of the EAM (left wing national liberation front party) today because the Leftists' offer failed to provide immediate cessation of resistance, and fighting continued in the capital.

A British headquarters statement said, "General Scobie must continue to insist upon satisfactory fulfillment of this condition."

Scobie, the British commander in Greece, has demanded that all ELAS (fighting branch of the EAM) supporters in Athens and its port, Piraeus, stop fighting against British and Greek Government troops and surrender their arms.

Tone Seen Hopeful

The tone of his reply to the EAM peace offer today, however, was regarded as hopeful.

The headquarters statement said Scobie "does not believe there will be any difficulty in Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander's being able to initiate necessary steps to bring the turmoil to an end and restore to all Greeks, whatever their opinions, the enjoyment of their democratic liberties."

Scobie earlier had pledged that Alexander, supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean, would take over the task of ending the conflict within Greece when the armed civil strife is ended.

Conditions Listed

The EAM peace offer included these conditions:

That a new government be formed to deal with the question of disarming guerrilla forces.

That suspected Axis collaborators be prosecuted promptly.

That Greek Government troops be removed from Athens.

In regard to the latter, the British statement said that Scobie was prepared to order these troops to return to the barracks where they were when hostilities with the ELAS began if his requirements were carried out by the EAM and ELAS.

A communiqué from General Scobie's headquarters said "good progress" was made in clearing areas in Piraeus, including a strongly held feature east of the main harbor. In Athens, the bulletin added, there "is no change in the situation."

Fighting In West

Fighting is continuing in western Greece, the communiqué said, with casualties to both sides. Ground troops were receiving support from British warships.

Meanwhile, there was no indication of whether EAM-ELAS leaders would be satisfied with creation of a regency under Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens until a plebiscite is held to determine whether Greece will be a monarchy or a republic.

General Scobie, Harold Macmillan, British resident minister in the Middle East, and Greek Premier George Papandreou were reported earlier to be pinning their hopes on EAM-ELAS acceptance of a regency.

The archbishop was regarded as acceptable to all sides, but it was understood that Papandreou desired a triumvirate with Nicholas Plastiras, who led the Greek revolution of 1922, and Philip Dracoun.is, under secretary of foreign affairs, acting with Damaskinos.

Battle For Capital Continues

While negotiations for peace persisted, the battle in the capital continued, with the latest British estimate of casualties suffered by the ELAS revised upward to 1,000, with 600 dead. In addition 2,800 prisoners were taken.

EAM sources said their terms for a temporary truce, handed to General Scobie in reply to his original terms, included also an agreement to withdraw from Athens and Attica, and asked removal from Athens of the Greek mountain brigade and the sacred battalion, Greek Government units which EAM accuses of having Fascist leadership.

Although demolitions by ELAS forces continued in the capital, General Scobie had ordered Greek Government forces to remain strictly on the defensive, and to make no move which might provoke fresh outbreaks.

Elas Leader Recalls Germans

ATHENS, Dec. 16 (AP)—General Scobie released today the text of a reply received from Gen. Stephan Saraphis in which the commander of the Elas forces said:

"You are trying to conquer and occupy Greece, taking the place of the Germans and overlooking the services and sacrifices our nation had made."

The reply, dated Dec. 8 and received two days later, asserted that while the Elas is fighting with the fighters of Athens. We will continue the struggle wherever necessary until you realize your responsibility to history and, after reconsidering your decisions, cease to attack.

"Thus can the formation of a genuine national Government be brought about—a Government that will guarantee free expression of the people's will in accordance with the terms of the Atlantic Charter and the Teheran agreement. We hope that as our friends and allies you will remain neutral."

General Saraphis asserted that the repatriated Greek Government had caused conditions "bordering on anarchy," created, he said, by the repeated employment by the Government "of persons who are culpable collaborationists."

EAM SETS OUT ITS TERMS FOR ENDING FIGHT

Wants New Government to Disarm Guerrillas and Try Collaborationists.

DISORDER EASING IN ATHENS

Greek Government Forces Are Ordered by Scobie to Remain Strictly on Defensive.

Athens, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The Left Wing EAM (National Liberation Front) informed Lieut.-Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, today that it would cease fighting if a new government were formed to deal with the question of disarmament of guerrillas, and if suspected collaborationists were brought to trial.

[BBC Correspondent John Nixon said in a broadcast from Athens that Gen. Scobie rejected the EAM conditions for a temporary truce, CBS reported. He said Gen. Scobie pointed out that one of the British terms—that all ELAS forces in Athens and Piraeus cease resistance and hand in their arms—had been ignored, and added that the British commander insisted on satisfactory fulfillment of this condition.]

Fighting slackened in Athens as the British were reported to be continuing negotiations with the EAM for a solution of the Greek crisis.

The reply of EAM and its armed force, the ELAS, to Gen. Scobie's terms were handed to the British commander at noon today, and the proposals, according to EAM sources, include:

1. Agreement by ELAS to withdraw from Athens to Attica.

2. Formation of a new government to settle the question of disarmament.

3. Removal from Athens of the Greek Mountain Brigade and the Sacred Battalion, Greek Government units which EAM accuses of having Fascist leadership.

4. Trial of persons suspected of collaborating with occupation forces.

British Are Hopeful.

There was no immediate comment from British headquarters. An emissary who handed the reply to Gen. Scobie expressed hope the terms would mark the beginning of successful negotiations for concluding the civil war in Greece.

It was disclosed late in the day that Gen. Scobie had ordered Greek Government forces to remain strictly on the defensive, and to make no move which might provoke fresh outbreaks. Meanwhile, demolitions by ELAS forces continued. The explosives destroyed Greek intelligence headquarters and a police station, both previously abandoned.

The British-held center of the capital was ringed by barbed wire entanglements. Light artillery was placed at strategic points along the main artery, University street. British twenty-five-pounders traded fire with the ELAS who shelled the city during the day. The British reported progress in Piraeus, where the neck of the Kallipolis Peninsula was secured by the capture of Castle Hill.

British parachute troops blocked the subway between the suburbs and Omonia Square by which the ELAS, armed forces of the EAM, had been infiltrating at night. The EAM's radio was believed knocked out when R. A. F. Spitfires strafed the Leossia station just outside the city.

The EAM's radio also was believed knocked out when RAF Spitfires strafed the Leossia Station just outside the city. The British, broadcast over the same wave length last night.

(The Cairo radio said the station had been recaptured by the British.)

Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece; Harold MacMillan, British Minister of State in the Middle East, and Greek Premier George Papandreou were understood to be pinning their hopes on the formations of a regency in their negotiations with the ELAS.

Regency Proposed.

Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens, Philip Dracoumis, Undersecretary of Foreign Affairs, and Nicholas Plastiras, who led the 1922 Greek revolution and was recalled from an 11-year exile by Premier Papandreou, were the proposed members of the regency to rule for King George II until a plebiscite determines whether Greece will be a monarchy or a republic.

Archbishop Damaskinos was understood to have accepted a place on the proposed regency, but Plastiras told reporters he considered military force was the only hope for peace and that he believed a military solution was only a "matter of days."

There was a tendency among rightists of Premier Papandreou's supporters to hope that endeavors to patch up a peace will fail. Police officers expressed alarm at the idea that the British might agree to a political amnesty for EAM leaders.

Premier Papandreou declared in an official news bulletin last night for just punishment of "those responsible for the present tragedy."

Peter Rallis, merchant marine minister, said he had informed King George that the "Populist party repudiates the idea of setting up a regency."

Issue Discussed.

Discussing the issue were Reginald Leeper, the British Ambassador; Harold MacMillan and Themistakles Sophoulis, Greek elder statesman, who has acted as an intermediary between the opposing forces.

However, it was expected the eventual agreement would call for a one-man regency, possibly under Archbishop Damaskinos.

Other armistice terms reliably reported to be acceptable to the British, and said to have been presented by the EAM leaders, included amnesty for leaders in the civil struggle and formation of a national government representing all parties.

In the meantime, the ELAS hammered at British positions with fresh artillery and a renewal of sniping. ELAS concentrations were subjected to bombardment by 25-pound British shells.

ELAS casualties in the struggle so far were estimated by British authorities as 600 to 700 dead and 1,000 wounded.

AMERICANS HIT IN GREECE

Man and Woman, UNRRA Aides Suffer Bullet Wounds

ATHENS, Dec. 16 (AP)—Two American workers for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration have been injured by bullets fired in the civil warfare, it was announced today. They were Marie Berger, Arlington, Va., and William Tait of Fairfield, Conn.

Miss Berger was wounded in the leg by a stray sniper's shot. Mr. Tait, a district director for the UNRRA, suffered a bullet wound in the right foot while riding a truck.

Last week Norman Russel of East Orange, N. J., and Duncan Marnoch of Gurock, Scotland, both UNRRA workers, were injured by bullets while delivering foodstuffs and medical supplies in Red Cross trucks.

Swedes Launch Cruiser.

Stockholm, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—A new 7,000-ton Swedish cruiser, Kronor, was launched today at Goteborg by Crown Princess Louise. The cruiser is the first of two authorized by the Government in 1940.

CHINESE REACH HOCHIH VICINITY

Credit Mindoro Landing With Diverting Jap Troops

Chungking, Dec. 16 (AP)—The counterattacking Chinese, continuing their advance in Kwangsi province down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway, have reached the vicinity of Hochih, 95 miles from Liuchow, the Chinese high command announced today.

Yesterday the Chinese were within 12, 15 and 18 miles of Hochih in three directions. The town has been outflanked on the southeast by Chinese forces which continued to progress today.

Chinese in this capital meanwhile hailed the American landings on Mindoro Island in the Philippines as bringing much nearer an ultimate landing on the China coast.

The Chinese expressed belief that already the Japanese operations in China might have been affected. For example, they said, the Japanese apparently were keeping the bulk of their strength in reserve in Changsha, Hengyang, Kweilin and Liuchow so they could move east toward the coast, rather than hurling these forces westward against the Chinese.

CHINESE THREATEN JAP-HELD HOCHIH

Chungking, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—Chinese troops outflanking Hochih on the south have driven deep into Kwangsi Province to a point eighteen miles southeast of that Japanese-held city, the Chinese High Command announced today.

Hochih, strongpoint on the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad along which the Japanese developed their recent threat to the Burma Road town of Kweilin, also was threatened from the north and west by other Chinese columns. Hochih is ninety-five miles northwest of Liuchow, former advance American air base.

Chinese Cleaning Up After Capturing Bhamo

By the Associated Press.

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 16.—The crushing of the last organized resistance in the North Burma town of Bhamo was expected today to release another powerful Chinese force for the push south toward the old Burma road.

Only a few snipers remained from a Japanese suicide force, originally estimated at 1,200 men, which had held out for weeks in the by-passed town, 80 miles south of Myitkyina.

Bhamo fell yesterday to the Chinese 38th Division, which laid siege to the enemy's fortress of teakwood logs, described by an American liaison officer as "the best defense system yet encountered in North Burma."

American Flyers Sink Destroyer at Hong Kong

By the Associated Press.

CHUNGKING, Dec. 16.—Bomb-carrying fighters of the United States 14th Air Force sank an enemy destroyer in Hong Kong Harbor on December 8, American Army headquarters announced today.

In a review of air operations from December 7 through December 13 headquarters announced that American planes destroyed 42 enemy aircraft of all categories, probably destroyed, 10 and damaged 22. Six were shot down in air combat. No American planes were lost.

Boy Takes Girl Tiger Hunting On Burma 'Date'

By the Associated Press.

MYITKYINA, Burma, Dec. 16.—Dancing is too tame for American boys and girls in Myitkyina, so when they have dates here they sometimes go tiger hunting.

Corpl. Charles J. McCrary, a military policeman of Centralia, Ill., called on Carol Hagerman, a Red Cross worker of Kansas City, Thursday night, and they drove out a few miles from Myitkyina and shot a 300-pound tiger that was seven and half feet long.

Miss Hagerman drove the jeep within a hundred yards of the tiger. Corpl. McCrary killed it with one shot.

Australia May Import Wheat Next Year

Sydney, Australia, Dec. 16 (AP)—Australia, "which before the war was the world's third largest exporter of wheat, may herself have to import wheat next year for the first time since the disastrous drought of 1897," an authoritative agricultural source forecast today.

North and South America were mentioned as possible sources of imports.

Chiefly because of failure of the new South Wales and Victoria crops as a result of drought, Australian wheat production this season "is not expected to exceed 50,000,000 bushels," this informant said.

Latin-American Unions Denounce Argentina

By The Associated Press.

CALI, Colombia, Dec. 16—The Latin-American Confederation of Labor passed unanimously yesterday a resolution calling for a continent-wide one-day protest strike next Jan. 25 against the present regime in Argentina.

The resolution demanded freedom for Argentine political prisoners and a "cessation of the tortures of which they are the victims."

Another resolution called for measures to end purported racial discrimination in the Panama Canal zone.

Five Chilean Prelates Attack Communism

Santiago, Chile, Dec. 16 (AP)—Five of the highest archbishops and bishops of the Catholic Church in Chile today published a pastoral letter declaring "no Catholic can sympathize with Communist doctrines." The publication of the letter followed an announcement last Monday of Chile's establishment of diplomatic relations with Russia.

The letter was signed by Archbishops Jose Maria Caro, Santiago; Alfredo Silva, of Concepcion; Alfredo Cifuentes, of La Serena, and Bishops Rafeal Lira, of Valparaiso, and Manuel Larrain, of Talca.

The letter declared it was "impossible to conceive of a Catholic Communist."

"Catholics cannot collaborate," the letter said, "in any way with Communism."

L. B. Pearson Is Named Ambassador by Canada

Minister Will Succeed Leighton McCarthy in Washington

OTTAWA, Dec. 16 (AP).—Appointment of Lester B. Pearson as Canadian Ambassador to the United States was announced today by Prime Minister W. Mackenzie King.

The new Ambassador at present holds the post of Minister at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. He succeeds Leighton McCarthy, who has resigned.

Heads Allied Food Board

Lester B. Pearson, forty-seven years old, is chairman of the interim commission of the United Nations food conference, which was held at Hot Springs, Va., in June, 1943. The commission was set up to develop a detailed plan for the permanent organization to carry out the conference's recommendations for international collaboration in improving nutrition, stimulating world agriculture and generally improving the well-being of the populations.

On Sept. 16, 1944, Mr. Pearson was elected chairman of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration conference in Montreal. He also heads the committee on supplies.

Prior to his new appointment he was minister with the rank of counselor in Washington.

DUCE KICKS, HAS TROUBLES

Objects To "Difficulties" His Regime Labors Under

New York, Dec. 16 (AP)—The long-silent fallen Duce, Benito Musso-

lini, spoke out today from puppet headquarters at Milan, asserting that his regime faced "unbelievable and ever-increasing difficulties" in the shifting fortunes of war.

Federal Communications Commission monitors said Mussolini appeared in good voice as he harangued his followers for 55 minutes in the Lyric Theater on the anniversary of the assassination of Aldo Resega, Fascist commissioner of Milan province.

Persistent reports from neutral capitals indicated recently that Mussolini was seriously ill.

"Tooth And Nail"

Mussolini professed to see "signs of a revival" among his followers and declared that German and Fascist troops would defend the Po Valley "tooth and nail" against Allied forces fighting up from the south.

His troubles were multiplied, the Duce said, by activities of the underground—Milan long has been a rallying point of anti-Fascists—and a "moral inertia which events have produced in many classes of people."

Contribution Extolled

Mussolini bid for greater recognition from his Axis partners, saying that since Italy's surrender his regime's contribution to the cause was "far greater than is commonly believed."

No less than 786,000 Italians were now engaged as workers or soldiers on Germany's side, he declared.

The German agency Transocean, in a broadcast recorded in London, reported that the Duce charged the Allies intended to deport hundreds of thousands of Italians "in event of their victory."

Bomb Chemicals As Matches, If—

San Francisco, Dec. 16 (AP)—American Superfortress bombers are helping mend the match shortage in Tokyo, the Japanese radio said today.

Unburned chemicals in the thin sheet-iron cylinder incendiary bombs dropped by the B-29s are useful to make matches, provided the bombs are extinguished soon enough, said the broadcast heard by the Federal Communications Commission.

An amateur inventor discovered the chemical mixture could be used as a substitute for ordinary matches, the broadcast said.

Finnish War Debt Payment With Frozen Funds Rejected

By the Associated Press.

Finland's new offer to pay $235,444 on its World War debt got the cold shoulder from the United States, and therein lies a strange diplomatic situation.

The State Department apparently was willing for the installment to be accepted when it came due yesterday—though the two nations do not maintain diplomatic relations and Finland still is officially considered "enemy territory."

But the Treasury Department balked, being unwilling to thaw out part of Finland's frozen funds in this country.

It was from those funds that the Finns proposed to pay the installment, the same way the last payment was made on June 15.

The State Department sent a letter to the Treasury yesterday. Though its contents weren't revealed, the department evidently indicated it would not object to receiving the money.

A Treasury official said last night the letter seemed "on the surface" to lay down "a new policy" which isn't clear to the Treasury and will require further study.

This left the question open for future discussion. But the due date has passed and no money changed hands.

The Treasury declined to make a further statement, but the background is this:

Recently Finland asked permission to use part of the frozen funds to pay interest which she owed to holders of Finnish government bonds. The Treasury refused.

If the Treasury were now to free the money to pay our Government some officials are reported to feel that this would be inconsistent and unfair to the bondholders who were denied their interest payments.

Roosevelt Tells Chiang Of Confidence In China

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—President Roosevelt told Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek he was confident China "will worthily share in the approaching phase of final victory."

Mr. Roosevelt's statement was included in an exchange of messages on the third anniversary of Pearl Harbor published today by the State Department.

The Chinese leader assured President Roosevelt that China will "soon be able to inflict a crushing defeat on the enemy despite his present desperate struggle on the Asiatic mainland."

U.S. War Goods Flow To Russia Via Iran

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—More than 4,380,440 tons of war goods from American factories have been delivered to Russia through the Persian corridor route, the War Department disclosed today.

The department made public a report from headquarters of the Persian Gulf Command.

Delivery to Russian points was by rail and truck from Persian Gulf ports. The military railway service of the command operates the Iranian State Railway and the command maintains port facilities and truck routes.

British agencies have aided in operating the supply system, moving about one sixth of the total tonnage delivered to date.

Under Secretaryship Of War Is Continued

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—President Roosevelt today signed legislation continuing until six months after the war's end his authority to appoint an Under Secretary of War.

The emergency position, now held by Robert P. Patterson, was to have expired after next January 20.

HURLEY APPROVED TO HEAD BOARD ON SURPLUS PROPERTY

Former Governor's Nomination as Chairman Confirmed by 41-28 Vote.

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HELLER ALSO WINS

Republicans Oppose Both; State Dept. Selections to Be Taken Up Monday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16—(AP) The Senate confirmed two members of the Surplus Property Disposal Board late today and by doing so cleared the way for debate next week on six disputed State department nominations.

Former Gov. Robert A. Hurley of Connecticut and Lt. Col. Edward H. Heller, an Army finance officer from San Francisco, were approved as members of the Surplus Property Board which will handle the sale of an estimated $100,000,000,000 worth of government-held commodities, machines, factories and land. The President has designated Hurley as chairman.

The votes of approval—41 to 28 for Hurley, 43 to 26 for Heller—adhered very closely to party lines. Both men are Democrats.

Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich) said he was shocked beyond expression, disappointed beyond expression" by the appointments.

The President, he asserted, had not risen to the same height as Congress did when it wrote the law under which more than $100,000,000,000 in surplus war goods, plants and land will be sold.

The Michigan lawmaker said that while he did not wish to reflect on the character of the men the President had chosen, the appointments did not measure up to the magnitude of the task.

Austin Critical

Senator Austin (R-Vt.) had opened the day's Debate by arguing that Hurley and Heller lack "experience and standing." As an obligation to the nation's fighting men, he said, the Senate should inquire closely into the appointments and determine whether they will "command the confidence and inspire the morale of the men at the front."

When Republicans commented that both the appointees are Democrats, and that Senator Gillette, Iowa Democrat defeated for re-election, has be mentioned confidently as a probable third nominee, Senator Chandler (D-Ky) said he didn't think that being a Democrat disqualified a man from holding office.

Austin referred to Hurley's recent position as a vice president of the Narrangansett Machine company, Pawtucket, R. I., which obtained the government's guarantee of a $2,000,000 loan. He noted that Heller, as an Army finance officer, had taken part in inquiries concerning the loan, which has been criticized by the House Military Committee.

Chandler Defends Choices

Senator Chandler (D-Ky) said that members of his party had made an effort while the nominations were before the Military Affairs committee "to prove that being a Democrat didn't wholly disqualify one to hold office." Some Republican members, he added, still didn't seem to be convinced.

Chandler, a leader in a successful fight last week to send back to the Foreign Relations committee four of President Roosevelt's State department nominations, challenged the Republicans "to be just as diligent" in ascertaining "the political motives and views" of those appointees.

Immediately after the confirmation of Heller, Senator Connally (D-Tex) made certain that the pending business before the Senate was the nomination of Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan, as Undersecretary of State. Five other men, designated by the President as assistant Secretaries of State, follow Grew on the confirmation calendar.

The long-awaited debate will begin when the Senate meets at noon Monday.

There were some indications, meanwhile, that concerted opposition to the nominations was beginning to crumble. Senator Clark (D-Mo), who had been sharply critical of the nomination of Poet-Librarian Archibald MacLeish as one of the assistant secretairies, surprised his colleagues by announcing that he thought he would vote for all six.

The Missouri Senator explained that there was an apparent effort to tie in his opposition to MacLeish with sentiment in other quarters of the Senate against some of the other nominees. He said he strongly approved the nomination of Grew, and the selection of W. L. Clayton as one of the asistant secretaries.

Senator Pepper (D-Fla), who voted against all the nominations in the Foreign Relations committee, introduced a resolution late in the day proposing that the Senate postpone further consideration of the nominations until Jan. 3. That is the date the new session of Congress will begin.

Connally, floor monager for the State department nominations, is expected to raise a point of order against the resolution Monday when Pepper intends to try to call it up. Technically, the Senate is in executive session to consider a nomination, he argues, and legislative matters such as consideration of a resolution would be out of order.

Action Seen Soon

Acting Democratic Leader Hill (Ala) said he belived the nominations could be brought to a vote by Tuesday or Wednesday.

On the other hand, Senator Guffey (D-Pa), announced he wanted to make a speech approximately four hours long against Grew, and Pepper was insistent that the Senate have "an adequite opportunity for full discussion" of all the appointees.

"In no sense of the word are we interested in a filibuster," he added, talking to reporters.

"We don't feel these gentlemen as a team—whatever their individual excellence—will make a team to win the peace."

In addition to the nomination of Grew as undersecretary, and of Clayton and MacLeish as asistant secretaries, James C. Dunn, Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes and Nelson A. Rockefeller were named as assistant secretaries.

Senators who wanted action on them chafed impatiently as the debate on Hurley and Heller droned on until sundown.

Bankhead Raps Clayton

Jumping the gun on the State department nominations so he could go home for Christmas, Senator Bankhead (D-Ala) got the floor for a speech in opposition to Clayton, whose new assignment would embrace foreign economic affairs.

Clayton, former surplus property administrator, is the chief stockholder in Anderson, Clayton & Company, a leading cotton trading firm. Bankhead was sharply critical of Clayton's cotton operations in foreign countries, claiming he had built up production in South America to the detriment of American cotton farmers.

Calling Clayton "the king of cotton," Bankhead declared the nominee had opposed "every effort to lift up a little the standard of living of the cotton producers and relieve them of competition with cheap oriental labor in the world cotton markets."

"He opposes every program that has been passed by Congress to help the cotton farmers bring about living prices for their cotton," he said. " I am afraid to have a man with his qualities placed in an exalted position dealing with foreign economic affairs."

Maloney, Danaher Split

Here is the vote by which the Senate confirmed the nomination of former Gov. Robert A. Hurley:

For confirmation (41).

Democrats for — Bailey, Bilbo, Byrd, Caraway, Chandler, Chavez, Clark of Missouri, Connally, Downey, Ellender, George, Gerry, Gillette, Green, Guffey; Hall, Hatch, Hayden, Hill, Lucas, Magnuson, Maloney, Maybank, McCarran, McClellan, McFarland, McKellar, Mead, Murdock, Murray, O'Mahoney, Pepper, Radcliffe, Reynolds, Russell, Stewart, Thomas of Utah, Truman, Walsh—(39)

Republicans for—Johnson of California, Langer—(2)

Against confirmation—(28)

Democrats against—Johnson of Colorado—(1)

Republicans against — Aiken, Austin, Brewster, Brooks, Bushfield, Butler, Capper, Cordon, Danaher, Davis, Ferguson, Gurney, Hawkes, Jenner, Millikin, Reed, Revercomb, Robertson, Smith, Taft, Vandenberg, Weeks, Wherry, White, Wiley, Willis—(26)

Progressive against—LaFollette—(1)

The following pairs were announced:

Thomas (Okla), Democrat for and Bridges, Republican against.

Wagner, Democrat for and Burton, Republican, against.

Bankhead, Democrat for and Nye, Republican against.

Tunnell, Democrat for and Thomas (Idaho) Republican against.

Tydings, Democrat for and Wilson, Republican against.

Barkley, Democrat for and Wheeler, Democrat against.

Not voting but announced as favoring confirmation:

Andrews, Eastland, Glass, Clark (Idaho), O'Daniel and Wallgren, Democrats.

Produce or Fight Is Draft Edict

More Men in 26 to 37 Age Group Seen Due for Induction After February 1.

Washington, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—Draft-age men in industry were told today to meet their war responsibilities on the production front or face swift induction.

Translating the Government's recent produce or fight edict into you can and you can't regulations, Selective Service predicted that a much larger proportion of men in the 26-37 age group will be inducted after February 1.

"The war isn't a young man's war, but everybody's war," said a Selective Service memorandum last night to local draft boards. The critical situation requires, it added, that civilians remain in

war-supporting industries or obtain war-supporting employment if not already so engaged.

Local boards were directed to fill calls for the armed forces by reclassification as it becomes necessary of men from the older groups.

The order does not add up to an outright freeze in their present jobs of occupationally deferred workers in the 26 through 37 bracket. However, they must stay on unless they can show that a change would promote the war effort.

This means that a worker who changes jobs without permission runs the risk of losing his occupational deferment classification, as Selective Service phrased it. Actually he's inviting induction.

The regulations do not apply to registrants who left their employment prior to December 12, but effective December 12 a registrant with a 2-B occupational deferment who leaves the employment for which he was deferred is to be classified as available for service unless:

1. His request is granted for a determination that it is in the best interest of the war effort for him to leave such employment for other work; or

2. The local board finds that there were adequate reasons involving the registrant or his immediate family which justified him in leaving.

Local boards were directed to place a much stricter interpretation on the rules for occupational deferment.

As of November 1, 4,264,000 registrants were classified in 2-A and 2-B (deferred occupations other than agriculture), and the number in 1-A totaled 891,000. This was the first time since September, 1943, that the number in 1-A had dipped below a million.

Soldier Workers in Jersey

First 6 of 28 Allotted Report to Newark War Plants

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 16 (AP).—The first six of twenty-eight soldiers on leave alloted to the Newark area by the Army to fill war-necessary jobs have been placed at the American Steel Castings Company plant in Newark and the Atlas Foundry Company plant in Irvington, the Regional War Man-Power Commission said today.

The men, sent here from Camp Atterbury, Ind., are part of a contingent of 4,700 soldiers skilled in war work who will be sent on leave to hard-pressed industrial areas "until civilian workers come forward to fill vacant jobs," the W. M. C. said.

WASP To Close Their Careers As Army Pilots On Wednesday

By PAUL B. MASON

DEC 17 1944

Cincinnati, Dec. 16 (AP).—A colorful chapter without precedent in the nation's military history, will end next Wednesday when 1,000 Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) step from Army planes for the last time.

Their disbandment was ordered October 3. Since then, their aim has been to fly as many planes as far and as often as possible, "to cram all the hours we can into the logbooks."

The 1,000 WASP have been distributed among the AAF, including 140 with the ferrying division of the Air Transport Command, with headquarters in Cincinnati.

Skyways Veteran At 30

Mrs. Nancy Harkness Love, of Houghton, Mich., and Boston, Mass., 30-year-old skyways veteran who is special assistant to the commanding general, ferrying division, for WASP, says the 140 have flown 9,000,000 domestic miles in fair weather and foul.

In June, July, August and September, this year, they delivered 25 per cent of all pursuit ships ferried by the division within the continental United States.

[When Gen. H. H. Arnold ordered the WASP disbanded, he said they have done "outstanding work, even exceeding our expectations." He said approximately 1,000 women of the service were capable of operating all types of aircraft, including the fastest fighters and the Superfortresses.

[The disbandment was ordered because sufficient male pilots are available to fill all flying assignments in this country and overseas. Recruiting for the WASP was ended last spring. Thirty members of the corps have been killed in service.]

Own Flying Service

Some WASP started their army careers, in training, with as little as 35 hours air time, the minimum for granting a private pilot's license. A number, however, were instructors, were engaged in aircraft sales promotion, or, like Mrs. Love, operated their own flying services.

Neither Mrs. Love nor her girls are happy over severing their relationship with the Army.

"They have been calling me up at all hours of the night, from all parts of the country, to insist that 'they can't do this to me,'" she said, then went on to sketch the 27-month record of these $250 a month civil service pilots.

Although 96 per cent. of the girls fly four-engine bombers, "Our training emphasis has been upon pursuit ships," Mrs. Love asserted. Mrs. Love herself is a class 5-P pilot—capable of flying anything—and said she has "flown just about everything but the Superforts." She was the first woman to ferry a B-17 Fortress in this country.

"Women," she explained, "are physically and temperamentally suited for fighter plane operation. They are smaller, hence more comfortable in a tiny crowded cockpit. They are quickker to react under many circumstances and are supposed to have a lighter, more delicate touch and thus are better able to surmount emergencies when they arise."

Looking back on the WASP record, Mrs. Love said, "They definitely have proved that women are useful in military flying and can replace men for combat. The theory that women 'can't take it' physically, has been thoroughly disproved. I have it in writing, from excellent authority, that the women's physical record is equal to, if not better, than men over a two-year period.

"Eager Beavers"

"We have an expression 'eager beaver' to describe anyone who is always willing and anxious to do a task. The WASP really have been 'eager beavers.' Their conscientiousness has been marvelous—in part, I daresay, because they know that, as women, they 'had to make good.'"

"It hasn't been an easy job, or highly paid, or glamorous," she smiled. "You can't be glamorous when, on a one or two-week trip away from base, you have room in your fighter plane for only one clean shirt, a toothbrush and maybe a pair of pajamas."

What the women pilots will do, once disbanded, is a "real problem" in Mrs. Love's opinion.

"To Get Away And Think"

A return to the life of an air school instructor would be "humdrum," she ventured; airlines have plenty of men in their pilot-pools and the war is not yet at a point where airplane factories are ready to do much "sales promotion" for planes of the peacetime era.

Mrs. Love's own postwar plan?

She laughed—a laugh without much mirth.

"I have none," she said. "I'm leaving today, flying a C-54 [four-engine transport] to California. . . . Going to fly all night. I want to get away and think what all has happened to me. . . . And to us. . . ."

Picked Up Delirious

"I had to keep under the water intermittently until I found a break on the surface where there were no flames. Somehow I managed to reach the windward side of the ship. As I cleared the flames, I saw many of the crew floating on the water, but I could not recognize any because their faces were charred. I recalled attempting to hold one man up, but it was impossible to do so. . . .

"I was told that I was picked up about an hour and a half after, in a delirious condition, by a United States destroyer escort."

Giant U.S. Tanker Blows Up In Atlantic; Only Two Saved

DEC 17 1944

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP).—A giant American tanker carrying supplies to the European theater went down in the Atlantic several weeks ago following a "terrific explosion," it was announced today. There were only two survivors.

In announcing the loss today, the War Shipping Administration said the ship was believed to have been torpedoed.

The survivors were a merchant seaman and a navy gunner who escaped the flame-covered waters that quickly surrounded the vessel.

No announcement was made by WSA as to the number of casualties. Big tankers normally carry a crew in the neighborhood of 50.

Navy gun crews may be as large as 30 or 40.

The Jacksonville

The tanker, identified as the Jacksonville, was of a class known as T-2's. These tankers, nearly 17,000 deadweight tons, are capable of carrying about 135,000 barrels of petroleum products.

The Jacksonville was under the command of Capt. Edgar Winter, of Long Beach, Cal.

Listed as survivors were Fireman-Watertender Frank B. Hodges, of Tampa, Fla., of the merchant marine, and Seaman 1/c Marcellus Raymond Wegs, of New York, of the navy armed guard.

They were rescued by a United States Navy destroyer escort. Both suffered severe burns.

This is Hodges's story as released by War Shipping Administration:

"When the explosion blasted the ship, I ran out of the messroom and found the vessel enveloped in flames and smoke. I tried to reach the boat deck to get my life jacket but flames and smoke soon engulfed me. However, I managed to reach the rail over the stern and jumped. . . .

Law Reaches Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—British Minister of State Richard Law and a party of experts arrived in Washington by Royal Air Force transport plane this afternoon. They are here for discussions with American authorities of supply problems in liberated European territories.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 1,413 United States Army casualties in the European and Mediterranean war areas.

Bars Rise in Civilian Output

WPB Issues Drastic Order Designed to Thwart Labor Shift From War Plants.

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DEC 17 1944

Washington, Dec. 16.—The WPB, in a drastic new move to meet vital war needs, has ordered that all civilian production be frozen indefinitely at present levels.

The order, dated December 7 and circulated within the War Production Board but not announced, is designed to discourage the movement of labor from war plants into peacetime activity while heavy demand continues for some vital weapons and material.

In effect a hold-the-line order on production, the ruling instructs the WPB staff neither to increase civilian goods production above the level of this quarter nor to relax existing orders if increased output would result.

Some Expansion Leeway.

Some slight leeway for expansion was left, however, by two mechanisms provided in the order, which was signed by Samuel Anderson, WPB's program vice-chairman:

First, the Office of Civilian Requirements, or another agency speaking for a segment of the domestic economy, may seek an increase in production by making a positive demonstration that a program is clearly below essential requirements. Even so, rejection will result unless the increase can be made without serious threat of interference with more essential production, the order states.

Second, the "spot" plan for consumer goods production by individual factories which are not needed for war work is continued in effect and made the sole method of increasing the output of any article above the officially approved level.

This might mean an increase in "spot" authorizations in areas which have relatively plentiful labor supply, but the Government recently banned new spot approvals for ninety days in some 120 cities of acute labor scarcity.

Where there is both military and civilian demand for the same product, a military cutback hitherto has usually been followed by a compensating increase in civilian output.

That practice is curbed by the new edict for a list of seventeen products, even though the total resulting production may be lower than the present rate.

This clause applies to the following items:

Trucks and truck tractors, motorcycles, bicycles and power-cycles, cutlery, typewriters, steam and Diesel locomotives, railroad cars, buses and bus bodies, commercial electric food equipment, commercial laundry machinery, 35 mm. moving picture equipment, tracklaying tractors, heavy motor graders, power cranes and shovels, off-the-highway trucks (which are used for lumbering, mining and similar purposes), truck trailers, and industrial power trucks.

SECURITY TAX FREEZE SIGNED BY ROOSEVELT

House Cheers Rayburn's Announcement as It Waits Expectantly.

VETO HAD SEEMED CERTAIN

President Reluctant to Approve, He Says—Asserts Security Plan Must Broaden.

Washington, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—Speaker Rayburn announced to the House today that President Roosevelt has signed legislation freezing social security pay roll and pay check taxes at 1 per cent.

The Speaker's announcement cheered by the House, many of whose members had stayed here in expectation of a veto of the administration-opposed legislation.

There was no message to the Congress, the Speaker explaining that a statement outlining the President's views was being prepared at the White House.

The President signed "reluctantly." In a formal statement he rapped the knuckles of Congress for freezing the tax which is now 1 per cent each on the pay rolls of employees and the pay checks of employees. Without the

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legislation, the rate would have automatically increased on January 1 to 2 per cent on each.

Declaring it would be incumbent upon the next Congress to review thoroughly methods of financing social security benefits, the presidential statement added:

"At an early date I plan to submit to the Congress a comprehensive plan for broadening and improving the social security system. At that time I hope that a clear understanding of the Government's financial responsibilities for social security will emerge and that a long-term plan for allocating the costs of social security will be developed."

The executive branch of the Government, Mr. Roosevelt asserted, will always stand ready to help Congress work out a satisfactory solution.

Sees Policy Unsound.

The President's statement said he had felt in the past and still felt that scheduled increases in the social security vote, which have been repeatedly deferred by Congress, should be allowed to go into effect. Long-run financial requirements of the security system justified sticking to the schedule, he said, and an increase was consistent with wartime fiscal requirements.

He said he was sure Congress did not intend to jeopardize benefit rights built up in the past and due to grow in the future. But he said he was less disturbed about comprehensive coverage under old - age and survivors' insurance in view of expressed commitments of both the Republican and Democratic parties.

"Two matters should be clearly understood," the Chief Executive declared. "The Congress should realize that this bill deferring a statutory increase in contributions toward existing social security merely defers until next year the necessary fiscal receipts to pay the benefits. Also, it does not seem to me wholly sound to enact a tax law and then defer the taxes year after year."

Chairman Doughton (D.-N. C.) of the House Ways and Means Committee said he was "pleased that the President recognized the overwhelming majorities for the social security freeze in Congress as the sentiment of the people of the country in the first major issue since his re-election."

Mr. Roosevelt previously had indorsed a broader social security system. He gave no idea today of what he had in mind specifically, but for some time the question of bringing into the plan farmers, domestics and other groups now outside the system has been under consideration.

U. S. MARITIME BOARD ACCUSED OF FAVORITISM

House Group Charges East Coast Shipyards, Inc., Has Profited Unduly.

NO OWNERSHIP RISKS TAKEN

Report Sets Out That Federally Owned Material Was Switched by Bookkeeping Entry.

Washington, Dec. 16 (A. P.).—The Maritime Commission is charged by a House committee with "presenting hundreds of thousands of dollars" and other favors to the East Coast Shipyards, Inc., of Bayonne, N. J. The Merchant Marine Committee of the House in a sharply worded report made yesterday on an investigation of "charges of favoritism," said:

"The Government has been paying East Coast a profit on material which the Government purchases and owns and which was transferred to East Coast solely by a bookkeeping entry," thus "in effect presenting East Coast with hundreds of thousands of dollars of additional working capital."

The commission was urged in the report to "proceed immediately to an adjustment of the rights of the Marine Maintenance Commission for the increased facilities placed in the yard."

Other charges made in the report were:

1. "Provisions in the contract (between the commission and East Coast) providing for payment of fees and costs favored East Coast as compared to the situation common to other yards."

2. "Certain inadequacies in the financial structure and working capital of East Coast were evident from the time it took over" the yard in February, 1943, when the commission ordered its work transferred to the firm from the Marine Maintenance Corporation. "On various occasions East Coast failed to take cash discounts, although the contracts provided for taking them."

3. "There is also evidence that East Coast was permitted to take over the job with a smaller capital than other applicants were told would be necessary."

Delay in Deliveries.

4. "Although East Coast took over the former marine maintenance shipyard and . . . partially completed hulls on February 19, 1943, these vessels were not ready for delivery until nine months thereafter."

5. "Absenteeism in this yard was extremely high."

6. "Seven automobiles were supplied to executives of the East Coast for their full-time use, with chauffeurs being provided for some of them," and "their depreciation was charged to yard overhead and was thus paid for in most part by the Government."

The committee report estimated the items transferred from Marine Maintenance to East Coast at $223,457 in material used in repair work and $165,343 in material on the yard premises "generally intended for use on new construction."

The report said on this score:

"These inventories were placed at the disposal of East Coast, and withdrawals of material were made from it for new construction work on Maritime Commissions vessels, for War Shipping Administration repairs, and for work on private vessels.

Its Inventory Financed.

"In addition to the inventory existing at the time of the takeover, arrangements were made with the Maritime Commission whereby all purchases of material by East Coast would be immediately charged to and paid for by the commission and then placed in the general inventory to be drawn against for the three types of work mentioned above.

"Under this arrangement the Maritime Commission had been financing all inventory maintained at the East Coast shipyard.

"East Coast has borne no risks incident to the ownership of this material, and East Coast has been permitted to use this inventory for War Shipping Administration and private work.

"This is the only shipyard in which inventory is so financed by the Government, for in other shipyards purchases of material are made by the yard from its own funds and the risk of loss is carried by the yard."

Crop-Insurance Program Is Approved by Senate

Revived Plan Offers Bonuses to Boost Flax Output

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP).—The Senate completed Legislative action today on a bill reviving the Federal crop-insurance program which was dropped last year. The bill now goes to the White House.

Broader than the old law, the measure would provide insurance next year on wheat, cotton and flax, with other crops to be added on an experimental basis in subsequent years. Payment up to 75 per cent of the value of the crop, based on average yields, would be made for losses caused by such hazards as bad weather, insects and plant diseases.

In addition, the measure carries a $30,000,000 fund to spur the production of flax, needed to remedy a linseed oil shortage. Incentive payments would go to farmers who co-operate in a flax-planting program.

Red Cross Minimum Goal Is ~~$180,000,000~~

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—The minimum goal for the 1945 Red Cross fund will be $180,000,000.

Announcing this today, Basil O'Connor, chairman of the American Red Cross, said:

"Our new budgets represent an appreciable increase in the services we will render in Europe, in the Pacific and at home, but we have been able to keep the total 1945 goal slightly under the one for 1944 because of oversubscription of our earlier campaigns and certain economies in this year's operations."

Colby M. Chester, chairman of the executive committee of the General Foods Corporation, will be chairman of the 1945 campaign.

Cruiser Oklahoma City To Be Commissioned Friday

By the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16.—The light cruiser Oklahoma City will be commissioned at the Philadelphia Navy Yard December 22, 4th Naval District authorities announced today.

The American flag and ship's commissioning pennant will be raised during the ceremony as command of the ship is assumed by Capt. Charles B. Hunt, Pasadena, Calif.

The ship, which was built at Cramp's Shipbuilding Corp., Philadelphia, is unofficially reported to be 600 feet long, 61½ feet abeam and to displace 10,000 tons.

New Device Allows Flyers To Take Photos at Night

Synchronizes Camera Shutter With Burst of Flash Bomb

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Dec. 16 (AP).—The General Electric Company revealed today development of a robot camera device that permits military photography at night.

It is an electronic control, which automatically synchronizes a new type aircraft camera shutter with the bursting of a flash bomb. It has been developed by General Electric in collaboration with the Folmer Graflex Corporation.

The device enables military observers to photograph from high altitudes, and at night, destruction caused by explosives.

The camera, through use of the electronic control, takes advantage of the peak illumination of the bomb by beginning an exposure approximately 1/100th of a second after the flash. After the desired exposure, the control closes the shutter.

The brains of this robot control is a sensitive photoelectric cell that acts on the light impulse coming from the bomb. When the flash explodes the photoelectric cell picks up a light impulse, amplifies it and transforms it into a current to which the shutter responds in less than 1/500ths of a second.

By use of this combination, an aerial camera ordinarily of use for daylight photography only, can take night photographs of the ground in sufficient detail to permit close military study, the G-E company said.

ELECTORS' VOTE DUE TOMORROW

President's Popular Plurality Now Set At 3,592,769

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—President Roosevelt gets elected to a fourth term Monday. The vote won't be counted for nearly three weeks, but it will be 432 for him to 99 for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

If you think that's a combination of stale news and rash prediction, hunt up your copy of the Constitution and it will remind you that it wasn't a President you voted for on November 7 but a set of electors.

Those electors get together in each state December 18 for the voting which technically determines who will run the country in the next four years. Congress does the counting on January 6, at a joint Senate-House session. And that makes the result of the election official.

Few Rechecks Still Under Way

While a few of the official counts are still under recheck, the latest totals Saturday night showed a plurality of 3,592,769 for Mr. Roosevelt over Governor Dewey.

A state has as many electors as it does Congressmen and Senators, and the national total is 531. If a state went Democratic, its electors are morally—but not legally—bound to vote for Roosevelt.

Just what would happen if a batch of them changed their minds and voted for some other candidate is a matter that provokes a lot of intermittent discussion.

Some members of Congress want to junk the whole electoral-college system, even though it is a century and a half old.

Some Call System Archaic

They say that's one of its faults—that it's archaic. They say, too, that it is possible for a man to win a majority of the popular vote and still not get enough electoral votes to make him President.

There wasn't any chance of that happening this year. The newest Associated Press tabulation of popular votes showed today that of a total of 47,969,828, Roosevelt got 25,610,946 and Dewey 22,018,177. Other candidates polled 340,705, or 0.7 per cent.

In Maryland the total vote was 609,419. President Roosevelt received 316,138, or 51.9 per cent. Governor Dewey received 293,281, or 48.1 per cent. The President's plurality was 22,857.

In Delaware, of a total of 125,361 votes, 68,166 were Democratic and 56,747 Republican. The percentages were 54.4 and 45.3, and the plurality 11,419.

Close Vote In Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania, with a total vote of 3,794,787, gave Roosevelt a plurality of 105,431. Democratic votes toatled 1,940,479, or 51.1 per cent; Republican, 1,835,048, or 48.4 per cent.

Virginia went Democratic by a plurality of 97,033. Of a total of 388,485 votes, 242,276, or 62.4 per cent, were for Roosevelt; 145,243, or 37.4 per cent, were for Dewey.

In West Virginia the total vote was 715,596, with 392,777 Democratic and 322,819 Republican. The Democratic plurality, with 54.9 per cent to 45.1 per cent of the vote, was 69,598.

Ward Requests New Injunction Against Pickets

Says Strikers at 4 Stores in Detroit Area Threaten Workers Staying on Job

DEC 1-7 1944

DETROIT, Dec. 16 (AP).—Montgomery Ward & Co., confronted by picket lines of striking Congress of Industrial Organizations unionists at its four Detroit area stores, sought a second injunction today against violence and interference with its non-striking employees.

Petitioning for a temporary injunction in Wayne (Detroit) County Circuit Court, the company alleged that threats and violent acts had been directed against employees.

Circuit Judge John V. Brennan deferred action until Monday, asserting he wanted to study the petition thoroughly.

Friday the company obtained from Oakland County Circuit Judge Frank L. Doty a temporary order restraining striking members of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees, C. I. O. union, from interfering with or molesting employees of its store in suburban Royal Oak. This action followed picket line disturbances in which three Ward employees were reported injured.

A. F. of L. Has No Quarrel

Meanwhile, possibility of friction between the C. I. O. strikers and members of American Federation of Labor unions appeared,

as Frank X. Martel, Wayne County A. F. of L. leader, claimed the A. F. of L. had 95 per cent of the employees of the Royal Oak store as members and that employees of one of the Wayne County stores had requested A. F. of L. membership.

Mr. Martel, president of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, said A. F. of L. members at the Ward stores were not on strike and had no quarrel with Montgomery Ward.

C. I. O. union leaders said 1,500 of 2,200 employees of the four Detroit area department stores of the company had joined the strike, which began a week ago in an attempt to force the management to comply with War Labor Board directives on back pay, union maintenance of membership, dues check-off and arbitration of grievances.

Today's Mongtomery Ward injunction petition sought to restrain officials of the striking union and its members and the United Automobile Workers, C. I. O., from interfering with employees entering or leaving the stores and from interfering with merchandise deliveries.

The bill of complaint charged that a clerk was attacked and kicked, that police had to rescue a merchandise manager and cashier surrounded by pickets, that two women employees were snowballed and that pickets scattered carpet tacks on the Dearborn store's parking lot.

Davis Says Union Awaits Justice

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP).—William H. Davis, chairman of the War Labor Board, said tonight the "underpaid workers" of Sewell Avery, board chairman of Montgomery Ward, are "still waiting for justice to be done them."

Mr. Davis said Mr. Avery "draws a veil" over the company's "refusal to increase its sub-standard wages" by "deliberately repeating all of his familiar misstatements regarding maintenance of membership."

The W. L. B. chairman said Mr. Avery had published in newspaper advertisements a statement to his employees "in which he gives the impression that maintenance of membership is the only issue involved in the Detroit strike."

The statement followed by one day an order by the W. L. B. to Montgomery Ward to comply with its directives in its stores and properties in six cities in addition to Detroit—Chicago, Denver, St Paul, Portland, Ore.; San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.—by next Monday.

The W. L. B. had stated that, failing in compliance, the case would be certified to Fred M. Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization.

Ball Cites Fight For Power

New York, Dec. 16 (AP)—Senator Ball (R., Minn.) today said "much of the power politics maneuvering now going on in Europe might have been averted" if a security organization like the one proposed at Dumbarton Oaks had been formed two years ago.

"Certainly we would not have the spectacle of members of the Big Three making unilateral political decisions had a United Nations organization been functioning," Ball told the American Labor Conference on International Affairs.

"Much of that maneuvering," he said, "represents a scramble for national security, growing out of cynicism regarding plans for collective security which have been all too slow materializing."

Great Britain's Desire

Sir Norman Angell, British economist and 1933 Nobel peace prize-winner, said Great Britain, "more than any great power, will desire some international organization," adding:

"But until it becomes a dependable political reality she is not only likely to cling to the international organization which does exist and has enabled her to avoid defeat in this war . . . but if possible to strengthen it, its main bases and its lines of communication."

Angell referred, he said, to "the Common Wealth organization," and declared that "we shall not see, I think, the liquidation of the empire to which Churchill objected."

Churchill's Way

Dr. James T. Shotwell, director of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, said "Churchill's way for saving Britain is the old way—by power politics." "British Labor and Liberal opinion is as much against that as any of us," he asserted.

William Green said the American Federation of Labor, which he heads, would "stand firm and immovable in its demand for adequate representation at the peace conference" and emphasized what he termed "the necessity of establishing . . . united labor movement on a national basis as a primary requisite to the development of world unity."

Speaks Of Poland

Departing from his prepared address, Green expressed hope "that our own country will say 'no' to those who seek to apportion the territory of Poland.

"Surely we are not going to engage now in invading the territorial rights of men and women living in countries which fought and suffered so much," he said.

The conference's political committee indorsed the Dumbarton Oaks proposals "wholeheartedly" in a resolution, but proposed several amendments "to implement the pledge made in the Atlantic Charter and in Moscow."

Asserting that the "Security Council in its projected form gives excessive dominance to four or at most five great powers," the committee urged "that the rule of unanimity be replaced by a two-thirds majority of all members, including a majority of the permanent members of the Security Council."

Fallen Out Over Spoils

Asserting that "the statesmen have fallen out over the spoils" before victory is assured, Matthew Woll, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, said "provocative and dangerous" Communist policy in liberated countries was endangering the cause of the United Nations.

"Our liberal 'realists' are violently attacking Great Britain for her policy in Greece and Belgium," he said, and added that resistance leaders in these countries were "avowed Communists." The same realists, he continued, demanded unity only so long as it was "consistent with the international policies of the Russian Government."

Woll charged that Russia was forming her own government in Poland, "without any regard for the wishes of the majority" or the Polish Government in London.

Expressing confidence, however, that international unity could be attained, Woll advocated amendment of the Dumbarton Oaks proposals to include all nations as members.

Cooper Warns Against Postwar Propaganda Under Guise of News

By the Associated Press.

MOUNT VERNON, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Kent Cooper, executive director of the Associated Press, said last night he hoped the United States never would undertake "foreign propaganda in the guise of news."

Speaking at a celebration marking the 153d anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights, Mr. Cooper declared: "If we are worthy of the heritage we got through that grant of freedom, we, as citizens, never will approve any step toward peacetime propaganda dissemination by our Government.

"There should be no doubt as to what our Government's function as respects news dissemination ought to be.

Urges Authoritative Statement.

"But because of rumors, an authoritative statement of what proposals have been made and what ones are to have consideration, is due the public as early as possible."

Mr. Cooper spoke at St. Paul's Church in nearby Eastchester, "national shrine of the Bill of Rights," and paid tribute to John Peter Zenger, pre-Revolutionary publisher, who was arrested and imprisoned for truthful reporting of an election held on the village green adjoining the church in 1733. Mr. Zenger's subsequent trial and acquittal established freedom of the press in the Colonies.

James E. Stiles, former president of the Newspaper Publishers' Association of New York State, and former State Supreme Court Justice Joseph M. Proskauer also addressed the gathering in the 279-year-old church.

Mr. Cooper urged establishment of world-wide untrammeled news, including "freedom of information in Germany."

Persistent Demand Needed.

By this action, he said, "we will convince ourselves that our country never should involve itself in even a first step that might lead us to a practice of what brought on Germany's moral degradation as a nation."

"It is going to take the persistent militant demand of our people to bring the blessings of freedom of information to every country," he said, adding: "Yet without it no association of nations ever can function successfully."

NEWS FREEDOM HELD U.S. AIM

Plans In The Making To Insure Application To Reich

Washington, Dec. 16 (AP)—American officials hope to bring international freedom of news a step nearer at the forthcoming United Nations conference on world security.

At the same time they are readying plans, for discussion with Britain and Russia, to see that defeated Germans have that freedom.

Secretary of State Stettinius, responding to a call from Kent Cooper, executive director of the Associated Press, for an authoritative statement of this Government's position, said today:

"I shall support any practical measure to give international recognition to the principle of freedom of news. I earnestly hope that it will be possible to have this subject brought up at the United Nations conference when it meets."

No Propaganda

Cooper, speaking last night at Mount Vernon, N.Y., in a celebration of the one hundred and fifty-third anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights, spoke of "rumors" about this Government's plans for dissemination of news. He expressed the hope the United States never will undertake "foreign propaganda in the guise of news."

The AP executive asserted that "an authoritative statement of what proposals have been made and what ones are to have consideration; is due the public as early as possible."

Cooper also called for world-wide establishment of untrammeled news. He specifically urged "freedom of information in Germany" as proof that this nation never will take even the first step toward "a practice of what brought on Germany's moral degradation as a nation."

Eliminate Restrictions

On Germany the American official view, which has not yet been worked out in detail, is that all Nazi propaganda should be eliminated and that within security limits Germans should have free access to world news.

The plan is to work out a program for identical application in all th eoccupation zones—American, British and Russian.

Indicating the German hunger for news, front dispatches have said that people in Aachen have been begging for copies of American papers.

The policies on news distribution during the period of battle rests entirely with front line commanders, but decisions for the period to follow will be made by the Allies together.

Stettinius Plans United Nations Action on Press

Hopes to Gain Recognition of Free News Principle at Security Conference

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP).—Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius jr. declared today that he hoped to bring up international recognition of freedom of the press at the forthcoming United Nations conference on world security.

Responding to a call from Kent Cooper, executive director of The Associated Press, for an authoritative statement on the government's position, Mr. Stettinius said:

"I shall support any practical measure to give international recognition to the principle of freedom of news."

Mr. Cooper urged last night "that foreign propaganda in the guise of news never shall be undertaken by our government after the war."

Mr. Stettinius's comment said: "The whole question of freedom of information is, as you know, under study in the Department of State. I shall support any practical measure to give international recognition to the principle of freedom of news. I earnestly hope that it will be possible to have this subject brought up at the United Nations conference when it meets."

With the nomination of Archibald MacLeish as the sixth Assistant Secretary of State, the State Department indicated that it plans a thoroughgoing revamping of its public information and cultural relations set-up, particularly with respect to the post-war world. Mr. MacLeish has not yet been confirmed by the Senate.

It has already been disclosed, however, that the government intends to expand information facilities, especially abroad. Secretary Stettinius has expressed privately his desire to see special officers trained for this work, to be assigned to American Embassies and Legations.

State Department officials assert that these activities will be carried on through established news channels.

NEGRO PILOTS' USE PROTESTED

Race 'Not Yet Qualified,' Says Father Of Collision Victim

Anniston, Ala., Dec. 16 (AP)—An Anniston business executive whose son was killed in a recent air collision involving an army pursuit plane piloted by a Negro today protested the "sudden elevation of the Negro to duties he is not yet qualified to perform" in a letter to the Anniston Star and the War Department.

Earl C. Knowlton, head of the Anniston Water Works, said his only son, Lieut. Earl C. Knowlton, Jr., pilot of a B-24, and 11 others were killed, in addition to the Negro pilot of the pursuit plane, in a recent accident near Charleston, S.C.

"I knew that my boy might have to give his life for his country," Knowlton wrote, "but I expected it to accomplish some useful purpose, and not to be sacrificed to the fanatical idea that all men must be allowed to perform on the same level regardless of background qualification."

Forbears Of North And South

"My father's people fought for the North; my mother's for the South," in the war between the states, Knowlton said.

"I hold no blame against the Negro who flew a fighter plane into a bomber, killing my boy and eleven others. He flew that plane because he was ordered to do so," Knowlton wrote.

"But, with all my heart, I resent our Government's apparent determination to raise the Negro overnight, as it were, to a place in civilization which he is as yet unprepared to assume.

"With rare exceptions, his mind is not prepared to make the split-second decisions which mean life or death in the operation of so swift and so complicated and so deadly a mechanism as an airplane. . . .

Negroes Offer Sympathy

"Negroes were among the first to come to my home to offer sympathy in my boy's death. They attended the funeral service. They loved him. He loved them. So, this is not a letter of hate.

"It is the expression of the very deep resentment I feel toward the fetishism of our Government in its attitude toward an unnatural and possibly sudden elevation of the

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...gro to duties he is not yet qualified to perform.

"Some will say that the accident might have happened if a white man had been piloting the fighter plane. That is true. But the percentage against it would have been in my boy's favor."

Knowlton has a daughter, Capt. Louise Knowlton, on duty in France with the WAC.

NAACP Statement

In New York, Roy Wilkins, acting secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said in a statement:

"We can understand the grief and disappointment of a father who expected that if his son should lose his life in serving his country, it would not be in an accident, but in combat against our enemies.

"But the record of Negro combat pilots to date in actual combat with German planes in the Mediterranean theater of war, over the Anzio beachhead, at Salerno, with the British 8th Army up the Italian peninsula and in escort work for our big bombers over southeastern Europe and southern France during the German occupation would seem to prove that Negroes are capable of handling a combat airplane and making split-second decisions at more than 400 miles an hour.

"Main Thesis" Condemned

"Mr. Knowlton says his letter is not one of hatred and we believe him so far as his feeling for this one Negro pilot is concerned; but his main thesis, which is that the Negro is still a kind of uncivilized, lower animal incapable of adjusting himself to civilization, is an underhand cut at the whole Negro race.

"From the beginning in 1940, Negro-Americans have spent more of their energies struggling to get a chance to fight the enemies of our country, and this incident is just one more of the many that have been used to discourage him and to relegate him to strictly menial and service work in uniform."

In Washington, a War Department spokesman declined comment. He said, however, that if the letter came to the War Department it would "of course, be answered." The spokesman said he did not know whether the letter had been received.

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STATE POSTS IS AIM OF GOP

Brownell Returns To Job With $350,000 In Till

New York, Dec. 16 (AP)—Armed with the first cash surplus the party ever brought out a presidential contest, Herbert Brownell, Jr., started the ball rolling today on a four-year Republican campaign aimed at electing mayors, governors, members of Congress and finally a President.

The GOP national chairman, back from a month's vacation in the West, said he hadn't decided yet whether he wants to keep the non-paying job he took over last summer when his long-time friend, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, became the party's presidential nominee.

Arranges Conferences

But Brownell gave every appearance, as he arranged a series of conferences with Republican leaders, of a man who intends to keep his hand on the party reins. That issue will be determined when the National Committee meets, probably early in February in some mid-Western State the GOP carried in the Presidential campaign.

Committee members heard that the 40-year-old chairman already has sufficient written pledges to assure his re-election if he wants to ho'd on.

Brownell has made it plain, friends said, that if he remains as chairman it will be with the understanding that he will run a party and not a Dewey show. He is understood to have told the New York Governor that. There is no indication that Dewey disagreed.

Dewey As Spokesman

The New York Governor, however, seems likely to remain for the next couple of years the party's No. 1 spokesman and in the public mind its chief contender for the 1948 presidential nomination. What happens in the 1946 gubernatorial election will bring him into sharper focus or dim him out as a possible candidate.

Brownell arranged to talk over his four-year campaign ideas in a conference with Dewey here tomorrow. He lunched with John Foster Dulles, the New York Governor's adviser on foreign affairs, today, presumably got a report on Dulles' recent conferences with Secretary of State Stettinius and Congressional leaders.

Forthcoming conferences are planned in Washington at which Brownell will talk over his ideas with members of the House and Senate, heads of the Congressional campaign committees and others.

$350,000 Left Over

The Republicans reportedly wound up the presidential contest with $350,000 in the till, something that never happened to them before. Their early start on a national campaign thus has the financial backing the party of a defeated presidential candidate often has difficulty in obtaining.

As he has outlined his ideas to friends, Brownell thinks the National Committee ought to build its organization from the precinct level. If he has his way, the committee will give active help in efforts to elect GOP mayors and county officials in politically strategic areas.

Looks To House Control

Obviously, the chief Republican effort will be directed in the next two years toward winning control of the House of Representatives and building up party membership

"Add London Polish (liaisschlte) xxx adjustment."

ARCISZEWSKI SAID FRIDAY'S COMMONS DEBATE RAISED THE QUESTION NOT ONLY OF POLAND'S EASTERN FRONTIER BUT ALSO OF ITS WESTERN BOUNDARY WITH GERMANY AND ADDED: DEC 17 1944

"HERE WE HAVE NO GRAND IDEAS OF EXPANSION. WE ARE TRYING ONLY TO PRESERVE THE UNITY AND INTEGRITY OF THE POLISH STATE. WE HAVE PUT FORWARD OUR CLAIMS AGAINST GERMANY AND HAVE DEMANDED THE INCORPORATION INTO POLAND OF EAST PRUSSIA, UPPER SILESIA AND PARTS OF POMERANIA AND WE APPRECIATE THE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF THE ALLIES--INCLUDING RUSSIA--WHO PROMISED US HELP IN THIS MATTER. BUT WE DO NOT WANT TO EXPAND OUR FRONTIER IN THE WEST TO INCLUDE EIGHT TO TEN MILLION GERMANS.

"WE DO NOT WANT--THAT IS--EITHER BRESLAU OR STETTIN. WE ARE CLAIMING JUST OUR ETHNICAL AND HISTORIC POLISH TERRITORIES WHICH ARE UNDER POLISH DOMINATION."

THE SUNDAY OBSERVER SAID ARCISZEWSKI WAS "DETERMINED TO USE POLISH POLITICAL INFLUENCE IN THE UNITED STATES MUCH MORE FIRMLY THAN DID HIS PREDECESSOR." AND THAT A "SPECIAL ENVOY WHOSE TASK IT WILL BE TO ORGANIZE LARGE-SCALE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGNS IN FAVOR OF POLAND AMONG AMERICANS OF POLISH ORIGIN IS TO LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES."

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(LEAD) A U.S. HEAVY BOMBER BASE, ENGLAND, EST. WILLIAM HEIL,
(POP STA) XIX EXPLODING SHELLS.
IT WAS THE FIRST MISSION FOR
74 ARMY ST., NEWARK, N.J. HE
GAVE THEM HIS OTHER TUNICS AND
WHILE THE NAVIGATOR, LT. HAMIL
THE FORT AROUND FLAK AREAS. THE
LOWER ARTIFUNS.
THE ENGINEL, SGT. JOSEPH POLI

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(LEAD) A U.S. HEAVY BOMBER BASE, ENGLAND, EST. WILLIAM HEIL, SGT. OF THE PILOT OUT OF THE OTHER ONE INTO
(POP STA) XIX EXPLODING SHELLS. FOR THE RADIO GUNNER,
IT WAS THE FIRST MISSION FOR THE AID OF THE WOUNDED MEN.
74 ARMY ST., NEWARK, N.J. HE SENT TO
GAVE THEM HIS OTHER TUNICS AND WRAPPED THEM IN BLANKETS.
WHILE THE NAVIGATOR, LT. HAMILTON, ARMED FLAK, SOUTH ENGLD. ..., STRIKES
THE FORT AROUND FLAK AREAS. THE
LOWER ARTIFUNS.
THE ENGINEL, SGT. JOSEPH POLI

REPAIR THE BRAKES SO THE SHIP COULD STAY ON THE RUNWAY AFTER LANDING.

SPARTHAN BROUGHT IT IN SAFELY AND IT WAS NOT UNTIL NEXT DAY THAT THE GROUND CREW FISHED THE UNEXPLODED SHELL FROM THE GAS TANK.

THE PILOT SAID, "IF THAT HAD COME OFF, WELL, THAT IS ONE THING "TAKE IS EASY" COULDN'T HAVE TAKEN."

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londo^n,dec.16 (ap)--findley burns of baltimore,md.,arrived here today and took up his duties as third secretary of the u.s.embassy. he had been third secretary at madrid.

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LONDON, DEC 16-(AP)-THE GERMAN RADIO ASSERTED TODAY THAT THE U.S. 30TH DIVISION HAD BEEN SO BADLY MAULED BY A GERMAN COUNTER-ATTACK NORTHWEST OF COLMAR ON THE SEVENTH ARMY FRONT THAT IT HAD TO BE WITHDRAWN.

(LATEST SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCEMENTS PLACED THE 30TH DIVISION ON THE COLOGNE PLAIN AS PART OF THE U.S.NINTH ARMY. HOWEVER, FIELD DISPATCHES TWO DAYS AGO SAID THAT THE 36TH DIVISION HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE COLMAR AREA).

MK

LONDON, DEC. 16-(AP)-LESLIE HORE-BELISHA, WAR SECRETARY IN THE FORMER CHAMBERLAIN CABINET, SAID TODAY IN A SPEECH MARKING HIS 21ST ANNIVERSARY AS A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT THAT THE PRESENT CONFLICT HAD PROVED THE SMALL EUROPEAN NATIONS CANNOT STAND ALONE.

HE ASSERTED THAT UNLESS THE GREAT POWERS WERE PREPARED UNITEDLY TO GUARANTEE EUROPE A NEW CONSTITUTION BASED ON A SINGLE FEDERATION OF A NUMBER OF FEDERATIONS THEY WERE WORKING IN AN ANACHRONISTIC MEDIUM IN AN AGE OF AIRPLANES, WIRELESS AND MASS-PRODUCTION.

"THE PRESCRIPTION OF THE SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE OF THE STATES WITH WHICH THE STATESMEN OF VERSAILLES SOUGHT TO STABILIZE EUROPE WILL HAVE NO MORE CURATIVE EFFECT IN 25 YEARS AFTER THIS WAR THAN IT HAD IN 25 YEARS AFTER THE LAST," HE DECL

HAVE NO MORE CURATIVE EFFECT IN 25 YEARS AFTER THIS WAR THAN IT HAD IN 25 YEARS AFTER THE LAST," HE DECLARED.

"NOR ARE THE PEOPLES OF EMANCIPATED COUNTRIES LIKELY TO FEEL THAT IN SUCH A FORMULA--HOWEVER DEMOCRATICALLY PRESENTED--WILL THEY FIND SECURITY EITHER IN THEIR INDIVIDUAL OR NATIONAL LIVES," HE CONTINUED. "THE REVOLUTIONARY RESISTANCE MOVEMENTS SUCH AS THE EAM IN GREECE PROVIDE A FOCUS AND OUTLET FOR THE UNSATISFIED ASPIRATIONS OF MILLIONS OF EUROPEANS."

PREDICTING GENERAL DISHARMONY AFTER THE END OF FORMAL HOSTILITIES HORE-BELISHA ASKED:

"WHAT HOPE IS HELD OUT TO HUMANITY IN ANY OF THE EVENTS UNFOLDING IN EUROPE THAT THE GREAT POWERS ARE GOING TO ACT UNITEDLY AS THERE IS NO EVIDENCE EITHER IN ITALY, BELGIUM, GREECE OR POLAND THAT THEY HAVE PLANNED AN ACCORD?

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"THERE CAN BE NO END TO GLOBAL WARS UNLESS SOME BETTER CONSTITUTION THAN THE PREWAR SYSTEM IS FOUND FOR EUROPE."

EJ146PEW

LONDON, DEC. 16-(AP)-THE MOSCOW RADIO IN A BROADCAST REPORTED BY THE SOVIET MONITOR HERE SAID TODAY THAT THE GESTAPO WAS MAKING "MASS ARRESTS" AMONG HAMBURG DOCKWORKERS AND NAVAL PERSONNEL IN AN ATTEMPT TO SMASH A PEACE ORGANIZATION "WHICH HAS SUPPORTERS THROUGHOUT GERMANY." THE BROADCAST SAID POSTERS HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED OFFERING A REWARD FOR THE ARREST OF THE LEADER OF THE PEACE GROUP.

KK1054PEW

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U.S. BOMBER BASE IN ENGLAND, DEC 16-(AP)-THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR WAS AWARDED TODAY TO LT.EDWARD S.MICHAEL, DOUGLAS, ARIZ., WHO CHEATED A SWARM OF GERMAN FIGHTERS OF A SURE KILL AND BROUGHT HIS RUINED FLYING FORTRESS HOME.

THE 23-YEAR-OLD PILOT, NOW IN THE UNITED STATES FOR TREATMENT OF SEVERE WOUNDS, STARTED A BOMBING MISSION OVER GERMANY APRIL 11.

AN HOUR AFTER CROSSING THE COAST HE RAN INTO MORE THAN 100 TWIN-ENGINED ENEMY FIGHTERS.

THE FIGHTERS RIPPED MICHAEL'S PLANE WITH 20-MM SHELLS UNTIL IT DROPPED SPINNING OUT OF FORMATION. A SHELL EXPLODED IN THE COCKPIT, WOUNDING THE PILOT AND CO-PILOT AND WRECKING MOST OF THE INSTRUMENTS.

WHEN THE PLANE PULLED OUT OF THE SPIN AFTER DROPPING 3,000 FEET, THE BOMB BAY, LOADED WITH INCENDIARIES, WAS FLAMING AND THE LEVER FAILED WHEN AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO SALVO THE BOMBS TO PREVENT AN EXPLOSION.

MICHAEL ORDERED THE PLANE ABANDONED AND SEVEN MEN JUMPED, BUT THE BOMBARDIER'S PARACHUTE AS DESTROYED BY ENEMY BULLETS AND MICHAEL DECIDED TO TRY TO FLY HOME. THE CO-PILOT ALSO ELECTED TO REMAIN.

GERMAN FIGHTERS STILL WERE ATTACKING. AFTER 45 MINUTES, THE RIDDLED FORTRESS FOUND COVER IN A CLOUD BANK AND SHOOK OFF THE PURSUING FIGHTERS. MICHAEL BROUGHT THE BIG FELLOW DOWN TO TREETOP LEVEL TO DODGE THE FLAK ACROSS FRANCE.

MICHAEL PASSED OUT FROM LOSS OF BLOOD AND EXHAUSTION BEFORE HE REACHED ENGLAND. WHEN THE BOMBER REACHED AN RAF FIELD, THE CO-PILOT CIRCLED SEVERAL TIMES UNTIL THE BOMBARDIER BROUGHT MICHAEL AROUND. BOTH PILOTS WERE NECESSARY TO LAND THE PLANE.

MICHAEL TOOK OVER WHAT WAS LEFT OF THE CONTROLS AND MADE A SUCCESSFUL CRASH LANDING. HE WAS CARRIED FROM THE PLANE TO A HOSPITAL.

MICHAEL'S HOME IS AT 652 FOURTEENTH ST., DOUGLAS.

A BOMBER BASE IN ENGLAND, DEC. 16-(AP)-TO THE CREWS OF THE OTHER BOMBERS IN THE FORMATION THE FLYING FORTRESS APPEARED TO BE IN A FINAL DIVE, DOOMED TO DESTRUCTION ALONG WITH ITS CREW OF 10 IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.

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NINE MEN INSIDE THE 30-TON MONSTER FELT IT, TOO.

THE TENTH FELT NOTHING. HE LAY SLUMPED ACROSS THE CONTROLS IN THE CO-PILOT'S SEAT, MORTALLY WOUNDED. IT WAS THE WEIGHT OF HIS BODY AND HIS DEATH GRIP ON THE THROTTLES THAT WERE SPEEDING THE BOMBER DOWN.

THE GERMAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT SHELL WHICH HAD KILLED THE CO-PILOT, LT. GEORGE CLARK, 123 MAPLE AVE., NOBLESVILLE, IND., HAD NOT HARMED THE PILOT IN THE NEXT SEAT, LT.CHARLES WALLACE OF 2152 SHELBO ST., SEATTLE WASH.

THE 23-YEAR-OLD PILOT WAS THE ONLY PERSON ABOARD WHO IN THOSE FEW SPILIT SECONDS COULD DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

HE PULLED CLARK'S HANDS OFF THE THROTTLES AND WEDGED THE BODY AWAY FROM THE STICK, AT THE SAME TIME STRUGGLING WITH HIS OWN CONTROLS.

WITH AGONIZING DELIBERATENESS THE BOMBER FINALLY RESPONDED, SHUDDERING AS IF IN A GALE, AND LEVELLED OFF.

THE LANDING FLAPS HAD BEEN TORN AWAY AND THE INSTRUMENTS SHATTERED. GASOLINE TANKS WERE LEAKING AND FUMES FILLED THE PLANE.

WALLACE FOUND AN AMERICAN FIGHTER BASE IN FRANCE AND SENT THE CREW INTO CRASH POSITIONS IN THE RADIO ROOM. HE CRASHLANDED WITH THREE ENGINES.

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EIGHTH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS SAID WALLACE'S COOL THINKING AND QUICK ACTION SAVED HIS OWN LIFE AND THOSE OF THE CREW MEMBERS.

RW1206PEW

Add Paris W Front (Kennedy) xxx north of Colmar.

PATCH'S MEN DROVE INTO THE PALATINATE YESTERDAY, FOUR MONTHS TO THE DAY AFTER THEY STORMED THE MEDITERRANEAN SHORE AND BEGAN A CHASE OF THE ENEMY THAT LED 500 MILES THROUGH FRANCE.

TROOPS OF THE 103RD INFANTRY DIVISION WERE THE FIRST TO ENTER, PUSHING ACROSS AGAINST SPORADIC OPPOSITION NORTH OF CLIMBACH AND FOUR MILES WEST OF THE FRENCH FRONTIER CITY OF WISSEMBOURG IN THE NORTHEASTERN CORNER OF ALSACE.

DEC 17 1944

WITHIN LESS THAN AN HOUR TROOPS OF THE 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION--VETERANS OF SICILY, SALERNO AND ANZIO--CROSSED THE BORDER ALONG WOODED RIDGES AT AN UNDISCLOSED POINT IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA, AND THE 79TH INFANTRY DIVISION BURST THE LAUTER RIVER LINE AT THE

FRONTIER NEAR SCHEIBENHARD, NINE MILES EAST OF WISSEMBOURG.

PUSHING AHEAD AGAINST SMALL ARMS FIRE ON A SECTOR 1,000-YARDS WIDE THE 79TH PLUNGED INTO BIEN WALD FOREST ON THE RHINE PLAIN. ONE BATTALION FOUGHT WITHOUT SLEEP THROUGH THREE NIGHTS, SAVING BRIDGES IN THE PATH OF THE DIVISION AND MAKING THE PENETRATION POSSIBLE.

ELEMENTS OF THE 79TH SMASHED INTO THE BORDER TOWN OF LAUTERBOURG AND WERE FIGHTING WITHIN 10 MILES OF THE BADEN PROVINCE CAPITAL OF KARLSRUHE, WHICH IS ACROSS THE RHINE.

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OTHER TROOPS OF THE 103RD, OVERRUNNING AT LEAST SEVEN TOWNS IN THEIR PATH, WERE WITHIN A MILE AND A HALF SOUTH OF WISSEMBOURG, STANDING AT THE ENTRANCE OF A GAP LEADING INTO GERMANY. WISSEMBOURG, THE LAST NORTHERN ALSATIAN CITY STILL IN GERMAN HANDS, WAS CLOSELY PRESSED FROM THE EAST. SOUTH AND WEST.

THE GERMANS THREW IN A STRONG COUNTERATTACK 23 MILES WEST OF WISSEMBOURG NEAR THE MAGINOT FORTRESS TOWN OF BITCHE.

ON THE SEVENTH ARMY'S LEFT FLANK THE AMERICAN THIRD ARMY, IN A MILE AND A HALF GAIN SIX MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES, ENTERED THE SAAR BASIN TOWN OF NIEDER-GAILBACH. THE THIRD ARMY NOW HAS DRAWN ITS LINES INSIDE OR WITHIN A MILE OF THE BORDER FROM THE SOUTH ON A 10-MILE FRONT EAST OF THE SAAR RIVER.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS DRIVING TOWARD COLOGNE HAVE WIPED OUT THE LAST ORGANIZED RESISTANCE WEST OF THE ROER RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF THE FORTRESS CITY OF DUREN. THE U.S. NINTH ARMY TO THE NORTH AND THE FIRST ARMY NOW HOLD OVER 21 MILES OF THE WEST BANK OF THE ROER FROM LINNICH TO BERGSTEIN.

DEC 17 1944

ON THE SOUTHERN ALSATIAN SECTOR, FRENCH FIRST ARMY TROOPS BEAT OFF FURIOUS COUNTERATTACKS BY REINFORCED GERMANS NORTHWEST OF COLMAR WHERE ENEMY INFILTRATION FOR A TIME MENACED SUPPLY LINES, AND AT SELESTAT, FARTHER NORTH. ON THE SOUTH THE GERMANS THREW IN PANTHER TANKS BETWEEN BELFORT AND MULHOUSE, BUT THE SITUATION WAS REPORTED UNDER CONTROL.

PARIS, DEC. 16--(AP)--THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF DEPARTMENTAL LIBERATION COMMITTEES APPROVED A RESOLUTION TODAY EXPRESSING "PROFOUND SATISFACTION" WITH THE FRANCO-SOVIET ALLIANCE.

THE CONVENTION, WITHOUT KNOWING THE TERMS OF THE RUSSIAN TREATY, DECLARED THE PACT AFFIRMED "FRANCE'S RENOVATED POWER," AND GUARANTEED THE FUTURE SECURITY OF THE NATION.

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THE TEXT OF THE ALLIANCE WILL BE SUBMITTED TO A CABINET MEET AT 10 A. M., TOMORROW, AND WILL BE RELEASED AT 7 P. M., PARIS TIME. THE CABINET'S APPROVAL IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION.

EARLIER IN THE SESSION FORMER INTERIOR MINISTER DASTIER DE W LA VIGERIE, A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF RESISTANCE, DREW APPLAUSE WHEN HE ASSERTED THAT PROMOT FORMATION OF THE FRENCH COOPERATIVE NEWS AGENCY WAS A PRIME URGENCY FOR GUARANTEEING INDEPENDENCE OF INFORMATION.

DASTIER ASSAILED FRENCH CENSORSHIP FOR FAILING TO ADHERE STIRCTLY TO MILITARY SECURITY AS A GAUGE FOR ITS DECISIONS, SAYING IT

30. 24— 21317

SOMETIMES INVADED POLITICAL DOMAIN. APL DYNANS 02201 MS/815P

(150) PARIS DEC 16-(AP)-WHILE THE PRECISE TERMS OF THE FRANCO-SOVIET ALLIANCE ARE BEING WITHHELD BY GEN.CHARLES DE GAULLE UNTIL TOMORROW, THE QUAI D'ORSAY TONIGHT REVEALED THAT THE PACT AIMS CHIEFLY TOWARD PREVENTING FUTURE GERMAN AGGRESSION WHILE ADHERING TO THE FRAMEWORK OF A WORLD SECURITY ORGANIZATION.

THE TEXT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO A CABINET MEETING TOMORROW AT 10 A.M., PARIS TIME. THE CABINET'S APPROVAL IS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION.

OF THE PACT'S EIGHT POINTS, OFFICIALS SAID THAT MOST ARE CONCERNED WITH THE QUESTION OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AGAINST GERMANY. THE AGREEMENT IS MODELLED ON THE ANGLO-SOVIET TREATY BUT ENGAGES THE TWO NATIONS MORE CLOSELY BOTH FOR THE PRESENT AND FUTURE.

IN A PREAMBLE

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CALLING FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS, THE TWO SIGNATORIES ASSERT THEIR DESIRE TO SEE AN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM ESTABLISHED AFTER THE WAR AND, BY IMPLICATION, PLACE THEIR PRESENT TREATY WITHIN THE GENERAL PEACE STRUCTURE.

KK1025PEW

PARIS DEC 16-(AP)-SPANISH REPUBLICAN GUERRILLAS SEIZED A CHATEAU NEAR ZARAGOZA EARLY THIS WEEK AND HELD IT TWO DAYS AGAINST ATTACKS BY TROOPS OF THE FRANCO GOVERNMENT, KILLING 20 FRANCO GUARDS AND WOUNDING MANY OTHERS, THE UNION NACIONAL ESPANOLA ET GANOLA, A REFUGEE ORGANIZATION, REPORTED HERE TODAY.

THE GUERRILLAS CAUGHT THE FRANCO GARRISON AT THE CHATEAU BY SURPRISE AND HOISTED THE REPUBLICAN FLAG. THEY WITHDREW ONLY UNDER A LARGE SCALE COUNTERATTACK, THE REPORT SAID.

IN HOLLAND, DEC 16-(AP)-THE FIRST STEP TOWARD REGULARIZING DUTCH FORCES OF THE INTERIOR WAS TAKEN TODAY BY NETHERLANDS MILITARY AUTHORITIES WHO ORDERED THAT NONE EXCEPT POLICE MIGHT MAKE ARREST

TARY AUTHORITIES WHO ORDERED THAT NONE EXCEPT POLICE MIGHT MAKE ARRESTS BEHIND THE COMBAT ZONES.

THE ORDER LEFT THE UNDERGROUND FULL SCOPE ONLY IN COMBAT AREAS AND THE DUTCH EXPRESSED BELIEF THIS INITIAL ACTION IN DISARMING THE UNDERGROUND WOULD AVERT TROUBLE SUCH AS DEVELOPED IN OTHER FREED COUNTRIES.

GEN.H.J.KRULS, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE NETHERLANDS MILITARY MISSION, SIGNED THE ORDER.

UNDERGROUND MEMBERS WILL BE USED AS AUXILIARY POLICE REPLACEMENTS AND AS SHOCK TROOPS IN THE FRONT LINE. UNDERGROUND MEMBERS NOT THUS ABSORBED WILL BE URGED TO SURRENDER THEIR ARMS AND RETURN TO PEACETIME JOBS.

"MEMBERS OF THE FO

PEACETIME JOBS.

DEC 17 1944

"MEMBERS OF THE FORCES OF THE INTERIOR ARE AUTHORIZED TO MAKE ARRESTS ONLY IN REGIONS WHERE FIGHTING IS TAKING PLACE AND THEY MAY ARREST ONLY THOSE WHOSE ACTIONS ENDAYZWAUIIIKNNC

ARREST ONLY THOSE WHOSE ACTIONS ENDANGER THAT FIGHTING ACTION, OR WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO HAMPER THAT ACTION."

THE ORDER STIPULATED THAT COMMISSIONS BE SET UP TO TRY THOSE DETAINED AS COLLABORATORS WITH THE NAZIS. UNDERGROUND MEMBERS WILL AID THE COMMISSIONS BY MARSHALL EVIDENCE.

MT1002AEW

BY WILLIAM F. BONI

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY, DEC. 16-(AP)--

THE U.S. 78TH INFANTRY DIVISION IS FIGHTING UNDER THE FIRST ARMY COMMAND, IT WAS DISCLOSED TODAY, AND HAS TAKEN THE TOWNS OF KESTERICH, ROLLESBROICH AND SEVERAL OTHER VILLAGESX NORTHEAST OF MONSCHAU.

IT FIRST WENT INTO COMBAT AT 6 A.M. LAST WEDNESDAY AFTER JOINING THE FIRST ARMY DEC. DEC 17 1944

SINCE ITS ACTIVATION AUG. 15, 1942, AT CAMP BUTLER, N.C., THE NEW 78TH HAS BEEN UNDER COMMAND OF MAJ.-GEN. EDWIN PARKER, JR., OF WHYTHEVILLE, VA., WHOSE WIFE NOW LIVES IN RICHMOND.

THE 78TH HAD A PECULIAR HISTORY IN THAT FOR ALMOST A YEAR OF ITS CAREER IT WAS USED AS A TRAINING OUTFIT WHICH HEADED BETWEEN 50,00 AND 60,000 MEN FOR SERVICE IN THE PACIFIC AND EUROPEAN THEATERS. EVEN AS LATE AS APRIL OF THIS YEAR WHEN IT WAS MOVED OUT OF MANEUVERS TO CAMP PICKETT, VA., IT LOST ALL ITS REGIMENTAL COMMANDERS AS WELL AS EVERY PRIVATE FIRST CLASS.

THE DIVISION SAILED FOR ENGLAND OCT. 14, SPENT THREE WEEKS

I" E"GLA"D, A"D THE" DISEMBARKED I" FRA"CE AT ROUE" A"D LE HAVRE.

ALB/ BO"IS 00950 PW 1222PEW

BY HOWARD COWAN

A BOMBER BASE, DEC.16-(AP)-THEY HATED TO LEAVE THE "DRAGON LADY," BUT THE FLAK HAD BEEN TOO MUCH FOR HER.

THE CREW OF THE B-17 HAD TO JUMP BEFORE THE SHIP CRASHED. AND THEN --BUT LET THEM TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THEY LANDED IN THE LITTLE VILLAGE OF WATERLOO, BELGIUM.

"WE INTERRUPTED CLASSES AT SCHOOL," SAID SGT.NICHOLAS MENZA, 66 NICHOLS ST., NEWARK, N.J. "THE KIDS WERE RUNNING IN ALL DIRECTIONS. I PICKED OUT THE BIGGEST TREE IN TOWN AND GOT HUNG UP IN TOP OF IT.

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"I SWUNG OVER TO A LIMB, SLIPPED OUT OF MY HARNESS AND DID A TARZAN TO THE GROUND. ABOUT 50 PEOPLE DOWN THERE WERE ALL TRYING TO SHAKE MY HAND AT ONCE."

SGT.HARRY BERHOLZ, 518 WEST JOHN ST., GRAND ISLAND, NEBR., HAD MORE TROUBLE IN GETTING OUT OF HIS CHUTE. HE LANDED IN THE TOWN SQUARE AND THE SCHOOL MISTRESS INSISTED ON KISSING HIM AS HE STRUGGLED OUT OF HIS HARNESS.

FLIGHT OFFICER ANDREW ABRAMSON, 323 NINETEENTH AVE., SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, SGT.LOUIS GHIDRO, 124 JERSEY ST., TRENTON, N.J., AND SGT. BILL PEAVY, BEDIAS, TEX., PLOPPED DOWN IN A SOFT PLOWED FIELD. THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE DROVE OUT IN A LONG BLACK CAR AND WHISKED THEM TO THE COURT HOUSE FOR TEA.

THREE OTHERS, LT.JOHN CSOROS, ADDISON ST., LISBON FALLS, MAINE, THE PILOT, AND LT.AUBRA FUQUA, LA PORTE, TEX., THE CO-PILOT, AND SGT. ORVAL PLOTTS, ROUTE TWO, TIPPECANOE, OHIO, THE TAIL GUNNER, WERE BROUGHT TO THE COURT HOUSE BY BRITISH SOLDIERS. THE MAYOR POURED THEM TEA, TOO.

"BUT I WAS THE LUCKIEST MAN IN THE CREW," SAID SGT.PHILIP KOKEN, 904 WILSON LANE, YAKIMA, WAS. "I CAME DOWN IN A PASTURE. AN ELDERLY LADY LED ME INTO THE FARM HOUSE AND FIXED WARM MILK FOR ME.

"ALL OF A SUDDEN THE DOOR OPENED AND A PRETTY AUBURN HAIRED GIRL DASHED IN. SHE COULD SPEAK ENGLISH. INSTEAD OF SHAKING MY HAND SHE JUST KISSED ME UNTIL I THOUGHT I'D SMOTHER.

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"SHE WANTED ME TO STAY FOR DINNER BUT I HAD TO FIND THE REST OF THE CREW. SHE TOOK ME BY THE ARM AND WE WALKED INTO WATERLOO. YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE REST OF THE CREW WHEN THEY SAW US."

PS826PEW

BY LEWIS HAWKINS

DEC 17 1944

A FIFTH DIVISION COMMAND POST, DEC. 15-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE BATTLE BAPTISM OF PVT. DALE REX CAME IN ONE OF THE HOTTEST SPOTS OF THE WAR ON THE U. S. THIRD ARMY FRONT, BUT REX EMERGED WITH THE DISTINGUIUHED SERVICE CROSS AND PROMOTION TO A SERGEANTCY.

THE SIX-FOOT, FIVE-INCH SON OF MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL REX OF RANDOLPH, UTAH, WAU A REPLACEMENT WHEN HE JOINED COMPANY G IN THE SECOND BATTALION OF THE 11TH INFANTRY REGIMENT. HE HAD HAD NO REAL BATTLE EXPERIENCE WHEN HE WAS THROWN INTO THE DORNOT BRIDGEHEAD ACROSS THE MOSELLE, FIVE MILES SOUTH OF METZ.

THAT AREA WAS MORE THAN SIZZLING WHEN THE 250-POUND FORMER

30.24— 21319

BASKETBALL CENTER FOR BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY MOVED IN SEPT. 8 TO TAKE OVER A MACHINE GUN AFTER THE ORIGINAL GUNNER HAD BEEN KILLED.

THE 22-YEAR-OLD REX KEPT IT CHATTERING FOR THE BETTER PART OF 60 HOURS AGAINST THE GERMANS, WHO WERE CHARGING ALMOST SHOULDER TO SHOULDER IN A DETERMINED EFFORT TO DRIVE THE AMERICANS BACK ACROSS THE MOSELLE.

NO ONE CAN SAY ACCURATELY HOW MANY OF THE ENEMY DROPPED IN THE SPLATTERING LEAD FROM REX' MACHINE GUN AND ANOTHER WHICH WAS EMPLACED NEARBY. BUT RIFLEMEN WHO WERE THERE SAY "HUNDREDS--THREE OR FOUR HUNDRED, ANYWAY."

THE AMERICANS FINALLY WERE FORCED TO PULL OUT OF THE BRIDGEHEAD UNDER AN INCREASING SHOWER OF ARTILLERY, MORTAR AND SMALL ARMS FIRE. REX STRIPPED OFF HIS CLOTHES, GAVE THEM TO A WOUNDED MAN AND THEN SWAM BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE 300-FOOT WIDE RIVER, HELPING OTHER SWIMMERS.

BETWEEN TIMES HE SAVED ONE MAN FROM DROWNING AND HELPED LOAD AND UNLOAD BOATS.

DEC 17 1944

APPROPRIATELY, MAJ. GEN. LEROY IRWIN PINNED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS ON REX A FEW DAYS AGO IN METZ--THE GOAL OF THE FIFTH DIVISION DURING THAT FIRUT ATTEMPT TO CROSS THE MOSELLE MORE THAN THREE MONTHS AGO.

EW422AEW

Add Rome Sicilian xxxative

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE MEMBERS OF THE PROTESTING MILITARY CLASSES HAD RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES AFTER THE ARMISTICE AND SOME NOW WERE REFUSING TO INTERRUPT THEIR UNIVERSITY STUDIES TO RE-ENTER THE ARMY.

-A 6 P.M. CURFEW WAS INSTITUTED IN CATANIA TODAY AFTER RENEWED DEMONSTRATIONS IN THAT SICILIAN CITY IN PROTESTS AGAINST CONSCRIPTION FOR THE ITALIAN ARMY.

THE ROME PAPER IL TEMPO SAID 11 PERSONS WERE WOUNDED BY CATANIA POLICE FRIDAY AFTER A CROWD ATTACKED THEM WITH HAND GRENADES AND STONES.

DEC 17 1944

ONE PERSON WAS KILLED AND SEVERAL PUBLIC BUILDINGS WERE SET AFIRE IN RIOTS THURSDAY.

EJ140PEW

Add Rome trials ~~xxx~~ Mussolini

THE TRIAL WAS PRELIMINARY TO A MAJOR TRIAL IN WHICH HE FACES CHARGES OF CONTRIBUTING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FASCIST REGIME AND COLLABORATION WITH THE GERMANS AFTER THE ARMISTICE. THESE ARE PUNISHABLE BY DEATH.

MATTEO ADINOLFI, FORMER DEPUTY AND VICE SECRETARY OF THE FASCIST PARTY, HAS BEEN ARRESTED IN ROME WHERE HE HAD BEEN HIDING SINCE THE CITY WAS CAPTURED BY THE ALLIES.

DEC 17 1944

WX MT1101AEW

ROME, DEC 16-(AP)-NEW DISORDERS IN CATANIA, SICILY, IN WHICH DEMONSTRATING CROWDS HURLED STONES AND HAND GRENADES AT POLICE FRIDAY, WERE REPORTED TODAY IN A DISPATCH TO THE ROME NEWSPAPER IL TEMPO. relelated

POLICE REPULSED, WOUNDED 11 PERSONS, THE DISPATCH ADDED. THE DEMONSTRATIONS BROKE OUT THURSDAY IN PROTEST AGAINST THE CALL-UP OF TWO CLASSES INTO THE ITALIAN ARMY.

THE PREFECT OF CATANIA ORDERED A CURFEW AT 6 P.M. PROHIBITED ANY GATHERING OF MORE THAN THREE PERSONS, AND WARNED THAT TROOPS HAD BEEN ORDERED TO FIRE "IN CASE OF NECESSITY."

SQUADS OF POLICE ARMED WITH MACHINEGUNS ARE PATROLLING CATANIA'S STREETS, DISPATCHES SAID. AUTHORITIES ARE INVESTIGATING.

MT1005AEW

MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, ROME, DEC.16-(AP)-SGT.FRED M.GRAGE'S FELLOW CREW MEMBERS ON A LIBERATOR TODAY WERE CALLING HIM "SARGE EDISON."

AS THEIR LIBERATOR CLIMBED FOR ALTITUDE YESTERDAY TO MAKE THE BOMB RUN ON A TARGET AT LINZ, THE PILOT'S OXYGEN MASK WAS KNOCKED OFF AND FELL THROUGH THE OPEN BOMBBAY DOORS.

ORDINARILY THIS WOULD HAVE FORCED THE PLANE TO TURN BACK. BUT GRAGE, WHOSE HOME IS IN HIGH BRIDGE, WIS., GAVE THE PILOT HIS OWN MASK AND THEN RIPPED OUT THE LINING OF ONE OF HIS HEATED GLOVES. GRAGE CUT OFF THE MIDDLE FINGER OF THE GLOVE AND STUCK AN OXYGEN TUBE THROUGH THE OPENING. WITH A SLIGHT ADJUSTMENT OF THE GLOVE STRAP, IT WORKED.

DEC 17 1944

B1032AEW

Add Athens Greek (Baylor) xx (rush on hi sat

THE DEMOLITIONS DESTROYED GREEK INTELLIGENCE HEADQUARTERS AND A POLICE STATION, BOTH PREVIOUSLY ABANDONED.

BARBED WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS RINGED THE BRITISH-HELD CENTER OF ATHENS, AND LIGHT ARTILLERY WAS PLACED AT STRATEGIC POINTS ALONG THE MAIN ARTERY, UNIVERSITY STREET. DURING THE DAY BRITISH 25-POUNDERS TRADED FIRE WITH THE ELAS, WHO SHELLED THE CITY'S CENTER.

THE BRITISH REPORTED PROGRESS IN PIREAUS, PORT OF ATHENS, WHERE THE NECK OF THE KALLIPOLIS PENINSULA WAS SECURED BY THE CAPTURE OF CASTLE HILL.

DEC 17 1944

IT WAS INDICATED THAT THE GENERAL BRITISH PLAN WAS TO HOLD CENTRAL ATHENS UNTIL HEAVY REINFORCEMENTS COULD PUSH FROM THE SEAWARD TO RELIEVE THE CITY. ELAS DEMOLITIONS FORM A PERIMETER OF ROAD BLOCKS.

Add Moscow Tanks (Lead xx, seven years ago.

AT THAT TIME, ACCORDING TO THE MOSCOW NEWS, ARMORED SPECIALISTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WERE CONCENTRATING ON INCREASING TANK SPEED, FAVORING COMBINATIONS OF TRACKS AND WHEELS WHEREBY THE MACHINES CRAWLED OVER FIELDS AND ROLLED ALONG ROADS.

KOTIN, HOWEVER, WAS SAID TO HAVE DECIDED TO STRESS FIREPOWER AND MANEUVERABILITY, REGARDLESS OF SPEED, SAYING "THE OTHERS LOOK NICE IN THE PICTURES, BUT THAT'S NOT A BATTLEFIELD."

THE NEWSPAPER SAID THE "KV" MODEL OPENED A NEW PAGE IN HEAVY TANK DESIGN.

"IF YOU ONLY KNEW HOW MANY EXPERIMENTAL MACHINES WE BUILT, TESTED AND RETESTED BEFORE WE TURNED OUT THE MODEL FOR PRODUCTION," KOTIN EXCLAIMED. "EACH TIME WE HOPED THAT THIS ONE WOULD BE A 100 PERCENT SUCCESS. THEN SOMETHING TURNED OUT BE NOT JUST SO. WE BUILT MODELS OURSELVES, SCRAPPED THEM OURSELVES AND KEPT AT IT UNTIL WE GOT WHAT WE WANTED."

DEC 17 1944

MT415PEW

ATHENS, DEC. 16-(AP)-THE AMERICAN AIR TRANSPORT PERSONNEL HERE WAS COMMENDED YESTERDAY BY THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES FOR CARRYING ON VITAL WORK WITH STRICT NEUTRALITY DURING THE GREEK CIVIL STRUGGLE.

MAJ. JOSEPH R. MACPHERSON OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIF., IS COMMANDER OF THE UNIT. HE RECEIVED THE COMMENDATION BY RADIOGRAM.

"I HAVE REQUIRED ABSOLUTE NEUTRALITY," COMMENTED MACPHERSON. "THIS HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO OPERATIONS BECAUSE THE AIRFIELD LIES IN ELAS TERRITORY AND OUR BILLETS IN NO-MAN'S LAND."

MACPHERSON SAID THE ONLY PROTECTION HIS AVIATORS HAVE HAD "HAS BEEN THE UNIVERSAL RESPECT OF THE AMERICAN FLAG."

HE SAID NO REGULAR AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND PERSONNEL WERE WOUNDED, ALTHOUGH FOUR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN ATTACHED TO THE COMMAND WERE SLIGHTLY WOUNDED.

"I HAVE SEEN THE MEN GO OUT TO WORK DAY AFTER DAY UNDER FIRE," MACPHERSON SAID. "WE HAVE BEEN LUCKY NOT TO HAVE HIGH CASUALTIES."

30-24— 21321

DESPITE THE CONDITIONS, MESS SGT. PETE BROTSIS, 115 SOUTH SAN FERNANDO ST., BURBANK, CALIF., HAS TURNED OUT EXCELLENT CHOW. BROTSIS FOUND A GREAT ASSISTANT IN TED CARANZAS, FORMER EMPLOYE OF CHILDS RESTAURANT CHAIN IN NEW YORK, WHO IS HEADWAITER IN THE AMERICAN MESS.

FLIGHT SURGEON CAPT. MAX MILBERG, 1087 52ND ST., BROOKLYN, N.Y., HAS GIVEN HUMANITARIAN AID TO BOTH SIDES IN THE STIFF FIGHTING AROUND THE AIR TRANSPORT BILLETS. HE HAS VISITED HOSPITALS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATHENS BATTLELINE, PERFORMING OPERATIONS BY CANDLELIGHT.

FW432AEW

MOSCOW, DEC. 16--(AP)--THE POLISH LAND REFORM PROGRAM HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN THE SOKOLUV PODLIANSK DISTRICT OF WARSAW PROVINCE WITH 3,700 PEASANT FAMILIES RECEIVING AN AVERAGE OF FIVE ACRES EACH, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

DEC 17 1944

DIVIDING OF THE
FOLLOWING THE ~~COMPLETION OF~~ LAND ~~DISTRIBUTION~~ THE PEASANTS HELD A MEETING AT WHICH A RESOLUTION WAS PASSED ~~UNANIMOUSLY~~ URGING THE POLISH COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION TO FORM ITSELF INTO A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

SIMILAR ~~RESOLUTIONS~~ DECISIONS WERE REPORTED FROM OTHER MEETINGS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF LIBERATED POLAND.

PW/00900/THO/640A

MOSCOW, DEC. 16-(AP)-Mikhail Nikolaievich Rimsky-Korsakov, son of Russia's famous composer, was awarded the Order of Lenin on his 70th birthday today in recognition of outstanding work as a professor of entomology.

PW Gilmore's 00905 RPS 635A

ORAN, ALGERIA, DEC 16-(AP)-BOUATY MOULOUD AHMED, A SENEGALESE SENTRY WHO SHOT AND SLIGHTLY WOUNDED GEN.HENRI GIRAUD HERE LAST AUG.24, HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH BY A MILITARY TRIBUNAL.

MEMBERS OF GIRAUD'S ENTOURAGE SAID THE SENTRY FIRED HIS RIFLE FROM ABOUT ONE-YARD RANGE. AT THAT INSTANT GIRAUD HAD TURNED HIS HEAD. THE BULLET STRUCK HIM IN THE NECK AND CAME OUT THROUGH THE CHEEK.

DURING AN INVESTIGATING, THE ASSAILANT, A FANATICAL MOSLEM, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING "ALLAH TOLD ME I KILL GIRAUD."

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MK611AEW

BERN, DEC 16-(AP)-THE SWISS TELEGRAPH AGENCY SAID IN A BERLIN DISPATCH TODAY THAT THE VEHME, A SECRET GERMAN TRIBUNAL, AGAIN WAS OPERATING IN THE REICH TO PREVENT RESIDENTS FROM COOPERATING WITH ALLIED OCCUPANTS.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS WERE REPORTED PRINTING THE NAMES OF PERSONS CONDEMNED TO DEATH BY THE ORGANIZATION.

THE DISPATCH SAID ONE WAS A GERMAN RAILWAY EMPLOYEE WHO AIDED AMERICAN RAILROAD ENGINEERS. HE WAS ASSASSINATED AND HIS BODY WAS FOUND IN A BOXCAR AT THE WURSELEN STATION WHEN IT WAS CAPTURED BY THE AMERICANS, IT SAID.

MT1007AEW

BHAMO, BURMA, DEC. 15-(DELAYED)-(AP)-BURMA CARGO AND TRANSPORT PLA PILOTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS SELDOM GET A CHANCE TO FIGHT A SHOOTING WAR, BUT HERE IN NORTH BURMA THEY ORGANIZED A BOMBING MISSION ON THEIR OWN.

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COMBAT CARGO PILOT LT.ROBERT S.FISHER OF SOUTH HARRISON ST., EAST ORANGE, N.J., AND CAPT. JOHN DAVIS, 2425 NORTH 58TH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA., A HEADQUARTERS STAFF MAN, FOUND A DUD BOMB IN A VILLAGE NEAR THE FRONT.

THEY FASTENED HOME-MADE FUSES ON BOTH ENDS OF THE BOMB, PUT IT IN FISHER'S EMPTY TRANSPORT, ROUNDED UP A MAKESHIFT CREW AND TOOK OFF.

OVER BHAMO, A FEW MILES FROM THE AIRSTRIP, SGT. ROBERT ZOOK, 3757 EAST TAYLOR ST., PHOENIX, ARIZ., AN ENGINEER, PULLED THE END FUSE PIN.

LT. H.C.MISSIMER, AUDUBON, N.J., AN ENGINEER, PULLED THE NOSE FUSE PIN.

WHEN DAVIS, ACTING AS CO-PILOT AND BOMBARDIER, RANG THE PLANE'S

BELL, CPL. LAURENCE JOHNSON, 220 EAST JEFFERSON LANE, YAKIMA, WASH., ANOTHER ENGINEER, KICKED THE BOMB OUT OF THE PLANE'S OPEN DOOR AND DOWN TOWARD A JAPANESE POSITION.

TWO HOURS LATER THE THREE ENGINEERS WERE BACK WORKING ON A ROAD, THE PILOT WENT BACK TO FLYING CARGO AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WENT BACK TO HIS DESK.

FDS 42AEW

BY FRANK L. MARTIN.

NEW DELHI, NOV. 21-(DELAYE-(AP)-AN INVESTIGATION BY U.S. ARMY AUTHORITIES HAS RESULTED IN COURT MARTIAL AND ARREST OF SCORES OF AMERICAN SERVICE MEN AND CIVILIANS IN THE PAST YEAR ON CHARGES OF SMUGGLING CONTRABAND INTO CHINA OVER THE FAMOUS "HUMP" AIRLINE, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

WITH THE COOPERATION OF BRITISH, CHINESE AND INDIAN OFFICIALS, ARMY INVESTIGATORS NOW HAVE LARGELY SMASHED AN INTERNATIONAL SYNDICATE WHICH FOR THREE YEARS DEALT IN STOLEN LEND-LEASE SUPPLIES, GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, GOLD CURRENCY AND OTHER GOODS FLOWN INTO ISOLATED AND INFLATION-RIDDEN CHINA, IT WAS SAID.

THE ARMY WITHHELD ALL NAMES.

THE AMERICANS WERE DECLARED MOSTLY "SMALL FRY" IN THE OPERATIONS --GO-BETWEENS WHO TRANSPORTED THE GOODS UNDER PLANS ENGINEERED BY THE SYNDICATE, SAID TO BE MADE UP OF WEALTHY CHINESE AND INDIAN CITIZENS AND GREEKS WITH BRITISH CITIZENSHIP.

THE INQUIRY WAS BEGUN, ONE HEADQUARTERS OFFICER SAID, WHEN IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT "MUCH OF OUR SUPPLIES THAT TOOK VALUABLE SPACE ON PLANES WERE GETTING TO THE BLACK MARKET. IN SOME CASES BANDITS OPERATING IN THE CHINA HILLS HAD BEEN KNOWN TO ROB AMERICAN ARMY SUPPLY TRUCKS WITH AMERICAN PISTOLS."

THE ARMY'S CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION STILL IS WORKING ON A NUMBER OF CASES, BUT THE LARGE SCALE OPERATIONS ARE BELIEVED WIPED OUT.

THE INVESTIGATION IS IN CHARGE OF COL. HARRY COOPER OF 3401 PINKEY STREET, BALTIMORE, PROVOST MARSHAL IN THE CHINA-BURMA-INDIA THEATER.

MOST OF THE AMERICANS INVOLVED STARTED IN A SMALL WAY, CARRYING INTO CHINA ONLY SUCH THINGS AS CIGARETTES. LATER THE SYNDICATE INVOLVED SOME U.S. AIR FORCE MEN AND PILOTS WITH "GET RICH QUICK" SCHEMES.

THE PROFITS OF AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES WERE ESTIMATED TO TOTAL $4,156,000 IN WHAT HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED AS 87 MAJOR AND 213 MINOR CASES IN WHICH ARMY PUNITIVE ACTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED OR IS UNDERWAY. IT WAS EXPLAINED THAT CASES WERE CLASSIFIED AS MAJOR IF THEY INVOLVED PROFITS OF MORE THAN $5,000.

THE 300 CASES INVOLVED SOME MEMBERS OF THE FAMED "FLYING TIGERS," EMPLOYES OF THE CHINA NATIONAL AIRWAYS CORPORATION, U.S. ARMY PERSONNEL, AMERICAN RED CROSS WORKERS, TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVES OF AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS, AND BRITISH, INDIAN AND CHINESE AND OTHER CIVILIANS.

A74

SOME OFFICERS OF ONE AMERICAN TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON, INCLUDING THE COMMANDING OFFICER, WERE LISTED AS HAVING AMASSED AN ESTIMATED $50,000 BEFORE THE AUTHORITIES STEPPED IN.

ONE PLANE WHICH CRASHED IN THE BURMA JUNGLE ENROUTE TO CHINA WAS FOUND OVERLOADED WITH LOOT.

OFTEN GEMS WERE CONCEALED IN PLANE INSTRUMENTS AND IN THE UNDERWEAR OF CREWMEN. IN ONE INSTANCE, THE AUTHORITIES FOUND 500 CARTONS OF BRITISH ISSUE CIGARETTES UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS OF A PLANE.

ONE AMERICAN SOLDIER AND FOUR CHINESE WERE CAUGHT IN KUNMING WITH $7,000 WORTH OF SULFANILIMIDE PILLS IN SUIT CASES. SOME AMERICAN SOLDIERS WERE SELLING PISTOLS TO BLACK MARKET DEALERS FOR $300 TO $1,000 APIECE, AN OFFICER SAID.

JR717AEW

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN--SECOND ADD B29 RESCUE--BY HAUGLAND (TOP ON A) XX AT 9:15 A.M.

DESCRIBING THE FLIGHT OVER TOKYO MURRAY SAID "WE ICED UP SO COULDN'T SEE THE OTHER PLANES. TO AVOID COLLISION, WE DROPPED 1,500 FEET OUT OF FORMATION. OUT MY SIDE WINDOW I COULD BARELY SEE THE FIGHTERS MAKING HEADON PASSES.

"BOMBARDIER WATERS COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING AND THE GUNNERS IN THE BACK WHO COULD SEE WERE TOO BUSY WITH THE FIGHTERS TO TELL WHEN BOMBS WERE AWAY. WE DROPPED THEM LATE.

"ONE FIGHTER PUNCTURED OUR RIGHT SIDE AND CAUSED US TO DEPRESSURIZE INSTANTLY. I SAW SMOKE COMING FROM THE ENGINEER'S PANEL.

"MY LOG SHOWED THEY MADE TWO PASSES AT US AND THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A LOT MORE."

THE CREWMEN SURVIVED THE GUNFIRE WITH ONLY MINOR CUTS. ONE BULLET PENETRATED MOORE'S BOOT.

MURRAY, PRAISING THE UNFORTUNATE CO-PILOT, SAID "WE FINALLY LOST THREE TURRETS--TAIL, LOWER AFT AND LOWER FORWARD. THE CO-PILOT HANDLED THE SHIP WHILE I HANDLED THE POWER SETTINGS AND MANEUVERED SO THAT THE TOP GUNNER COULD USE HIS TURRET. THE CO-PILOT ONCE SAID HE SAW ANOTHER B-29 IN TROUBLE AND WANTED TO GO BACK AND HELP BUT WE DECIDED WE WERE NOT IN CONDITION TO HELP MUCH.

"A HALF HOUR AFTER WE LEFT THE FORMATION TENNYSON TRIED TO

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TRANSFER FUEL BUT FOUND THE CABLES SHOT AWAY SO WE HAD 1,150 GALLONS OF GAS WE COULDN'T USE. ALSO THE RIGHT REAR BOMBAY DOOR WOULD NOT CLOSE.

"AFTER THE NO. 1 ENGINE FEATHERED GRANNEMAN SENT A DISTRESS SIGNAL. WHEN THE NO. 3 WENT OUT DUE TO AN OIL LINE HIT THE CO-PILOT--STILL THINKING OF THE OTHERS FIRST--TOOK OFF HIS EQUIPMENT AND WENT BACK TO MAKE SURE THERE WAS NOBODY IN THE BOMBBAY.

"THE NO. 2 ENGINE STARTED TO CUT OFF AND ON. THE CO-PILOT MADE A SMOOTH LANDING BUT THE NOSE CAUGHT ON A SWELL AND STOPPED US INSTANTLY. THE LIGHTS WERE OUT AND WE STRUGGLED OUT IN DARKNESS. THE ENTIRE FRONT OF THE PLANE FILLED WITHIN TWO MINUTES."

NN22 BOARD ADMIRAL HALSEY'S TH LAGSHIP IN WESTERN PACIFIC-(AP)-TWO YOUNG SAILORS ON LOOKOUT DUTY HAVE WON THE PRAISE OF THEIR COMMANDING OFFICER FOR SIGHTING A JAPANESE PLANE THAT WAS SKIMMING THE WATER FOURTEEN MILES AWAY.

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ONE CORRECTLY IDENTIFIED IT AS TO TYPE-- AN IDENTIFICATION VERIFIED LATER BY THE NAVY FIGHTER PILOT WHO SHOT DOWN THE JAPANESE PLANE.

THE SAILORS WERE COXSWAIN WILFORD J.AVENS, 22, OF ROUTE FOUR, SWEETWATER, TENN., FARM BOY AND SQUIRREL HUNTER BEFORE HE JOINED THE NAVY; AND SEAMAN (FIRST CLASS) JAMES BIRD, 19, OF 4ND BELLEVUE STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA.

THE OFFICER IN CHARGE OF LOOKOUTS, LIEUT.J.J.MURPHY OF (126 BOYD STREET) NEWTON, MASS., SAID IT WAS A REMARKABLE FEAT TO HAVE EVEN SEEN THE PLANE SO CLOSE TO THE HORIZON AT SUCH A DISTANCE--25,000 YARDS--AND IT WAS ASTONISHING THE COXSWAIN AVENS WAS ABLE TO RECOGNIZE IT AS A TWO-ENGINED PLANE OF NEW TYPE.

WDAKPCW NM

K(ADVANCE FOR SUNDAY AMS DECEMBER 17) (260)

(ADVANCE)-U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC 16-(AP)-RUBBER NIPPLES, CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND NEWSPAPERS RATE HIGH AS CARGO IN THE NAVAL AIR TRANSPORT SERVICE--RIGHT BEHIND BLOOD, BULLETS AND FLAMETHROWERS.

BABY BOTTLE NIPPLES, A FLEET PRESS RELEASE EXPLAINED TODAY, PROTECT MACHINE GUN BARRELS AGAINST PENETRATING, CORROSIVE MOISTURE OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS. THEY ARE SLIPPED OVER THE MUZZLES AS A SEAL. THEY ALSO COME IN HANDY IN SERVICING JAPANESE OR ISLAND NATIVE BABIES LEFT HOMELESS BY THE FORTUNES OF WAR.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS ARE IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY RIGHT NOW, HEADQUARTERS SAID, BECAUSE THE YULE DAY IS "PROBABLY THE TOUGHEST OF THE YEAR FOR THE AVERAGE SERVICE MAN, WHEN HIS THOUGHTS LINGER LONGEST ON HOME XXX. CAROLS BRING A TOUCH OF AMERICA, AND IT'S JUST SUCH TOUCHES THAT KEEP THE GI HAPPY AND FIGHTING."

NEWSPAPERS, THE FLEET STATEMENT ADDED, OUTRANK THEIR OFFICIAL PRIORITY. OFFICIALLY THEY ARE CARGO OF THE NO. 4 CLASS, THE LOWEST ACCEPTABLE BY THE NATS.

"UNDER A NO. 4," THE PRESS RELEASE ADDED, "IT WAS FOUND THAT THEY LINGERED TOO LONG IN THE CARGO TERMINAL, GIVING WAY TO MORE IMPORTANT SHIPMENTS, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS USUALLY AN EXTRA CORNER (SPACE) ABOARD.

"NOW THEY ARE LOADED INFORMALLY, TUCKED AWAY IN ANY SPACE AVAILABLE AT THE LAST MOMENT--ANOTHER TOUCH OF AMERICA FOR LONELY MEN ON THE PACIFIC ROCKS."

WHOLE BLOOD, SERUMS, VACCINES AND OTHER MEDICAL SUPPLIES RATE NO. 1, AS SOMETIMES DOES A REPAIR PART FOR A GUN OR A WARSHIP.

THE FLEET STATEMENT SAID THE PACIFIC WING OF THE NATS ROLLS UP 24,000 FLYING HOURS A MONTH. ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF ITS CARGO LEAVING THE U.S. WEST COAST GOES ON THROUGH HONOLULU TO POINTS IN THE FAR PACIFIC. HONOLULU OUTLETS TAKE THE OTHER 40 PER CENT. THE AVERAGE WEIGHT OF CARGO FORWARDED FROM THERE IS 31,800 POUNDS EVERY 24 HOURS.

(END ADVANCE FOR SUNDAY AMS, DECEMBER 17)

MM&HW956PPW NM

BY REMBERT JAMES

ABOARD VICE ADMIRAL JOHN S. MCCAIN'S FAST CARRIER FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF THE PHILIPPINES DEC.15 (DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO) -(AP)-SHIELDING GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S NEW MINDORA ISLAND LANDING, A LARGE FORCE OF NAVY PLANES TODAY KEPT THE 7,008 ISLANDS IN THE PHILIPPINES CUT OFF FROM THE JAPANESE EMPIRE FOR A SECOND DAY.

NO ENEMY SHIP AND HARDLY AN ENEMY PLANE MOVED IN THE NORTHERN PHILIPPINES WITHOUT DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF VICE ADMIRAL JOHN S. MCCAIN'S CARRIER PLANES.

FROM EARLY YESTERDAY, WHEN THE AROUND-THE-CLOCK COMBAT PATROLS BEGAN HOVERING OVER LUZON, A TOTAL OF 347 ENEMY PLANES HAVE BEEN PUT OUT OF COMMISSION UP TO MIDMORNING TODAY.

OF THIS TOTAL 41 WERE SHOT OUT OF THE AIR; 191 WERE BURNED ON THE GROUND AND 115 WERE DAMAGED ON THE GROUND.

TWELVE ENEMY SEA-GOING SHIPS, INCLUDING ONE LARGE TROOPS TRANSPORT, WERE SUNK DURING THE SAME PERIOD.

A FLIER WHO RETURNED TO THIS CARRIER FOR MORE GASOLINE, BOMBS AND BULLETS TO RESUME THE DAY AND NIGHT FLYING CIRCUS PERFORMANCES OVER SOME 100 ENEMY AIR FIELDS ON LUZON SAID THAT THE JAPANESE ARE TRYING TO BRING IN PLANES FROM FORMOSA BUT THAT SO FAR THEY HAVE FAILED.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF NAVAL AVIATION THAT A CARRIER TASK FORCE HAS EVER KEPT A SMOTHERING BLANKET OF FIGHTER PLANES DAY AND NIGHT OVER ANY LAND MASS EVEN APPROACHING THE SIZE OF

LUZON.
THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 100 FIELDS ON THE ISLAND WHICH IS MORE THAN 300 MILES LONG. ADDING TO THE DIFFICULTY OF MAINTAINING AIR CONTROL IS THE FACT THAT LUZON LIES WITHIN EASY FLYING DISTANCE OF FORMOSA THE GREAT JAPANESE WAR CENTER.
THE EXPERIENCE FOR THE JAPANESE WAS A NEW ONE. THEY PREVIOUSLY HAD BEEN ATTACKED OFTEN IN THE DAYTIME AND THEIR FIELDS HAD BEEN MADE USELESS TEMPORARILY. ON ONE OCCASION A SMALL PATROL OF NIGHT FIGHTERS FLEW OVER LUZON ON HECKLING MISSIONS BUT THIS IS THE FIRST FULL SCALE DAY AND NIGHT BLANKETING OF A WHOLE ISLAND.
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THIRD NIGHT LEAD PIPS
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS,PHILIPPINES,SUNDAY,DEC.17-(AP)-YANK INVADERS OF MINDORO ON THE CHINA SEA SIDE OF THE PHILIPPINES CAPTURED THE TOWN OF SAN JOSE, SEIZED "ADJACENT AIRFIELDS" AND PUSHED SEVEN TO NINE MILES INLAND, HEADQUARTERS REPORTED TODAY.
ENGINEERS QUICKLY BEGAN GETTING THE AIRFIELDS, WITHIN EASY RANGE OF MANILA 155 MILES TO THE NORTH, IN OPERATION AS THE INLAND-PUSHING YANKS STILL ENCOUNTERED ONLY NEGLIGIBLE RESISTANCE.
(THE COMMUNIQUE REFERENCE TO "AIRFIELDS FIVE MILES INLAND FROM THE COAST ON THE BUSUNGA (CORRECT) RIVER" APPARENTLY REFERRED TO MORE THAN ONE AIRSTRIP NEAR SAN JOSE. THERE IS A SECOND AIRFIELD BORDERING THE RIVER BUT IT IS MORE THAN FIVE MILES INLAND. A THIRD AIRFIELD IS AT MANGARIN BAY SOUTHEAST OF SAN JOSE IN THE BEACHHEAD SECTOR.
(THE GROUND SUCCESSES WERE MATCHED BY OTHERS IN THE AIR REPORTED FROM PEARL HARBOR TELLING OF THE DESTRUCTION OF 235 PLANES AND THE CRIPPLING OF 138 OTHERS AT LUZON ISLAND IN THREE DAYS ENDING SATURDAY)
TWENTY-FOUR JAPANESE PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN OVER THE BEACHHEAD AND THE PROTECTING AMERICAN WARSHIPS, TODAY'S COMMUNIQUE SAID.
AN ENEMY DESTROYER, CRIPPLED AND SEEKING REFUGE IN PANDAROCHAN BAY, WAS DESTROYED BY U.S. NAVAL UNITS.
THE INVADERS, PUT ASHORE ON SOUTHWEST MINDORO BY A CONVOY WHICH MOVED 600 MILES BY A CIRCUITOUS ROUTE FROM LEYTE, ADVANCED ON "A BROAD FRONT."
THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THE SEIZED AIRFIELDS WERE "ON EXCELLENT SITES WITH FAVORABLE TERRAIN."
ON EMBATTLED WEST LEYTE, THE 77TH DIVISION WHICH CAPTURED ORMOC TOWN A WEEK AGO PUSHED NORTH AND SEIZED THE TOWN OF COGON AS WELL AS THE ROAD JUNCTION TO THE NORTH, THUS SECURING COMMANDING GROUND FOR A FURTHER ADVANCE.
IN THE CORRIDOR EXTENDING NORTH FROM THE 77TH POSITION TO THE POSITIONS OF THE 32ND INFANTRY DIVISION AND THE FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION CRUNCHING SOUTH FROM CARIGAR BAY TRAPPED JAPANESE ARE MAKING THEIR LAST STAND ON LEYTE.
MACARTHUR ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT 3,353 MORE NIPPONESE HAVE BEEN "KILLED IN THE LAST TWO DAYS ALONG THE CRUMBLING YAMASHITA LINE." A JAPANESE COUNTERATTACK, EMPLOYING TANKS, WAS REPULSED. IN THE CORRIDOR TRAP, YANK FIGHTER PLANES ATTACKED THE NIPPONESE STRONGPOINT OF VALENCIA.

A148FX
SOUTH AND EAST OF ORMOC, THE SEVENTH DIVISION "IS COMPLETING THE DESTRUCTION OF ISOLATED ENEMY FORCES OF THE TRAPPED 26TH JAP DIVISION," HEADQUARTERS SAID.
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DIVISION," HEADQUARTERS SAID.
THIS TRAP WAS SPRUNG WHEN THE 77TH MADE THE AMPHIBIOUS LANDING NEAR ORMOC, PRIOR TO ITS CAPTURE, THUS SQUEEZING THE NIPPONESE 26TH BETWEEN THAT BEACHHEAD AND THE SEVENTH DRIVING UP THE COAST FROM THE PALANAS RIVER.
LIGHT NAVAL UNITS SANK AN ENEMY AMMUNITION-LADEN VESSEL AND A LIGHT COASTAL VESSEL OFF THE WEST COAST OF LEYTE.

A149FX
AUGMENTING THE ROUND-THE-CLOCK ATTACKS ON LUZON BY CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT IN SUPPORT OF THE MINDORO LANDINGS, HEADQUARTERS SAID TODAY THAT LEYTE-BASED FIGHTER BOMBERS HIT TWO AIRDROMES ON HICOL PENINSULA. THEY DESTROYED BUILDINGS AD FIRED FUEL DUMPS. NIGHT PATROL PLANES BOMBED SHIPPING AT MANILA.
TEAMING UP WITH THE CARRIER PLANES TO KNOCK OUT JAPANESE AIR RESISTANCE THROUGHOUT THE ARCHIPELAGO, LIBERATORS AND FIGHTERS DROPPED MORE THAN 200 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES ON AIRDROMES AT CEBU AND NEGROS, DAMAGED RUNWAYS AND BARRACKS, DESTROYED AN AMMUNITION DUMP AND SANK A SMALL FREIGHTER OFF PANAY.

A150FX
A 1,000 TON TANKER AND A GUNBOAT WERE DAMAGED OFF PALAWAN.
OTHER YANK PLANES KEPT UP THEIR DAILY ATTACKS ON PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS OF THE ENEMY ON BORNEO. A REFINERY WAS BOMBED NORTH OF BALIKPAPAN. A DOCK ON THE WATERFRONT AT KUDAT WAS DESTROYED. FOUR SMALL CARGO SHIPS AND 11 LUGGERS WERE SUNK OR DAMAGED NEAR TAWI TAWI.
IN AIR STRIKES FROM NORTHERN HALMAHERA TO CERAM, 64 TONS OF BOMBS WERE LOOSED ON ENEMY AIRDROMES, BIVOUACS AND SUPPLIES. ONE RAIDER WAS LOST TO ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE.
~~IN THE LESSER SUNDAS~~, SHORE DEFENSES WERE SHELLED BY LIGHT ALLIED NAVAL UNITS.
(PROVIDING ROUND-THE-CLOCK XXX ETC., FIFTH GRAF SECOND NIGHT LEAD.

6TH ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN THE PHILIPPINES, DEC. 16-(AP)-LT. GEN.WALTER KRUEGER, COMMANDER OF THE 6TH ARMY, RECEIVED FROM QUEEN WILHELMINA OF THE NETHERLANDS A DECORATION OF "GRAND OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF ORANGE NASSAU WITH SWORDS."
THE QUEEN AWARDED THE DECORATION TO THE AMERICAN GENERAL IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES AS COMMANDER OF THE GROUND FORCES PARTICIPATING IN THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE JAPANESE IN DUTCH NEW GUINEA.
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BUENOS AIRES, DEC. 16--(AP)-- THE TWO-DAY WALKOUT WHICH PARALYZED OPERATIONS OF THE STATE OIL REFINERY IN LAPLATA WAS SUSPENDED TODAY AFTER GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AGREED TO STUDY WORKERS

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DEMANDS AND INVESTIGATE THE ARBEST OF 14 STRIKERS.

IN PARANA, 350 LABORERS EMPLOYED CONSTRUCTING AN AIR BASE AGREED TO RETURN TO WORK AFTER ASSURANCES OF AN ADJUSTMENT IN WORKING CONDITIONS.

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AQ1 GUPTILL/ 00015/KIN/ 437A

MEXICO CITY, DEC.16-(AP)-FUNERAL SERVICES WEREHELD TODAY FOR VELINO M.PREZA, DIRECTOROF THE FAMOUS MEXICAN POLICE BADN WHICH MADE TOURS THROUGHOUT MERICA DURING THE TIME OF PRESIDENT PORFIRIO DIAZ.
PREZA DIED HERE YESTERDAY AFTER A LINGERING ILLNESS.
DURING HIS LAST YEARS HE LIVED QUIETLY HERE WITH HIS FAMILY, ADAPTING POPULAR COMPOSITIONS FOR BNDS AND ORCHESTRAS.
THROUGHOUT MEXICO AS A VIOLINIST AND A PIANIST.
SOME OF HIS COMPOSITIONS ARE STILL POPULAR THROUGHOUT MEXICO AND LATIN AMERICA.

EW847PCW

UNDATED...1ST ADD FIRST LEAD UNDATED JAPS MINDORO XXX CATEGORY.
THE JAPANESE DOMEI AGENCY REPORTED UNDER A MANILA DATELINE THAT WAVES OF AMERICAN BOMBERS AGAIN RAIDED THE PHILIPPINES CAPITAL THIS MORNING, TOKYO TIME. IT CLAIMED BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS WERE BOMBED "INDISCRIMINATELY" BUT ALLEGED THE POPULATION "REMAINED CALM AND COLLECTED."
THE JAPANESE IN AN EARLIER BROADCAST SAID A "VIOLENT SEA AND AIR BATTLE" WAE UNFOLDING IN THE SULU SEA.
ACKNOWLEDGING LANDINGS ON MINDORO, THE JAPANESE SAID THAT THEIR GARRISON TROOPS "INTERCEPTED THE ENEMY FORCES AND FIGHTING IS NOW IN PROGRESS."
(AMERICAN REPORTS FROM THE SCENE SAID THE INITIAL LANDINGS WERE VIRTUALLY BLOODLESS.)
THE JAPANESE SAID ABOUT ONE DIVISION OF AMERICAN TROOPS MADE THE INITIAL LANDING AT SAN JOSE, SOUTHWESTERN MINDORO.
DESPITE JAPANESE CLAIMS, AMERICAN CORRESPONDENTS WITH THE AMERICAN CONVOY REPORTED ONLY MEAGER JAPANESE AIR ACTIVITY DURING THE TIME THE CONVOY WAS AT SEA AND AFTER IT HAD REACHED ITS DESTINATION AND WAS DISGORGING TROOPS AND SUPPLIES.
LATER THE JAPANESE RADIO ANNOUNCED MAJ. GEN.SHUITSU MATSUMURA, CHIEF OF THE JAPANESE ARMY PRESS SECTION, MET WITH CABINET ADVISORS AT THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE OF PREMIER KUNIAKI KOISO FOR TWO HOURS TO REPORT ON THE WAR SITUATION.

WW605APW

VUNDATED JAPANESE
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE JAPANESE ARMY.
IT'S A MESSKIT THAT COOKS RICE WHILE THE SOLDIER MARCHES.
THE JAPANESE NEWS AGENCY BROADCAST THE REPORT THAT A NIPPONESE INVENTOR HAD PERFECTED A "PORTABLE MESSKIT AND STOVE ENABLING ONE TO COOK RICE EVENQHILE ON A MARCH. ONE AND ONE-HALF POUNDS OF RICE CAN BE COOKED IN 30 MINUTES."
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MONNITORS RECORDED THE BROADCAST.

WW605APW

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UNDATED JAPANESE FINANCIAL
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
SOME OFTHE PEOPLE OF TOKYO AND OTHER CONGESTEDJAPANESE METROPOLITAN AREAS THREATENED BY AMERICAN AERIAL BOMBS APPARENTLY ARE GOING TO BE EVACUATED TO A COLDER AND MORE RUGGED PART OF THE NIPPON HOMELAND---HOKKAIDO ISLAND.
TOKYO BROADCASTS TODAY ANNOUNCING CABINET APPROVAL OF THE NATION'S 1945 ORDINARY BUDGET, REPORTED IT CONTAINED INCREASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR "COLONIZATION EXPENDITURES" FOR HOKKAIDO AS WELL AS OTHER ITEMS MARKED FOR WAR PRODUCTION, FOODSTUFFS AND AIR RAID DEFENSE. THE BROADCASTS WERE RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
HOKKAIDO LIES JUST NORTHOF HONSHU, THE MAIN ISLAND OF JPAN. IT HAS FIGURED LITTLE IN THE WAR THUS FAR. IT IS RELATIVELY THINLY POPULATED AND SUSCEPTIBLE OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, BUT THE GOVERNMENT NEVER HAS BEEN ABLE TO EXPLOIT IT AS A PLACE FOR RESETTLEMENT BECAUSE THE JAPANESE DISLIKE ITS COLD WINTERS.
THE NEW BUDGET LSO CONTAINS ITEMS FOR THE COLONIZATION OF UNNAMED "SOUTHERN REGIONS" AND FOR "CONSOLIDATIONOF THE GREATER EAST ASIA RACES."
IT CALLS FOR 22,244,000,000 (BILLION) YEN, AND IS FOR ORDINARY GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES. IS 1,656,000,000 YEN HEAVIER THAN THE 1944 BUDGET. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE MILITARY BUDGET, WHICH IS A SEPARATE AND EVEN LARGER APPROPRIATION. LAST YEAR THE MILITARY BUDGET WAS 38,000,000,000 YEN, AND THE DIET ADDED TO THAT 25,000,000 YEN FOR SUPPLEMENTARY MILITARY EXPENDITURES.
THE PRE-PEARL HARBOR VALUE OF THE YEN WAS ABOUT 25 CENTS.
SOME OF THE INCREASE IN THE ORDINARY BUDGET, THE TOKYO RADIO SAID, WAS DUE TO EXTRA SPENDING TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF WAR GOODS AND DAILY NECESSITIES.
"IT IS NOTEWORTHY," SAID DOMEI, JAPANESE NEWS AGENCY, "THAT THE GREATER PART OF THE INCREASE WILL BE MET BY THE INCREASE IN BOND ISSUES."
THIS MEANS THE JAPANESE WILL HAVE TO BUY MORE BONDE.
RUSSELL BRINES, ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENTFORMERLY STATIONED IN TOKYO, REPORTED A YEAR AGO UPON HIS RELEASE FROM A JAPANESE PRISON CAMP IN CHINA THAT THE JAPANESE UPPER AND MIDDLE CLASSES REGARD WAR BOND PURCHASES AS GOVERNMENT CONFISCATION, AND DO NOT EXPECT THEIR MONEY BACK.

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UNDATED CIVILIANS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE OFFICIAL GERMAN NEWS AGENCY, DNB, SAID IN A PROPAGANDA BROADCAST TODAY THAT AMERICAN FORCES ON THE FIRST AND THIRD ARMY FRONTS WERE USING CIVILIANS AND GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR AS SHIELDS AND "BULLET CATCHERS."

THERE WAS NO COMMENT FROM ALLIED QUARTERS.

DNB SAID THE GERMAN FORCES DID NOT WITHHOLD THEIR FIRE.

"NEAR DILLINGEN, FOR INSTANCE, AMERICAN TANKS CHASED CIVILIANS THAT HAD BEEN ROUNDED UP, INCLUDING 12 WOMEN AND SEVEN CHILDREN, IN FRONT OF THEIR TANKS IN ORDER TO PREVENT A GERMAN DEFENSE," IT SAID. "WHEN, HOWEVER, GERMAN ARTILLERY OPENED FIRE, THE AMERICANS HURRIED TO GET AWAY."

IN THE HURTGEN AREA, DNB DECLARED, THREE GERMAN WAR PRISONERS WERE FORCED TO RIDE IN FRONT OF THREE U.S. TANKS THAT WERE ATTACKING.

"ONE OF TWO SERGEANT MAJORS SUCCEEDED IN SAVING HIS LIFE BY JUMPING DOWN IN TIME," SAID DNB. "ALL THREE TANKS WERE DESTROYED BY FULL HITS, WHEREBY THE REST OF THE GERMAN SOLDIERS LOST THEIR LIVES."

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(170) NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TONIGHT (SAT):

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: HELD JOINT FRONT WITH FIRST ARMY OF 27 MILES ON WEST BANK OF ROER RIVER.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: ELIMINATED LAST NAZI RESISTANCE WEST OF ROER NEAR DUREN.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: GAINED SLOWLY IN SAARLAUTERN SECTOR; PUSHED 1 1/2 MILES AHEAD NINE MILES EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: POURED TROOPS INTO FOUR-PRONGED INVASION OF REICH FROM ALSACE; SEIZED SCHEIBENHARD, WISSEMBOURG AND LAUTERBOURG.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: BATTERED BACK FIERCE COUNTERATTACKS NORTHWEST OF COLMAR ON SOUTHERN FRONT.

-DASH-

U.S.DIVISIONS

45TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): ENGAGED IN HEAVY FIGHTING IN PALATINATE.

79TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): MET STIFF RESISTANCE INSIDE GERMANY.

90TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): ADVANCED SLOWLY INTO DILLINGEN, ABOVE SAARLAUTERN.

95TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): ADVANCED INSIDE ENSDORF EAST OF SAARLAUTERN.

103D INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): PRESSED INTO SIEGFRIED LINE OUTPOSTS.

FIFTH ARMORED (FIRST ARMY): OCCUPIED MORE OF ROER'S WEST BANK NEAR DUREN.

SECOND INFANTRY (FIRST ARMY): PRESSED AHEAD THROUGH WESTWALL MAZE IN MONSCHAU SECTOR.

78TH INFANTRY (FIRST ARMY): FOUGHT ALONGSIDE SECOND INFANTRY.

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--THE ROAD TO BERLIN

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1 -- WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).

2 -- RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).

3 -- HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).

4 -- ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).

NEW YORK DEC 16-(AP)-MEMORIAL MEETINGS FOR CARLO TRESCA, ANTI-FASCIST LEADER WHO WAS SHOT TO DEATH JAN.11, 1943, WHILE WALKING ON DIMMED-OUT FIFTH AVENUE, WILL BE HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY HERE AND IN ITALY, ENGLAND, MEXICO AND CUBA ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH, NORMAN THOMAS, CHAIRMAN OF THE TRESCA MEMORIAL COMMITTEE, ANNOUNCED TODAY.

TRESCA'S DEATH STILL IS LISTED AS "OPEN" ON POLICE BOOKS.

"FROM ALL THAT I KNOW ABOUT THIS CASE," THE SOCIALIST LEADER SAID, "I AM STRONGLY OF THE OPINION IT WAS A POLITICAL CRIME."

KK1121PEW

NEW YORK DEC 16-(AP)-SINCLAIR LEWIS, NOBEL PRIZE-WINNING NOVELIST, SAID TODAY THERE CAN BE NO GREAT MUSIC, POETRY, PAINTINGS AND MEDICAL DISCOVERIES IN A "PATCHED UP WORLD IN WHICH THE PROSPECTS FOR AN UNENDING PEACE ARE JUST A LITTLE BETTER THAN IN THE 1920'S."

"IT ISN'T THAT THE ARTIST NEEDS SOFTER BEDS OR MORE FOOD," LEWIS TOLD THE THIRD METROPOLITAN OPERA VICTORY RALLY. "IT IS A SPIRITUAL THING HE NEEDS, AN ASSURANCE THAT WHAT HE IS DOING IS NOT FUTILE XXX.

"I AM NOT AT ALL SURE BUT THAT THE MOST MULISH KIND OF COMPLETE ISOLATIONISM IS NOT PREFERABLE TO PLAYING AT WORLD GOVERNMENT, BECAUSE IT IS AT LEAST HONEST, AND YOU KNOW WHAT AND WHERE IT IS."

THE NOVELIST DECLARED IT WAS "TIME FOR A NEW KIND OF WORLD ORGANIZATION WHICH WON'T MERELY YEARN FOR, BUT ACTUALLY PRODUCE SECURITY FOR THE COMPETENT AND HONEST."

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THE PRESIDENTIAL VOTE.

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THE VOTE FOR PRESIDENT IN THE NOV. 7 ELECTION, COMPILED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS TO SHOW THE PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULAR VOTE POLLED BY EACH MAJOR PARTY AND THE MINOR PARTIES, TOGETHER WITH THE PLURALITY OF THE WINNING PARTY.

STATE	TOT.VOTE	DEMOCRAT	PCT.	REPUBLICAN	PCT.	OTHER	PCT.	PLURALITY	
ALA	244,743	198,918	81.3	44,540	18.2	1,285	0.5	154,378	DEM
ARIZ	137,213	80,926	58.9	56,287	41.1	---	---	24,639	DEM
ARK	214,954	148,969	69.3	65,551	30.5	438	0.5	83,414	DEM
CAL	3,518,814	1,988,564	56.5	1,512,965	43.0	17,285	0.5	475,599	DEM
COLO	505,039	234,331	46.4	268,731	53.2	1,977	0.4	34,400	REP
CONN	831,993	435,146	52.3	390,527	46.9	6,320	0.8	44,619	DEM
DEL	125,361	68,166	54.4	56,747	45.3	448	0.4	11,419	DEM
FLA	482,803	339,377	70.3	143,215	29.7	211	0.0	196,162	DEM
GA	328,111	268,187	81.7	56,506	17.2	3,418	1.		
GA	328,111	268,187	81.7	56,506	17.2	3,418	1.5	211,681	DEM
IDAHO	208,321								
GA	328,111	268,187	81.7						
DEL	125,361	68,166	54.4	56,747	45.3	448	0.4	11,419	DEM
FLA	482,803	339,377	70.3	143,215	29.7	211	0.0	196,162	DEM
GA	328,111	268,187	81.7	56,506	17.2	3,418	1.5	211,681	DEM
IDAHO	208,321	107,399	51.5	100,137	48.1	785	0.4	7,262	DEM
ILL	4,036,061	2,079,479	51.6	1,939,314	48.0	17,268	0.4	140,165	DEM
IND	1,672,091	781,403	46.7	875,891	52.4	14,797	0.9	94,480	REP
IOWA	1,052,601	499,876	47.5	547,267	52.0	5,458	0.5	47,391	REP
KAN	733,776	287,458	39.2	442,096	60.2	4,222	0.6	154,638	REP
KY	867,921	472,589	54.5	392,448	45.2	2,884	0.3	80,141	DEM
LA	358,506	288,000	80.3	70,382	19.7	124	0.0	217,618	DEM
MAINE	296,400	140,631	47.5	155,434	52.4	335	0.1	14,803	REP
MD	609,419	316,138	51.9	293,281	48.1	---	---	22,857	DEM
MASS	1,960,625	1,035,296	52.8	921,350	47.0	4,019	0.2	113,946	DEM
MICH	2,205,217	1,106,899	50.2	1,084,423	49.2	13,895	0.6	22,476	DEM
MINN	1,126,159	589,864	52.4	527,416	46.8	8,879	0.8	62,448	DEM
MISS	172,379	160,792	93.3	11,587	6.7	---	---	149,205	DEM
MO	1,571,678	807,357	51.4	761,175	48.4	3,146	0.2	46,182	DEM
MONT	207,355	112,556	54.3	93,163	44.9	1,636	0.8	19,393	DEM
NEBR	563,126	233,246	41.4	329,880	58.6	---	---	96,634	REP
NEV	54,234	29,623	54.6	24,611	45.4	---	---	5,012	DEM
N H	229,630	119,668	52.1	109,916	47.9	46	0.0	9,752	DEM
N J	1,963,761	987,874	50.3	961,335	49.0	14,552	0.7	26,539	DEM
N M	192,221	81,389	53.5	70,688	46.4	144	0.1	10,701	DEM

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N Y	6,311,930	3,304,238	52.4	2,987,647	47.3	20,045	0.3	316,591	DEM
N C	789,554	527,399	66.6	262,155	33.2	---	---	265,244	DEM
N D	220,171	100,144	45.5	118,535	53.8	1,492	0.7	18,391	REP
OHIO	3,153,026	1,570,763	49.8	1,582,293	50.2	---	---	11,530	REP
OKLA	720,973	401,549	55.7	319,424	44.3	---	---	82,125	DEM
ORE	480,147	248,635	51.8	225,365	46.9	6,147	1.3	23,270	DEM
PENN	3,794,787	1,940,479	51.1	1,835,048	48.4	19,260	0.5	105,431	DEM
R I	297,948	174,431	58.5	123,517	41.5	---	---	50,914	DEM
S C	103,375	90,601	87.6	4,610	4.5	8,164	7.9	85,991	
S D	232,073	96,711							

S C	103,375	90,601	87.6	4,610	4.5	8,164	7.9	85,991	DEM
S D	232,073	96,711	41.7	135,362	58.3	---	---	38,651	REP
TENN	510,692	308,707	60.5	200,311	39.2	1,674	0.3	108,396	DEM
TEXAS	1,150,343	821,605	71.4	191,425	16.6	137,313	12.0	630,180	DEM
UTAH	247,979	150,088	60.5	97,891	39.5	---	---	52,197	DEM
VT	125,347	53,820	42.9	71,527	57.1	---	---	17,707	REP
VA	388,485	242,276	62.4	145,243	37.4	966	0.2	97,033	DEM
WASH	856,328	486,774	56.8	361,669	42.2	7,865	1.0	124,863	DEM
WVA	715,596	392,777	54.9	322,819	45.1	---	---	69,958	DEM
WIS	1,339,152	650,413	48.6	674,532	50.4	14,207	1.0	24,119	REP
WYO	101,340	49,419	48.8	51,921	51.2	---	---	2,502	REP

TOTAL VOTE	DEMOCRAT	PCT.	REPUBLICAN	PCT.	PLURALITY
47,969,828	25,610,946	53.4	22,018,177	45.9	3,592,769

(EDITORS: HERE FOLLOWS "OTHER VOTES" COLUMN TOTALS FOR INSERTION IN TOTALS ABOVE--CROWDED OUT BY TELETYPE LIMITATIONS):
OTHER VOTES: 340,705, OR 0.7 PER CENT.
NOTES: NEW YORK DEMOCRATIC VOTE INCLUDES: 496,405 AMERICAN LABOR PARTY VOTES, AND 329,235 LIBERAL PARTY VOTES; SOUTH CAROLINA OTHER PARTY VOTES INCLUDES 7,799 VOTES FOR HARRY F. BYRD. TEXAS OTHER VOTES INCLUDES 135,439 TEXAS REGULARS VOTES (AN ANTI-ROOSEVELT FACTION).

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NAZI OFFENSIVE PIERCES FIRST ARMY LINES; CHUTISTS AND LUFTWAFFE SUPPORT PUSH; AMERICANS ADVANCE 6 MILES ON MINDORO

Rip American Lines In Bitter Onslaught

Reinvade Belgium and Luxembourg—Thrust With Thousands of Troops and Scores Of Tanks—Yanks Holding at Some Points —Foe's Air Force Comes Out of Hiding—Loses 143 Planes to U. S. 33.

DEC 18 19

By Edward Kennedy

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 18 (AP)—The German army reinvaded Belgium and Luxembourg in an all-out offensive yesterday, denting U. S. First Army lines with thousands of troops and scores of tanks attacking on a 60-mile front.

This first major counter-offensive since Normandy was gaining in intensity.

Enemy Held At Some Points

At some points along a front between Monschau, 16 miles southeast of Aachen, on southward to the German fortress of Trier the enemy had advanced some miles while other thrusts were being held by the Americans.

(The depths of the German penetrations weer not given. Kennedy reported that some of his dispatches were altered by censorship.)

Seizing the initiative for the first time since D-Day, the Germans swept back along the paths of their 1940 conquests, spurred by an order from Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt that "your hour has struck."

What appeared to be the main blow carried to within 10 miles of the Belgian city of Malmedy, 23 miles south of Aachen.

(Malmedy is 14 miles west of the German border and, assuming American lines were at the frontier, that would mean a penetration of four miles. However, Allied lines on that long-quiet sector are ill-defined.)

An Inferno Of Artillery Fire

An inferno of artillery fire plunged into the American lines. Parachute troops in considerable numbers dropped behind the American positions in two corps areas on the First army front and also behind the U. S. Ninth army. Dropping in groups of four to eight, many were captured.

The long-hidden German air force roared out at least 450 strong and by nightfall had lost 143 planes in terrific air battles that cost the Americans 33 fighters. It was the enemy's greatest show of air power since the Allies stormed the French coast.

The battle flared along a 60-mile front from Rotgen, 10 miles southeast of Aachen, on south into Luxembourg, where at least two small penetrations were made before the Americans held.

Concentrated South Of Aachen

Associated Press Correspondent William F. Boni said the land assault was concentrated some 23 miles south of Aachen, where German infantry and from 30 to 50 tanks overran advance American positions in the area of Honsfeld on the route to the Ardennes forest.

From Honsfeld, two miles inside Belgium, the Germans pressed on west to within 10 miles of Malmedy before the attack eased late in the afternoon. The doughboys appeared to have the situation fairly well under control.

Rundstedt's order to his troops declared, "Strong attacking armies are advancing today against the Anglo-Americans. I don't need to say more to you. Bear in yourselves a holy duty to give everything and achieve the superhuman for our fatherland and our fuehrer."

Supreme headquarters said that while the German drive represented a major effort which is not underestimated, there was no

reason for alarm of anxiety.

Information at supreme headquarters was that the Germans made three major advances toward the American lines, and had attempted others which were sealed off.

A dispatch from the First Army front said the German intent appeared to be to ease pressure on the Duren front east of Aachen and on the Saar and Palatinate fronts.

One from the Ninth Army front said it was doubtful if the German high command hoped to capture and hold any large amount of territory.

The German army does not appear to have resources for such adventures, and it seemed likely the main objective was to disrupt Gen. Eisenhower's winter offensive.

Smaller attacks were mounted all along an 80-mile front from Duren south to the area of the German fortress city of Trier in what looked like a grand attempt to ease the tremendous pressure of the U. S. First and Ninth Armies on the Roer river line before Cologne and the Rhine.

Third Army Pressing Fight

The U. S. Third Army pressed the fight against stubborn opposition in the Saar area by clearing Middelsheim, two miles inside the border, and Walsheim, a mile and a half east of Sarreguemines. These advances followed the Third Army's brilliant victory gained by smashing the primary Siegfried line defenses at Dillingen.

Deepening its invasion of the southern Saarland to two miles, the Third also forged into Gerscheim, seven miles northeast of Sarreguemines.

To the southeast, four divisions of the U. S. Seventh Army reached the Siegfried line beyond captured Wissembourg, moving steadily ahead against gradually stiffening resistance. They took Schweighofer, three miles northeast of Wissembourg, and Kapsweyer, a mile farther north and reached a point about three miles south of Bergzabern after sweeping through several more villages.

The Germans were blowing up bridges behind them as they withdrew from this area between the frontier and the main Siegfried defenses. Farther westward, other Seventh army forces made some progress south of Bitche.

Three Miles Deep In Reich

The day's advances put the Seventh as much as three miles deep in the Reich at points along a 14-mile front and some American troops were only eight miles west of the Baden Province capital of Karlsruhe. The enemy's withdrawal from several villages in the border area put U. S. vanguards within 33 miles of the arsenal cities of Ludwigshafen and Mannheim on the Rhine.

It was disclosed that the Germans have at least five divisions facing the Seventh army on the Palatinate front as well as miscellaneous units such as fortress battalions trained to fight in prepared positions and having little or no transport. The German divisions include the 11th Panzer, the 25th Panzer Grenadiers, the 361st, 245th and the 256th Infantry.

Advantages in South

On the southern end of the Seventh Army's front, counterattacking Germans retook the Alsatian villages of Benwehr and Mittelwehr, both of which are northwest of Colmar. The enemy also surged back into the village of Diebolsheim, east of Selestat, and recaptured the peak of Mount Hohneck in the Schlucht Pass. In the Bonhomme Pass, however, Allied troops fought ahead one mile.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army reacted quickly to the threat to its right flank posed by the biggest German attack since the abortive attempt at Mortain last August to sever the Avranches Corridor and cut off American armored spearheads racing through Brittany toward Paris.

"In Paris By Christmas"

(Blue Network Correspondent Gordon Frazer from the front said prisoners declared they expected to be in Paris by Christmas).

Associated Press Correspondent William F. Boni said there were three other penetrations in addition to the enemy thrust toward Malmedy.

One was some 19 miles southeast of Malmedy at a point just south of the German village of Heckhuscheid, where the Americans hold a slender strip of enemy soil. An attack by 100 German troops was broken up by artillery fire. Herckhuscheid is five miles northeast of the junction of the Belgian, Luxembourg and German borders.

The second was 17 miles farther south, where 150 Germans moved into the wooded area southwest of the Luxembourg border town of Vianden.

A third carried into Luxembourg south of Echternach, a border town 13 miles southeast of Vianden.

The attacks were turning toward the Ardennes forest, once considered too tough an obstacle for a real offensive. This military myth blew up in 1940 when the Germans broke through for the battles that spelled the downfall of France and The Lowlands.

Over Thousand Prisoners Taken

All along the First Army front, small bodies of Germans were infiltrating the American lines, but many were being seized so quickly that yesterday's total of prisoners rose abruptly to 1,059, more than double that of the day before.

German artillery fire, which opened up Friday in a prelude to the push, still rained down and was particularly heavy also in the sector opposite the Roer river stronghold of Duren.

In reporting the first of the series of small attacks that preceded the German push, Boni said the enemy appeared to have shifted strength from the Duren sector—where the bulk of his forces were withdrawn to the Roer's west bank—for the diversionary assaults.

The German attacks fell yesterday with hammerlike precision from north to south, beginning at daylight on the U. S. Ninth army front and then dropping southward.

Alert First army troops smashed the Germans bak in their attempts to retake Mariaweiler and Gurzenich, a mile and a half northwest and a mile west of Duren respectively.

Three attacks followed in the Monschau arear, 16 miles southeast of Aachen, where the First army was moving up both banks of the Roer. These were broken on rocklike American resistance.

Always the attacks were preceded by violent artillery barrages and the German waves came over in a blaze of small-arms fire.

Falling Back Before Patch

While the Germans were lashing out here, they still were falling back in the southwestern part of the Reich before the advance of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh army doughboys.

Three divisions were pushing into the Palatinate, a region studded with war factories, from the Vosges to the Rhine, and were nearing the main fortifications of the Siegfried line. Resistance still was negligible.

On the west Seventh Army men took Bobenthal, two miles inside the Reich in a forested area northwest of Wissembourg, along with the villages of Schweigen and Rechtenbach, five miles farther east.

On the east flank near the Rhine they overran the German villages of Scheibenhardt, just north of the French town of Scheibenhard, and Berg, eight miles west of the big industrial city of Karlsruhe.

The Germans were fighting back savagely from the Maginot line on the Seventh's west flank in the Vosges. The 44th Division fought into Hottviller, four miles west of the anchor city of Bitche.

Several Thousand Holed Up

Several thousand Germans were holed up in this most formidable of the Maginot line positions, where the French still were firing when the 1940 armistice was signed.

Here a series of four Maginot forts, buttressed by satellite forts in the manner of the Metz defenses, were holding out. These main fortresses were Simserhof, Schiessck, Otterbiel and Grand Hohekirkel.

But the Americans had reduced one of the fortresses, Freuneburg, with artillery fire and were timing the raising and towering of turrets in the other forts and firing their guns when the turrets were raised. As a result they were scoring telling blows when the enemy gunners were most exposed.

Despite repeated German counter-attacks all around the Colmar-Mulhouse perimeter in southern Alsace, the U. S. 36th Division seized Kaysersberg on advantageous heights five miles northwest of Colmar.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army partly breached the west wall in the Dillingen area in a climax to ten days of the toughest kind of knock-down fighting.

The victory was scored by Texas and Oklahoma veterans of the 90th Division, which broke a stalemate in the fortified Saar town of Dillingen.

90th Div. Takes 1,000 Prisoners

In its slugging match with the enemy inside the west wall, the 90th knocked out 365 pillboxes, took 1,000 prisoners, killed up to 800 Germans and wounded 1,500 others, and destroyed 15 tanks.

The 90th was pressing east for fresh tests, possibly in the eastern edge of Dilingen, or farther back in the hills behind the city where the fortifications are spread out in depth.

In the southern Saar basin, the 35th Division fought into Gerscheim, two miles inside the Saar, seven miles northeast of Saareguemines.

Advances up to a mile along a two and a half-mile sector here placed American spearheads about five miles south of the main Siegfried fortifications.

The Germans were moving reinforcements into the Saar also. Night fighting Black Widow warplanes of the 19th Tactical Airforce pounded on a 10-mile long German column early today and set it aflame near Nunkirchen, 12 miles northeast of Saarlautern.

The German fighter force which had been conserved for months, was thrown up to screen the German army's winter counterattack, and on the Ninth Army front German planes flew over in an almost continuous stream last night. Seventeen were shot down during the night.

German-Held Maginot Forts Slow 7th Army

With American Troops Outside Bitche, Dec. 16 (Delayed) (AP).—Several thousand Germans are holed up in the vast Maginot Line fortresses of the Vosges peaks in this part of northern Alsace ing the entry of the U. S. Army left flank into Ger y.

"It looks like we will be the last ones over the border," said Maj. John Nickels, Philadelphia, "but then maybe we'll be the first ones out."

The Germans are making big use of the Maginot Line in this sector. They well know the strength of the fortifications here, having tried unsuccessfully to take them themselves in 1940. The French still were firing from the pillboxes when the armistice was signed.

Four Main Fortresses

The Maginot Line here consists of four main fortresses—Simserhof, Schiesseck, Otterbiel and Grand Hohekirkel—each surrounded by 6 to 11 subsidiary forts. A single main fortress can hold 900 men. It consists of three or four underground levels with impenetrable roofs.

"You hear a lot of stories that the Maginot Line was flimsy because dishonest French contractors built much of it of inferior materials, but that is not true here," said Maj. Thomas Sheehan, Montclair, N. J. "Our biggest shells are bouncing off the forts like pebbles."

A prisoner fror one of the forts said the only result of the heavy shelling was that it gave the German occupants earaches and caused them "mental anguish."

Yank Trick Gets Results

However, Yank marksmanship has accounted for the Fortress Freunenburg—whose steel door was smashed in by a shell, scaring the Germans and causing some to surrender.

Lieut. William Kennedy of Tallahasee, Ala., pulled off the neatest trick of all.

While spotting for artillery he timed the rise and fall of the turrets and sent back his calculations. Later, an American shell arrived just as a turret rose out of the fort. Two were smashed in this manner in shooting from a range of 7 to 10 miles.

The Maginot Line here has a fire coverage over an area 3 miles deep and more than 10 miles wide.

Survivors Assert Nazis Murdered U.S. Captives

Say They Were Herded Into Field and Mowed Down

AN AMERICAN FRONT-LINE CLEARING STATION, Belgium, Dec. 17 (AP).—Muddy and shivering survivors, weeping with rage, reported today that German tankmen with machine guns shot down captured Americans who were herded into an open field.

"Those of us who played dead got away," said Technician Fifth Grade William B. Summer, of Glenville, W. Va., "but we had to lie there and listen to German non-coms kill with pistols every one of our wounded men who groaned or tried to move.

Summers escaped with a gashed hand. His artillery observation battalion was trapped at a road fork by a powerful German armored column which has driven several miles into Belgium in the current major Nazi offensive.

Heavy guns on the enemy's Tiger tanks quickly shot up more than two dozen American trucks and lightly armed vehicles. About 150 captured Americans were led into a field and, as the German column moved past less than fifty yards away, German gunners deliberately raked the defenseless group with machine guns and machine pistols, the survivors said.

The survivors expressed hope that perhaps a majority of the men had escaped with their lives by diving to the ground and lying still, but three hours after the mass slaughter was attempted fewer than twenty had made their way back to their own lines.

Yank Fighters Bag 110 Nazis In Air Battles

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force Dec. 17 (AP).—U. S. Ninth Air Force fighterbombers shot down 110 German planes and lost 35 today in terrific air battles over the front as the German air force came out in the strongest numbers in months in support of the German counter-offensive.

The Germans flew approximately 450 sorties in their biggest effort since the Allied invasion of the continent.

This was less than half the number the Ninth U. S. Air Force sent over however.

Yanks Continue To Drive Inland

On Mindoro Is.

Shove Outer Defense 6 Miles Beyond San Jose

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Monday, Dec. 18 (AP)—United States forces who landed against weak opposition Friday on Mindoro island are pressing inland, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters announced to day, and have shoved their outer defense six miles beyond the town of San Jose.

The Americans on Saturday seized command of strategic high ground, and have established an arc of defense reaching at the farthest point 11 miles from the beachhead where the dawn landings were made.

In the advance to secure airfield positions, only scant resistance was encountered, the communique reported.

MacArthur said the southern end of Mindoro island, which lies less than 155 miles from Manila, is "now secure."

Struggle Continues

The sanguinary struggle for Leyte island continues unabated, with the first cavalry and 32d division pressure from the north end of the Ormoc corridor and the 77th infantry division pushing up from the south.

Japanese casualties were mounting apace. The communique reported an additional 2,012 enemy slain up to last Saturday.

These Japanese dead have not been previously reported. There is every indication that the Japanese have been hard-pressed as the doughboys' drive continued with increasing speed.

The communique reported additional enemy supply dumps captured, with artillery pieces, mortars, light and heavy machineguns and several tanks.

The Yamashita line on Leyte was outflanked from the south as the 77th Division, which captured Ormoc, has pushed seven miles northward in a fierce struggle.

Planes Cleared

Army and Navy fliers have practically cleared the Philippines of Japanese planes, and continued also to harass enemy shipping.

Patrol planes set fire to two small freighters off Masbate, and bombed Puerto Princesa on Palawan. At Zamboanga, night patrol planes damaged a 3,000-ton freighter transport and again blasted an oil tank farm at Tarakan, Borneo, a frequent target.

Airdromes at Jolo and Tawai on

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the Sulu archipelago were attacked and large fires started. In the Moluccas, medium bombers, attack planes and fighters bombed enemy airdromes, bivouacs and supply dumps. Airdrome runways and warehouses at Halmahera, Boeroe, Ceram and Amboina were left unserviceable by American bombs. Other raids were made on enemy facilities at Dobo in the Aroe Islands, and in the Wewak area of New Guinea.

Some Casualties

The communique noted that a single Japanese plant bombed American positions at Morotai, causing casualties.

The 77th Division's outflanking drive north of Ormoc placed its outer defense within two miles of Valencia, headquarters for the top-ranking Japanese officer on Leyte, Lt. Gen. Sosaki Suzuki.

A spokesman said heavy enemy casualties were caused in part by heavy "hand to hand fighting."

The 7th Division continues to reduce trapped elements of the Japanese 26th Division around Ormoc.

A late report said 12 P-47 fighters in a strike over Negros Thursday destroyed an entire Japanese bomber unit of 14 planes. In addition six enemy fighters were downed.

The past four days air operations (Dec. 13, 14, 15 and 16), show a bag of 581 planes destroyed — the total breaking down thus:

MacArthur's communique, Dec. 17 said 24 Japanese planes were shot down over the beachhead and shipping at Mindoro.

122 Planes

MacArthur's spokesman said that on Dec. 13 and 14 a total of 122 planes had been shot down in other Philippine sectors by the Far East Air Force made up of Liberators, Thunderbolts and the 7th Fleet (Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid's) in raids on Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao. (The totals for the 15th, 16th and 17th are still missing.)

(Associated Press Correspondent Rembert James with Vice Admiral John S. McCain's carrier task force, operating under Admiral Halsey's 3rd fleet, reported 435 planes put out of action. Of this number, said James, 61 were shot out of the air, 207 were burned on the ground and 167 were damaged.

(McCain's carrier force also accounted for 30 vessels sunk and 57 others damaged. Two of the sunken ships were large troop transports and two were medium-sized oilers).

MacArthur's aviators added to this bag of ships sunk: 1 destroyer, 1 ammunition sea truck, 3 coastal vessels, 1 lugger and four barges; damaged one 1,000-ton tanker, a gunboat, and sank or damaged four smal cargo ships and 11 luggers.

Russians Take Town 5½ Miles From Budapest

Red Army Also Reaches Slovak Border at New Point in 15-Mile Gain

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP).—The Red Army advanced to within five and a half miles of besieged Budapest yesterday and reached the Slovak border at a new point seventy-two miles northeast of the Hungarian capital in a rapid but methodical slashing apart of the remaining small German holdings east and northeast of the Danube River.

Susa Taken

The thrust to Slovakia ture of the town of Susa ed a gain of 15 miles f ously-reported Soviet po... that area northwest of Miskolc. En route, the Russians seized the big rail town of Putnok, eight miles east of Susa, said the Soviet communique.

A supplemental communique this morning said more than 600 of the enemy were slaughtered at Putnok and eight German tanks and self-propelled guns were knocked out.

Hundreds of the enemy also were slain in bloody fighting that resulted in capture of Fot, 5 1-2 miles northeast of Budapest, and Mogyorod, eight miles from Budapest, the Russians announced. This was the first official word on the great battle for the Hungarian capital since Wednesday.

Other Red Army units took the big town and railway station of Paszto, 37 miles northeast of Budapest, and Kisbarkany, six miles north of Paszto, in a drive north from the Hatvan area, while others fanning out northwest and northeast of Miskolc captured more than 40 communities.

Rail Center

These included the rail and road center of Putnok, 80 miles northeast of Budapest and only four miles from the Slovak border.

The advances in the Budapest area were the first announced by the Russians since last Wednesday when they reported the capture of Kisalag, two miles northwest of Fot, in the drive through the thick defense zone northeast of the capital.

The spearhead through northern Hungary which brought the capture of Putnok appeared headed toward Losonc, a hub of Slovak-Hungarian frontier communications 35 ...les west of Putnok.

Tonight's Soviet communique made no mention of operations in Slovakia, saying there were no material changes on that front. The German communique, however, again referred to a Russian drive along the road from Ungvar to Kassa, claiming that Red army attacks had been "smashed or stopped."

Unverified Operation

Moscow has not verified this operation, possibly being carried out by units of Gen. Ivan Petrov's Fourth Ukranian Army, which also is driving westward toward the Slovak strongpoint of Presov, 17 miles north of Kassa.

The extreme right wing of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's second Ukranian army in Hungary also apparently is pushing toward Kassa and was last reported 30 miles south of the town.

Another Malinovsky spearhead already has broken into Slovakia at Ipoly-Sag (Sahy) above Budapest, and is fighting within 80 miles of Bratislava, the Slovak capital and the threshold to Vienna.

In an interpretation of the Hungarian campaign today, Col. Nikolai Gavrilov, war observer for the official Soviet Tass News Agency, said the Germans were defending the country tenaciously because it was the most important on the approaches to Germany's southern frontier.

Moscow Radio

His article, broadcast by the Moscow radio, traced the Hungarian front from Szendro, 19 miles north of Miskoloc, down west of Miskolc, then southwestward to north of Eger and bending sharply northwest at Ipoly-Sag in Slovakia. From there it goes south along the east bank of the Danube to the siege area of Budapest, reaching Alsoged, seven and one-half miles north of the Hungarian capital.

"From here the line turns around Budapest in an arc, one end of which is formed by Kisalag, seven miles northeasst of Budapest," Gavrilov said, "while the other end of the arc rests on Dunaharaszti, six and one-quarter miles south. The apex of the arc, Isaszeg, is 12 1-2 miles east of Budapest."

The German radio admitted pressure was being increased on this arc, but gave no details.

From the Budapest arc ,the Hungarian front crosses both branches of the Danube about 11 miles south of the capital, reaching Ercsi. It then runs southwest and passes less than eight miles south of Szekesfehervar to swing down to the eastern shore of Lake Balaton and south to Barcs on the Yugoslav frontier.

The Soviet war bulletin tonight said 1,150 German and Hungarian officers and men had been taken prisoner northeast of Miskolc Saturday, bringing Malinovsky's bag of captives to 34,740 in 38 days. It also said that Russian troops Saturday disabled or destroyed 14 tanks.

BRITISH BOMB ULM AFTER DAY AIR WAR

RAF by Night Strikes First Blow at South Reich Rail and Industrial Center

NAZIS LOSE 143 AT FRONT

Cost to U. S. Ninth Air Force in Battling Luftwaffe Over Lines Is 35 Planes

LONDON, Monday, Dec. 18 (AP)—Heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force last night attacked Ulm, south German industrial and railway center, following daylight American heavy bomber strikes from Italy over Austria and a tremendous outbreak of air combats over the western front.

It was the RAF's first bombing of Ulm, which is on the Danube between Stuttgart and Munich. Ulm's factories produce tanks, armored vehicles and a large portion of Germany's fire-fighting equipment. It is a junction for Nazi rail traffic to both the Rhineland and the Italian fronts.

The big British Lancasters went aloft to hit Ulm after a day of unfavorable weather over the Continent had kept British-based United States Eighth Air Force bombers grounded.

The German Air Force rose in strength to support the Nazi counter-offensive on the western fronts and sacrificed 143 planes in combat.

The day brought out the greatest number of Luftwaffe fighters seen over the front at one time, an estimated 450 to 550 Nazis appearing. Enemy groups ranging in number up to fifty were tackled by pursuit planes of the Continent-based United States Ninth Air Force, which lost thirty-five planes in spectacular dogfights.

Nazi losses were the greatest since an American bomber-fighter armada from Britain knocked down 114 German planes on a mission over the Merseburg oil works on Nov. 26.

Heavy Bombers

Heavy bombers of the U. S. 15th Air Force, based in Italy, also met the first large formations of Nazis they had seen in more than a month when they attacked the railyards at Salzburg, Austria, and bombed the Austrian city of Wels.

Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Italy hammered installations in Germany, Austria, and Czechoslovakia Saturday in a day of diversified attacks in which 15 Allied planes were lost.

Photographs showed good coverage with bomb hits Saturday by Eighth Air Force Flying Fortresses on the Stuttgart-Kornwestheim rail center, an operation that cost three bomebrs. Later in the day RAF Lancasters attacked the rail hub of Siegen east of Cologne.

The Ruhr city of Bochum, one of Germany's chief coal, iron, and industrial centers with normal population of 320,000, has been almost completely devastated by two RAF bombing attacks in the last two months, the Air Ministry announced.

Reconnaissance showed 92 per cent of the city's most fully built-up commercial and administrative areas had been destroyed.

Crowd Scores British Policy

LONDON, Dec. 17. (AP)—Twenty thousand persons jammed in Trafalgar Square at the foot of Nelson's monument condemned Britain's armed intervention in Greece today and approved a resolution calling on the government "to stop using troops against the democratic resistance forces in Greece."

The resolution termed the government's policy in Greece "disastrous."

The Red flag of Russia and the British Union Jack flew side by side above the platform from which spokesmen from the labor commonwealth and communist parties cried out their bitterness against the British policy, denounced Prime Minister Churchill's stand and demanded the recall of Tommies on duty in Greece.

Saying British prestige has "fallen with a bump" Lord Strabolgi, a Laborite, contended the intervention threatened to lengthen the war by months and had brought American isolationists out again into the open. He added that "if this is the price we have to pay for Churchill's domination the price is too high."

Churchill Fails To Broadcast

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill did not deliver the radio talk to Britain tonight which it was said yesterday he might make. But he is expected to make a statement on the war and European political problems before the House of Commons recesses on Thursday for the Christmas holidays.

The prime minister may broadcast before Christmas if he is able to announce that a meeting with President Roosevelt and Marshal Stalin has been arranged.

The Paris radio, quoting informed London circles, said tonight that the next meeting of President Roosevelt, Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill would be held in Rome. No date for the proposed meeting was predicted.

Shinwell Sees More War In Plan to Change Poland

Says 'Perhaps' Seeds of Future Conflict Are Already Laid

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP).—Emmanuel Shinwell, a Laborite member of Parliament, declared today that "perhaps the seeds of future wars already are laid" in the plan to partition Poland.

In a speech at suburban Kingston-on-Thames, Shinwell said: "We had a painful example of that in Friday's Parliament debate on Poland, the results of which filled me with foreboding apprehension. If there is to be any filching here and filching there and transfer of populations and the like, we cannot escape future wars."

Shinwell continued: "I am not complaining about our Soviet friends. Far from it. I can understand their anxiety to protect their frontiers and ward off possible enemies, but the best way to ward off an enemy and prevent conflict is to promote human and intelligent understanding."

Lord Templewood Quits As Ambassador to Spain

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 17—Lord Templewood, British Ambassador to Spain, has resigned, the British Foreign Office announced.

The announcement said Lord Templewood, the former Sir Samuel Hoare, had accepted the appointment in May, 1940, and "at that time it was expected the mission would be of short duration." The statement added:

"But in the ensuing years situations arose which made it desirable for him to continue his special mission. However, he now feels the time has come when he can be relieved."

A Madrid dispatch on Dec. 13 said Lord Templewood was retiring from the Ambassadorship and had left for London.

Yankees Will Bomb Nantes With Presents

A U. S. BOMBER BASE, England, Dec. 17— (AP) —Flying Fortresses will "bomb" Nantes with tons of presents during a Christmas party for some 3,000 French children.

Gifts including candy, toys, and soap will come from rations of the personnel of the 96th Bombardment Group, a veteran U. S. Eighth Air Force Fortress unit in England, and from parcels requested from home.

Officers and men of the unit also contributed $1,850 toward a fund to purchase more gifts and equipment for orphanages in Nantes.

The Christmas party plan was originated by Lt. P. Oscar Picard of Linwood, Mass., of the bomber group commanded by Lt.-Col. Theodore Milton, Washington, D. C., which has made 240 operations over Europe since June, 1943. It hit targets at Nantes several times during the German occupation.

France, U.S.S.R. Pledge Economic, Military Aid

By Joseph Dynan

PARIS, Dec. 17 (AP)—The new French-Russian Alliance pledges mutual economic and military assistance for at least 20 years and cooperative steps to bar Germany from any future aggression, it was disclosed tonight.

The text of the historic alliance, released by the Quai D'Orsay, declared the two countries were resolved to collaboration in establishing a world organization for peace, and pledged a common, no-quarter struggle until final victory over Germany.

Article three commits Russia and France to "undertake to adopt all necessary measures in common accord at the end of the present conflict with Germany to eliminate any new threat emanating from Germany and to bar the way to any kind of initiative rendering possible a new German attempt at aggression."

If such measures, or any German aggression, involves either nation in hostilities with the Reich, "the other party will immediately bring it all the aid and assistance in its power," the treaty asserted.

Under the pact signed in Moscow Dec. 10, both nations agreed to lend each other all possible economic aid "to facilitate and speed up the reconstruction of their respective countries and contribute to the prosperity of the world."

Agree to Fight

They agreed to fight on side by side and with the other United Nations until "final victory over Germany," and not to enter separate negotiations with Germany or conclude an armistice or peace treaty "either with the Hitlerite government or with any other government or authority set up in Germany with the aim or prolonging or nourishing the policy of German aggression."

France and Russia "undertake not to conclude alliances or enter coalitions aimed against one or the other of them," the text said, but this treaty does not affect their respective commitments in previous alliances — such as the Anglo-Russian pact.

Gen. Charles De Gaulle and French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault gave the cabinet a lengthy explanation of the alliance today, and decided to submit the treaty to the consultative assembly before ratification.

The cabinet, it was announced, studied the pact with satisfaction and termed it "a capital factor in solidar[illegible] the United Nations" as well as an essential element in the future security of France.

To Submit Pact

De Gaulle will submit the pact to the assembly this week. Ratification was declared certain.

The treaty will be valid for 20 years, continuing indefinitely after that period unless either party gives at least a year's notice of renunciation.

The alliance signed by Bidault and Russian Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov, declared reestablishment of lasting peace depended on close collaboration between France and the U. S. S. R. and all the United Nations.

The two countries are "resolved to collaborate in order to set up a system of international security permitting the effective maintenance of the general peace and safeguarding the development of harmonious relations between the nations."

[The French news agency A. F. P., in a domestic broadcast reported by the Federal Communications Commission, quoted Soviet Ambassador Alexander E. Bogomolov as saying at Paris that the treaty "makes it possible to think" the Allies can assure "a stable and lasting peace" in Europe.]

The Franco-Russian Treaty

PARIS, Dec. 17 (AP).—The following is the complete text of the new Franco-Russian treaty of alliance and mutual assistance which was made public here today:

The Provisional Government of the French Republic and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Determined to pursue together to the end of the war against Germany, convinced that once victory has been achieved the re-establishment of peace on a stable basis and maintaining of peace on a lasting basis require as prerequisites the existence of close collaboration between them (France and Russia) and all the United Nations, resolved to collaborate in order to set up a system of general peace and safeguarding harmonious development between the nations, anxious to confirm reciprocal engagements resulting from an exchange of letters on Sept. 9, 1941, regarding joint action in the war against Germany, and in the knowledge that by concluding an alliance between France and the U. S. S. R. the interests and sentiments of the two peoples are best assured, as are the necessities of war and the needs of peace and economic reconstruction in complete conformity with aims envisaged by the United Nations, have resolved to conclude to this effect a treaty and have appointed their plenipotentiaries.

Pledge Fight to the End

These are: For the Provisional Government of the French Republic, Georges M. Bidault, Minister of Foreign Affairs; For the Presidium of the Supreme Council (Parliament) of the U. S. S. R., M. (Viacheslav M.) Molotov, People's Commissar for Foreign Affairs.

After duly having exchanged credentials, they agreed on the following:

1. Each of the contracting parties will continue, at the other's side and that of the United Nations, to fight until final victory over Germany. Each of the contracting parties undertakes to give to the other help and assistance in this fight with the means at their disposal.

2. The high contracting parties will undertake not to enter into separate negotiations with Germany nor conclude without mutual agreement an armistice or peace treaty either with the Hitlerite government or with any other government or authority set up in Germany with the aim of prolonging or supporting a policy of German aggression.

3. The high contracting parties will undertake to adopt all the necessary measures in common accord at the end of the present conflict with Germany to eliminate any new threat emanating from Germany, and to bar the way to any kind of initiative rendering possible a new German attempt at aggression.

Mutual Aid Promised

4. In the event of one or the other high contracting parties finding itself implicated in hostilities with Germany either as a result of aggression committed by Germany or as result of circumstances mentioned in article 3, the other party will immediately bring it all the aid and assistance in its power.

5. The high contracting parties undertake not to conclude alliances or enter into coalitions aimed against one or the other of them.

6. The high contracting parties agree to exchange all possible economic assistance after the war so as to facilitate and speed up the reconstruction of their respective countries and contribute to the prosperity of the world.

7. The present treaty does not affect in any way any previous engagement contracted by any of the two parties with third nations by virtue of extracts published.

Treaty Valid Twenty Years

8. The present treaty, drawn up both in French and Russian, will be ratified and the instruments of ratification will be exchanged at Paris as soon as it is feasible to do so.

The treaty will enter into effect immediately when the instruments of ratification are exchanged and will be valid for twenty years.

If the treaty is not denounced at least one year previous to the lapse of this period by either of the two contracting parties, it will remain valid indefinitely, with either of the contracting parties retaining the right to end it by declaration to that effect upon one year's notice.

In pledge of the above, the following plenipotentiaries have signed and put their seals to the present treaty, which was issued in duplicate in Moscow, Dec. 10, 1944.

BIDAULT,
Minister of Foreign Affairs.
MOLOTOV,
People's Commissar of Foreign Affairs.

Airborne French Agents Of Reich Are Captured

By The Associated Press.

LIMOGES, France, Dec. 17—German agents of French nationality on a sabotage mission landed by parachute near a town southeast of here Thursday night, it was reported here today.

One of the men committed suicide upon arrest. Two others were prevented from doing so. Both carried large sums in French, American and British banknotes and bore arms and capsules of poison.

All three were believed to be members of the old Vichy militia. The two prisoners said they had been dropped by parachute from a German plane to sabotage military installations. Police, military authorities and troops of the French Forces of the Interior searched the hills for other parachutists.

Dunckel's Cabin Bombed

ABOARD A UNITED STATES WARSHIP OFF MINDORO, Dec. 15 (Delayed) (AP)—Slightly wounded in the head and an arm by bomb fragments during a Japanese attack on a United States ship yesterday, Brig. Gen. William C. Dunckel refused to return for hospitalization and landed to command American Sixth Army forces on Mindoro today.

General Dunckel was the first American general to be wounded in the Philippines campaign. He had a narrow escape when his cabin was pierced by two bomb fragments that tore through the bulkhead within a foot of each side of his head.

The general is a former backfield coach at the University of Missouri.

Rear Admiral Russell S. Berkey, who commanded the convoy covering force during the Mindoro landing, was thoroughly at home during the operation. He surveyed the waters for the Navy in 1935.

The admiral was former commandant of a naval base on Iceland.

His wife lives near Lyme, Conn., and his mother, Mrs. Lenora Berkey, at 1619 Riverside Drive, Tulsa, Okla.

Driver's Seat

Mindoro Key Battle, Jap Paper Warns

By the Associated Press

The important Tokyo newspaper Asahi in an editorial Sunday (Japan time) warned the Japanese that the victor in the battle of Mindoro Island, Philippines, where American troops landed Friday, "will assume full control of tomorrow's military situation."

Domei, the Japanese news agency, broadcast Asahi's comment and said that all metropolitan Tokyo newspapers had "editorially prominenced" the new landings.

Mainichi, another newspaper, said the American assault on Mindoro was "an act of desperation," and declared that the "fighting spirit of American military leaders and the enemy' ability to maintain their lines of supply cannot be minimized."

Domei said that Mainichi's editorial analysis came up with the Leyte the enemy now is bent on establishing on Minrodo a firm base to launch an eventual reconquest of all the Philippines."

(The American operation on Leyte island, Philippines, is anything but a failure in the opinion of U. S. military leaders. The Japanese there have lost their remaining principal supply port, Ormoc, and are being pressed into the northwest corner of the island. It was from Leyte that the Yank force departed for the successful landing on Mindoro.)

Asahi bluntly stressed "that now is the time when we must rise as one and exert our utmost effort to tax every ounce of our energy to produce and rush supplies to reach our force x x x."

Yank Railroaders Winning Battle All Their Own

By Lewis Hawkins

With the 3d Army, Dec. 8 (AP)—Not all of the smoke of war is from shellbursts. Much of it rolls thick and black from stacks of French locomotives whose shrill whistles pipe perky salutes to American soldiers — railroaders who are rolling thousands of tons of freight daily over patched-up lines.

Courage, sweat and skill are commonplace among men of the 2d Military Railway Service under Brig. Gen. Clarence L. Burpee and only a railroad man could assay fully the amazing obstacles they have overcome to fuel the Americans' greatest war machine and feed Europe's liberated millions.

One Example

When the soldier-railmen moved into one key yard in France they found bomb-scrambled tracks and equipment under the wreckage of 1,300 locomotives and cars. But Army engineers and railmen working simultaneously cleared this chaos so that now more than 60 trains run through that yard each day.

At Lemans French railway men told the Americans they would be lucky if they could move two trains their first day there. But by midnight 27 had been cleared through.

One night a captain and four enlisted men brought 2,100 gallons of fuel oil in 5-gallon cans 5 miles from a dump and poured it by hand into tanks of three Diesel locomotives in order to keep the trains moving.

Close To The Battle

Once they moved into a freight yard so close behind action that trains still were burning and they had to bury the dead which littered the area.

Often they outran their fuel supplies and firemen kept up steam with crossties, scrap lumber and even straw. As frequently water lines were useless and civilian fire departments were called on to pump water into the boilers or it was dipped from ditches or shell craters and passed along by bucket brigades sometimes made up of prisoners.

Night after night trains had to be driven without headlights when there was no way of knowing what the enemy might have left across the tracks. And every tunnel was a potential death trap where exposives could be planted.

Equipment Hodge-Podge

In a normal military train crew the conductor is a sergeant, engineer a technician (fourth grade), fireman a technician (fifth grade), and brakeman a private (first class).

Never have crews been called upon to operate such a hodgepodge of equipment. Much of it is American, including locomotives and cars shipped from the United States recently and old cars left over by the AEF in Begium in 1918. But a majority is foreign, including French, German, Italian and Belgian.

Anzacs Take Italian Fort

City of Faenza

Rome, Dec. 17 (AP).—New Zealand troops in a foot-by-foot slugging match today captured Faenza, Po Valley fortress city (population 45,000) on the broad highway arrowing to Bologna 29 miles away, ending a long siege and decisively defeating the Ninetieth Panzer Grenadier Division.

Lieut. Gen. Sir Bernard C. Freyberg's troops toppled the city on the Bologna-Rimini highway with simultaneous punches into the town from the southwest and east, and then speared 3 miles up highway 9 toward Bologna, to the Senio River, reaching a bridge blown by the Germans.

Faenza, famed for Faience pottery, had been squeezed for weeks by British Eighth Army flanking operations.

Hilltop Town Captured

Freyberg's men captured the hilltop town of Celle, southwest of Faenza, after a day-long battle, taking 200 prisoners, and then broke over highway 9. Some units drove up to the Senio River on a wide front. Others turned down the road into Faenza. British and Indian troops also inched their way over a ridge west of the city, which other Eighth Army units forced in from the east across the Lamone River.

Faenza fell only after a bitter street battle.

The hard-fighting German Nintieth Armored Division was a successor to the German Nintieth Light Division which surrendered in toto to Freyberg in Tunisia May 12, 1943.

In 24 hours the Eighth Army in this Adriatic sector took 550 prisoners.

Canadian Bridgehead Expanded

Farther north despite continued bitter German opposition, Canadians in the Eighth Army expanded their bridgehead over the Naviglio Canal to 3 miles in width, but the fortified road town of Bagnacavallo still held out.

The Canadians fortified positions between the deep canal and Forro Munio as they cut forward through the network of waterways slicing the Po valley in this area above Highway 9. In one action Friday, the Canadians took 150 prisoners and knocked out a Tiger tank, despite heavy enemy artillery fire.

American Fifth Army troops, meanwhile, engaged in scattered patrol clashes and underwent harassing enemy cannon fire.

The town of Tossignano 18 miles southeast of Bologna on the main Imola-Florence Highway became a bloody battle scene, with the Germans inside firmly entrenched.

CLARK TAKES NEW POST

Tells Fifth Army of Importance of Campaign as He Leaves

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark today assumed command of the Fifteenth Army Group in Italy.

In a farewell message to his former United States Fifth Army command he said the Italian campaign was forcing the Germans to employ many of their best divisions that otherwise would be used on the western and eastern fronts.

"Never underestimate the vital and continuing importance of your role in the Italian campaign," he said.

General Clark succeeds Field Marshal Sir Harold R. L. G. Alexander, who has been named Commander in Chief of all allied forces in the Mediterranean.

Lieut. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott Jr. took General Clark's place as commander of the Fifth Army.

Maj. Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, who has been Chief of Staff of the Fifth Army since its organization, accompanied General Clark as Chief of Staff of the Fifteenth Army Group.

General Clark took command of the Fifth Army Jan. 5, 1943, when it was activated.

Little Improvement For Italy Predicted

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP) — Premier Ivanhoe Bonomi in a broadcast to the nation tonight held out little hope of improved economic conditions while the year lasts and appealed to Italians to "fight to win the war without party distinctions."

The premier said a newly-activated Italian division soon would enter the line against the Germans and that others would be in action before Spring. About 200,000 Italian workers are engaged in essential activities behind the lines, he added, asserting that "Italy is fighting for her liberation and for nothing else."

He concluded that "this liberation means—if words have a precise meaning—that Italy must not stop at reoccupation of her regions contaminated by the German invader, but must preserve these same regions from the danger of falling anew under foreign domination."

12TH AIR FORCE MAKES ITS 350,000TH SORTIE

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP)—The honor of flying the United States Twelfth Air Force's 350,000th combat sortie went to a 22-year-old major who feels old "seeing all these kids come in" to replace his mates.

He is Maj. Hughes Dow of South Fort Worth, Tex., who left college at 18 and hitch-hiked to Canada to enlist in the Royal Canadian Air Force. He switched to the American Air Force in England in 1942.

To celebrate the air force's milestone after twenty-five months of combat in the Mediterranean theatre they dressed the major up in his best uniform, decked him out in his Silver Star, DFC and Air Medal ribbons and brought him to town for a press conference.

The modest flier skimmed over the time early in 1942 in Tunisia when he shot down an ME-109 with a P-39—how the first time he ever had been in aerial combat he scored a victory over his German opponent, and other exploits later when the 350th Fighter Group switched to P-47s. But he got a kick out of telling about the time in Sardinia when he built his own ME-109 out of parts taken from wrecked German planes.

"I first painted it olive drab," he recalled, "but the ack-ack gunners around the island got mad so I painted it yellow."

"It was some plane," he said. "It could outclimb anything I've ever seen and it had speed too. But we always could outrun the Messerschmitts."

Major Dow is credited with 210 operational missions of which more than seventy-five were combat flights over Tunisia, Sicily and Italy. The rest were convoy patrols.

NAZIS IN YUGOSLAVIA HIT

RAF Bombers From Italy Attack Retreating Enemy Columns

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP)—German columns in full flight in Yugoslavia along the Podgorica-Matesevo road were heavily attacked yesterday by a flight of British and South African bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force.

A number of roadblocks were created and hundreds of Nazi vehicles jammed up on the road behind them.

Including bombings by United States Fifteenth Air Force "heavies" of an oil plant in Czechoslovakia and the Innsbruck rail yards and by tactical planes of the La Spezia drydocks, the MAAF flew 1,800 sorties and lost fifteen planes during the day.

Congressmen Now Touring Italian Front

Warned By Gen. Clark Of "Tough" Going—See Battle Movie.

ROME, Dec. 17 (AP)—The House Military Affairs committee began touring the Italian front today after a "briefing" in which Lt.-Gen. Mark W. Clark, commanding Allied ground troops, told them they could go close to the front, but warned them it would be "tough."

The representatives were outfitted with helmets, warm field clothes, and new type parkas being issued to frontline troops.

They witnessed the first general showing of the Army pictorial service film, "San Pietro," compiled from films by soldier photographers with the American Fifth Army.

With the actual sound of battle, it showed ground won at one point at the cost of a man to each yard, showed scenes of American dead and of Americans wrapped in canvas sacks being lowered into graves.

Several representatives said some of these scenes should be eliminated before the film is showed in the United States, but four enlisted men who were special guests at the showing declared they should not be cut.

"The homefolk don't really know what war is like," one of them, Pvt. Harry Murray of Westerly R. I., declared.

The other three, also decorated with the distinguished Service agreed. They are Sgts. Sylvester Singletad, Waseca, Minn; Sam McGowan, Clemson, S. C.; and Pvt Jack Green of Seattle, Wash.

At the airport where the committee began its tour there was an international guard of honor—detachments of Nurses, WACS, white and Negro American infantrymen, British guards, Brazilians and South Africans.

The first stop was at a huge ordnance plant commanded by Col W. H. Jaynes, Lancaster, Penn., which employs 12,000 Italian civilians. Here the representatives saw equipment from watches to tanks being repaired under supervision of U. S. troops.

ATHENS IS SHELLED, RAF HITS ELAS GUNS

Fighting Flares After British General Rejects Peace Bid and Demands Disarming

SHIFT BY PREMIER SEEN

Papandreou Is Understood to Be Not Opposed to Archbishop as Single Regent

ATHENS, Dec. 17 (AP)—Royal Air Force Spitfires and rocket-firing Beaufighters attacked Elas forces in Athens today after the Left-Wing troops had resumed heavy artillery and mortar fire in the city.

The Beaufighters attacked the Elas radio station while Spitfires, armed with cannon, attacked an Elas-controlled locomotive and strafed the Stadium area and a concentration of Elas troops on the northwestern outskirts of the capital.

Earlier in the day there was scattered fighting, a British communiqué said, after the British commander, Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, had rejected as unsatisfactory a peace proposal by the Left-Wing Eam-Elas.

The British said that hundreds of armed Bulgarians had infiltrated northern Greece, but declared it was not known whether they had entered the country at the invitation of the Elas or were simply reoccupying territories that they evacuated under the terms of the armistice — Thrace and eastern Macedonia.

Considered Inadequate

Scobie was said by British headquarters to have rejected the EAM peace offer because it did not provide for the immediate cessation of the 2-week-old civil war, for the surrender of ELAS arms, and for the evacuation of Athens and the Attica Peninsula by ELAS forces as a preliminary to final peace negotiations.

While Premier George Papandreou's press secretary announced that the ELAS had been completely cleared from Pireaus, port of Athens, the British were not entirely satisfied and were continuing operations there.

The Papandreou government also announced that messages had been received from the Aegean Islands of Syros, Naxos, Paros and Hydra reaffirming the islands' loyalty to the government and their readiness to help suppress the ELAS, military arm of EAM (National Liberation Front Party.)

One of the peace demands of the EAM was the formation of a new government to supplant the present one.

British headquarters said that Indian troops, which had been attacked by ELAS forces near the Gulf of Patrias had been avacuated and that "elsewhere in Greece the situation is unchanged."

Strike Called in Salonika

A general strike was called today in the port of Salonika where vessels crammed with relief supplies for the Greeks remained unloaded. The British communique said it had been "confirmed" that members of the Socialist Party and the Union of Popular Democracy Party in the Salonika area of northern Greece had broken away from the EAM and that the leaders of the two parties had been arrested by the ELAS.

Brig. Gen. Percy L. Sadler, deputy commander of United States forces in the Middle East and in charge of the distribution of American relief supplies in Greece, said the activity of Americans in the country was "strictly limited to relief and rehabilitation."

"American personnel," he said "will refrain from any action which could possibly be interpreted as intervention in Greek politics, although naturally complying with British security regulations."

General Sadler said relief supplies were being distributed "equitably" to both sides in the current dispute.

Germans Use Bombs To Neutralize Screens

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 17—(AP)—The Germans are using a new type of light-bomb to neutralize Allied smoke and fog screens on the western front, according to the Berlin correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet.

The light-bombs are dropped be-

and the Allied screens so Allied soldiers are silhouetted against the light and enable the Nazis to direct their fire, the newspaper said.

German military commentators also claimed to have solved the problem of bringing up ammunition in the face of overwhelming Allied air superiority, Aftonbladet reported. The newspaper said four-barreled anti-aircraft guns had been set up along roads behind the Aachen and Saar fronts making it difficult for Allied fighters to sweep lower than 3,000 feet over German supply lines.

PRAVDA DEFENDS RED ARMY MOVES

Says Russians Are Fighting as Many Foes in Hungary as Allies Are in West

MOSCOW, Dec. 17 (AP)—Soviet resentment at asserted foreign depreciation of the scope of the Red Army's Hungarian offensive boiled over today in another attack by Pravda on the American Army and Navy Journal.

Pravda released figures purporting to show that as many German divisions were engaged on the southern sector of the Eastern Front as against all the Allied forces in the west.

The Moscow News, only English-language newspaper in the Soviet Union, announced yesterday that as of Dec. 1, 220 enemy divisions—200 of them German—were tied up in the east. Seventy were located at the southern extremity of the front, presumably from Yugoslavia across Hungary into eastern Slovakia.

[Various unofficial estimates have said that seventy German divisions were arrayed against the Allies on the Western Front.]

Today, Russian language newspapers repeated these figures, with Pravda directing its verbal fire against the Army and Navy Journal as "a source for pro-Hitlerite propaganda"—much the same language it used Dec. 3 in attacking that publication for allegedly casting doubt whether Russia had fulfilled the military decisions of Teheran.

(Last week the Army and Navy Journal said:

Since D-day

("Since D-day in France, greater preoccupaton has been shown by Russia in her Baltic and Balkan campaigns, intended to insure her security, and by Great Britain in

Italy, Greece and Albania, to protect her lifeline through the Mediterranean, than in achievement of the prime objective of our armies—the prompt defeat of Germany and concentration of all possible power to that end.

("The result has been that the expectation in Washington that the war in Europe would be over by the Pearl Harbor anniversary this week has not been realized.")

The Pravda editorial appeared to derive consolation, however, from articles in the Christian Science monthly and the New York Times emphasizing importance of gains by Russian troops in southeast Europe.

Foreign oversevers here have assumed that the biggest Winter blow by the Red army would be struck somewhere in Poland.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—John Callan O'Laughlin, president and publisher of the Army and Navy Journal, urged tonight that Russian blows be aimed through Poland to shorten the war.

"The shortest route to Berlin is and always has been through Poland," observed Mr. O'Laughlin, whose unofficial publication was assailed by Pravda. The journal previously had spoken critically of Russian and British "preoccupation" in eastern and southern Europe.

"We profoundly believe that Rus holds that her paramount interest as our own is to win the war at the earliest possible moment," he said in a prepared statement, "and so believing, we urge that the blows of the powerful Red Armies be delivered directly and simultaneously toward the German heart at which our American Armies now are striking."

PRAVDA HITS NEO-FASCISM

Assails Liberation That Merely Exchanges Tyrannies

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The Moscow press declared today that "one cannot liberate a people from fascism of one kind and deliver them into the hands of Fascists of another kind."

Without direct reference to any country, Ilya Ehrenburg in the Communist party organ Pravda declared: "There can be no half measures. If fascism is left to breed anywhere then in ten or twenty years' time rivers of blood will flow again."

The article, as reported by the Soviet monitor, added: "The Red Army has shown what it means to liberate. The Poles, the Norwegians, Serbs and Slovaks know it. We do not replace Fascists by semi-Fascists."

Given Awards

MOSCOW, Dec. 17 (AP)—The U. S. S. R. supreme Soviet today announced the award of decoration to more than 100 members of the Russian purchasing commission in the United States for "successful efforts in supplying the Red army and navy with needed war supplies and materials." Heading the list was Rear Admiral Mikhail Ivanovich Akulov who received the order of Lenin.

Soviet-Nicaragua Link

Moscow Accepts Offers to Set Up Consular Relations

MOSCOW, Dec. 17 (AP).—The Soviet Union has announced acceptance of Nicaragua's offer of establishment of diplomatic and consular relations with Russia. A communique published today in the Russian press said the acceptance followed an exchange of notes by the ambassadors of the two nations at Mexico City.

The offer from Nicaragua coincided with establishment Monday of diplomatic relations between Russia and Chile.

U.S. Jungle Fighters Engaged in N. Burma

"Mars Task Force" Closer to Mandalay Than Any Other Allied Troops—Contact Japs 65 Miles South of Bhamo.

By Frank L. Martin

BHAMO, Northern Burma, Dec. 17 (AP)—American infantry and artillery troops known as the "Mars Task Force" are now fighting in the North Burma area and advance elements of this unit are closer to Mandalay than any other Allied forces in Burma, it was disclosed.

U. S. Force

The U. S. force is under the command of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey of Hampton, Va., whose wife is from San Antonio, Tex. The first news that American ground troops were fighting alongside the British and Chinese was released after one American unit commanded by Col. Ernest Easterbrook of Carmel, Calif., made contact with the Japanese at Tonkwa, 65 road miles south of Bhamo and some 120 miles north of Mandalay. Col. Easterbrook is Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's son-in-law.

The action at Tonkwa occurred on the night of Dec. 9 when a small party of Japanese attacked U. S. and Chinese positions. The enemy suffered 30 killed before retreating southward.

The "Mars Task Force" is made up of veteran jungle fighters from the old "Marauders" who saw action in Burma last summer under Maj. Gen. Frank Merrill, plus infantry replacements from America and volunteers from U. S. forces stationed in the India-Burma theater.

Jungle-Green Uniforms

Troops of the new task force, wearing jungle-green uniforms being tried out for the first time, marched more than 200 miles through dense jungles and swamps before coming in contact with the enemy.

Maj. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan, successor to Stilwell in Burma, visited captured Bhamo yesterday and went on a five-hour inspection tour of the former Japanese "teakwood fortress" where a suicide enemy garrison held out for two weeks in this Irrawaddy river town.

Sultan walked eight miles through Bhamo and saw the still-burning fortress, watched wounded Japanese being carried to a hospital and tasted some of their rations.

Commenting on the enemy defense positions the American commander said, "The Chinese infantry and artillery deserves the highest praise for knocking out Bhamo which I believe was one of the strongest Japanese positions in North Burma."

Japs Dug Out

The last four remaining Japanese soldiers defending the town literally were dug out of their ruined bunkers in time to see a powerful American and Chinese tank force roar into the town yesterday too late to take part in the "killing."

The tank units reached Bhamo after a gruelling 100-mile run down the Ledo road through mountains and rivers from a point near Myitkyina. Several times they were forced to cross rivers where the water was five feet deep.

In view of the great stores of Japanese ammunition and food found in the town, Gen. Sultan expressed the belief that the 200 enemy soldiers who escaped from Bhamo had planned to remain, but that they were put under such pressure they decided to go down fighting in one final break out attempt.

The tanks have pushed on to the south to assist in the chase of the escaped Japanese force.

Push Forward

On the British 14th Army front advance elements of the 11th Indian division operating on the east bank of the Chindwin river, northwest of Mandalay, have pushed 2 1-2 miles east of the village of Shwegyin and a town south of the Shwegyin-Yeu road has been occupied, a southeast Asia command headquarters communique said today.

On the 15th Corps front in the Arakan sector destroyers of the Royal Navy have shelled Japanese positions northeast of Udaung which is 12 miles southeast of the coastal town of Maungdaw.

Indian troops have occupied a feature 17 miles south-southeast of Maungdaw.

Medium bombers of the Eastern Air Command made repeated attacks during the past few days along the Ragoon-Mandalay railroad and branch lines, the communique added. Heavy bombers raided the port of Akyab yesterday.

Children's Cans of Water Helped Save Burma Road

By The Associated Press.

MAUNGDAW, Burma, Dec. 17—Hundreds of Arakanese children, armed with tin cans, kept the supply routes from blowing away as the Allies prepared for the current Western Burma offensive against the Japanese.

The main supply road on the Mayu Peninsula is deep in dust at this time of the year, and with winds sweeping across the peninsula there was danger of the road being blown away. The children, however, sprinkled the route with water laboriously hauled from the paddy fields.

They made a game of it but the Army gives them credit for keeping the trucks rolling in the critical pre-offensive period when supplies had to be stored up forward.

British Landings On Burma Coast Possible

NEW DELHI, Dec. 17—(AP)—The possibility of major seaborne British landings on the West Burma coast was indicated today by an India command announcement that a series of raids had been made along the 300-mile coastline during the past few weeks.

The raids, by Southeast Asia command troops put ashore by Royal Indian Navy ships, were described officially as having given the jitters to Japanese who now are forced to watch their rear while withdrawing from North Burma.

DOG SAVES U. S. TROOPS

Scents Japanese Ambushes and Warns Patrols on Leyte

WITH THE SEVENTH INFANTRY DIVISION on Leyte, Dec. 9 (Delayed) (AP)—Laddie, a big German shepherd has a keen nose for Japanese—so keen in fact that he flushes them every time he goes out and twice he has saved American patrols from ambushes.

Laddie is one of a number of scout dogs trained at San Carlos, Calif.

Laddie's fame began to grow soon after he landed on Leyte with his handler S/Sgt Alfred Bresset, 34 years old, of Ogdensburg, N. Y., under fire on A-day. The Japanese had set up an ambush around San Pablo airfield.

"I noticed Laddie suddenly stiffen, Sergeant Bresset related, "and I knew there were Japs about. We pulled back and just then a machine gun opened up on us. Only Laddie stopped us from walking into the murderous fire."

The other day Laddie came through again. He picked up the Japanese' scent in a dry stream bed near Ormoc. Sergeant Bresset began combing the area and saw a Japanese standing by a banana tree watching the American patrol. The Japanese opened up but Laddie's warning gave the patrol time to take cover and await reinforcements before returning to find seventy-five freshly dug Japanese foxholes.

Soft Drinks, Coffee Served On Leyte Front

By Al Dopking

With the 77th Division, Leyte, Dec. 17 (AP).—To get a soft drink in western Leyte you have to go—of all places—up to the front line.

There Red Cross Field Director Otis B. Sykes, 31, of Austin, Tex., and his three assistants, Richard L. Clark, 35, of Sandusky, Ohio; Wilbur D. Albright, of Tacon, Miss., and Herbert Johnson, of Brooklyn, N. Y., are doling them out to the fighting men under enemy mortar and artillery fire. It was the first time in seven beachheads I've landed on in the Pacific war where soft drinks and hot coffee were served virtually in newly dug foxholes.

The Japanese were only a stone's throw outside of fallen Ormoc when Sykes moved into a shattered building on the outskirts. Volunteers from the artillery, signal corps and chemical battalions helped him clear the debris and by nightfall his canteen was doling out coffee, cigarettes, chewing tobacco, soft drinks and candy.

The Red Cross workers served 200 gallons of coffee to doughboys, ambulance drivers and medical officers that night. They gulped it down between mortar blasts.

By next day word went up and down the front: "They're serving hot coffee in the field."

The consumption leaped to 700 gallons that day and Sykes was all grins.

When the troops moved north Sykes wanted to go along, but he had no transportation. He solved the problem by trading a quart of gin for a jeep (that's about the right price for liquor here). Now Sykes keeps up with the front in a jeep which he calls his "flying canteen."

Some rear echelon officers, hearing about the canteen, sent word they would like some hot coffee. Sykes sent back a crisp reply: "It's for the front line, but come on up and if there's any left it's yours."

Japs To Last Through 1946, Harmon Says

Believes B-29 Raids Cannot Knock Nippon Out Quickly.

PACIFIC HEADQUARTERS, U. S. ARMY AIR FORCES, Dec. 17 (AP)—"We expect that Japan will be on her feet and fighting in 1946," Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commander of the strategic air force, Pacific Ocean areas, said today.

Harmon, who directs the Marianas-based Superfortress operations against Japan, made it plain that he holds no hope that B29 raids on Tokyo industrial centers can quickly knock Nippon out of the war.

"This is no Gilbert and Sullivan war out here," he said. "It's real and it's tough."

No Quake Damage

In a radio interview Harmon said that reconnaissance Superforts have not observed any serious damage as the result of the Dec. 7 earthquake in Japan.

"Our planes have been over much of the area where the quake was supposed to have centered. I'm afraid that the Jap counterpart of the Hawaiian volcano Goddess Madame Pele was not on our side."

Tokyo cannot be destroyed by incendiary bombing, he said.

"No one gives the Jap credit for being a resourceful enemy except those who have to fight him," the general added. "Our photographs of Tokyo reveal that a large system of firebreaks has been built. These firebreaks are lanes fully a block wide, where houses have been razed. They run for miles throughout Tokyo.

Flimsy Houses

"Burning flimsy houses will not best the Japs. Our targets are war industries. We want to stop them from making airplanes. We will try to paralyze their power system and knock out their steel mills."

Harmon said that the Superfortresses fly through "weather hell," a belt extending 1,000 miles south of Tokyo.

Winds and clouds over Japan have been far more effective protection to the enemy than either his fighter planes or antiaircraft fire, the general said.

B-29 in Trouble Jettisons Bombs

Saipan, Dec. 17 (AP).— Lieut. Robert J. Anderson, 28, Euclid, Ohio, yesterday bombed Hamamatsu, former Japanese musical instrument center now reported to be producing airplane parts.

While en route to Nagoya, his B-29 developed engine trouble, and rather than waste bombs he dropped his load in the center of the littel seacoast town on Honshu's east coast.

Other B-29s crossing the town later reported intense fires there, and the crew of one plane said there were two explosions.

Superfortresses on weather reconnaissance missions continued to keep Tokyo awake nights. On the night of December 13 three planes

commanded by Capt. Dale Peterson, Portland, Oreg., Lieut. Carroll G. Hornor, Glenridge, N. J., and Capt. Ted Morgan, Forth Worth, Tex., bombed the city intermittently from dusk to dawn.

Major Fred L. Trickey, Berlin, Wis., bombed the Japanese capital on the night of December 14, and the next night Lieut. John G. Growser, Salisbury, N. C., took over.

Major Bong Raises Plane Score to 39

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS Philippines, Dec. 17, (AP)—Major Richard I. Bong, of Poplar, Wis., who recently was presented with the Congressional Medal of Honor, was credited today with having shot down 39 enemy planes.

His latest was downed Dec. 1[illegible] in a fighter sweep over Negros island in support of amphibious landings at Mindoro.

BOMBING IN EL SALVADOR

Honduran Planes Said to Have Attacked Revolutionists

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica, Dec. 17 (AP)—Jorge Paredes, former Salvadorean Minister to Peru, said today the Honduran Air Force on Saturday had bombed the Salvadorean town of San Antonio because the population had joined in rebellion against the Salvadorean regime of Gen. Osmin Aguirre y Salinas.

José Maria Zepeda, Honduran Minister here, promptly declared that Honduras would not even trouble to deny this report, because it came from the exiled Salvadorean Government of Dr. Miguel Thomás Molina, with which Honduras had no relations.

Señor Paredes reported that the Salvadorean revolutionaries withdrew from the provincial capital of Ahuachapán after combating superior Aguirre forces, but sporadic encounters still were occurring throughout El Salvador.

Cuban Officer's Home Bombed

HAVANA, Dec. 17 (AP).—A bomb exploded early today in a garden adjoining the home here of Pedro Diaz, former lieutenant colonel of police forces, who is now in Mexico City. The explosion caused minor damage to the building.

Army Ship Aground in Alaska

HEADQUARTERS, ALASKA DEPARTMENT, Anchorage, Dec. 17 (AP).—A 3,000-ton Army supply ship out of Seattle was driven aground at Cold Bay, Alaska, yesterday as terrific storms and heavy seas buffeted the Aleutian chain. There was no report here of any loss of life aboard the vessel, which was abandoned. Heavy seas and winds tied up shipping and grounded air traffic.

Chinese Communist Seeks Govt. Change

(By the Associated Press)

Mao Tse-Tung, chairman of the central committee of the Chinese Communist Party, has appealed to the people of China to demand a "national convention," the Communist radio at Yenan said Sunday in an English language broadcast reported by the FCC.

The Yenan radio quoted him as saying that negotiations between the Communists and the Kuomintang government at Chungking had not "attained the least result" and that there was little chance of accomplishing the unification of China by negotiation.

The radio said Mao's appeal was made Friday at the Second People's Congress in the capital of the Communist - controlled northern border region of China.

It reported he had stated that "the task of the Chinese people in 1945 is to rise as one man to demand that the Kuomintang authorities should change their present policy so that a democratic coalition government can be set up."

Mussolini Reviews Troops in Milan

By the Associated Press

Benito Mussolini, making his second public appearance in two days in Milan, seat of his puppet Fascist regime, today attended a review of troops in the city's Via Dante, the Nazi-controlled Fascist radio reported.

The former dictator ascended the balcony of the local military barracks and declared four Italian divisions "trained in Germany" were "about to set free the soil of the motherland," said the broadcast recorded by the Federal Communications Commission.

It added that he later mounted a tank to view the troops as they marched past.

Japanese Claim 4 Submarines

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17 (AP)—The Tokyo radio claimed today that Japanese surface vessels had sunk four American submarines in the Central Pacific the past week. The report, which was without Allied confirmation, was intercepted by the Blue Network.

Baron Ikki Dies

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—Baron Kitokuro Ikki, former president of the Japanese privy council and one of Emperor Hirohito's personal financial advisors, died today of pneumonia at his home in Tokyo at the age of 71, Domei agency said in a broadcast recorded by the Federal Communications Commission. Baron Ikki was appointed to the privy council in August, 1917.

B-29s Reported Over Korea, Manchuria

By the Associated Press

American Superfortress bombers made reconnaissance flights over Manchuria and Korea yesterday, (Monday, Japanese time) Domei, the Japanese news agency, said in a broadcast heard by the Federal Communications Commission.

A single B-29 appeared over the Hsinking sector, central Manchuria, about noon and two or three planes were seen over western Korea about the same time, the report said. They dropped no bombs. There was no Allied confirmation.

Nagoya and Hankow Are Raided by B-29s

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP).—B-29s of the twin bomber commands of the 20th Air Force today attacked targets in the Hankow, China, area, and the Nagoya area in Japanese homeland.

General H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the 20th Air Force, announced the raids at the War Department here. The attack on Hankow was the first made on that target, the War Department said. A previous attack was made on Nagoya on Dec. 13.

Army Rescinds Act Excluding Japs In West

"Progress of War in Pacific, Other Developments" Given As Reason.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The War Department today revoked its order excluding all persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast.

An announcement by the Army said that the revocation order was issued by Maj. Gen. Henry C. Pratt, chief of the Western Defense Command with the approval of the War Department. At San Francisco, General Pratt said the revocation would become effective midnight Jan. 2.

"Favorable progress of the war in the Pacific, as well as other developments," was given as the reason for the revocation.

Revocation Order

The revocation order provides that any person of Japanese ancestry about "whom information is available indicating a pro-Japanese attitude" will continue to be barred from the coast states.

More than 115,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from strategic areas on the west coast, the states of California, Washington and Oregon. The majority of them eventually were transferred to relocation centers located chiefly in the mountain states including Arizona, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado.

The evacuation was carried out early in 1942 under the terms of a presidential executive order, by Lt. Gen. J. L. Dewitt, then chief of the Western Defense Command.

In its announcement the Army said:

Army Scrutiny

"Those persons of Japanese ancestry whose records have stood the test of Army scrutiny during the past two years will be permitted the same freedom of movement throughout the United States as other loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens.

"The decision to revoke the exclusion orders, first applied on March 24, 1942, was prompted by military considerations. Since the evacuation, our armed forces steadily have pushed the enemy in the Pacific farther from our shores and closer to the Japanese home islands. Although hard fighting is ahead in the Pacific, it no longer can be said as it could be said in 1942, that an enemy invasion on the West Coast on a large scale is a substantial possibility."

The department said that it was "aware that the rescission of mass exclusion will create certain adjustment problems beyond military considerations."

Adequate Solution

It added, the belief, however, that adequate solutions for these problems exist.

"The Department of the Interior has informed the War Department," the Army said, "that it intends to put into effect a program based on a gradual and orderly return to the West Coast and a vigorous continuation of its efforts to relocate persons of Japanese descent throughout the United States.

"The War Department believes that the people of the Pacific coast area will accord returning persons of Japanese ancestry all the consideration to which they are entitled as loyal citizens and law-abiding residents."

President Roosevelt, at a news conference last month, estimated that 20 or 25 per cent of the persons transferred from the west coast have left relocation centers and taken up life elsewhere in the country.

The President at that time said many lawyers believed citizens of Japanese extraction could not be kept locked in concentration camps.

While there was no further elaboration by the President on this point, it was known that the War Department for some months had felt that the legality of the exclusion order, predicated on a military situation no longer existing, was insecure.

When cases challenging the exclusion order began to reach the courts, the army expressed its views to the Justice Department.

Gov. Earl Warren of California said about the time of the President's news conference comments that if the federal government decided military necessity no longer required the exclusion of Japanese from the west coast his state would give "full recognition of their constitutional and statutory rights."

U. S.-Japanese Seen Vindicated By Army Order

Leader of Citizens League Says Combat Record of Troops Spurred Decision

SALT LAKE CITY, Dec. 17 (AP).—Saburo Kido, president of the Japanese American Citizens League, said tonight that lifting of the Pacific Coast exclusion orders was "a vindication of the loyalty of the Japanese-American population to the United States."

Mr. Kido, former San Francisco attorney, who continued the office he held when the evacuation orders were issued, declared that the government "has taken a step which will strengthen its moral leadership in a world at war." . . .

"We are not unmindful of the fact that what President Roosevelt called 'the wonderful combat record' of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry in Italy and France, as well as in the war in the Pacific against Japan, has contributed greatly toward the decision to restore those rights of freedom of travel and of residence which have been denied the evacuees," Mr. Kido said, adding:

"We would like to remember today that many of those Japanese-American soldiers who distinguished themselves in combat in recent months, and many who sleep today in Army cemeteries in France and Italy, volunteered for that combat duty from behind the barbed wires of the government relocation camps.

"These Japanese-Americans kept their faith with democracy throughout the trying evacuation experience. The lifting of the evacuation orders is vindication of their faith." . . .

Gradual Return Planned

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 17 (AP).—The Western Defense Command said today it expected the war relocation authority to see that the return of the Japanese to the Pacific Coast was gradual and that those who returned would be carefully screened.

Major General Conger Pratt, of the Western Defense Command, told a press conference that an individual exclusion order is being substituted for the mass eviction order.

Gen. Pratt said the order was to be effective Jan. 2. He said those affected by the new individual exclusion order will not be on a permanently excluded list and that their names would not be made public.

Persons excluded, he said, will have the right to appeal to a three-officer board, which will fully examine the case and report recommendations to the commanding general of the Western defense area, who will make the final decision. He said he did not believe there would be any trouble requiring Army intervention.

In Sacramento, Governor Earl Warren, calling on Californians to respect the constitutional rights of the persons involved, said the new order was designed to aid the war effort and that any provocative acts could only retard the flow of materials "to our boys."

In Boise, Governor C. A. Bottolfsen of Idaho said he is "heartily in accord" with the War Department'sorder.

Allies Consider Improvement Of Relief Situation

Europe's Civilians Face Worst Winter Since War Began.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17—(AP)—Hopeful that less physical hunger might mean more political stability in liberated European countries, the United States and Great Britain today began mapping ways to improve the relief situation.

Grim official predictions that Europe's civilians are facing their worst winter of the war formed the background as British Minister of State Richard Law and Secretary of State Stettinius arranged to begin discussing the problem Monday.

Distribution of relief to cold and hungry civilians in Italy, Greece, Belgium and France—restless and disappointed at prospects that they will be colder and hungrier this winter than they were before their liberation—is hampered, American officials said, by three main difficulties.

1—Shortage of shipping.

2—Overcrowded port facilities, due mainly to the thorough Nazi job of destruction before German troops were pushed out.

3—Shortage of some supplies, such as fats and oils; along with inadequate supplies of machinery and overland transportation equipment.

Greece is considered by officials here as a prime example of the circumstances which can arise from political instability and lack of supplies.

It is felt that although feeding the Greeks could not solve their political problem, it would help provide an atmosphere more conducive to a solution.

On the other hand, fighting in Greece due to political clashes and a general strike called in protest against British political policy has hampered progress in handing out badly-needed relief.

While Law's visit has important political implications he is expected to dwell primarily on the technical aspects of getting food and materials into the liberated countries.

He was accompanied here by three British supply experts.

A prime factor underlying estimates that this winter will be even bleaker than last in Europe is the fury of fighting along the western front.

Lasting longer and consuming more supplies than was expected, the battle for Germany necessitates military use of transportation and shipping lanes.

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ington yesterday revoked its order which had excluded persons of Japanese ancestry from United States west coast states since shortly after the Pearl Harbor attack. "Favorable progress of the war in the Pacific, as well as other developments" was the reason given for the revocation. More than 115,000 persons were evacuated from strategic coastal areas under the order.

Reports of action in north Burma disclosed yesterday that American infantry and artillery troops are fighting alongside British and Chinese forces in that area.

The American unit, known as the "Mars Task Force," composed of veterans of Merrill's Marauders who fought in Burma last Summer and troops from America and the India-Burma theatre, contacted the Japanese at Tonkwa Dec. 9, when the enemy attacked U. S. and Chinese positions. The Nipponese retreated southward.

Tonkwa is 65 road miles south of Bhamo, recently captured by the Chinese, and 120 miles north of Mandalay.

Raids by southeast Asia command troops along the west Burma coast indicated possibility of major British seaborne landings there, threatening the rear of Japanese withdrawing from north Burma.

Allied headquarters said Indian units of the 14th British army have progressed down the east bank of the Chindwin river, northwest of Mandalay. In the Arakan sector, west Burma, British destroyers shelled Japanese positions near Udaung, 12 miles southeast of the coastal town of Maungdaw. Allied heavy bombers raided the port of Akyab, farther south.

Chungking radio reported that the Chinese offensive in Kwangsi Province, southeast China, has reached within a mile of the City of Hochih after the capture of Wuyu, a village about 10 miles to the southeast.

joined the hero soldier's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Ehlers, when an Army plane brought him to the municipal airport, ending a trip that began last Wednesday in France.

He went immediately to the home of his parents, to whom he had written that he did not want to come home yet because "I have a score to settle with the Jerries" in Berlin.

His brother, Sgt. Roland A. Ehlers, 26, was fatally wounded storming the beaches of Normandy June 6.

Mayor R. E. Busenbark said there would be a public welcoming ceremony tomorrow when "the lieutenant has had time to rest up a bit." Other officials promised a parade in his honor and a celebration with "speeches and everything."

Lieutenant Ehlers was decorated with the country's highest military award in Paris Dec. 11 by another Kansan, Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, for his feats near Caumont, France, June 9-10, when he cleaned out two machine-gun nests, silenced two mortar positions, killed four Germans with his bayonet and accounted for "at least eighteen altogether." Then a sergeant, he was wounded by a sniper, killed the German as he fell, rescued a companion and covered a withdrawal of his unit.

Lieutenant Ehlers was cited Dec. 6 by another Kansan, Gen. Clarence Huebner, commander of the First Infantry Division, who dedicated the six months' anniversary observance of D-day to Lieutenant Ehlers and the men living and dead who had tried to follow his example.

ECUADOR EMBASSY SHIFT

Quito Report Says Plaza Will Not Return to Post in U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP) — Officials of the Ecuadorean Embassy staff tonight expressed surprise at a report from Quito that Ambassador Galo Plaza Lasso would not return to his post in Washington.

"It is a complete surprise to me," declared Dr. José A. Correa, first secretary of the Embassy. "In fact, I had a dispatch from Ecuador yesterday which indicated that the Ambassador would return."

Dr. Correa said he knew of no reason for the Ambassador's reported decision to remain in Ecuador.

DEC 18 1944

War Prisoners End Strike

FORT SHERIDAN, Ill:. Dec. 17 (AP).—German prisoners of war here, who have been on a bread and water diet since their refusal to work last Tuesday, will resume their duties tomorrow morning. Colonel George H. Cushman, post commander, reported. Colonel Cushman said the ringleaders in the strike have been transferred to another post, where they will serve out the full fourteen-day bread and water sentence.

for domestic or foreign trade so far as this country is concerned as long as the Sherman and Clayton (anti-trust) acts are enforced."

The argument that a cartel agreement "helps foreign trade is like the argument that a railroad wreck promotes transportation," he added.

formal endorsement. Its purpose primarily to promote discussion in the new Congress convening in January, the committee explained, adding that the present Congress "never came to grips" with the problem of maintaining in peace the "full employment" brought about by the war.

However, Chairman Murray (D-Mont(said "it is anticipated that the bill in perfected form, will be formally introduced by a group of senators early in the coming session."

The committee draft would require the President to submit to Congress on the first day of every session a national production and employment budget. This would estimate the total number of jobs needed for "full employment," the amount of investment and expenditures needed to provide that number of jobs, and the prospective total of investments and expenditures by business and other non-federal sources.

To Be Made Up

"Any prospective deficiency in the budget is to be made up," the committee explained, "first by providing full opportunity and encouragement for increased non-federal expenditure and, second, through increased federal investment or expenditure."

The group suggested that the Senate and House establish a joint committee which would study the President's budget and recommend legislation.

The subcommittee was commissioned a year ago to make an investigation of the termination of war contracts and "related problems."

In a year-end report on its studies, it estimated that production of goods and services currently is at a rate of $196,000,000,000 a year

is that the entire edifice will topple over."

Economic Substitute

"Unless an economic substitute is found for war contracts," the report continued, "mass unemployment will become a serious threat and the number of unemployed men and women in this country could easily surpass anything that was dreamed of during the last depression."

The report noted that President Roosevelt said in a campaign speech that an adequate postwar program must provide "close to 60,000,000 productive jobs." It commented:

"Statistians may debate among themselves as to wether the precise goal should be a little more or a little less than the President's 60,000,000 figure But no thoughtful American—no matter what his creed or station in life—would deny that every man or woman in the country who is willing to work and capable of working has the right to a job."

Leish linked him with opponents of Grew and Clayton.

New Deal Trio

The New Deal trio — Senators Pepper (D.-Fla.), Murray (D.-Mont.) and Guffey (D.-Pa.) — are associated with Senator LaFollette (Prog.-Wis.) in a resolution to postpone consideration of all six names until the new Congress meets in January.

Pepper told reporters he would seek to call the resolution up for consideration Monday.

"That would give the President a chance to reconsider this team and make the changes in it which a reconsideration would surely bring," Pepper asserted.

Pepper and his associates say they question the "big business" background of home of the nominees.

The administration is hopeful the State Department nominations will fare as well as those of two members of the Surplus Property Disposal Board yesterday.

The Senate confirmed former Connecticut Gov. Robert A. Hurley

emergency in that chamber.

The rush of senators to leave as soon as the confirmaton votes are completed blackened the chance for agreement on the rivers and harbors bill.

The House wants to make an exception to a reclamaton law restriction in the case of the Central Valley Authority in California. The restriction bars any individual from irrigating more than 160 acres with water from any government financed project.

Congress Uncertain About Adjournment

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Senate Held Up By Controversy Over State Dept. Nominees—Leaders to Go Home Wednesday—House Members Are Dispersing.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The bitter Senate controversy over six State Department nominations threw a shadow of uncertainty today over pre-Christmas adjournment plans of Congress.

By Wednesday

The leadership wants to go home by Wednesday.

The nominations, including that of Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan, as undersecretary, were the principal obstacle to adjournment, save for a $564,000,000 deficiency appropriations bill that must be passed, and a $500,000,000 river and harbor bill snagged on a House amendment.

In the opposition to the appointment of Grew and five assistant secretaries — Nelson Rockefeller, Brig. Gen. Julius Holmes, James C. Dunn, W. L. Clayton and Archibald MacLeish—President Roosevelt is confronted by an unusual alignment of forces spark-plugged by three senators who usually vote the administration way.

So unusual is the tie-up that Senator Clark (D.-Mo.) threatened at Saturday's closing hour to desert it rather than have it appear that his own opposition to Mac-

and Lieut. Col. Edward H. Heller as war property administrators in roll call votes that were divided virtually along party lines.

Different Picture

In the case of the State Department nominations, a different picture is presented. Few voices have been raised in opposition to any of the nominees except Clayton, Texas cotton man, and MacLeish, librarian of Congress.

With Christmas just a week away, the lawmakers are looking up train schedules home. Only the intense interest in the State Department nominations is keeping a quorum on hand in the Senate. House members began streaming away from the Capitol over the weekend, taking Mr. Roosevelt's acceptance of the social security tax rate freeze as the end of any

Wallace Urges Use Of Plane For Peace

Vice-President Presents Collier Trophy For 1943 to Capt. De Florez—Airplane Linked With International Goodwill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Vice President Wallace said today this nation has a responsibility to make the airplane as "powerful a force in peace as it has been in war."

Wallace described the airplane as having a great potential in international goodwill during a talk in which he presented the Robert J. Collier trophy for 1943 to Captain Leuis de Florez of Pomfret, Conn., director of special devices in the Navy Aeronautics Bureau. The award is for "greatest achievement in aviation in America, the value of which has been demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year."

Capt. de Florez has charge of the special training equipment through which Navy fliers have been developed rapidly and safely.

Speaking on the 41st anniversary of the first flight of the Wright brothers at Kittyhawk, N. C., to an audience which included Orville Wright, Wallace said that the airplane was not a panacea for the world's ills, but that "it has possibilities far beyond the usual imagination."

"These possibilities, in fact, are

Cartel Outlawing Urged to Rebuild World's Economy

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—An agreement to outlaw cartels among the United Nations would clear the way for constructive steps to rebuild the world's economy, Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge asserted today.

Continuing his battle against private international agreements between competing companies Berge, in a statement issued through the American council on public affairs, said:

"I venture to predict that the American public will never accept the cartel system. It is impossible to have a cartel system

'Job Budget' Urged To Aid Prosperity

Employment Situation to Be Surveyed So Federal Govt. Can Gear in Its Plans—Senate Committee Advances Postwar Plan.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—The government should draw up a yearly "job budget" for American industry and gear federal job-making expenditures to it, a Senate committee suggested today.

Draft Legislation

The war contracts military subcommittee advanced this idea along with a draft of legislation to carry it out but did not give it

and said this is about double the 1929 rate. But half of present production is war goods, the committee said, adding "when war contracts are withdrawn, the danger

Home Town Greets Medal-of-Honor Man Who Slew 18 Nazis After Brother Was Killed

MANHATTAN, Kan., Dec. 17 (AP)—Lieut. Walter Ehlers, aged 23, and winner of the Congressional Medal of Honor, came home today to spend a thirty-day leave from fighting on the western front.

A crowd of some 200 welcomers

so vast that we can only generalize on and not explain them," he said, adding that the airplane, through a reduction of travel time "offers almost a guarantee of greater intermingling of nationailties."

Grover Loening, aircraft adviser to the War Production Board and chairman of the Collier Trophy committee of the National Aeronautics Association, said that special training devices had saved many lives and a great deal of time and money for the armed services, and that "later, all of this will go right into civil aviation life as of great value."

The National Aeronautic Association meanwhile announced that Dr. Edgar Fuller of Washington, assistant director of the Civil Aeronautics Administration aviation education program, will be presented the Frank G. Brewer trophy Tuesday.

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The trophy will go to him as the individual making the greatest contribution to the education of American youth in aviation during 1944.

Frank G. Brewer, a Birmingham, Ala., businessman, endowed the trophy last year in honor of his two sons serving in the armed forces.

Dewey Tops FDR Rivals

(Copyright, 1944)
By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, in losing the presidential election, won the consolation prize of being high man on a popular vote percentage basis among President Roosevelt's four opponents.

The New York governor's share of the November 7 vote, compiled by The Associated Press was 45.9 per cent. The late Wendell Willkie, President Roosevelt's 1940 challenger, received a larger popular vote than Dewey, but his percentage was lower—44.8.

Mr. Roosevelt's plurality was 3,592,769, the smallest by which he has won his four elections. It was 4,938,711 in 1940, when 49,815,312 votes were cast; 11,072,014 in 1936, out of a total of 45,647,117 votes, and 7,060,016 in 1932 when the popular vote was 39,816,522.

The total vote this year was 47,969,828. Of this, 25,610,946 went to Roosevelt, 22,018,177 to Dewey and 340,705 to minor party candidates.

WLB Member Hits Montgomery Ward

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Frank P. Graham, War Labor Board member, said today that Montgomery Ward, Big mail order house, "is blasting at the foundations of maximum production."

In a formal statement on Montgomery Ward strikes in the Detroit area and a WLB ultimatum for compliance with its directives there and at other Ward establishments by tomorrow night, Graham said:

"Montgomery Ward in this most critical hour is defying the government of the United States. While General Eisenhower is calling for more production, Montgomery Ward is blasting at the foundations of maximum production. The maintenance of (union) membership provision, in addition to the sub-standard wages, in issue in these cases, is vital to the production front and the battle front. x x x

"Montgomery Ward would have us return to a policy which would make paramount a disruptive conflict between capital and labor above the global conflict between the United Nations and the Axis powers." x

The mail order house has taken the position that WLB orders are not enforceable and sought a settlement in court.

THESE RULES SHOULD BE APPLIED TO THE "PRESENT SITUATION IN EUROPE, WHETHER IN GREECE, BELGIUM, FRANCE OR HOLLAND--OR DENMARK AND NORWAY IN THE FUTURE," ADDING, "OUR FORCES WERE CONSCRIPTED TO DESTROY FASCISM IN ALL ITS WORKS AND NOT TO PUT HUMPTY DUMPTIES BACK ON THEIR THRONES AGAIN."

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SK920PEW

(200) A U.S.LIBERATOR BASE, ENGLAND, DEC 17-(AP)-HITTING GERMANY FROM THE AIR EVEN BEFORE THE ALLIED GROUND FORCES LAUNCHED THE INVASION OF AFRICA, THE 93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP NOW COMMANDED BY COL.WILLIAM L.ROBERTSON, JR., CHARLOTTE, N.C., HAS BECOME THE FIRST GROUP IN THE U.S.EIGHTH AIR FORCE TO COMPLETE 300 COMBAT MISSIONS, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

IN TWO YEARS THIS GROUP OF LIBERATORS DROPPED 13,637 TONS OF BOMBS ON NAZI TARGETS--NEARLY TWICE THAT HURLED BY THE LUFTWAFFE ON LONDON DURING THE BLITZ MONTHS FROM SEPTEMBER, 1940, TO JULY, 1941.

SIXTY THOUSAND LIVES AND 6,037 PLANES WERE RISKED DURING 42,269 FLYING HOURS REQUIRED FOR THE MISSIONS. NINETY-NINE LIBERATORS WERE LOST IN THE ATTACKS, WHICH TOOK THE GROUP 128 TIMES TO GERMANY PROPER, 17 TIMES TO POINTS IN ITALY, SEVEN TIMES AGAINST TARGETS IN SICILY, ONCE TO RUMANIA (THE LOW-LEVEL ASSAULT ON PLOESTI OIL FIELDS G.1, 1943), 14 TIMES TO AFRICA, AND 133 TRIPS TO FRANCE AND THE LO

(100) LONDON-2ND ADD SECOND (CORRECT) LEAD RUSSIAN (A112)
XXX DESTROYED 14 TANKS.

THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE SOVIET COMMUNIQUE REPORTED THAT RUSSIAN AIRCRAFT RAIDED ENEMY AIRDROMES AND THE MILITARY PORT OF LIBAVA ON THE BALTIC FRONT, DESTROYING 19 GERMAN PLANES ON THE GROUND, SINKING THREE GERMAN SUPPLY SHIPS AND CAUSING FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS IN THE PORT.

SHARP ARTILLERY DUELS TOOK PLACE IN EAST PRUSSIA, THE SUPPLEMENT CONTINUED, WHILE RUSSIAN PLANES RAIDED THE RAILWAY STATIONS OF LASDEHNEN, ANGERBURG, LOETZEN AND TREUBURG, HITTING AMMUNITION STORES AND RAILWAY LINES.

THE AIR ARM OF THE RED FLEET SANK A GERMAN SUPPLY SHIP OF 3,000 TONS IN THE BARENTS SEA.

KK1028PEW

Add London Shinwell xxx intelligent understanding

BRITAIN'S FIRST RULE FOR DEALING WITH LIBERATED EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, HE SAID, SHOULD BE "NOT TO SUPPORT ANY MOVEMENT IF IT INTERFERED WITH OUR LINES OF COMMUNICATION. WE COULD NOT HAVE ANYBODY GETTING IN THE WAY NO MATTER WHAT THEY CALLED THEMSELVES," HE ADDED.

SHINWELL SUGGESTED AS A SECOND PRIMARY RULE THAT "WE COULD NOT SUPPORT AN ARMED BAND, WHETHER INSURRECTIONIST OR REVOLUTIONARY, AGAINST A FREELY ELECTED, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT."

COUNTRIES.

THE BOMBERS USED 11,600,000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE--ENOUGH TO OPERATE A FLEET OF 87,000 AUTOMOBILES ON A TRIP BETWEEN NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO.

KK950PEW

LONDON DEC 17-(AP)-SOME 500 PERSONS DAILY ARE BEING EVACUATED FROM FLOODED WALCHEREN ISLAND IN SOUTHWEST HOLLAND BY A FLEET OF 18 SHIPS, LIFEBOATS AND TUGS BUT AN ALLIED CIVIL AFFAIRS COLONEL SAID TODAY THERE WAS NO INTENTION OF ABANDONING THE ISLAND.

THE RESIDENTS ARE BEING REMOVED TO NEARBY ISLANDS.

DYKES PROTECTING THE ISLAND WERE RIPPED APART BY ALLIED BOMBERS DURING THE CAMPAIGN TO DRIVE THE GERMANS OUT.

DUTCH OFFICIALS ESTIMATED IT WOULD TAKE AT LEAST A YEAR TO RESTORE THE AREA.

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KK753PEW

PARIS - INSERT IN SECOND LEAD WESTERN FRONT AFTER 21ST PGH BEGINNING "DEEPENING ITS XXX" AND ENDING XXX OF SARREGUEMINES.

TO THE SOUTHEAST, FOUR DIVISIONS OF THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY REACHED THE SIEGFRIED LINE BEYOND CAPTURED WISSEMBOURG, MOVING STEADILY AHEAD AGAINST GRADUALLY STIFFENING RESISTANCE. THEY TOOK SCHWEIGHOFER, THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF WISSEMBOURG, AND KAPSWEYER, A MILE FARTHER NORTH AND REACHED A POINT ABOUT THREE MILES SOUTH OF BERGZABERN AFTER SWEEPING THROUGH SEVERAL MORE VILLAGES.

THE GERMANS WERE XXX 23RD PGH (DELETING 22ND PGH: TO THE SOUTHEAST XXX TO SEVEN)

KK1045PEW

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS OUTSIDE BITCHE---FIRST ADD MAGINOT FORTS,

(TOP ON AYE) X X X 10 MILES WIDE.

"IT IS NOT AS DEEP AS THE SIEGFRIED LINE BUT IN OTHER RESPECTS IT IS JUST AS TOUGH," SAID CAPT.NORMAN LEWIS, OF FORT COLLINS, COLO.

"I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO GET TO GERMANY FIRST," SAID SGT. ROY HAILS, OF CENTRALIA, ILL., "UNTIL WE HIT THOSE PILLBOXES."

PVT.JOHN SHAW, 4343 NORTH KENMORE ST., CHICAGO, AND SGT. FLOYD MCKENZIE, 308 GARFIELD AVE., KANSASCITY, MO., NODDED IN AGREEMENT.

CAPT.CHARLES PROUT, FANWOOD, N.J., FORMER ASSOCIATED PRESS STAFF MAN IN NEWART, N.J., SAID: "WE CAME OVERSEAS IN THE SAME CONVOY WITH THE 103RD DIIVISION WHICH WAS THE FIRST OF THE SEVENTH ARMY TO GET INTO GERMANY.

"WE WERE UNFORTUNATE BECAUSE THIS IS THE ONLY POINT THE GERMANS FOUND IT CONVENIENT TO DEFEND THE MAGINOT LINE," SAID LT.WILLIAM WRIGHT, 1160 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY.

DEC 18 1944

RM502PEW

FIRST LEAD MO SCHAU

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

WITH THE U.S.FIRST ARMY DEC 17-(AP)-THE GERMANS HURLED THOUSANDS OF ARMORED AND INFANTRY TROOPS AGAINST THE FIRST ARMY TODAY, CONCENTRATING IN AN AREA AROUND HONSFELD, BELGIUM, BUT LATE THIS AFTERNOON THE ATTACK APPEARED TO BE FAIRLY WELL UNDER CONTROL.

THIS ATTACK SOUTH OF MONSCHAU OVERRAN ADVANCE AMERICAN INFANTRY POSITIONS THIS MORNING AS THE ENEMY CONCENTRATED FROM 30 TO 50 TANKS IN THIS ONE SECTOR ALONE.

THE GERMANS WERE OPERATING UNDER DIRECT ORDERS OF FIELD MARSHAL KARL RUDOLF GERD VON RUNDSTEDT, WHO YESTERDAY PROCLAIMED:

"YOUR HOUR HAS STRUCK. STRONG ATTACKING ARMIES ARE ADVANCING TODAY AGAINST THE ANGLO-AMERICANS. I DON'T NEED TO SAY MORE TO YOU. BEAR IN YOURSELVES A HOLY DUTY TO GIVE EVERYTHING AND ACHIEVE THE SUPER-HUMAN FOR OUR FATHERLAND AND OUR FUHRER."

THE GERMANS SUPPORTED THIS SERIOUS MAJOR COUNTEROFFENSIVE WITH THE STRONGEST AIR FORMATIONS THE FIRST ARMY HAS ENCOUNTERED SINCE D-DAY.

THE GERMANS WERE ATTACKING AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG A 60-MILE FRONT FROM ROTGEN SOUTHWARD. ROTGEN IS NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF AACHEN.

DA426PEW

FIRST LEAD GERMAN OFFENSIVE-AERIAL

DEC 18 1944

BY WES GALLAGHER

WITH THE U.S.NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY DEC 17-(AP)-FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE DAYS OF THE NORMANDY BEACHHEAD LAST JUNE THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND WON THE INITIATIVE IN WESTERN EUROPE TODAY WITH A POWERFUL COUNTERATTACK IN NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG AND BELGIUM.

INTO IT THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND HAD PITCHED ITS RESERVES. WHETHER IT IS THE ONLY BLOW THE GERMAN ARMY HAS UP ITS SLEEVE ON THE WESTERN FRONT, THE NEXT FEW DAYS SHOULD TELL. IT PROBABLY IS NOT.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE LANDINGS ON THE NORMANDY BEACHES SIX MONTHS AGO, THE GERMAN AIR FORCE CAME OUT IN STRENGTH, THROWING AN ESTIMATED 350 FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS OVER THE U.S.FIRST AND THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE U.S.NINTH ARMY FRONTS.

WEEK AFTER WEEK OF CONSERVATION, DURING WHICH U.S.AND BRITISH WARPLANES OFTEN SWEPT THE SKIES UNCONTESTED, ENABLED THE ENEMY AIR FORCE TO THROW ITS FULL PUNCH INTO THIS BIG

IT IS DOUBTFUL IF THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND HOPES TO DRIVE ANY DEEP SALIENT INTO THE ALLIED LINE, OR TO CAPTURE AND HOLD ANY LARGE AMOUNT OF TERRITORY.

THE GERMAN ARMY HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION OF HAVING SUCH RESOURCES.

IT IS MORE LIKELY THAT THE CHIEF GERMAN HOPE IS TO DISRUPT GEN.EISENHOWER'S WINTER OFFENSIVE PLANS BY CHEWING UP SIZEABLE AMERICAN FORCES AND DISRUPTING OTHERS WHICH WILL BE FORCED INTO ACTION TO COUNTER THE BLOW.

IT IS CERTAIN THAT AMERICAN AIR SUPERIORITY IS GOING TO INFLICT A CRUSHING BLOW ON THE GERMAN AIR FORCE IF GERMAN PLANES STAY IN THE FIGHT AS THEY DID TODAY. GERMAN PLANES WERE FALLING AT AN EXPENSIVE RATE.

PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN TODAY AS THE ENEMY AIR FORCE TANGLED WITH THE U.S. 29TH TACTICAL AIR FORCE IN THE GREATEST AERIAL BATTLES SINCE THE U.S. NINTH ARMY REACHED THIS FRONT.

IN ADDITION TO THE 20 PLANES SHOT DOWN BY DAYLIGHT, NIGHT FIGHTERS DESTROYED SIX OF MORE THAN 300 OVER THE COLOGNE AND AACHEN AREA LAST NIGHT.

THIS MORNING THE GERMANS THREW UP A FIGHTER SCREEN BETWEEN THE FIRST AND NINTH ARMIES OF AN ESTIMATED 250 PLANES.

GERMAN PLANES, WHICH HAD BEEN AVOIDING COMBAT FOR MONTHS APPARENTLY CONSERVING STRENGTH FOR TODAY'S PUSH, EAGERLY JUMPED INTO THE BATTLE TODAY.

TWELVE TO 15 U.S. THUNDERBOLTS WERE JUMPED IN THE BONN AREA.

IN OTHER CASES AMERICAN SQUADRONS ENCOUNTERED FROM 40 TO 50 PLANES FLYING IN ONE FORMATION.

MAJOR JOHN A.MARSHALL, THUNDERBOLT COMMANDER, PITTSBURGH, PA., WAS THE ONLY MAN OF THE 29TH TACTICAL AIR FORCE TO CLAIM TWO GERMAN PLANES DURING THE DAY.

DA457PEW

DEC 18 1944

BY THOBURN WIANT (230)

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY INSIDE GERMANY, DEC. 17-(AP)-SEVERAL WAVES OF AMERICAN MEDIUM BOMBERS POUNDED SIEGFRIED LINE FORTIFICATIONS SOUTH OF THE TOWN OF BERGZABERN TODAY WHILE DOUGHBOYS OF FOUR AMERICAN DIVISIONS SWEPT THROUGH SEVEN GERMAN VILLAGES AND LUNGED DEEPER INTO THE DRAGONS' TEETH AND CONCRETE WESTWALL DEFENSES.

SOME SEVENTH ARMY UNITS HAD PUSHED TO WITHIN THREE MILES OF BERGZABERN AND WERE THREE TO FOUR MILES INSIDE THE REICH AT SOME POINTS ALONG THE 14-MILE FRONT.

ENEMY RESISTANCE WAS STIFFENING AS THE YANKS PRESSED FORWARD INTO THE SIEGFRIED FORTIFICATIONS BEYOND WISSEMBOURG GAP IN THEIR NORTHWARD DRIVE.

WITH FLYING WEATHER PERFECT FOR A CHANGE, RESULTS OF THE B-26 BOMBINGS OF THE WESTWALL SOUTH OF BERGZABERN WERE DESCRIBED AS EXCELLENT. THE U.S. BOMBERS MET NO RESISTANCE AND THE FEW GERMAN PLANES IN THE AREA APPARENTLY WERE THERE ONLY FOR RECONNAISSANCE PURPOSES.

THE U.S. 14TH ARMORED DIVISION, IT WAS REVEALED FOR THE FIRST TIME, IS PARTICIPATING IN THE DRIVE INSIDE THE REICH. THE 14TH SEIZED THE VILLAGES OF SCHWEIGEN AND RECHTENBACH, BOTH ABOUT A MILE AND A HALF NORTH OF CAPTURED WISSEMBOURG, FRENCH BORDER CITY.

NORTHEAST OF LAUTERBOURG, ANOTHER CAPTURED FRENCH BORDER TOWN, THE U.S. 79TH DIVISION OCCUPIED BERG NEAR THE RHINE WHERE THE GERMANS OFFERED ONLY MODERATE RESISTANCE. NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG, WHERE FELLED TREES AND ROAD BLOCKS WERE SLOWING THEIR ADVANCE, THE YANKS CLEARED BOBENTHAL.

MO1102PEW

Hdd Rome Mar Dot (Norgaard) xxxx convoy Patrol.

HE COULD GO HOME RIGHT NOW BUT SAYS "IT'S NOT A BAD LIFE AND SOMETIMES IT'S LOTS OF FUN."

THE YOUNG VETERAN HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR THE BRAZILIAN PILOTS NOW FLYING WITH HIS SQUADRON. HE DESCRIBED THEM AS A "BUNCH OF DAM GOOD BOYS, WHO ARE EAGER AND GOOD PILOTS." "WE'RE ALL LIVING AND EATING TOGETHER, AND THEY'RE SWELL." HE ADED.

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RM250PEW

ROME, DEC 17-(AP)-PUBLIC GATHERINGS HAVE BEEN BANNED THROUGHOUT SICILY AS THE RESULT OF CONTINUED DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE CALLING UP OF TWO MORE CLASSES FOR THE ITALIAN ARMY, DISPATCHES TO ROME SAID TODAY.

ONE DISPATCH TO THE NEWSPAPER "IL TEMPO" SAID A MOB SET FIRE YESTERDAY TO THE CITY HALL AND TAX BUILDING AT CASTEL DI JUDICA, NEAR CATANIA, WHERE PUBLIC BUILDINGS WERE BURNED AND ONE PERSON WAS KILLED THURSDAY IN THE FIRST OUTBREAK OF DISORDERS.

AT PALERMO, DEMONSTRATING STUDENTS WERE CALLED UPON BY THE COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL LIBERATION TO "EMULATE NORTH ITALY PATRIOTS, WHO ARE CONTINUING TO MAKE A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARTISAN WAR."

DA216PEW

ON THE U. S. FIFTH ARMY FRONT, ITALY, DEC. 17--(AP)--

THE [redacted] HOUSE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TODAY WAS INTRODUCED TO SECOND LT. CHARLES W. SHEA, OF THE BRONX, [redacted], WINNER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR, AT THE CONCLUSION OF ITS TOUR OF THE FRONT.

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SHEA, WHO WILL RECEIVE THIS HIGHEST MILITARY HONOR AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, KNOCKED OUT THREE GERMAN MACHINEGUN NESTS SINGLEHANDEDLY.

ATHENS, DEC. 17-(AP)-TELEGRAMS TO THE AUTHORITIES REPORTED TODAY THAT IN MOST OF THE AEGEAN ISLANDS THE POPULATION, REAFFIRMING ITS LOYALTY TO THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND ITS READINESS TO HELP SUPPRESS THE REBELLION, HAS DISARMED AND ARRESTED MEMBERS OF THE ELAS.

THE ISLANDS INCLUDED SYROS, NAXOS, PAROS AND HYDRA.

Z717AEW NM

(140) SEVILLA, SPAIN, DEC 17-(AP)-PRINCE PEDRO DE ALCANTARA, SON OF THE BRAZILIAN-BORN PRINCE PEDRO, WHO TRANSFERRED HIS CLAIM TO BRAZIL'S IMPERIAL THRONE TO HIS BROTHER AND HIS DESCENDANTS, WAS MARRIED TODAY IN A CIVIL CEREMONY TO PRINCESS MARIA DE ESPERANZA, YOUNGER DAUGHTER OF THE HOUSE OF BOURBON-ORLEANS.

THE CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE HOME OF THE INFANTE PRINCE CARLOS, FATHER OF THE BRIDE. THE YOUNG PRINCESS WAS THE FIRST BRIDE OF THE SPANISH ROYAL FAMILY TO BE MARRIED IN SPAIN SINCE BEFORE THE REPUBLIC.

THE CIVIL CEREMONY WILL BE FOLLOWED TOMORROW BY A RELIGIOUS WEDDING IN THE SEVILLA CATHEDRAL.

SIGNING THE REGISTER FOR THE GROOM WERE COUNT PARIS, PRETENDER TO THE THRONE OF FRANCE; COUNT MENDES DALMEIDA, REPRESENTING DUKE GRACANZA, PORTUGUESE PRETENDER; CARLOS OROPRETO, REPRESENTING PEDRO'S BROTHER, JUAN. INFANTS ALFONSO DE BORBON AND ALFONSO DE ORLEANS AND THE BRIDE'S BROTHER-IN-LAW PRINCE CZARTOROSKI, APPEARED FOR HER.

KK747PEW

CHUNGKING, DEC. 17-(AP)-AN APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF THE UNITED STATES, TO URGE THEIR LEADERS "TO TAKE IMMEDIATE AND EFFECTIVE MILITARY MEASURES TO FIGHT JAPAN IN CHINA BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE", WAS ISSUED TODAY BY A GROUP OF LEADING CHINESE CITIZENS.

AMONG SIGNERS OF THE APPEAL WERE DR.HU SHIH, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES; BISHOP PAUL YUPIN, VICAR APOSTOLIC OF KIATING; LIN YUTANG, AUTHOR; AND JAMES YEN, DIRECTOR OF CHINA'S MASS EDUCATION MOVEMENT.

IT SAID THAT "AS JAPAN IS EXERTING HER GREATEST MILITARY PRESSURE UPON CHINA TODAY," THE SIGNERS FELT IT THEIR DUTY "TO CALL THE URGENT ATTENTION OF THE PEOPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, ESPECIALLLY THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION."

"THE CHINESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN A FAITHFUL ALLY IN WAR," THE APPEAL DECLARED. "THEY WILL BE A POWERFUL ALLY IN PEACE. THE PRESENT SITUATION IS TOO SERIOUS TO PERMIT ANY DELAY. LET THE PEOPLES EVERYWHERE IN THE UNITED NATIONS URGE THEIR LEADERS TO TAKE IMMEDIATE AND EFFECTIVE MILITARY MEASURES TO FIGHT JAPAN IN CHINA BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE."

MQ1123PEW

PRECEDE UNDATED CHINESE (120)

CHUNGKING, DEC. 17-(AP)-STRIKING STILL FARTHER DOWN THE KWEICHOW-KWANGSI RAILROAD IN KWANGSI PROVINCE, COUNTERATTACKING CHINESE FORCES WERE LESS THAN A MILE FROM HOCHIH, 95 MILES FROM LIUCHOW, THE HIGH COMMAND ANNOUNCED TODAY.

MEANWHILE, CHINESE UNITS THAT ALREADY HAD OUTFLANKED HOCHIH CAPTURED WUYU, JAPANESE STRONGPOINT NINE AND ONE-HALF MILES SOUTH-EAST OF HOCHIH.

ON THE SALWEEN FRONT IN YUNNAN PROVINCE, THE CHINESE CONTINUED ATTACKS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE BURMA ROAD TOWN OF WANTING ON THE CHINESE-BURMESE BORDER. THREE STRONGPOINTS NORTHEAST OF WANTING WERE TAKEN. IN THE PAST TWO DAYS SEVERAL JAPANESE COUNTERATTACKS HAVE BEEN REPULSED.

ENEMY COUNTERTHRUSTS IN THE MANPANG SECTOR, 12 MILES NORTHEAST OF WANTING, ALSO WERE REPULSED, THE JAPANESE TURNING BACK UNDER ARTILLERY FIRE.

MQ1111PEW

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BY JOHN GROVER

AN AMERICAN B-25 BASE, EAST BENGAL, INDIA, DEC.16-(AP)--(DELAYED)-ARAKAN SKIES ARE FULL OF U.S. MEDIUM BOMBERS TODAY, STRIKING AT JAPANESE SUPPLY LINES AND AMMUNITION DUMPS IN SUPPORT OF THE BRITISH LAND OFFENSIVE TO REGAIN THE STRATEGIC AKYAB CORNER OF SOUTHWEST BURMA.

THE 12TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP, GRIMLY NAMED "EARTHQUAKERS" WHEN THE UNIT SUPPORTED THE DRIVE THROUGH NORTH AFRICA, HAS BEEN HAVING A FIELD DAY SINCE THE ARAKAN PUSH OPENED.

RANGING FROM KALAPANZIN TO KALADAN RIVERS, THE "EARTHQUAKERS" HAVE DESTROYED THREE KEY BRIDGES, A JAPANESE HEADQUARTERS AND A DOZEN OTHER PRIME TARGETS.

A SQUADRON LED BY CAPT.JOHN N.DORY, KENMORE, (STATE UNCERTAIN), WIPED OUT A 680-FOOT RAILWAY BRIDGE SOUTH OF TOUNGOO. BOMBARDIER LAWRENCE A.CULLEN, OF WHITTAKER,PA., GAVE THE SIGNAL WHICH LOOSED THE BOMBLOADS ON THE SPAN, ONE OF THE SIX LONGEST IN BURMA.

THE BOMBS LANDED SQUARELY ON THE SPAN. THE OPERATION TOOK OUT ANOTHER BITE FROM THE USABLE JAPANESE RAILWAY BETWEEN RANGOON AND MANDALAY.

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A BRIDGE AT SWA WAS KNOCKED OUT BYA SQUADRON HEADED BY LT.SIDNEY R.MANDINA, 2101 QUEENS HIGHWAY, SHREVEPORT, LA., WHOSE BOMBARDIER, LT.RICHARD L.FROBL, 2224 40TH STM MILWAUKEE, PLACED HIS BOMBS IN A PERFECT PATTERN ON THE TARGET.

AT PYINMANA A 390-FOOT SPAN WAS SOLIDLY BRACKETED. LT.EDWARD E. BOUGHER, GRAFTON, W.VA., LED THE SQUADRON WITH LT.C.LESH PARADISE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIF., AS SQUADRON BOMBARDIER.

MAJ.JEFFERSON DAVIS, MOUNT PLEASANT,.I)-., GROUND OPERATIONS OFFICER FOR THE 12TH, AND CAPT.JOHN KRIEFER OF SALAMANCA, N.Y., INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, SAID RETURNING PILOTS REPORTED ENEMY FIGHTER OPPOSITION TO A SERIES OF ATTACKS IN THE AKYAB AREA WAS ALMOST NON-EXISTENT.

RH423PEW

Adv with 7th Infantry on Leyte-Dogs-Dogging ex (exhole).

"IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR LADDIE PICKING UP THE JAPANESE OUTPOST WE'D HAVE WALKED RIGHT INTO THEIR TRAP," SAID BRESSETT.

DESPITE LADDIE'S SUCCESS,BRESETT BELIEVES MOST OF THE DOGS ARE NOT TRAINED ADEQUATELY BACK IN THE STATES FOR JUNGLE-TYPE WARFARE.

IF A SCOUT DOG GIVES HIS POSITION AWAY BY BARKING HE EXPOSES THE ENTIRE PATROL, SAID BRESETT, "AND THAT MAY BE CURTAINS. WHEN THE

DOGS HERE ARE UNABLE TO KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT ONPATROLS THEY IMMEDIATELY ARE BENCHED."

EW612PCW

Add Saipan - B-29 - (Hawaii) xxxx DEC 18 1944

THE CREW OF THE FIRST B-29 TO BOMB HAMAMATSU INCLUDED BESIDES LT.ANDERSON, ROBERT E.ADAMS, MARSHALLVILLE, GA.; SGT. PASQUALE AINA, 129 N.ACADEMY ST., ALBION, KY.; CPLS. WILLIAM KOPEMITSI, 1435 N. 20TH ST., MILWAUKEE, WIS.; RAYMOND L.SMITH, 1332 KNOLL AVE., WATERLOO, IOWA; ALEXANDER SOBOMORA, 1122 FRANK ST., ROSELLE,N.J.; RAYMOND A.HAWKINS, LINCOLNTON, N.C.

DEC 18

BY SPENCER DAVIS

ABOARD SEVENTH U.S. FLEET HEAVY COVERING FORCE FLAGSHIP, SULU SEA, DEC 17-(AP)-GIANTS OF THE "SCRAPIRON" NAVY AND JEEPS OF THE "SUICIDE" FLEET, RANGING FARTHER WEST THAN ANY PREVIOUS AMERICAN TASK FORCE, PROVIDED SAFE CONDUCT AND OPENED UP THE SULU SEA FOR THE MINDORO, PHILIPPINES, INVASION CONVOY.

IT WAS NO MEAN FEAT FOR THIS LATEST STRANGEST TEAM OF REFURBISHED PEARL HARBOR BATTLEWAGONS AND PNY CARRIER ESCORTS UNDER COMMAND OF REAR ADM.T.D.RUDDOCK. YET IT WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH AN ASTONISHING LACK OF ENEMY OPPOSITION.

AT NO TIME DID JAPANESE SURFACE FORCES REMOTELY THREATEN THE FLEET.

JAPANESE AIRCRAFT, TEMPTED BY THE SLOW-PACED CONVOY CREEPING ALONG A 960-MILE COURSE TO ITS OBJECTIVE AND RETURN, MADE ONLY THREE MAJOR ATTACKS IN FIVE DAYS AND LOST 79 PLANES, INCLUDING 18 ON THE GROUND.

LESS THAN SEVEN WEEKS AGO THIS SAME COMBINATION OF FEATHERWEIGHT CARRIERS AND OLD BATTLESHIPS, SUPPORTED BY CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS, WON DECISIVE VICTORIES WHEN POWERFUL JAPANESE BATTLE FORCES STRUCK THROUGH SURIGAO STRAITS AND OFF EASTERN SAMAR ISLAND, IN THE PHILIPPINES.

NOW IT IS THE AMERICANS WHO CHALLENGE.

WHILE AMPHIBIOUS FORCES UNDER REAR ADM.ARTHUR D.STRUBLE WERE BEACHED AT MINDORO, DISCHARGING GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S INVASION FORCE, RUDDOCK'S BATTLESHIPS, CRUISERS, CARRIERS AND DESTROYERS PATROLLED ONLY 120 AIRLINE MILES FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA--A POSITION CONSIDERABLY WESTWARD OF THE POINT REACHED BY ADM.WILLIAM F.HALSEY'S FORCES IN HIS RECENT STRIKE AT FORMOSA.

CONSTANT AIR COVER FROM THE JEEP CARRIERS UNDER THE TACTICAL COMMAND OF REAR ADM.FELIX B.STUMP MADE THE BOND MANEUVERING OF THIS FORCE POSSIBLE. THERE WERE NO LESS THAN 75 ENEMY AIRFIELDS WITHIN RANGE OF THE SPRAWLING TASK FORCE FROM THE TIME IT SET OUT UNTIL ITS RETURN.

BUT THE COORDINATED SWEEPS OF VICE ADM.JOHN S.MCCAIN'S CARRIER TASK FORCE AIRMEN OVER LUZON ISLAND, TO THE NORTH AND ARMY BOMBERS OVER MINDANAO ISLAND AND THE VISAYAN GROUP TO THE SOUTH TEMPORARILY NEUTRALIZED MOST OF THE JAPANESE AIRDROMES.

WHEN THE ENEMY WAS UNABLE TO PRESS HIS AIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE AMERICAN SHIPS. STUMP SENT WILDCATS, HELLCATS AND AVENGERS STREAKING AGAINST NIPPONESE FIELDS ON NEGROS AND PALAWAN ISLANDS.

THIRTEEN ENEMY PLANES, INCLUDING EIGHT BOMBERS, WERE BURNED AT BACOLOD AIRDROME ON NEGROS ISLAND IN SUCCESSIVE STRIKES DEC 14 AND 15, WHILE FIVE MORE WERE DESTROYED AT PUERTO PRINCESSA ON PALAWAN DEC. 16.

THE ENEMY'S MOST DAMAGING RAIDS CAME DEC. 13 WHEN THE AMERICAN FORMATION WAS STEAMING INTO THE SULU SEA AT SUNSET.

THE AMERICAN FORMATION TURNED INTO THE WIND WHILE CARRIER ESCORTS LAUNCHED MORE FIGHTERS, AND BEFORE DARKNESS CAME A TOTAL OF 17 ENEMY PLANES WERE DOWNED.

AN AFTERNOON ASSAULT DEC. 14 AND EARLY MORNING RAID DEC. 15, WHEN THE AMERICAN TROOPS WENT ASHORE AT MINDORO, AND INNUMERABLE SNEAK ATTACKS, ALL WERE TURNED BACK.

THE YANK NAVY FLIERS ACCOUNTED FOR 24 JAPANESE PLANES THE SECOND DAY, 17 ON THE THIRD DAY AND 10 MORE THE FOURTH, FOR A TOTAL OF 68. SHIPS' GUNFIRE ACCOUNTED FOR 11 MORE.

MM709PPW NM

DEC 18 1944

BY REMBERT JAMES

ABOARD VICE ADMIRAL MCCAIN'S FAST CARRIER FLAGSHIP OFF THE PHILIPPINES, DEC.16-(DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-CARRYING THEIR HISTORY-MAKING AERIAL SIEGE OF LUZON ISLAND INTO ITS THIRD DAY, VICE ADM. JOHN S.MCCAIN'S FLIERS RAISED THEIR TOTAL OF ENEMY PLANES PUT OUT OF ACTION IN LUZON TO 435.

(INCOMPLETE TOTALS FROM GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS SHOW AN ADDITIONAL 24 PLANES SHOT DOWN OVER MINDORO AND 122 DESTROYED BY THE FAR EAST AIR FORCE OF LIBERATORS, THUNDERBOLTS AND CARRIER PLANES FROM VICE ADMIRAL THOMAS C.KINKAID'S SEVENTH FLEET WHICH OPERATES UNDER GEN. MACARTHUR).

(THIS TOTAL--MCCAIN'S 435 AND MACARTHUR'S 146--ADDS TO 581)

OF THOSE BAGGED BY MCCAIN'S AIRMEN, 61 WERE SHOT DOWN, 207 WERE BURNED ON THE GROUND AND 167 WERE DAMAGED.

IN ADDITION, HIS BOYS BROUGH THEIR SHIP SINKINGS TO 30 WITH 57 OTHER VESSELS DAMAGED. TWO OF THESE SUNKEN SHIPS WERE LARGE TROOP TRANSPORTS.

THE JAPANESE, FRIGHTENED BY THE DAY AND NIGHT AERIAL SIEGE, BLACKED OUT MANILA FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THEY CAPTURED IT.

UP TO THE LAST TWO NIGHTS, AMERICAN FLIERS VERY SELDOM HAD BEEN OVER MANILA AFTER DARK AND THEY NEVER HAVE ATTACKED IT. NEVERTHELESS, THE JAPANESE BECAME JITTERY AS NAVY COMBAT PATROLS CRUISED ABOVE IT FOR THE SECOND NIGHT LAST NIGHT, AND ENFORCED A STRICT BLACKOUT.

PINNED DOWN AS THEY HAVE BEEN SINCE THE DAWN OF DECEMBER 14 BY CONSTANT PATROLS OF NAVY PLANES OVER ALL OF THE HUNDRED AIRFIELDS ON LUZON, THE JAPANESE WERE UNABLE TO MOUNT ANY KIND OF AN AIR ATTACKS ON THIS CARRIER FORCE LYING OFF THE PHILIPPINES UNTIL THIS MORNING, WHEN THEY GOT 10 PLANES INTO THE AIR.

AMERICAN PATROLS SHOT DOWN NINE OF THEM. THE LONE PLANE TO ESCAPE WAS A HIGH-FLYING JAPANESE FIGHTER WHICH FLED INTO THE CLOUDS.

IT WAS A FEEBLE ATTEMPT AT REPRISAL FOR ALL THAT THE AMERICAN PLANES HAVE DONE TO THE ENEMY IN THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE LAST THREE DAYS.

THE AERIAL SIEGE ALSO PROTECTED GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S MINDORO LANDINGS FROM STRONG AERIAL ATTACK--PARTICULARLY HIS TROOP-LADEN TRANSPORTS.

THE DAY AND NIGHT AERIAL PATROL WAS DEVISED BY ADMIRAL MCCAIN AND HIS STAFF TO MEET THE PHILIPPINES' SITUATION IN WHICH THE JAPANESE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN ABLE TO BRING IN PLANES AT NIGHT FROM OTHER BASES SUCH AS FORMOSA.

A45PA

TWO OF THE LATEST BAG OF PLANES WERE SHOT OUT OF THE AIR BY LT.WOODROW W.ODOM (5303 PARKLAND AVE.) DALLAS, TEX., AS HE LED A COMBAT PATROL ACROSS LUZON.

HE SAID: "THE FIRST WAS A JAP FIGHTER FLYING HIGH COVER FOR A COUPLE OF BOMBERS. I RODE THAT ONE DOWN THROUGH THE CLOUDS AND GOT HIM." ODOM LATER ADDED ANOTHER FIGHTER TO BRING HIS SCORE TO THREE FOR HIS PRESENT TOUR OF DUTY.

A FAST TWIN-ENGINED BOMBER WAS SHOT DOWN BY LT.ANTHONY D. CHRISTOPHER (432 REVERE ST.) REVERE, MASS. HE SAID: "THAT WAS THE FIRST JAP PLANE I EVER SAW--BELIEVE IT OR NOT--AND AFTER THE TIME I'VE BEEN OUT I WASN'T GOING TO LET IT GET AWAY. I RODE THAT BIRD'S TAIL AND KEPT SHOOTING UNTIL HE BLEW UP IN THE AIR."

SEVERAL PLANES, INCLUDING A COUPLE PILOTED BY LT.JOHN BRIDGES OF SHELBY, N.CAR., AND LT9 (JG) ROBERT BARTON, 23, (81-I QUINCY ST. N.W.) WASHINGTON, D.C., WERE ON A MISSION WHEN A DOGFIGHT BEGAN IN WHICH THE COMBAT PATROLS INTERCEPTED ENEMY PLANES HEADED TOWARD CARRIERS.

LT.BARTON TOLD IT THIS WAY: "WE HEARD A LOT OF TALK ON OUR RADIO SHOWING THERE WAS A DOGFIGHT SOMEWHERE AROUND. AS SOON AS THAT NEWS CAME OVER THE AIR EVERY PILOT AROUND THERE WANTED TO GET INTO IT. THE PLANES WENT WHOOSH ALL AROUND ME, HEADED FOR THE FIGHT. I SAW A STREAM OF FLAME WHICH WAS A JAP PLANE FALLING. THEN A JAP FIGHTER GOT ON BRIDGES' TAIL. WELL, I WENT AFTER HIM AND GOT IT IN A LUCKY BURST AND FOLLOWED THE JAP AS HE FLAMED DOWN."

DEC 18 1944

0D1144APW

BY RICHARD C.BERGHOLZ

ABOARD A LIBERATOR OVER MINDORO, DEC.15-(DELAYED)-(AP)-A FILIPINO HANGING OUT HER MORNING WASH LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE BEACH WHERE THE YANKS WERE MAKING THEIR LANDING TODAY LOOKED UP WHEN OUR LIBERATOR ROARED OVER. SHE WAVED. THAT'S WHAT THE LANDING ON MINDORO ISLAND LOOKED LIKE.

AN HOUR LATER, TROOPS WALKED INTO SAN JOSE, THE NEAREST TOWN, APPARENTLY WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT.

THEY WALKED IN LEISURELY, STANDING UP AND SELDOM CROUCHING OR HITTING THE DIRT.

YOU COULD SEE HOW EASY IT WAS WHEN THEY WAVED AT US WHILE WE CIRCLED LESS THAN A 100 FEET OVERHEAD. THEY OBVIOUSLY WERE NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIDDEN MACHINEGUN NESTS AND SNIPERS.

"IT CERTAINLY LOOKS EASIER THAN I EXPECTED," SAID LT.COL.ALEX GUERRY, JR., OF SEWANEE, TENN., WHO WAS AT THE CONTROLS.

DURING THE HOUR AND A HALF OVER THE LANDING, I DIDN'T SEE A SINGLE JAPANESE PLANE IN THE AIR. THE ONLY ENEMY PLANES WERE A COUPLE OF WRECKED FIGHTERS ON THE BEACH AND A TWIN-ENGINED BOMBER WITH ITS NOSE IN THE MUD---ALL VICTIMS OF PREVIOUS ACTIONS.

SIMILARLY THE ONLY YANK PLANES COVERING THE LANDING WE SAW WERE SIX HELLCATS WHICH ZOOMED ONLY BRIEFLY OVER THE BEACHHEAD. OUR LIBERATORY WAS THE ONLY LAND-BASED PLANE THERE AND WE JUST WERE THERE FOR A LOOK.

EW607PCW

BY VERN HAUGLAND

SAIPAN, DEC.16-(AP)-ONE OF THE AMERICAN B-29 SUPERFORTRESSES CREWS BASED IN THE MARIANAS HAS DEVELOPED ITS OWN TECHNIQUE FOR BOMBING JAPAN.

[illegible] GANG IN A PLANE COMMANDED BY 1ST LT. BENJAMIN CROWELL OF AVONDALE, PA., HARMONIZES OVER INTERPHONES ON THE WAY TO AND FROM THE TARGET WHEN NOT TOO BUSY WITH BOMBING RUNS AND FIGHTING OFF ENEMY INTERCEPTORS.

ON THE APPROACH OVER THE TARGET, THE WHOLE CREW LED BY THE OFFICERS, USUALLY CHIMES IN ON A LITTLE NUMBER CALLED "I LIKE TO DRINK MY COFFEE FROM AN OLD TIN CUP."

ON LEAVING THE BOMBING AREA, THEY USUALLY PREFER THE LILAC TREE SON FROM "OKLAHOMA" AND FROM IT HAVE TAKEN THEIR SLOGAN FOR EACH NEW MISSION: "WELL, THAT'S WHAT WE'RE HERE FOR."

THE ENTIRE CREW WEARS HAROLD TEEN HATS AND THEY CUT A NOTCH IN EACH BRIM FOR EACH MISSION.

CROWELLS' CHORISTERS INCLUDE ERVIN A.HENSELL, 2905 FOURTH AVE., BEAVER FALLS, PA.; EDWARD J.HANLEY, 6 ELBERTA RD., MAPLEWOOD, N.J.; JOHN B.SCHROEDER, FAIRMONT, NEB.; STAFF SGTS.STANLEY A.BOORMAN, SCOTLAND RD., SPRING VALLEY, N.Y.; RICHARD C.MELDRUM, 2592 ELMWOOD, ANN ARBOR, MICH.; SGT.KENNETH TOELLE, 816 E.GARDEN, FREEPORT, ILL., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT 2922 COLLEGE AVE. ALTON, ILL.; ROBERT N. MITCHELL, 3426 NEVARRE AVE., TOLEDO, OHIO.

EW648PCW

BY VERN HAUGLAND

DEC 18 1944

SAIPAN, DEC.17-(AP)-WEATHER IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST SINGLE FACTORS TO OVERCOME IN REALLY EFFICIENT SUPERFORTRESS BOMBING OF JAPAN, THE TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND WEATHER OFFICER SAID HERE IN AN INTERVIEW.

LIEUT.COL.JAMES T.SEAVER,JR., 23 BAYBERRY ST., BRONXVILLE,N.Y.

AND PLANDOME, LONGISLAND, FORMER STAFF WEATHER OFFICER FOR THE EIGHTH AIRFORCE, IS NOW WEATHER OFFICER FOR BRIG.GEN.HAYWOOD HANSELL.

"WE ARE JUST GETTING STARTED NOW IN WHAT IS JAPAN'S BEST WEATHER--WINTER IS THE CLEAREST SEASON THERE, EVEN THOUGH ON RAIDS AND RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS SO FAR WE'VE CHIEFLY ENCOUNTERED OVERCAST SKIES," HE SAID.

"WE ARE OUT OF THE TYPHOON SEASON NOW, THANK GOODNESS. BUT THE APPROACH OF THE SOUTHWEST MONSOON SEASON IN MARCH WILL MEAN JAPAN'S INDUSTRIAL AREA ON THE SOUTHEAST SIDE (OF THE PRINCIPAL ISLAND OF HONSHU) WILL BE CLOSED IN ALL SPRING AND SUMMER, AND WE WILL HAVE TO BOMB THROUGH CONSTANT OVERCAST.

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"PROBABLY WE WON'T DO OUR BEST IN VISUAL HIGH LEVEL PRECISION BOMBING UNTIL NEXT WINTER. IT WAS THAT WAY IN EUROPE. IN OUR FIRST YEAR OVER GERMANY WE PLOWED UP A LOT OF POTATO PATCHES. WE DID SOME GOOD ON SUBMARINE PENS, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE TOO STRONGLY BUILT TO DAMAGE MUCH.

"BUT THOSE MISSIONS DID PROVIDE TRAINING SO THAT NEXT WINTER EXPERIENCED CREWS HAD THE CORRECT DATA, AND KEPT TO THEIR COURSES. IT'S ALL PART OF THE GROWING PAINS YOU EXPECT IN GETTING A NEW OUTFIT TOGETHER."

LOSS OF THE CHINESE AIR BASES WILL BE A HANDICAP TO SPRING AND SUMMER BOMBING OVER JAPAN, THE WEATHER OFFICER ADDED, EXPLAINING THAT THE SAIPAN-BASED RAIDERS WILL NOT HAVE ADEQUATE WEATHER REPORTS.

SEAVER HEADS A WEATHER TEAM INCLUDING CAPT.JAMES E.BENNETT, [illegible], MICH., ALSO FROM THE EIGHTH AIRFORCE, APT.WILLIAM J.PLUMLEY, OAK PARK, ILL., CAPT.REID A.BRYSON, 311 NORTH OAK PARK AVE., OAK PARK ILL., AND LIEUT.LOREN W. CROW, 2640 COTTAGE GROVE, DES MOINES, IOWA.

BENNETT IS CHARGED WITH MAKING SURFACE WEATHER REPORTS, PLUMLEY THE UPPER AIR, BRYSON WITH THE TROPICAL SECTION AND CROW THE LONG RANGE REPORT, ALL CONTRIBUTING TO THE PREPARATION OF THE WEATHER FORECAST.

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BRYSON, FOR EXAMPLE, CHARTS THE FIRST SIGNS OF TROPICAL DISTURBANCES SO THAT THE COMMAND WILL NOT BE CAUGHT WITH PLANES ALOFT IN A TYPHOON.

COMPARING FORECASTING FACILITIES IN THE EUROPEAN AND ORIENTAL THEATERS, SEAVER SAID BRITISH SHIPS AT SEA AND PLANES IN THE AIR, PLUS A NETWORK OF WEATHER STATIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN, ALL CONTRIBUTED TO FLEXIBLE AIR OPERATIONS FROM ENGLAND SO THAT TARGETS COULD BE CHANGED WITHIN SIX HOURS IF THE WEATHER SHIFTED.

"HERE OUR WEATHER INFORMATION IS 18 TO 20 HOURS OLD BEFORE THE MISSION STARTS. WE GET SOME WEATHER REPORTS FROM CHINA, SOME WHICH IS NOT TOO VALUABLE FROM THE ALEUTIANS AND VERY LITTLE FROM OUR FLEETS," SEAVER SAID.

"OUR FLIERS ARE INEXPERIENCED IN WEATHER OBSERVATION. BUT EXPANDING RECONNAISSANCE OPERATIONS AND EXPANDING REPORTS FROM THE 20TH BOMBER COMMAND (UNDER WHICH B29S OPERATE IN ALL THEATERS), WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW EQUIPMENT, WILL BRING GRADUAL IMPROVEMENT."

EW642PCW

GROUNDED AIR TRAFFIC.

THE FEDERAL WEATHR BUREAU AT ANCHORAGE YESTERDAY RECORDED WINDS ALOFT OF 174 MILES AN HOUR VELOCITY AND ANOTHER LATER MEASUREMENT ALOFT SHOWED THEM EVEN STRONGER--OBSERVERS SAID SO STRONG IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR AN ACCURATE CHECK. THEY ESTIMATED THE VELOCITY AT 250 MILES AN HOUR, HOWEVER.

MT.MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK WAS THAWING OUT AFTER RECORD BREAKING COLD. THE MERCURY AT ONE POINT DROPPED TO 52 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND 40 HOURS LATER HAD RISE TO 40 ABOVE--A DIFFERENCE OF 92 DEGREES IN THAT SHORT TIME.

EW752PCW

(440) (ADVANCE FOR USE AT 8:45 P.M., EASTERN WAR TIME, SUNDAY DEC.17)

(ADVANCE)-LETHBRIDGE, ALTA., DEC 17-(AP)-SENATOR W.A.BUCHANAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN PRESS, ASKED CANADA AND HER PARLIAMENT TONIGHT TO DECLARE FOR FREEDOM OF WORLD NEWS IN THE PEACE TREATIES THAT END THE WAR.

"CANADA SHOULD GO ON RECORD--ALONGSIDE THE UNITED STATES AND THE OTHER FREE COUNTRIES WHICH, IN DUE COURSE, WILL SURELY EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS," HE SAID.

A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND PUBLISHER OF THE LETHBRIDGE HERALD, BUCHANAN SPOKE OVER THE TRANS-CANADA NETWORK OF CBC. DIRECTORS OF TH CANADIAN PRESS, A COOPERATIVE NEWS GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTING ORGANIZATION MADE UP OF 90 DAILY NEWSPAPERS, VOTED AT A MEETING IN SEPTEMBER FOR A NEWS FREEDOM CLAUSE IN THE TREATIES.

BUCHANAN CITED PREWAR PROPAGANDA WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NEWS AGENCIES IN GERMANY, JAPAN AND ITALY AND DECLARED THAT "DISTORTION OF THE NEWS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE DICTATORS HAS BEEN ONE OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THE WAR."

HE SAID A PROVISION FOR WORLD NEWS FREEDOM WOULD BE "A FOUNDATION FOR WORLD PEACE" AND URGED CANADIANS TO "INSIST THAT THE NEWS FREEDOM YOU HAVE ENJOYED SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO EVERY NATION OF THE WORLD."

"ACROSS THE BORDER IN THE UNITED STATES," BUCHANAN SAID, "THE THREE NATIONAL NEWS ASSOCIATIONS (THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, UNITED PRESS AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS SERVICE) ARE FREE OF GOVERNMENT DOMINATION. THEY STAND SIDE BY SIDE IN SUPPORT OF THE FREE EXCHANGE OF NEWS. THEIR VIEW HAS THE BACKING OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS. XXX

"CHRISTOPHER CHANCELLOR, GENERAL MANAGER OF REUTERS, HAS PLACED THIS AGENCY ON RECORD IN FAVOR OF FREE NEWS. HE REALIZED THAT REUTERS AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WERE COMPETITORS IN FOREIGN NEWS FIELDS, BUT HE KNEW THAT OVER AND ABOVE ALL COMPETITION AND COMMERCIALISM STOOD THE PRINCIPLE OF FREE AND HONEST NEWS."

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A124

BUCHANAN SAID VERY FEW PEOPLE LISTENED WHEN KENT COOPER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, CAMPAIGNED TO GET THE FREE NEWS PRINCIPLE INCORPORATED INTO THE PEACE TREATIES IN 1919, BUT HE PERSISTED.

"KENT COOPER IS HAVING SOME SUCCESS," HE SAID. "XXX IT NOW REMAINS FOR OTHER COUNTRIES TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS."

BUCHANAN SAID THAT "I THINK MANY OF US RENEWED OUR FAITH IN DEMOCRACY IN THE RECENT CONSCRIPTION CRISIS," BROUGHT ON BY THE DECISION OF PRIME MINISTER W.L.MACKENZIE KING'S GOVERNMENT TO ORDER SOME DRAFTED MEN ABROAD.

"IT WAS AN EXCITING FACT," HE ADDED, "THAT THE WHOLE THING COULD BE ARGUED OUT IN STREET CARS AND BUSES, IN THE VILLAGE STORE, IN PARLIAMENT, WITH THE DAILY AND WEEKLY PRESS FAITHFULLY REPORTING VIEWS OF ALL PARTIES, AND SUCH INCIDENTS AS OCCURRED.

30-24— 21343

"WHEN NATIONS ALL OVER THE WORLD CAN TALK TO EACH OTHER HONESTLY AND FEARLESSLY, AS DID THE OPPOSING PARTIES IN THE ISSUE JUST MENTIONED, THEN WE HAVE THE BASIS FOR A FREE AND WARLESS WORLD,"

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 8:45 P.M.EASTERN WAR TIME SUNDAY DEC 17)
(MOVED DEC 16)

KK1130PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 17-(AP)-THE COLUMBIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM SAID TODAY THAT RENE BARTHELEMY, CHIEF ENGINEER OF COMPAGNIE FRANCAISE DE TELEVISION AT PARIS, HAD CONFIRMED AN EARLIER REPORT THAT PRACTICAL 1,000-LINE TELEVISION HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN FRANCE.

CBS QUOTED BARTHELEMY AS SAYING IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CHARLES COLLINGWOOD, CBS PARIS CORRESPONDENT, THAT "THERE IS NO LONGER ANY INSURMOUNTABLE TECHNICAL OBSTACLE" TO THE GENERAL USE OF THE NEW TELEVISION WHICH WOULD PRODUCE AN IMAGE "EQUIVALENT TO WHAT YOU SEE ON THE MOVIE SCREEN."

CBS SAID THE INTERVIEW CAME "ON THE HEELS OF AN ADDRESS BEFORE THE TELEVISION BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION (DEC. 11), PURPORTING TO CAST DOUBT UPON THE EXISTENCE OF THE FRENCH DEVELOPMENT ORIGINALLY REPORTED IN THIS COUNTRY OVER CBS."

EDWARD R.MURROW, CBS EUROPEAN DIRECTOR, ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED THE FRENCH DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW VIDEO SCIENCE IN A BROADCAST FROM LONDON NOV. 5,CBS SAID.

MQ1214AEW

DEC 18 194

UNDATED CHINESE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE CHINESE COUNTEROFFENSIVE IN KWANGSI PROVINCE HAS DRIVEN TO WITHIN ABOUT A MILE OF THE CITY OF HOCHIH FOLLOWING THE RECAPTURE OF WUYU, A VILLAGE SOME 10 MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST, THE CHUNGKING RADIO SAID TODAY IN A BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FCC.

HOCHIH IS 95 MILES FROM LIUCHOW, AN ABANDONED U.S.AIR BASE IN KWANGSI.

ON THE YUNNAN FRONT, CHINESE FORCES WERE SAID TO HAVE REACHED SHUANGTO, LULING AND HUNGCHE, IN THE AREA EAST OF WANTING.

DA433PEW

UNDATED JAPANESE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS CLAIMED IN A COMMUNIQUE THAT JAPANESE AIRCRAFT SANK "ONE BATTLESHIP OR LARGE CRUISER" AND FOUR TRANSPORTS SOUTH OF MINDORO ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPINES FRIDAY NIGHT AND EARLY TODAY. THERE WAS NO ALLIED CONFIRMATION.

THE COMMUNIQUE WAS BROADCAST BY THE TOKYO RADIO AND RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

DN637AEW

(110) UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (SUN):

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINES UNCHANGED.

U.S.NINTH AND FIRST ARMIES: BATTLED GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE THAT DROVE INTO BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: PARTLY BREACHED SIEGFRIED LINE AT DILLINGEN.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: ADVANCED DEEPER INTO GERMANY, SEIZING FIVE PALATINATE VILLAGES.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: BATTLED GERMANS NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

-DASH-

U.S.DIVISIONS

44TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): FOUGHT INTO HOTTVILLER, FOUR MILES WEST OF BITCHE.

36TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): CAPTURED KAYSERSBERG FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

90TH INFANTRY (THIRD ARMY): BROKE DILLINGEN STALEMATE WITH DECISIVE VICTORY.

35TH INFANTRY (THIRD ARMY): FOUGHT INTO GERSCHEIM, TWO MILES INSIDE SAAR BASIN.

KK749PEW

DEC 18 1944

BY JAMES J. STREBIG
ASSOCIATED PRESS AVIATION EDITOR

WASHINGTON,DEC.16--CHILE, INDIA AND IRAN HAVE SIGNED THE INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES TRANSIT AGREEMENT--THE SO-CALLED "TWO FREEDOMS" DOCUMENT--SINCE THE CLOSE OF THE WORLD AVIATION CONFERENCE AT CHICAGO, BRINGING THE TOTAL TO 28.

A CHECK ON THE FIVE DOCUMENTS WHICH EMERGED FROM THAT 37-DAY MEETING DISCLOSED TODAY THAT 12 SIGNATURES HAVE BEEN WRITTEN ON THEM DURING THE WEEK THEY HAVE BEEN AT THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THE TOTALS NOW STAND AS FOLLOWS:

FINAL ACT, WHICH SUMMARIZES THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE, PROVIDES A STANDARD FORM FOR INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENTS AND MAKES CERTA[illegible] RECOMMENDATIONS, 53. ONLY LIBERIA HAS NOT SIGNED THE FINAL ACT.

THE [illegible]TERIM AGREEMENT, WHICH SETS UP A PROVISIONAL INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION, 37. ONLY 26 SIGNATURES WERE NEEDED TO BRING IT INTO BEING.

THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION, WHICH IS AN AGREEMENT TO SET UP A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION TO ADMINISTER THE AIR NAVIGATION RULES AND THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS, 35. SIGNING IS MERELY PRELIMINARY AS THIS IS A TREATY AND MUST BE RATIFIED.

THE TRANSIT OR "TWO FREEDOMS", WHICH GRANTS A MUTUAL EXCHANGE OF THE RIGHT TO FLY ACROSS AND MAKE NON-COMMERCIAL STOPS IN A COUNTRY, 28.

THE TRANSPORT OF "FIVE FREEDOMS" AGREEMENT, WHICH ADDS TO THE FIRST TWO THE RIGHT TO CARRY TRAFFIC FROM THE HOME COUNTRY OF AN AIRLINE TO ANY OTHER SIGNATORY STATE, TO PICK UP TRAFFIC IN ANY OTHER STATE AND CARRY IT HOME, AND TO CARRY TRAFFIC BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE STATES, 17.

THE "FIVE FREEDOMS" SIGNERS WERE AFGHANISTAN, CHINA, DOMIN-

ICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, HAITI, HONDURAS, MEXICO, NICARAGUA, PERU, SWEDEN, TURKEY, UNITED STATES, URUGUAY AND VENEZUELA. TURKEY RESERVED OUT OF THE "FIFTH" FREEDOM, RELATING TO INTERMEDIATE TRAFFIC. THE "TWO FREEDOMS" SIGNERS WERE THOSE COUNTRIES AND CHILE, EGYPT, FRANCE, GREECE, INDIA, IRAQ, IRAN, LEBANON, NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, SWEDEN, TURKEY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (EXCEPT NEWFOUNDLAND).

CHINA AND THE DOMINCAN REPUBLIC DID NOT SIGN THE "TWO FREEDOMS", BUT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO SIGN BOTH DOCUMENTS SINCE THE BROADER EXCHANGE OF PRIVILEGES INCLUDES THEM.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIA ARE EXPECTED TO SIGN THE "TWO FREEDOMS" AND THE RESERVATION WITH RESPECT TO NEWFOUNDLAND PROBABLY WILL BE WITHDRAWN.

MN459PEW

DEC 18 1944

YANK PLANES KNOCK OUT 95 GERMAN TANKSAS ENEMY PLUNGES 18 MILES INTO BELGIUM

95 ENEMY TANKS BAGGED BY U.S. 9TH AIR FORCE IN STRONG COUNTERBLOWS

Enemy Looses New V-Weapon, Bombards Forward And Rear Areas Day And Night–Paratroops Landed Behind 9th Army

DEC 19 1944

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Germans have recaptured Malmedy, Belgium, Ronald Walker, correspondent of the London News Chronicle, reported today.

Walker said the Germans put at least 1,000 single-engined fighters and bombers into the air over the Aachen area yesterday in their greatest demonstration of offensive arerial strength since the battle of Britain in 1940.

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 18 (AP)—The German counteroffensive, hammering a deep dent in United States 1st Army lines, plunged at least 18 miles inside Belgium today despite a strong ground defense and Allied air blows that knocked out 95 enemy tanks and armored vehicles and damaged 26 more.

The first indication of the extent of the German drive came from the United States 9th Air Force, which announced that British Typhoons had attacked 20 German armored vehicles "west of Stavelot," which is 18 miles west of the frontier and 24 miles southeast of the fortress of Liege. It is 6 miles southwest of Malmedy.

This was 15 miles from where the lines stood before the German push began.

Both the 1st and 9th Army sectors were bombarded day and night by a new German V-weapon of undisclosed nature. The front rocked to the explosions of the weapons and American anti-aircraft fire. Flares lighted the night sky.

265 German Vehicles Destroyed

Through heavy censorship of ground troop movements on the 1st Army front came reports of pilots participating in the greatest destruction of enemy armor since the battle of the Falaise Gap, in Normandy, last summer.

United States fighter-bombers destroyed 265 transport vehicles and pounded German troops and gun positions. Ten fighter-bombers were missing.

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The German high command hurled thousands of crack troops and large numbers of tanks into the great fluid battle that may decide the course of World War II.

Once more the Germans threw their air force into the battle, attacking up to 300 strong, but 45 of them were knocked down in swirling dogfights above the battlefield.

Strict Censorship Imposed

Front-line officers of the United States 1st Army made no attempt to minimize the seriousness of this effort to stall the Allied drive on the Rhine.

At 4 P.M. a strict censorship was imposed on the entire 1st Army front, which earlier dispatches had said was alive with German attacks of varying strength from Duren 80 miles south to southern Luxembourg.

More parachute troops in small groups were dropped last night behind the United States 9th Army's lines to the

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1st Army Front Aflame With Battle; Foe Hurls More Forces Into Drive

KENNEDY DEC 19 1944

Paris, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—American tanks and infantry lashed back today at scores of thousands of crack German troops and armor in a great fluid battle swirling across the hills and forests of Belgium and Luxembourg that may affect the entire course of the war.

Front-line officers of the American First Army made no attempt to minimize the seriousness of this supreme effort to stall the Allied drive on the Rhine—a counter-offensive reminiscent of Ludendorf's final push in the spring of 1918.

At 4 P. M. an ironclad censorship of news was imposed on the entire length of the First Army front. DEC 19 1944

Earlier dispatches had described this front as alive with German attacks from Duren eighty miles southward to southern Luxembourg.

As the battle mounted in intensity, the Germans uncorked a brand new V-weapon and by day and night bombarded forward as well as rear areas. Its nature was obscured by official censorship.

More parachute troops in small groups were dropped last night behind the American Ninth Army's lines to the north, where the new secret weapon was first reported. The Germans also were hammering the Ninth's positions with big railway guns on an increased scale.

Lieut.-Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's First Army struck back at the advancing columns of Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt, who was attempting his greatest counter-offensive against American troops in Europe.

Front-line dispatches said that British Spitfires and Tempests came down from Holland to lend a hand to the American air forces.

[Berlin said tonight the Germans had crossed the northern part of Luxembourg on a broad front and were nearing the Luxembourg-Belgium border. The Allied-controlled radio station at Eindhoven, went abruptly off the air without explanation.

The northern tip of Luxembourg is at least eight miles across. A German penetration there would place the Nazis about fifty miles from Namur and in a position to threaten communication links between the First Army and other Allied armies to the south.

Fast German units and armored battle groups on the northern wing reached the Malmedy area, Berlin declared. Many bitter battles were fought inside towns and villages and some American tank forces were wiped out, the broadcast added.]

Nazi Air Force in Action.

The German air force continued to support the German winter strike on the biggest scale since the Allied landings in Normandy.

More Nazi parachutists were dropped behind American lines last night. But these may have numbered no more than ten. Six were caught.

Tabulations from Ninth Tactical Air Command headquarters said 129 German planes had been shot down in twenty-four hours—more than 20 per cent of the number of carefully husbanded aircraft put over the lines by the German air force.

Lieut.-Gen. William H. Simpson, commander of the American Ninth Army on Hodges's left flank, praised the work of the Allied tactical airmen, declaring that despite the great number of planes used by the Germans they are "not able to bother us a great deal."

[The Germans declared forward American positions along a twenty-mile front had been overrun between Luxembourg and the Hohe Venn, "high marshland," a swampy tract 2,200 feet above sea level extending for thirty miles from Rotgen to Malmedy. But the German command also adopted a cautious attitude and said it was withholding details of the action.]

Yank Lines Penetrated.

Throwing hundreds of carefully conserved planes, hundreds of tanks, many divisions and even parachutists into the counter-offensive, Marshal Von Rundstedt had achieved a penetration of several miles in the American lines, re-invaded Belgium in the Monschau area sixteen miles south of Aachen, and re-entered Luxembourg at two other points.

Today the Germans were pushing their advance along an eighty-mile front from the Monschau area to the southern tip of the Luxembourg border with new and more violent attacks.

Elsewhere along the eighty-mile front the Germans were delivering stiff punches aimed at seeking soft spots, and there were indications the supreme German effort would mount in intensity before it subsided. On many other army fronts there were signs of impending German blows.

Indications of More Attacks.

American Third Army dispatches said the heaviest enemy rail movement ever seen behind the Third Army front had been observed yesterday. Reports from the British Second Army front to the north said German flyers in the greatest strength since D day had appeared in the skies along the Aachen sector, along with many reconnaissance aircraft over the British front. A ten-mile-long German column was blasted by Allied fighter bombers in the Neunkirchen area, ten miles northeast of Saarbrucken.

In the Alsace Plain German counter-attacks rolled over three villages in the Colmar and Selestat areas.

But at Gen. Eisenhower's Supreme Headquarters it was said the Allied command is taking measures to deal with the situation, and that there was no cause for undue alarm.

May Be Last Assault.

Marshal Von Rundstedt undoubtedly has thrown a large part of his strategic reserve into this supreme effort, it was said, with the most likely purpose of derailing the Allied winter offensive and holding the Americans on the Roer River and the fringe of the Saar Basin until spring.

It is possible, it was stated, that this may prove to be the final

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north, where the new secret weapon first was reported. The Germans also were hammering the 9th's positions with big railway guns on an increased scale.

Civilians Flee West

Once more some Belgian civilians, fearful of a major German breakthrough, were picking up their belongings and fleeing west, just as they had done in 1940.

Far to the southwest four United States divisions edged forward into the German Palatinate's Siegfried Line defenses on a 14-mile front extending from the Rhine westward. One tank division penetrated seven rows of the line's dragon-teeth tank barrier north of Wissembourg. Twenty-three miles west of Wessembourg, the German-manned Maginot fortifications around the fortress of Bitche were crumbling under combined assault of infantrymen, engineers and artillerymen.

Farther west, the United States 3d Army announced it had driven to the eastern edge of the Siegfried fortified city of Dillingen, in the western Saar, and that only five strong pillboxes remained to be reduced before the occupation was complete.

Three miles south, another strong point in the Saarlautern suburb of Roden fell, and in the southern Saar gains of a half mile were recorded.

The heaviest enemy rail movements yet seen in the Saar indicated that the Germans were bringing up reinforcements to meet these threats.

These developments were dwarfed, however, by the struggle raging on the 1st Army front, where the Germans' winter offensive had gouged out the greatest gains yet scored by the enemy against the Americans in Europe.

[The Berlin radio said the Germans had crossed northern Luxembourg on a broad front and were nearing the Belgian border. This would put them about 8 miles beyond positions from which they struck two days ago.

[This account said the Germans also had reached the area of the Belgian city of Malmedy, 14 miles west of the German frontier. Other enemy broadcasts said forward American positions had been overrun for 20 miles northward from Luxenbourg's northern tip.]

If the German counteroffensive succeeds even moderately, the end of the war may be delayed many months. A full-scale victory for Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt would give the Germans time to prepare fresh blows that would drag the war throughout 1945.

The Germans fed heavy concentrations of armor into key points, front-line dispatches told bluntly of enormous numbers of tanks and armored vehicles supporting the infantry.

In one respect, the German counteroffensive has failed. It has failed to force the 1st Army to let up pressure on the crucial Roer River front, gateway to the Rhineland, without whose heavy industry production the enemy could not long wage war.

Americans Clear Rolsdorf

The Americans cleared the suburb of Rolsdorf, less than a mile southeast of the Roer stronghold of Duren. The village of Lendersdorf, a mile farther south and only a half mile from the Roer, was all but cleared of the enemy.

While the 1st Army fought to seal off the powerful offensive, the 9th Army jumped off in local line straightening operations and in advances of 1 and 2 miles took Wurm and Mullendorf and cleared Beeck north of Geilenkirchen. Opposition was light, and many pillboxes actually were unmanned.

A shortage of ammunition, admitted by General Eisenhower and President Roosevelt, and a shortage of manpower which a front dispatch said recently forced the draining of new divisions to replace battlefront casualties, may be decisive factors.

On these may hinge whether the German offensive can be broken before it effectively cripples Allied winter plans.

Germans Well Supplied

The Germans are abundantly supplied for this current drive.

[The London *Daily Mail* quoted captured Germans as saying Adolf Hitler visited the Roer front ten days ago to buck up morale, and told troops to hold on until December 16, when he promised the Americans would be dealt a nasty surprise.]

The 1st Army fought back savagely, hurling the full weight of its own armor against crack enemy *Panzer* divisions which, a front dispatch said, had been specifically trained for this drive.

Expected Minor Action

One front dispatch said the Germans were feeding in numerous attacks all along the front, probing for weak spots.

The character, quality and scope of the offensive came as a surprise. Observers who have returned from the front since the battle began said minor action had been expected, but few realized it was an all-out winter offensive until a number of American positions had been overrun and the Germans had bit deeply into Belgium.

Censorship permitted disclosure only that the drives were aimed at the areas of Honsfeld, east of Malmedy, at the Luxembourg frontier town of Vianden, 31 miles south of Honsfeld, and had reached Echternach, 13 miles southeast of Vianden.

The last two drives both were stalled by United States tanks and dug-in infantry. Echternach is 18 miles north of the duchy's capital.

In the first 36 hours of the offensive, the Germans lost 194 planes.

In the southern Palatinate, the 79th Division on the eastern end of the front probed beyond Berg, 8 miles west of Karlsruhe, capital of Baden Province.

The 14th Armored Division struck the stiffest opposition on the western end of the Rhine Plain north of Wissembourg, where forward elements broke through seven rows of dragon teeth. They were pinned down by intense enemy fire.

4 Miles Inside Reich

The Germans, fighting from the Siegfried fortifications — deepened to 20 miles on this sector—let fly with everything, from heavy guns to grenades, as the Americans felt out the defenses, a front dispatch said.

Northwest of Wissembourg, the 103d Division fighting along heavily wooded ridges made the deepest penetration into the Reich—about 4 miles—and was nearing the village of Reisdorf.

On the west, the 45th Division captured Nieder-Schlettenbach and Bundenthal, both 2 miles inside Germany in forests northwest of Wissembourg. The 45th ran into heavy fire from pillboxes.

At the western edge of the 7th Army front, two sections of Fort Simserhoff, 2 miles northwest of Bitche, and eight sections of Fort Schiesseck, less than a mile from the city, were overrun by troops who had been hammering at them nearly a week.

Elements of five German divisions were facing the 7th along its 35-mile front.

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German effort to turn the tables. By some it was compared to the great German counter-offensive in the spring of 1918.

Shrewdly timed when the Americans were drawn up at the Roer and presumably preparing for the serious effort of getting across that barrier toward Cologne and the Rhine, Marshal Von Rundstedt's blow was aimed at the Ardennes Forest, path of German conquest in 1940.

Airmen Have Big Day.

Ninth Tactical Air Force headquarters in Belgium said hundreds of Thunderbolts and Lightnings pounded on concentrations of as many as 300 to 400 tanks and armored vehicles with rockets, bombs and machine guns as part of the Allied reaction.

Outnumbering the German fighters as much as ten to one, the Allied fighters along the entire front accounted for at least 113 out of 550 planes put over the lines by the Germans yesterday and the night before. The Allied planes went down to "deck level" to get in their blows, and thirty-three of them were lost.

British Flyers Also Score

"The German air force definitely is coming out and we are shooting them down every chance we get, but fundamentally we now are out there to beat up the German Army," said Maj. Gen. Elwood R. Quesada, commander of the 9th Tactical Air Force.

British fighters also tangled with 100 German planes flying down from northern airfields and destroyed eleven in one series of dogfights. The 29th Tactical Air Force accounted for 23 more.

Altogether, Allied planes knocked out 25 tanks and armored vehicles, 16 locomotives, 400 trucks and 300 railway cars.

Nazi Jet Planes Used

The German air force continued its bombing and strafing last night, but its diminished effort suggested that it already was spent as a result of prohibitive losses.

NAZI OFFENSIVE HITS WEAK SPOT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP) The German counter offensive struck the weakest part of the Allied line on the Western front, War department sources disclosed today. They conceded that some Allied units may get bottled up in the advance.

On the whole, however, these sources were inclined to minimize the force of the Nazi thrust. They said it probably was aimed:

1.—At drawing Allied reserves from seriously threatened points on the German defense line.

2.—At giving the German home front a lift at Christmas time with a report of "victory."

The sector at which the Nazi attack was thrown, officials explained, was weak because of the wide dispersion of Allied divisions. The sector was lightly held, because the terrain in front and behind the line was not considered very important.

The Germans, it was said, have thrown in a substantial part of their strategic general reserves, including at least three panzer units, and now have a numerical superiority on that sector two to three times Allied strength.

These sources declined to speculate how far the German offensive might carry, but said that it still could go a lot farther without causing serious damage.

In other sectors the German air force fought with an aggressiveness it has not shown in months.

The unceasing German aerial assault began Saturday about 10 p. m. and has continued since then despite heavy losses. More than 200 enemy fighters already have been shot down.

German night fighters and bombers strafed and bombed their own towns in Germany as well as several in Holland. They dived down out of the clouds plastering some streets with machinegun fire.

Air operations in the Ninth army sector apparently are designed to try to disrupt communications and block any supporting moves to the First army.

During the day, the German planes stuck closely to the front along the Roer river valley and thence south into Belgium and Luxembourg.

They appeared content to intercept American planes as they came over and not risk undue losses with penetrations over American

Nazis Use New Secret Weapon In Mighty Drive Against Yanks

GALLAGHER

WITH THE U. S. NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY, Dec. 18—(AP) A new type of German V-weapon bombarded the U. S. Ninth and First army fronts today.

During the night the entire combined fronts were lighted by flares and rocked to the thunder of anti-aircraft guns and explosions of Hitler's new secret weapon, details of which presently are restricted.

The Luftwaffe's struggle against the Allied air forces raged on unabated up and down the Roer valley in support of the German's counteroffensive.

While the First army fought to seal off the powerful German offensive, the Ninth army jumped off in local line-straightening attacks, advancing one to two miles and taking Wurm and Mullendorf. Beeck, north of Geilenkirchen, also was cleared.

Opposition was light and for the first time the Doughboys found some of the pillboxes unmanned. Few prisoners were taken.

Clouds were so low over the front that some planes had to fly at treetop height across mountainous areas. Dogfights took place under 1,000 feet in some places.

One group of Thunderbolt fighters, jumping 30 ME-190's near Duren, reported the pilots were "of inferior caliber" and fled into the clouds.

and British territory, where the cloud-laden skies were filled with the drone of hundreds of fighters.

NAZI RADIO HINTS 'MORE SURPRISES' IN STORE IN WEST

RASISCHKE

LONDON, Dec. 18 — (AP) German broadcasts, hinting at "more surprises to come," claimed today their counter-offensive had slashed to the area of Malmedy in Belgium on the north and across northern Luxembourg to near the Belgium border on the south.

Berlin military commentators threw in occasional phrases of caution but Goebbels propagandists pulled all the stops in making the most of Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt's counterblow.

"There is no greater proof that German vitality is unbroken than this new offensive at a time when our enemies already are distributing German provinces," one propaganda broadcast declared.

The German radio and press made no mention of a new secret weapon reported by American correspondents. One Nazi correspondent said that "V-1 (robot bombs) are buzzing overhead at the front."

"The first powerful assault has torn the American front open" Transocean asserted, "and American resistance was smashed in hard fighting by German artillery, tank divisions, paratroops and grenadiers.

"The first stroke fully succeeded and the Germans captured as much ground in 36 hours as the First and Ninth United States armies did at Aachen in four weeks."

Berlin radio made specific geographic claims, declaring:

"The greater part of northern Luxembourg already has been crossed on a broad front and battles are approaching the Luxembourg-Belgian frontier. The Americans have been making repeated attacks from the southwest to hold the German advance, but in vain.

"On the northern flank of the German attacking front, our formations, strengthened with armored units, have thrust to the Malmedy area." Malmedy is 14 miles west of the German border.

It was this source that suggested "further surprises" might be sprung against the British in the north.

"It may even be that British soldiers who have been promised leave in January may have to do without it," this account said.

The broadcast suggested, however, that it would be advisable "to keep an eye on the Malmedy-St. Vith sector and sectors north and south of Luxembourg."

The area south of Luxembourg is the U. S. Third army front.

A Transocean correspondent, claiming a battalion of the 78th infantry division had been "virtually wiped out," asserted that its leader, "Lt. Col. Byron W. Ladd, 31, of Illinois, two company commanders and six other officers were taken prisoners."

While this correspondent said the counter-offensive had "brilliantly succeeded," he cautioned that "there is no point, however, in drawing final conclusions, as the situation still is fluid."

The Germans conceded some setbacks in the south in the Saar and in the Palatinate. Berlin also said the French made local gains in Alsace against stiff resistance.

New V Device Used By Nazis

With the U.S. 9th Army in Germany, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Germans have launched a new "V" weapon on the Western front and are bombarding rear areas with it by night and day.

The "Silver Balls?"

The Germans have previously used both their V-1 and V-2 weapons—the robot bomb and the "telegraph pole" rocket bomb—against troops and areas behind the front.

Supreme headquarters in Paris last week said that flyers had seen clusters of "silver balls" over Germany, but gave no other information. It was speculated then that the silver balls might be a new anti-aircraft defense, or something designed to interfere with Allied radio communication.

All-Out Counterattack Laid To Rundstedt

London. Dec. 18 (AP)—Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt gathered all his top-ranking generals at his secret headquarters at Coblenz yesterday and ordered an all-out effort in his current major counterattack, according to underground reports reaching London today.

Coblenz is within easy fighter-bomber range of the Allied lines but the German West front commander still felt it necessary to get all his best military brains under one roof. They may well have had something of a shaking, because Allied planes hit a munitions dump near Coblenz Saturday night.

From the same underground source today came a report that Rundstedt received only a message from Heinrich Himmler on his 69th birthday, December 12. Himmler said he was acting for Adolph Hitler, who has been so long silent that many believe Himmler has taken his place.

Captives Say Hitler Toured Front

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—A *Daily Mail* dispatch from the Western front quoted captured German soldiers today as saying Adolf Hitler had visited the front ten days ago.

The prisoners asserted Hitler told troops in the Roer River area to hold on till December 16, when he promised the Americans would be dealt a nasty surprise.

Slaughter Of Yanks By Nazis Described

By Harold V. Boyle

An American Frontline Clearing Station, Belgium, Dec. 17 [AP—*Delayed*]—Weeping with rage, a handful of doughboy survivors described today how a German tank force had ruthlessly poured machine-gun fire into a group of about 150 Americans who had been disarmed and herded into a field in the opening hours of the present Nazi counteroffensive.

"We had to lie there and listen to German noncoms kill with pistols every one of our wounded men who groaned or tried to move," said T/5 William B. Summers, of Glenville, W.Va., who escaped by playing dead.

Caught In Ambush

The Americans were members of an artillery observation battalion ambushed and trapped at a road fork by a powerful German armored column of Tiger tanks, whose heavy guns quickly shot up the two dozen American trucks and lightly armored vehicles.

There were no heavy weapons in the American column and the entire observation unit quickly had to surrender.

"We were just moving up to take over a position at the top of a hill and as we got to the road intersection they opened up on us," said Summers.

"They had at least 15 to 20 tanks. They disarmed us and then searched us for wrist watches and anything else they wanted.

Emptied Pistol

"I guess we were lined up along that road for a full hour. Then they stood us all together in an open field. I thought something was wrong. As we were standing there one German soldier moving past in a tank column less than 50 yards away pulled out a pistol and emptied it on our fellows."

A grimy soldier sitting in the little room with Summers ran his hands through mud-caked hair and broke into sobs. There were tears in Summers's eyes as he went on:

"Then they opened up on us from their armored cars with machineguns. We hadn't tried to run away or anything. We were just standing there with our hands up and they tried to murder us all. And they did murder a lot of us.

Flopped And Played Dead

"There was nothing to do but flop and play dead."

"I never saw such slaughter before in this war," said Private William F. Geem, of Elizabethtown, Pa. "They were cutting us down like guinea pigs. Then those German non-coms began walking around and knocking off our wounded. I kept my head down, but after they had emptied their pistols I could hear them click fresh cartridges in their hands while they were reloading. Then they went on looking for more of our fellows to shoot."

"We just hoped and prayed while we lay there listening to them shoot every man that moved," said T-5 Charles F. Appman, of Verona, Pa.

Lay There For An Hour

The survivors lay in tense, rigid silence in the freezing mud for an hour before cautious glances showed that all the Germans had moved away except one Tiger tank.

"It wasn't more than 100 yards away, but we decided we had to make a break for it then or never," said T-5 Harold W. Billow, of Mount Joy, Pa. "We jumped up and scattered for the woods. The tank opened up on us, but I don't think it got many that time."

Three hours after the slaughter less than twenty survivors had made their way back to the American lines.

Jack Belden, of *Time* magazine, and I rode back to this clearing station with the first survivors picked up by our reconnaissance jeeps.

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Cut-Off Doughboys Make 10-Day Blood-Fire Stand

DEC 19 1944

By Edward D. Ball

Dillingen, Germany, Dec. 17 AP — [Delayed] — From ice-crusted foxholes, a column of doughboys has written in blood and fire the United States 90th Division's most stirring episode since D-day.

For ten days and nights they fought, cut off most of the time from supplies and reinforcements. For five of these days each lived on a single small bar of chocolate daily. They were counterattacked 30 times—a record for so narrow a sector on the United States 3d Army front.

When their own ammunition ran low, they "borrowed" from the enemy and went right on killing and wounding Germans at an amazing rate.

From Texas And Oklahoma

All this was accomplished by the men of Maj. Gen. James A. Van Fleet's Texas-Oklahoma division fighting on the German's own terms in one of the Siegfried Line's thickest pillbox belts.

"That place up there is carpeted with dead Krauts," said Major William Dupuy, of Sioux Falls, S.D., an officer in his late twenties who commands the 357th Infantry's 1st Battalion. "Even our cooks joined the party and disposed of four pillboxes," he added.

Nazis Come In From Behind

"Two days after crossing the Saar River in assault boats the Germans began hitting us," Dupuy said. "They kept it up for five days and then came in behind us in the woods. During that time we got one carrying party through. It was led by Corporal Stanley Shedlock, of Northhampton, Mass. Later we made contact with a company commanded by Capt. B. F. Adams, of Little Rock, Ark., but they were in no better shape than we were."

"I have never seen the Germans so aggressive," said Capt. John M. McLean, of Los Angeles. "But they lacked the finesse our boys had and we simply mowed them down. Once they came over standing up and yelling 'Heil Hitler.' Again they came with their guns at port arms. I can't explain that one."

Five Kills, Four Captures For GI

Private James McDonald, of Houlton, Maine, a youthful GI who looked more like a studious schoolboy than a soldier, came out with five confirmed kills and four captures to his credit.

"Things got sort of jumbled up," McDonald explained. "My bazooka partner, Pfc. Carl Chamberlain, of Gloversville, N. Y., and I had gotten separated and I found myself surrounded by Heinies. One took a crack at me and I drilled him through the head. The second one I found in our trench. His jackboots were sticking out of a hole dug in the side. My gun jammed, but I grabbed a German rifle and let him have it. Then the German gun broke down and I ran onto a box of Heinie potato mashers. Turning a corner, I saw two more Germans and killed them with a gun taken from one of those who surrendered.

"The fifth one," McDonald continued, "I got with a potato masher. The second man I captured was reaching for his gun when I hollered 'Hey.' He reached for the sky. A couple of others down the trench watched the proceedings from their sidewall holes and surrendered, too."

Second One-Man Roundup

Another one-man roundup was carried out by Pfc. Kenneth Felger, of Van Wert, Ohio. His exploit was related by Captain McLean, who said:

"Felger worked his way to the top of a German pillbox and threw in a hand grenade. Five Germans inside yelled 'Kamerad.' Felger went inside. Germans up the line sent a couple of men down to investigate why this pillbox was not firing. Felger invited them in and disarmed them.

"They sent five more investigators and finally caught on to what was happening," McLean continued. "Without knowing the general picture, Felger ushered his prisoners—two officers, two sergeants and eighteen enlisted men—to the river and took them across."

Sneaks Through Nazi Lines

Sergt. Albert Lambright, of Amarillo, Texas, who was called from the Siegfried Line fight for home leave, came in for particular praise from his company commander, Capt. William Reckeweg, of Don Height, N.Y.

"After Lambright's outfit got cut off he sneaked throught the Germans to get aid," Reckeweg said. "The aid couldn't make it, but Lambright did. He and his boys practically were fighting the Germans with their fists when they managed to swipe a case of Heinie grenades. The next day Lambright again got through to get aid. He crossed and recrossed the enemy lines every day for the next five days.

Lieut. Col. Jacob Bealke, Jr., of Boonville, Mo., commander of the 358th Infantry, sent one tank-supported battalion under Major James Spivy, Lufkin, Texas, into an attack inside Dillingen and Spivey's outfit rolled up the following score at a cost of one man wounded.

Fifty Germans killed, 67 taken prisoner and ten pillboxes, one tank and one 75-mm. gun captured.

45th Division General Is Wounded By Mine

With the U.S. 7th Army in Germany, Dec. 18 (AP)—Maj. Gen. W. W. Eagles, commander of the 45th Division, was wounded recently when his jeep hit a mine and has been succeeded by Maj. Gen. Robert R. Frederick, of San Francisco, it was announced today.

Both the 45th and its new commander, who formerly was commander of the first airborne task force, fought in Italy before coming to France.

The 37-year-old Frederick is believed to be the youngest major general commanding a frontline infantry division. It is already a common sight to see him up close to the front for a personal check on the situation.

Pfc. Heine Wonders: Is Nazis Or Just His Boss.

With the U.S. 7th Army, Dec. 18 (AP)—One man with the 3d Division jumps every time he hears his name called. The name is Heine.

The sound of his name can mean either that someone wants him or that the Germans are coming, Pfc. Reinhold Heine, of Craig, Mo., explains.

Heine has been transferred from a rifle platoon to a mortar squad, but he still remembers the day at Anzio when the first sergeant called "Heine." He said:

"I ran out of my foxhole, only to be greeted by our fire.

"Pretty soon I was reaching for my rifle automatically when anybody called me."

BILLY CONN HELPS SAVE PILOT'S LIFE

American Air Service Command Headquarers in Europe, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—Corporal Billy Conn and his troupe of boxers touring Army bases in Britain, France and Italy rescued an American fighter pilot from his burning plane in Italy, it was disclosed today.

The plane crashed in a swamp. Conn and other boxers riding nearby in a jeep fought through the flames and dragged out the unconscious pilot.

Eisenhower Autograph Sold

PARIS, Dec. 18 (AP).—A French civilian paid 63,000 francs ($1,260) for General Dwight Eisenhower's autograph yesterday at an auction in behalf of bombed out residents of Normandy. The auction was held during a performance of the Folies Bergere.

REDS ACROSS CZECH BORDER

DEC 19 1944

Drive Within 2 Miles Of German Escape Route

London, Tuesday, Dec. 19 (AP)—Russian Alpine troops, swarming down out of the Kecske Mountains of northeastern Hungary, yesterday crossed the Czechoslovak frontier on a 10-mile front and drove to within 2 miles of the Germans' southern escape route out of Kassa, the big east Slovak stronghold.

Simultaneously, the Russians reached the Slovak frontier on a 68-mile front, pushed to within 14 miles of outflanked Kassa on the southwest, and to within 11½ miles on the southeast, as Berlin reported that other Soviet troops were attacking within 15 miles east of the communications center.

Gains Up To 12 Miles

Gaining up to 12 miles from their previous positions, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army units threatened the early collapse of the entire German salient in eastern Slovakia between Poland and Hungary, as they wiped out entire German units fighting in prepared fortifications along the frontier and broke out into the broad Bodva and Hernad river valleys leading into Kassa.

The Russians crossed the Slovak frontier at two new points, the most extensive being in the Horvaty-Janok-Buzita area, 30 miles north of Miskolc and only 3 miles south of the communications center of Moldava.

Through Moldava runs the highway escape route which the Russians are on the verge of cutting. Once it is severed the German-Hungarian garrison in Hungarian-annexed Kassa would have only one route of retreat, through the center of the mountainous country infested with Czechoslovak Patriot bands.

2 Miles Inside Slovakia

The Russians now were more than 2 miles inside Slovakia.

They also crossed the frontier in the area of Banreve, 23 miles northwest of Miskolc, seizing the rail station of Kamenec, on the Slana River.

At Buzita, in the direct drive toward Kassa, the Russians were 14 miles southwest of that stronghold. At Horvaty, 10 miles to the west, they were only 2 miles from the southern highway leading into the city.

The communiqué announced the capture of 1,850 prisoners, making a total of 36,590 taken in 39 days by the Russians.

Front Outlined

They reached the Slovak frontier on a broad front whose western wing was at Susa, 70 miles northeast of Budapest and 26 miles northwest of Miskolc. The eastern wing was at the frontier in the Abaujvar-Alsokeded area, 11½ miles southeast of Kassa and 16 miles northwest of the Soviet base of Satoraljaujhely.

The Hungarian capital was being shelled as Red Army infantrymen fought within 5½ miles northeast of Budapest, but the communiqué did not announce any fresh gains in the siege arc around the city.

Claim Break Into Pest

French radio stations broadcas. reports that Soviet troops had broken into Pest, the part of the capital on the east bank of the Danube, and then crossed the river into Buda on the west bank as whole Hungarian units surrendered. But these reports were not borne out by either Moscow or Berlin.

Berlin, however, told of heavy fighting on the distant flanks of Budapest, both beyond Ipoly-Sag, where the Russians were within 85 miles of Bratislava, Slovak capital, and at the lower end of Lake Balaton, where Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's 3d Ukraine Army units were only 44 miles from the Austrian frontier.

guns, firing from newly-won positions within 5½ miles of Budapest, crashed tons of steel against the inner defenses of the Hungarian capital today, while Red Army units reached the Slovak border at a new point 72 miles northeast of the city.

The scope of the Hungarian offensive was emphasized by the official Communist party newspaper, *Pravda*, which said that as many German divisions were engaged on the southern sector of the Eastern front as against all the Allied forces in the West. *Pravda* repeated figures purporting to show that 220 enemy divisions, 200 of them German, were tied up in the East as of December 1.

The *Pravda* article was directed against the United States *Army and Navy Journal* for questioning whether Russia had fulfilled the military decisions of Tehran.

Fot, Mogyorod Captured

Hundreds of Germans were slain in the bloody fighting that resulted yesterday in the capture of Fot, 5½ miles northeast of Budapest, and Mogyorod, 8 miles from the capital, the Russians announced.

The Germans came back with furious counterblows by the *Luftwaffe*, self-propelled guns and waves of infantry.

The Russian thrust to Slovakia, with the capture of 40 towns, including Susa, represented a gain of 15 miles northwest of Miskolc. It appeared almost certain that the Germans cannot much longer remain in Kassa, the biggest city they still hold in southeastern Slovakia.

As Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army pushed forward alongside units of Marshal Ivan Petrov's 4th Ukraine Army, the entire German salient in eastern Slovakia was in extreme danger.

Other Russian units in the drive northward from Hatvan along the approaches to central Slovakia yesterday took the big town and railway station of Pazsto, 37 miles northeast of Budapest.

Meanwhile, the continued pounding of Libau, Lithuanian Baltic port, together with renewed attacks on German communications in East Prussia was seen here as a possible forerunner to new land activity on the northern end of the Eastern front.

The ground has become hard and the rivers frozen throughout the Baltic countries, turning the terrain, which had been mushy with early snows, into good tank land.

The presence of a large number of German transports at Libau gave rise to the speculation as to whether the Germans are being forced from the Baltic pocket, where they have been hanging on tenaciously and at great cost.

Russ In Buda, Paris Reports

London, Dec. 18—The Paris radio asserted today that Russian troops had smashed across the Danube from Pest into Buda, the western half of Budapest, Hungarian capital.

Violent fighting is now in progress in the streets of Buda, the broadcast said.

Russians Shell Inner Defenses Of Budapest

Moscow, Dec. 18 (AP)—Soviet big

Moscow Gets O. W. I. Magazine, Explaining U. S. to the Russians

DEC 19 1944

By The Associated Press

MOSCOW, Dec. 18.—"Amerika," a new magazine in the Russian language, designed to acquaint the Soviet people with the United States, went on sale today.

Ten thousand copies of the

monthly publication, produced by the American Office of War Information, were turned over to the Soviet book agency for sale at 3 rubles a copy. The agency will keep 25 per cent of the gross sale for the cost of distribution. The rest of the money will be deposited in the Moscow account at the American Embassy.

The first issue, 4 by 5½ inches, is a sixty-four page publication with a color cover showing the United States flag and the silhouette of an American soldier peering through field glasses.

The inside cover shows a striking color picture of the White House, and page one contains a quotation from a Presidential message to Congress. There is a five-page article on the United States service of supply by Lieutenant General Brehon B. Somervell, and the article following is on Presidential elections.

Illustrated air raids on Germany cover nine pages, and there are six pages of photographs captioned "Great Days of Invasion." Other articles are by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Thomas Craven and Sergei Koussevitsky.

The magazine, prepared, translated and printed by the New York office of the O. W. I., now is sent to Moscow for approval before publication, but the O. W. I. hopes to have a considerable amount of the translation done in Moscow in the future.

"Amerika" is the first United States effort to circulate propaganda in the Soviet Union. British agencies for some time have been publishing a monthly magazine and a weekly newspaper, and judging from the way British publications are read in Russia the new American monthly, a superior technical job, will be in demand with Soviet readers.

The next edition and an alternate edition will be called "Amerika Illustrated Edition." It will be 10½ by 14 inches, about eighty pages, and will resemble American picture magazines.

Colonel Joseph B. Phillips, former Moscow correspondent for the New York Herald Tribune and later managing editor of "Newsweek" magazine, is in charge of the new publication.

POLISH OFFICIAL ASKS BOUNDARY ALONG ODER RIVER

SINGLETON

DEC 19 1944

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Moscow's Pravda, official organ of the Communist party, printed an article today by Dr. Stefan Yendrikowski of the Lublin Polish committee declaring that Prime Minister Churchill and Gen. De Gaulle's French government support Poland's claim to German territory as far west as the Oder river, within 30 miles of Berlin.

(Churchill in his Commons address last Friday did not specify the Western boundary he had in mind of Poland, but said that "so far as Russia and Great Britain are concerned," the Poles were free "to extend their territories at the expense of Germany to the west.")

Yendrikowski declared that Poland has an historical right to the territories, which include western and southern sectors of East Prussia and said that Russia, Yugoslvia and Czechoslovakia would support her claim.

"Some persons and even groups in the United States have not grasped the complex problem of our western frontiers and for this reason do not see eye to eye to our demands," he added. He laid claim to these lands:

1. Both upper and lower Silesia (including Breslau); (2) "border territories to the east of the Oder"; (3) western Pomerania to the Oder; (4) the Vistula estuary (Danzig); (5) Varmca and Masuria (western and southern East Prussia.)

"The task of the Polish people is not only to liberate land from the Germans," Yendrikowski wrote, "but to collect their historical territories."

Extension of the Polish boundary to the Oder would give post-war Poland a frontage on the Baltic sea of approximately 300 miles. Churcill mentioned a frontage of 200 miles in his Friday address, stretching west from Konigsberg in East Prussia.

Simultaneously with the publication of Yendrikowski's claim, the exiled Polish government in London issued a series of bitter charges against both the Soviet-sponsored Lublin committee and the Russian army in liberated Poland.

The statement declared that "Soviet armies accepted as a fixed rule of their policy in Poland the liquidation of the Polish home army x x x both east and west of the so-called Curzon line."

It cited a dozen alleged cases of the arrest of Polish soldiers by Soviet authorities and said there were rumors that mass deportations of Polish civilians into the depths of Russia were being prepared or had already begun. The Lublin committee, it contended, is supported only by two percent of the Polish population.

The statement was handed out by a representative of the exiled government's information service, but bore no attribution of source or sponsorship.

The Osservatore Romano, published in Vatican City, said in commenting on Churchill's speech that "the example of Poland makes one think of Versailles, where the last war was going to be buried and a new one was planted."

Lublin Pole Claims East Reich.

Moscow, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—Pravda printed today an article by Dr. Stefan Yendrikowski, representative of the Lublin Polish Committee of National Liberation, supporting claims to the German lands east of the Oder and lower Neisse. (The Oder flows within thirty miles of Berlin northeast of the German capital. The Neisse joins the Oder southeast of Berlin.)

Dr. Yendrikowski said the governments of France, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Soviet Russia and Prime Minister Churchill of Great Britain support these claims but "some persons and even groups in the United States have not grasped the complex problem of our western frontiers and for this reason do not see eye to eye to our demands."

Declaring Poland's right to "ancient Polish territories which have always been populated by Polish tribes," he laid claim to these lands:

1. Both upper and lower Silesia (which would include Breslau).
2. "Border territories to the east of the Oder."
3. Western Pomerania to the Oder.
4. The Vistula estuary (Danzig).
5. Varmca and Masuria. (Western and southern East Prussia.)

Versailles Recalled Grimly

ROME, Dec. 18 (AP)—L'Osservatore Romano, commenting today on Prime Minister Churchill's stand on Poland, said today "the example of Poland makes one think of Versailles, where the last war was going to be buried and a new one was planted."

DEC 19 1944

U. S. to Approve Frontier Change If Poland Itself and Allies Agree

Stettinius, Defining Our Policy, Promises Aid in Transfer of Populations if Accord on New Boundaries Is Reached.

Washington, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—The United States said today it would have no objection to the establishment of new Polish frontiers "if a mutual agreement is reached by the United Nations directly concerned."

Secretary of State Stettinius laid down this basic policy in a statement handed out at his news conference.

The phrase "United Nations directly concerned" was not defined, but presumably would apply primarily to the Polish Government in Exile, the only Polish regime recognized by either this country or Great Britain. Or it might apply to a successor regime winning recognition.

Mr. Stettinius's three-point policy declarations was given out after he conferred separately with the British Ambassador, the Earl of Halifax, and Richard K. Law, British Minister of State here on a special mission.

The three points:

1. "This country stands unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Polish State with the untrammeled right of the Polish people to order their internal existence as they see fit."

2. Despite consistent United States policy that boundary questions should be left until the war's end, in the case of Poland this Government would have no objection provided the United Nations directly concerned reach an agreement "which could make an essential contribution to the prosecution of the war."

3. The announced American aim to assist liberated countries repair the devastation of war "applies to Poland as well as the other United Nations."

Follows Churchill Declaration.

The policy declaration followed Prime Minister Churchill's announcement to the House of Commons last Friday that Great Britain had agreed that the eastern third of Poland should be turned over to Russia.

Mr. Stettinius said it had been the United States Government's "consistently held policy that questions relating to boundaries should be kept in abeyance until the termination of hostilities." He recalled, however, an earlier statement by former Secretary of State Hull that some questions might be settled in the meantime by "friendly conference and agreement."

The Stettinius statement implied that the United States would approve the changed Polish boundaries provided the Polish Government accepted the Curzon line as its eastern border. Inferentially, it put the next step up to the Polish Government in Exile in London.

The Earl of Halifax, British Ambassador, called on Secretary Stettinius this morning before the Polish statement was issued, but the Secretary said they discussed routine matters apparently not connected with Poland.

Mr. Stettinius, while avoiding direct approval of the partition of Poland, promised American aid for Poland in any transfer of peoples necessitated by a border agreement. He said the United States could not guarantee specific European frontiers, but noted that this Government was working for the establishment of a world security organization and suggested that a Polish-Russian frontier settlement could make an essential contribution to prosecution of the war.

Mr. Stettinius also promised American help in the rehabilitation of devasted areas of Poland.

Text of Statement.

The text of his statement follows:

"The United States Government's position as regards Poland has been steadfastly guided by full understanding and sympathy for the interests of the Polish people. This position has been communicated on previous occasions to the interested government of Poland. It may be summarized as follows:

"1. The United States Government stands unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Polish State with the untrammeled right of the Polish people to order their internal existence as they see it.

"2. It has been the consistently held policy of the United States Government that questions relating to boundaries should be left in abeyance until the termination of hostilities. As Secretary Hull stated in his address of April 9, 1944, 'This does not mean that certain questions may not and should not in the meantime be settled by friendly conference and agreement.' In the case of the future frontiers of Poland if a mutual agreement is reached by the United Nations directly concerned this Government would have no objection to such an agreement which could make an essential contribution to the prosecution of the war against the common enemy. If as a result of such an agreement the government and people of Poland decide that it would be in the interests of the Polish State to transfer national groups, the United States Government in cooperation with other governments will assist Poland, in so far as practicable, in such transfers. The United States Government continues to adhere to its traditional policy of declining to give guaranties for any specific frontiers. The United States Government is working for the establishment of a world security organization through which the United States together with other member States would assume responsibility for the preservation of general security.

"3. It is the announced aim of the United States Government, subject to legislative authority, to assist the countries liberated from the enemy in repairing the devastation of war and thus to bring to their people the opportunity to join as full partners in the task of building a more prosperous and secure life for all men and women. This applies to Poland as well as the other United Nations.

"The policy of the United States Government regarding Poland outlined above has as its objective the attainment of the announced basic principles of United States foreign policy."

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Statement by Stettinius

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)— The text of Secretary Stettinius' statement on Poland follows:

The United States Government's position as regards Poland has been steadfastly guided by full understanding and sympathy for the interests of the Polish people. This position has been communicated on previous occasions to the interested Governments, including the Government of Poland. It may be summarized as follows:

1. The United States Government stands unequivocally for a strong, free and independent Polish state with the untrammeled right of the Polish people to order their internal existence as they see fit.

2. It has been the consistently held policy of the United States Government that questions relating to boundaries should be left in abeyance until the termination of hostilities. As Secretary Hull stated in his address of April 9, 1944, "this does not mean that certain questions may not and should not in the meantime be settled by friendly conference and agreement." In the case of the future frontiers of Poland, if a mutual agreement is reached by the United Nations directly concerned, this Government would have no objection to such an agreement which could make an essential contribution to the prosecution of the war against the common enemy.

If, as a result of such an agreement, the Government and people of Poland decide that it would be in the interests of the Polish state to transfer national groups, the United States Government, in cooperation with other Governments, will assist Poland, in so far as practicable, in such transfers. The United States Government continues to adhere to its traditional policy of declining to give guarantees for any specific frontiers. The United States Government is working for the establishment of a world security organization through which the United States, together with other member states, would assume responsibility for the preservation of general security.

3. It is the announced aim of the United States Government, subject to legislative authority, to assist the countries liberated from the enemy in repairing the devastation of war and thus to bring to their people the opportunity to join as full partners in the task of building a more prosperous and secure life for all men and women. This applies to Poland as well as the other United Nations.

The policy of the United States Government regarding Poland outlined above has as its objective the attainment of the announced basic principles of United States foreign policy.

7. The treaty does not affect in any way any previous engagement contracted by either of the two parties with third nations.

General de Gaulle will submit the pact to the Consultative Assembly this week for formal ratification, it was announced in Paris.

51 Bulgar Officials Accused As Traitors

DEC 19 1944

British Press Praises New French-Russian Alliance

Moscow, Dec. 18 (AP) — Pravda said today that the new French-Russian agreement was of great military and political significance to both nations and would serve as a blow to German plans for any new European aggression. The Communist newspaper's editorial said the agreement had brought the two nations together as never before.

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—The new French-Russian alliance pledging mutual economic and military assistance for at least 20 years, terms of which were announced in Paris yesterday, was warmly praised today by the British press.

"Such agreements should produce others which will bind the foundations of security," the *Daily Mail* said.

The text of the treaty, as released in Paris, had these points:

1. Each country will continue the fight against Germany until final victory is won, giving mutual assistance within the means at its disposal.

No Separate Negotiations

2. Neither will enter into separate negotiations with Germany nor conclude without mutual agreement any armistice or peace treaty either with the Hitler Government or any other government set up in Germany with the aim of prolonging German aggression.

3. Both countries will adopt necessary measures in common accord at the end of the war to eliminate any new threat from Germany.

4. In the event either France or Russia becomes involved in hostilities with Germany in the future, the other party will immediately bring all possible aid and assistance.

5. Both countries undertake not to conclude alliances or enter into coalition aimed at the other.

Postwar Assistance

6. Both parties will exchange all possible economic assistance after the war to facilitate their reconstruction and contribute to the prosperity of the world.

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Moscow radio said today that 51 high state functionaries of Bulgaria had been accused of crimes against the country. Included were the ex-regents, Prince Cyril Bodgan Filov and Gen. Nikola Mikhov.

Some of the accused have fled and others are dead, Moscow said.

BIG RAF ARMADA HEADS FOR REICH

Gdynia Is Bombed After U.S. Planes Raid Rail Yards

London, *Tuesday*, Dec. 19 (AP)—The sky over London was filled with the rumble of heavy bombers for more than an hour last night as a large force sped toward the continent.

It was believed to be the heaviest force of heavy aircraft to pass over the city in months, indicating a particularly strong blow at the Germans was being made.

Earlier in the night, a strong force of perhaps 500 RAF Lancasters smashed at German shipping in the big Polish port of Gdynia north of Danzig last night after 1,100 British-based American warplanes had made emergency daylight attacks through clouds against three railheads used to supply the Germans' new Western front offensive.

The British heavyweights ranged 1,600 miles to deliver an estimated 2,500 tons of bombs against the Baltic port.

Cologne, Coblenz Hit

This assault brought to more than 7,000 the number of Allied planes which have pounded enemy targets with an estimated 14,000 tons of explosives in a 48-hour aerial campaign.

The American operation yesterday struck at Cologne, Coblenz and Mainz, three rail centers supplying the Germans' stab into Belgium, with 2,000 tons of bombs.

More than 500 Flying Fortresses and 600 escorting Mustangs of the United States 8th Air Force were risked in weather so hazardous that normally they would have been kept on the ground.

A communiqué said three bombers and five fighters were missing after the attack on the three rail centers.

Mosquitos Believed Out

The Mustangs killed off three Messerschmitts in scattered dogfights.

After nightfall the German radio warned that fast-flying bomber formations, probably RAF Mosquitos, were approaching southwestern Germany.

Joining the attack, heavy bombers of the United States 15th Air Force with protective fighters hammered German synthetic-oil refineries in Silesia and military targets in the Vienna area from bases in Italy.

The British-based aerial fleet was guided through cloud walls 5 miles thick by radio, and the bombardiers dropped their explosives by instrument. The *Luftwaffe* did not interfere with the emergency mission, and flak was reported generally meager.

So solid were the clouds the Mustangs could not find the ground to carry out any strafing jobs.

207 Planes Lost In 48 Hours

In the last 48 hours the *Luftwaffe* has lost at least 207 planes to Allied pilots.

In the last 36 hours possibly more than 7,000 Allied planes have pounded Nazi targets with some 12,000 tons of explosives, with at least 75 per cent of the mighty aerial power being concentrated against Field Marshal von Rundstedt's offensive.

Out of the estimated 450 enemy planes supporting the German offensive, fighter-bombers of the United States 9th Air Force shot down 100 Sunday and 20 more yesterday morning. The RAF 2d Tactical Air Force destroyed 11. Black Widow fighters knocked down five paratroop-carrying planes.

Sunday night the 1,300 RAF bombers attacking three rail centers along the Ruhr clipped 3. Ground gunners bagged 20 more and the 15th from Italy destroyed 48. In addition, 60 others were damaged or probably destroyed. The Allies lost 77.

The 9th alone crippled nearly 700 trucks, wagons and trains in the Monschau sector.

HEAVY BOMBERS AID FIRST ARMY

Hit Rail Heads Supplying German Offensive.

DEC 19 1944

London, Dec. 18 (AP).— Eleven hundred heavy bombers and fighters raced from Britain to the American First Army battlefront today and smashed three German railheads supplying the German counter-offensive.

Five hundred American Flying Fortresses dumped 2,000 tons of bombs on Cologne, Coblenz and Mainz despite solid cloud which blanketed them from view. The clouds robbed the fighter escort of 600 Mustangs of a chance to mix it with German fighters.

The daylight blows followed a night pummeling of Munich, Ulan and Duisberg by 1,300 British heavy bombers, seventeen of which were lost.

Returning to German Silesia for the second straight day heavy bombers of the American Fifteenth Air Force from their Italian bases again hammered synthetic oil refineries at Blechhammer and Odertal.

A formation of Liberators of the Fifteenth also battered targets in the Vienna area. Military installations at Sopron, Hungary, thirty-five miles east of Vienna, and at Graz, Austria, ninety-five miles southwest of Vienna, were hit.

Except at Graz, where the railway yards were plainly visible, all bombing was done by instruments.

The big R. A. F. planes dropped an estimated 7,000 tons of bombs on the three German cities, all key points in the Nazi railway network.

American fighters with belly tanks of extra fuel ranged ahead of the American heavy bombers today to meet any challenge in the skies over western Europe's battlelines.

The triple blow last night—one of the first struck by R. A. F. heavy bombers in weeks—came in the wake of a day of bitter air combat between German and Allied fighters.

108 Enemy Planes Bagged.

The Germans had 108 fighters and bombers blasted out of the air yesterday in air battles accompanying the enemy's ground attacks. Two R. A. F. fighters were lost, both due to flak, and 31 American pursuit craft were listed as missing.

From all sectors Allied fighter craft were summoned—even the R. A. F. Spitfires, Tempests and Typhoons from the Netherlands—as a sudden break in the weather exposed long columns of German tanks, trucks and troops moving slowly toward the battle raging in the American First Army lines.

The break in the weather forced the German command to rush planes in the air in an attempt to provide cover for the attacking ground troops.

Britain-Based Planes Grounded

American bombers based in Britain could not get into the fray yesterday due to bad weather. Fighter-escorted American flying Fortresses and Liberators from Italy, however, crossed the Alps and bombed railroads at Salzburg near the old German-Austrian frontier, a target at Wels; oil refineries at Blechhammer and Odertal in German Silesia and the Moravska Ostrave refinery in Czechoslovakia. Allied fighters strafed transports on a rail line southeast of Munich between Rosenheim and Wels.

In these and other operations 48 enemy aircraft were destroyed and 29 Italy-based Allied planes were missing.

RAF heavy bombers from Britain were out soon after dark for the Allies' first big raid on the southern German rail center at Ulm—midway between Munich and Karlsruhe.

The Germans still were battling blazes in Ulm when a second big bomber force rumbled over Munich and spilled incendiaries.

The third RAF operation was the blow at Duisburg, a rail head on the western edge of the Ruhr, which has been hit heavily in past weeks by British Lancasters.

Meanwhile the Germans renewed their V-weapons attack on England last night. The British Ministry of Home Security said today that damage and casualties were reported.

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Germans renewed their V-weapons attack on England last night. The Ministry of Home Security said today that "damage and casualties were reported."

American Scientists Aid Allied Air Forces

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—A group of American scientists, including a Nobel prize winner, who were flown overseas to help solve the problem of the rocket bombs, contributed to the Allied Air Forces' domination of the skies over Europe, it was disclosed today.

The scientists, brought from the United States at the request of Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Knerr, commanding the Strategic Air Service Command, were credited with vital assistance in developing the accuracy of strategic bombing.

The scientists are Dr. John L. Synge, chairman of the mathematics department of Ohio State University; Dr. Howard M. Jenkins, chairman of the electrical engineering department of Swarthmore; Dr. Oswald Veblen, professor of mathematics at Princeton; Dr. H. H. Germand, professor of applied mathematics, University of Florida; Dr. D. L. Webster, chairman of the physics department of Stanford, and Dr. Carl Anderson, Nobel prize-winning professor of physics at the California Institute of Technology.

No Decision on Churchill Speech

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP)—A spokesman at 10 Downing Street said today that "nothing has been decided" whether Prime Minister Churchill would make a broadcast review of the war and political situation within the next few days. The same spokesman had said on Saturday that it was "quite possible" that Mr. Churchill would broadcast on Sunday night, but the Prime Minister did not go on the air.

Floating Night Clubs To Entertain Troops

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—Britain will send three floating "night clubs" to the Pacific to entertain her troops.

In answer to the mounting criticism that soldiers battling the Japanese are being neglected, the Government is fitting out three big liners. Each is equipped with its own brewery, bar, orchestra and floor show. The ships will brew beer as they sail.

Col. Cochran Reassigned

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London, Dec. 18 (AP)—Col. Philip Cochran, of Burma fame, has been appointed assistant operations officer of the 1st Allied Airborne Army under Lieut. Gen. Lewis H. Brereton. The Erie (Pa.) airman commanded the first air Commando task force in Maj. Gen. Charles Orde Wingate's air invasion of Burma.

Yank Slayer Of British Army Woman Gets Life

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—A United States Army court-martial today sentenced Private Robert Joseph Himmelmann, 19, of St. Louis, to life imprisonment after convicting him of fatally stabbing a British service woman near Exeter last August.

The young soldier was ordered dishonorably discharged and to forfeit his pay and allowances.

NAZIS HURLED BACK ON ITALIAN FRONT

ROME, Dec. 18—(AP) Patrols of the British Eighth army probed German defenses across the Senio river only five and a half miles from Imola today in preparation for a renewal of the Po valley offensive which slowly is rolling the enemy back along the ancient Via Emilia toward Bologna.

Striving to bolster their lines against the Allied attack, the Nazis threw several Italian Fascist units into action south of the highway and west of Faenza, road center which fell to New Zealand troops yesterday.

Polish forces stabbed across the Sintria river, a little tributary of the Senio, in the foothills south of the highway and captured the village of San Mamante in Curiano along with 140 prisoners. Yesterday the Poles seized Limisano and Casette.

While New Zealanders mopped up the last enemy resistance in the northern outskirts of Faenza, the Canadian corps moved up for an assault on the strategic highway center of Bagnacavallo, some 10 miles north-northeast of Faenza. Headquarters announced the Canadians had taken more than 1,000 prisoners since they opened their attack west of the Montibe river two weeks ago.

Action subsided on the American Fifth army front below Bologna after several days' hard fighting, but the Nazis continued to shell certain sectors and laid down curtains of fire against Yank patrols trying to scout their positions.

Allies Mopping Up Faenza In Italy

Rome, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Army newspaper Stars and Stripes today quoted a person who recently crossed the front line as saying the Germans hanged 35 Italian hostages in Bologna three weeks ago in reprisal for the blowing up of a Nazi ammunition truck by two Patriots who escaped.

Rome, Dec. 18 (AP)—Eighth Army troops held a line along the Senio River today stretching five miles southward from the Bologna-Rimini highway, Allied headquarters announced.

The south anchor of the line was held by Polish troops who yesterday captured Limisano and Casette in a drive toward the river against strong enemy resistance.

Mop Up In Faenza

Canadian troops to the north made further gains near Bagnacavallo, while other 8th Army units virtually cleared the Germans from captured Faenza, which fell to New Zealand troops yesterday. Headquarters said isolated pockets of enemy resistance still remain in the northern outskirts of the highway stronghold.

The Canadians have captured more than 1,100 prisoners since they launched their assaults west of the Montibe River two weeks ago, headquarters announced.

True Story In Italy Not Told, Mission Says

Advance Fifth Army Headquarters, Dec. 17 [AP—*Delayed*]—After a trip into the front lines during which they were under enemy fire, members of the touring House Military Committee expressed belief today that American newspapers had failed to give a complete picture of the rigors of the Italian campaign.

The Congressmen said this was possibly caused by a lack of comprehension of the importance of the Italian campaign on the part of both press and public.

Censor Questioned

Several of the Congressmen asserted they believed the correspondents were trying to present a true picture, and a query from Representative Sheridan (D., Pa.) on whether censorship was a factor brought a reply from Brig. Gen. Arthur J. McCrystal, chief of information for the censorship section, that outside of military security correspondents were free to write as they pleased.

"I think the story of the little men with wet feet and big men with wet feet has not been fully emphasized," Representative Luce (R., Conn.) said.

"Not Too Well Told"

She added also that she did not think the story of women in war had been too well told.

"I have seen too many pictures of pretty WACs with an air corps captain, as though the idea were to join the WACs to get a husband," Mrs. Luce asserted.

Earlier Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark, commander of Allied ground forces in Italy, told the committee that the 5th and 8th Armies will not sit still, but will "strike, and strike hard."

Nazi Troops "Better"

Lieut. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., successor to Clark as commander of the 5th Army, said officers who encountered Germans on the Western and Italian fronts report the Nazis have better troops in Italy.

The committee was told that the Germans are now trying to drive a wedge between the Americans of the 5th Army and the Brazilians, who recently joined the front.

ATHENS FIGHT STIFFENING

DEC 19 1944

British Push South From Acropolis Toward Port

By STEPHEN BARBER

Athens, Dec. 18 (AP)—The battle between British troops and Greek ELAS forces grew heavier this afternoon, moving southward in Athens toward Phaleron and the city's port, Pireaus.

British paratrooper, infantry and armored units which began their offensive south of the Acropolis at dawn this morning met stiffer ELAS resistance as the day wore on. It was a patrol job for the British and, for the most part, successful. The patrols are spread over a wide area.

Take 45 Prisoners, Lose Man

I accompanied a patrol this afternoon which lost one man and took 45 ELAS prisoners who surrendered only after hard fighting. They held out for several hours until the paratroopers used their deadly Piat one-man anti-tank guns.

The British drive against the ELAS, fighting arm of the left-wing EAM party, has been described as an all-out effort to clear the armed Leftists from the capital. Its first goal was to open the main highway between Athens, Pireaus and Kalamaki airport.

The ELAS members that I saw captured had dug themselves into a block of apartment buildings and fought back fiercely for several hours. Then one of the British paratroopers was killed and his angered companions brought up a Piat.

A Piat will blow a hole like a 75-millimeter gun in the average apartment building. Six Piat shells terrified these ELAS snipers. Ten were wounded, four seriously. One of them was a Russian and another Italian.

Householders Thank British

Householders who rushed out after the fighting to thank the paratroopers hysterically "for liberating us twice."

British armored vehicles could move over the Athens-Piraeus road tonight through Phaleron. British infantry units which moved up from Phaleron Bay consolidated in a strategic brewery building halfway up the vital highway where an ELAS heavy machine-gun position, now liquidated, had hindered the flow of British supplies for a week.

While this battle for supply lines went well for the British, the ELAS troops scored to some extent in battles north of the city at Averoff prison and RAF headquarters. Political prisoners, including those accused of collaboration with the Germans, held in the Averoff prison were said officially to be in the hands of the British.

Planes Drop Supplies

At RAF headquarters, rocket-firing Beaufighters helped the British defenders by strafing the ELAS gun positions. Wellingtons dropped supplies to the besieged garrison.

Beaufighters and Spitfires flew missions supporting the British drive to Piraeus.

It was reported today that Miltiades Porphyrogennis, emissary of the EAM and former Minister of Labor, would meet with Scobie again tomorrow. It was Porphyrogennis who delivered the EAM peace offer last week and received the rejection from Scobie. Today he conferred with Gen. Nicolas Plastiras, leader of the Greek revolution of 1922, who also had met with leaders of the Government.

British Launch Athens Drive

BARBER

Athens, Dec. 18 (AP)—British forces launched a full-scale drive against Left-Wing ELAS forces in Athens today and it appeared likely to be only a matter of hours before the siege of the capital is lifted.

Within a short time after jumping off at dawn the British had captured an ELAS stronghold on the highway leading from Athens through the summer resort of Phaleron to the Kalamaki airport. The ELAS forces, estimated at about 200, had barricaded themselves in a brewery and were equipped with heavy machine guns.

The Kalamaki airport already had been cleared to a depth of 300 yards and British armored vehicles were traversing the road from Athens to Piraeus.

British Take Hill

Before the main attack began, British forces took Sikelias Hill, due south of the Acropolis, which had been strongly held by the ELAS.

The first goal of the British cleanup operations was to open the main highway between Athens, the port of Piraeus and Kalamaki airport.

Armored forces as well as infantry participated. A number of prisoners were taken in the first hours of the drive.

Strong ELAS forces, meanwhile, made simultaneous attacks upon RAF headquarters and Averoff prison, which was held by a British detachment and Greek police. The prison houses a number of political prisoners.

British Defend HQ

RAF headquarters was defended by RAF forces and British infantry.

Fighting increased in Athens over the week end following a rejection by British commander Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie of EAM's peace proposals.

British headquarters reported that Scobie turned down the peace offer because it did not provide for the immediate cessation of the two-week-old civil war as a preliminary to final negotiations.

Meanwhile, the American position of strict neutrality in the Greek political crisis was reaffirmed by a high military spokesman, who said American activities were "strictly limited to relief and rehabilitation."

Planes Attack ELAS

RAF Spitfires and rocket-firing Beaufighters attacked ELAS forces in the city yesterday after they had opened up with heavy artillery and mortar fire.

Premier George Papandreou's press secretray announced that the ELAS had been completely cleared from Pireaus but the British, apparently not entirely satisfied, were continuing operations there.

Relief shipping has piled up at Pireaus and yesterday a general strike was called in Salonika, where other vessels crammed with relief supplies remained unloaded.

Brig. Gen. Percy L. Sadler, deputy commander of United States forces in the Middle East and in charge of the distribution of American Relief supplies in Greece, said Americans in the country "will refrain from any action which could possibly be interpreted as intervention in Greek politics, although naturally complying with British security regulations."

The British said that hundreds of armed Bulgarians had infiltrated into northern Greece.

300 Americans in Athens.

Rome, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—Some 300 Americans in Athens are maintaining strict neutrality, but are generally regarded by ELAS forces as opposed to British policy, Joseph Silber of Cleveland, American Red Cross field supervisor, said today.

Returning after two weeks in the Greek capital, Silber staid that the position of Americans in Athens was so ambiguous that they are a nuisance. He expressed the opinion that they should be evacuated.

A few Americans have been wounded, but none has been killd, Silber said. Americans in Athens include representatives of the UNRRA, the Red Cross, the State Department, the Air Transport Command and military liaison personnel.

Greek King's Reaction To Regency Is Awaited

London, Dec. 18 (AP)—Reliable Greek sources said tonight that King George II had not yet been approached by his Cabinet on his reaction to appointment of a regency—a move that it is hoped will end the continuing crisis in his country.

Hints in the British press that the 54-year-old Hellenic King was considering abdicating over the question of a regency brought an emphatic "no comment" from one of his close advisers.

In London the Greek King was understood to be awaiting a decision by his Government on a regency. Reports from Athens that the Archbishop of Athens would be appointed regent appeared to be not in accord with information reaching the British Foreign Office thus far.

Reliable diplomatic quarters asserted it would be premature to say a clear-cut decision had been reached.

SCOTTISH WORKERS PROTEST ELAS WAR

DEC 19 1944

London, Dec. 18 (A.P.).—Some 150,000 workers in more than 200 Scottish shipyards and aircraft factories held demonstrations today against British policy in Greece, and shouted approval of resolutions calling on the Government to arrange an immediate armistice in that nation. The protest meetings were held in lieu of originally proposed one-day work stoppages.

A crowd estimated by the police at 20,000 demonstrated in Trafalgar Square here yesterday, approving resolutions calling on the Government to stop using troops against the ELAS forces in Greece and terming Britain's policy in Greece disastrous.

Romania Abolishes Restrictions On Jews

Bucharest, Dec. 15 [*AP—Delayed*]—King Mihai signed a decree today abolishing Jewish restrictions and establishing the groundwork for the return of full rights of citizenship for Romanian Jews.

The decree, prepared by Justice Minister Lucretiu Patrascanu and approved by the Cabinet, was criticized by Dr. William Filderman, leader of Romanian Jews, who declared a bill prepared by the former Government of Gen. Konstantin Sanatescu would be preferable.

The new law restores property rights and contemplates complete equality in economic and social spheres, but Filderman charged it dropped certain passages from the Sanatescu bill which "made it unacceptable to Jews."

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Iran Would Discuss Oil Sales To Russia

Tehran, Dec. 18 (AP)—While press blasts against the Soviets kept Russo-Iranian relations tense, Premier M. Q. Bayatt's Government today proposed that talks be resumed regarding the sale of oil to Moscow, since negotiations for the granting of foreign oil concessions in Iran now are forbidden by law.

The Government said it hoped the Russians would buy oil from north Iran fields "exploited by Iranians wit hthe help of Russian machinery and engineers and money under an Iranian company."

The American and British embassies have refused to comment on whether their governments would accept similar terms for southern Iran.

JAPS BEATEN BACK IN UPPER BURMA

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, Ceylon, Dec. 18 — (AP) British 14th army troops, which now hold a line extending roughly from east to west between the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers in upper Burma, have cleaned out the last vestige of Japanese domination in a rugged jungle area containing 2,000 inhabited localities, an Allied communique said today.

Knifing across a 100-mile-wide belt of dense hill country east of the upper Chindwin in the vicinity of Indaw, on the important Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad, British advance elements joined hands with units of the royal Scots fusiliers which had been pushing southward, thus consolidating northern Burma's scattered fronts into a single line, the war bulletin declared.

The two forces made contact in the Banmauk area on the eastern slopes of the Mingin range and, during operations which led up to the juncture, the important communications center of Pinlebu, on the Mu river 45 miles east of Sittung, was stormed and taken by the British.

Before the present line-up the 5th Indian division, striking east from the Imphal valley, and the 11th East African division, pushing down the Kalewa valley, had established contact near Kalemyo, about 145 miles southwest of Indaw.

In the northern combat area, the communique said, a task force attacked a Japanese position yesterday northwest of Tonkwa and captured it, killing many enemy troops.

Newly-identified American infantry and artillery units, known as the "Mars Task Force," last were reported operating in the vicinity of Tonkwa, 120 miles north of Mandalay and some 100 miles southeast of Indaw. This force under command of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey of Hampton, Va., is closer to Mandalay than any other Allied unit in Burma.

The communique added that on the 15th Indian corps front in the Arkan hills West African troops have made a new crossing of the Kalapanzin river south of Buthidaung and gained some high ground.

Scattered Burma Fronts United

Southeast Asia Command headquarters, Ceylon, Dec. 18 (AP)—North Burma's scattered fronts were united into a single line when the Royal Scots Fusiliers, advancing toward the south, linked up yesterday with British 14th Army elements pushing toward the east in the jungle area west of Indaw on the Myitkyina-Mandalay railway.

An area containing 2,000 inhabited localities, was freed from the last vestige of Japanese domination by the juncture, Pinlebu, important enemy base and communications center from which the invasion of India was launched last Spring, was captured during the operations leading up to the meeting.

Earlier Juncture

Prior to the present linkup the 5th Indian Division, striking out from the Imphal Valley, and the 11th East African Division, driving down the Kalewa Valley, had made a junction near Kalemyo, which is about 145 miles southwest of Indaw.

American infantry and artillery, known as the Mars Task Force, are now fighting in the North Burma theater and are closer to Mandalay than any other Allied units.

The force last was reported operating in the vicinity of Tonkwa, 120 miles north of Mandalay and about 100 miles southeast of Indaw. It is under the command of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey, of Hampton, Va.

TRIBESMEN HELP YANKS FIGHT JAPS IN UPPER BURMA

MYITKYINA, North Burma, Dec. 18—(AP) For more than 2 1-2 years 5,000 fierce Kachin tribesmen of upper Burma, who love to jump from Allied airplanes, have been parachuting into the hills killing Japanese and rescuing American pilots who were forced to bail out over enemy territory. Something of their story can now be disclosed.

During the past 30 months they have saved the lives of 220 U. S. airmen, killed 3,000 enemy soldiers and taken 35 prisoners, while operating under the command of American Army, Navy and Marine officers. Most of the American officers whose names are withheld for security reasons, and all the Kachins are volunteers.

One of the strangest of all Allied fighting units, it is known as the American-Kachin ranger force—but the Kachins themselves prefer to call it "Mhyprop Phung" meaning "lightning force."

The colorful Kachins, who know every foot of the dense jungle, have destroyed thousands of tons of enemy supplies, burned scores of bridges behind the lines and wrecked more than a dozen trains which were bringing supplies to Japanese frontline troops in north Burma.

In reprisal the Japanese have burned some of their villages, and in some cases have killed all the inhabitants, both young and old. At one time the Japanese ordered all Kachins killed on sight. One enemy report stated that to kill a single Kachin in the mountains would be worth the lives of 10 Japanese.

One reason why the jungle rangers are known as the "lightning force" is because of their rapid movement in operations. Once, after parachuting into Japanese territory, they covered as much as 54 miles in 27 hours to catch Japanese garrisons by surprise.

One American officer serving with the Kachin force has walked 1,200 miles since the middle of last June. Some of the Americans have been behind enemy lines 18 months.

One native leader among the Kachins, who is only 4 feet, 10 inches tall, is Zing Htung Maw, who was able to defend an area of 1,600 miles against the Japanese during the enemy occupation of Burma.

Some Kachins are paid as low as one rupee, or 30 cents American, per day plus their food. They are quick to understand modern arms. Given a machine gun for the first time htey can take it apart, put it back together again and name all the parts in English—all within an hour.

They maintain modern radio communications with Allied headquarters and send and receive messages in English without being able to read them, despite the fact they code and decode all the messages.

Some of the Kachins smoke opium, and all love to hunt. Once when a group was asked how the hunting was that day a spokesman replied they had flushed three tigers, four deer and two American Air Transport command pilots out of the jungle.

Specialists in jungle warfare, they specialize in ambushing with pungi traps. Pungi pits are holes in the ground studded with sharpened bamboo sticks which cause infection to anyone falling on them.

Stilwell's Son Decorated

MYITKYINA, Burma, Dec. 17 (Delayed) (AP).—Colonel Joseph W Stilwell jr. received the Legion of Merit today for "meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the Hukawng and Mogaung Valley campaigns." The general's son is assistant chief of staff, G-2, in the northern combat area of the Burma theater.

NEW CHINESE GAINS

Chungking, Dec 18 (A. P.).—Striking down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad in Kwangsi province, counter-attacking Chinese forces were less than a mile from Hochih, ninety-five miles from Liuchow, the High Command has announced. Meanwhile, Chinese units that already had outflanked Hochin captured Wuyu, Japanese strong point nine and one-half miles southeast of Hochih.

An appeal to the people of the United Nations, particularly those of the United States, to urge their leaders "to take immediate and effective military measures to fight Japan in China before it is too late," was issued by a group of leading Chinese citizens. Among the signers of the appeal were Dr. Hu Shih, former ambassador to the United States; Bishop Paul Yupin, Vicar Apostolic of Kiating; Lin Yutang, author, and James Yen, director of China's mass education movement.

AMERICANS SMASH 742 JAP PLANES DURING PAST WEEK

Invasion Troops Meet No Resistance on Mindoro Island.

ENEMY CAUGHT NAPPING

Construction Crews Repair Airfields, Yanks Drive Ahead.

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Tuesday, Dec. 19—(AP) Destruction or serious damaging of 742 Japanese warplanes during the past week was disclosed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today as American invasion troops met no resistance on Mindoro island.

The Japanese planes were bagged by land-based American aircraft and planes operating from Adm. William F. Halsey's Third Fleet.

Repair Jap Airfields

The chief American purpose in seizing Mindoro island is the construction of airdromes from which further to harry the Japanese. Manila is only a half hour's flight from Mindoro. American and Australian construction men were busy putting airstrips into shape.

The communique said the Yankee landing on Mindoro had "caught him (the enemy) completely off balance," and except for a few nuisance air attacks, the Americans were making their scheduled progress.

Invasion of Mindoro has been the easiest major job of the Pacific war. Associated Press Correspondent Elmont Waite, writing from Mindoro, said "the Japanese have offered not the slightest resistance as yet, aside from harassing air attacks by a few planes."

He said the invasion has been moving "swifter than had been hoped." The Japanese at the city of San Jose fled in such haste they left their breakfast bowls of rice and clams still warm.

Six dead Japanese were found the second day of the invasion.

In the drive against the enemy on Leyte island, the 77th Division reached an airdrome west of Valencia Sunday, and continued its push northward.

MacArthur revealed 905 Japanese were counted dead on Leyte in one day. A spokesman said the majority of the casualties were inflicted by the 7th American division, which was liquidating remnants of the trapped Nipponese 26th division.

In support of the American forces in the Valencia sector, P-40 fighter bombers strafed and bombed enemy positions along the road from the Ormoc highway west toward the coast.

Liberators bombed Puerto Princesa airdrome at Palawan, leaving its runways unusable and destroying three parked planes. A coastal vessel was sunk in this area.

Bombers Hit Davao

At Mindanao heavy bombers struck Padada airdrome in Davao, and mediums hit San Roque, destroying buildings and two parked planes. Patrol planes sank a lugger and damaged three small merchant vessels.

Off Borneo's coast a heavy reconnaissance plane sank a small freighter and damaged five more. An enemy plane attempting to take off from Jesselton airdrome was destroyed.

Enemy installations on Halmahera, Boeroe and Amboina were plastered with 48 tons of bombs. In the lesser Sundas air patrols left a coastal vessel listing and afire.

Far-ranging raids also were carried out on New Guinea and the Solomons. Airfields on Rabaul were attacked, leaving runways unserviceable.

American losses continue light, Gen. MacArthur reported.

"The greatest possible care is being exercised to minimize our losses," he said. "Frontal assault methods are being avoided as far as possible and the artifice of maneuver and superior firepower is being exerted to prevent battle casualties. As a result they continue light."

The fast developing incursion of Mindoro island, just south of Luzon, already had enveloped the coastal plain area around San Jose, where the Americans landed virtually without resistance last Friday.

On Leyte, the 77th infantry division made a wide left end run to the west of the Ormoc corridor highway, advancing seven miles north to outflank the Yamashita line. From positions two miles below Valencia, it battled for that headquarters of Gen. Sosaki Suzuki, top-ranking Japanese commander on the island.

Cut Yamashita Line

North of Valencia, the U. S. First Cavalry division advanced two miles in applying pressure from the upper end of the corridor. This gain cut the Yamashita line between Valencia and Mt. Catabaran, which is about 10 miles above Valencia.

The enemy still had not recoiled from the surprise landing on Mindoro and a headquarters spokesman said Monday that resistance continued scant. The success of American carrier planes in destroying and pinning down the Nipponese airforce on Luzon again was brought out by headquarters, which said enemy air activity was "negligible."

(The enemy radio continued its unconfirmed fulminations of the "wreckage of sunken American warships and transports" covering the waters near San Jose. It said "death-defying sallies" were being carried out by special attack groups on the "remnants of enemy vessels."

(A broadcast by Domei, Japanese news agency, told of "an enemy fleet of considerable strength" being sighted in the Sulu Sea south of Mindoro and interpreted this as meaning other Philippine areas would be invaded.)

Yanks Push Ahead on Mindoro

Airfield Construction Rushed on Beachhead —Leyte Japs in Tightening Vise.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—Airfields were being whipped into shape today on the southern end of Mindoro Island, now securely in American hands. Yank infantrymen were eleven miles from the beachhead they established at dawn Friday.

Only scant resistance was encountered, a spokesman reported. The Americans had command of strategic high ground and set up a wide defense six miles beyond the town of San Jose.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in his Monday communique "our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte Island to the southeast, troops of the Seventy-seventh American Division outflanked Japan's Yamashita line at the southern sector of the Ormoc corridor and drove seven miles north toward an ultimate junction with American forces pressing southward.

Drive Worries Japs.

American and Australian construction engineers on Mindoro were busy readying captured airstrips for day and night fighter planes. These airfields are only 150 miles from Manila—a flight of less than a half hour.

[Japan took serious note of the Mindoro invasion. Tokyo's influential newspaper Asahi warned in an editorial that an American victory there would give the Americans "full control of tomorrow's military situation." It cautioned against minimizing the "fighting spirit of American military leaders and the enemy's ability to maintain their lines of supply."]

Tremendous carrier plane strikes against the Manila area gave strong support to the Mindoro advance. Airmen of Vice-Admiral John S. McCain's carrier force off the Philippines in three days of continual strikes, including Saturday, raised to 435 their total of enemy planes put out of action. These, added to the 146 destroyed or damaged by flyers covering the Mindoro landings, make a four-day total of 581 planes.

Major Richard I. Bong of Poplar, Wis., America's top ace, shot down his thirty-ninth enemy plane Friday in a fighter sweep over Negros Island in support of the Mindoro operation.

The flanking movement on Leyte entailed some of the bloddiest fighting of the Philippine campaign. Gen. MacArthur listed 2,012 new Jap dead to add to the 37,154 already counted on Leyte. In addition, many thousands are estimated killed behind the enemy lines.

The Seventy-seventh Division was only two miles from Valencia, headquarters of Gen. Suzuki, commander of the Thirty-fifth Jap Army. At the north end of the corridor the American First Cavalry Division made a two-mile advance to cut the Yamashita Line between Mount Catabaran and Valencia, and the Thirty-second Division in the same general area captured large quantities of enemy equipment, including tanks, artillery pieces, mortars and machineguns.

Jap Air Action Weak.

Jap air activity was negligible except for a raid on Morotai Island, southeast of the Philippines, by a single plane which caused some casualties.

American aircraft, however, gave Japanese shipping airdromes and fuel installations a thorough pasting. Three freighters were set afire off Mindoro and a fourth was damaged. Two more were set ablaze off Masbate in the Visayan group.

Oil tanks at Tarakan, north Borneo, were pounded anew, and a 3,000-ton freighter-transport offshore was damaged by night patrol planes.

Fuel dumps and railway freight cars on the Bicol Peninsula of Luzon Island were bombed by patrol planes which also harassed whipping on the west coast.

The concentrated day and night attack on the Manila area by carrier and land-based planes caused the Japanese to black out the Philippine capital for the first time since they captured it.

MAJOR BONG DOWNS 40TH JAPANESE PLANE

AT A LEYTE AIRBASE, Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP) Maj. Richard I. Bong of Poplar, Wisc., America's top-ranking ace, ran his string of Japanese air victim to 40 planes by bagging a fighter over Mindoro yesterday.

It was the second victory in a week for the Congressional Medal of Honor pilot.

Taking advantage of a break in the weather, Bong stormed up to the American beachhead on Mindoro. Soon he picked up a Japanese intruder, rode up on its tail and sent it down flaming.

Invasion General's Sweet Dream

Mindora, Philippines, Dec. 18 (AP). This island thus far in the American invasion is the army's "promised land" and the operation any general's sweet dream.

The Japanese have offered not the slightest resistance as yet, aside from harassing air attacks by a few planes.

The weather has been just right; for the first time in the Philippines campaign it is helping instead of hindering the American forces.

As a result, the invasion of Mindoro has been moving swifter than had been hoped.

Brig. Gen. William C. Dunckel, commander of the invading force, said today the airfield south of San Jose will be ready for use before. It will bring Manila within a half hour's flying time.

A Catholic army chaplain raced an Australian officer to see which would be the first into San Jose on invasion morning. It was that sort of war. Lieut. Col. Joseph S. Lawrie, San Antonio, Texas, an officer of one invasion unit, acted as unofficial referee. He said the chaplain, Capt. John H. Powers, Oneonia, N.Y., won the race.

Tokyo Describes Landing 'Toll'

San Francisco, Dec. 18 (AP)—Tokyo, in an unconfirmed broadcast beamed to the United States, today claimed that "the waters near the enemy landing point at San Jose, on Mindoro Island, are now covered with the wreckage of sunken American warships and transports."

Monitors of the Federal Communications Commission recorded the broadcast, which said:

"Numerous vessels are still burning in a sinking condition. It has been observed that two medium transports and five small transports and many landing barges are still in flames. In the meantime, death-defying sallies of the Japanese special attack corps are being continued with unabated intensity upon the remnants of enemy vessels."

Negligible Air Activity

In his communiqué today, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said "enemy air activity was negligible, with two enemy planes shot down over our shipping."

The Japanese news agency Domei said today that Nipponese planes had sighted "an enemy fleet of considerable strength" in the Sulu Sea south of American-invaded Mindoro Island. There was no Allied confirmation.

"The enemy is apparently planning to move into other areas, using Mindoro Island as a base," said the romanized Japanese wireless dispatch to occupied Asia, recorded here.

"Continuous Assaults"

Domei said "our air units are carrying out continuous assaults on this fleet."

The news agency warned that "the apparent design of the enemy to advance his operational sphere to the northwestern Philippines is not to be taken lightly."

New Invasion Worries Japs

San Francisco, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Japanese today took serious note of the Mindoro invasion by forces under Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Tokyo's influential newspaper *Asahi* warned in an editorial, broadcast in Tokyo and recorded here, that an American victory there would give the Yanks "full control of tomorrow's military situation."

It cautioned against minimizing the "fighting spirit of American military leaders and the enemy's ability to maintain their lines of supply."

Japan On Feet In '46, View

Pacific Headquarters, U.S. Army Air Forces, Dec. 18 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Millard F. Harmon expects Japan to be "on her feet and fighting in 1946."

Harmon, commander of the Strategic Air Force, Pacific Ocean areas, directs the Saipan-based Superfortress operations against Japan. He said in an interview that he held no expectation that the B-29 raids would knock Japan out of the war quickly.

"This is no Gilbert and Sullivan war out here," he said. "It's real and it's tough."

Harmon said Tokyo cannot be destroyed by incendiary bombing because the city has a system of block-wide firebreaks.

He described wind and clouds over Japan as more of a hindrance to the Superforts than fighter interception or anti-aircraft fire.

28 JAP SHIPS SUNK IN NAVY LUZON RAIDS

Nimitz Reports 66 Others Damaged By Planes In Three Days

MacArthur lists 742 Jap planes destroyed or damaged in week.....Page 3

Superfortresses bomb Nagoya plane plant and Hankow..Page 3

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 18 (AP)—Three days of sustained naval aerial assault on Luzon Island in the Philippines has cost the Japanese at least 28 ships sunk, 66 others damaged and 462 planes destroyed or damaged.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, announcing this in a communiqué today, told of widespread destruction of Japanese facilities in the key Philippines island as he gave complete reports for the strikes of December 13 and 14 and a preliminary account for December 15.

Lists Ships Sunk

Today's communiqué listed these ships sunk during the three-day period in operations supporting the invasion of Mindoro Island:

One large transport.
Three medium oilers.
Ten cargo ships.
Two landing vessels.
Twelve smaller vessels.

The following were damaged:

Four destroyers.
Two destroyer escorts.
Ten cargo ships.
Twenty-five small cargo vessels.

The communiqué said shipping was attacked "in and around Luzon" but presumably the heaviest concentration was found at Manila.

61 Shot Out Of Air

In the same three days 61 Japanese planes were shot down over Luzon. An additional 208 were destroyed on the ground and 192 damaged. Navy flyers started fires in dispersal areas.

Incomplete figures for December 13 and 14 revealed twenty American planes lost to enemy action, Admiral Nimitz said.

In low-level attacks on military installations and communications, fast, heavily armed American planes strafed and burned eight railroad trains and locomotives and destroyed at least 25 military vehicles.

Liberators attacked targets on Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands on Friday and came back the next day to make the two-day bomb total 112 tons.

B-29s Rip Nagoya Plane Plants; Smash Shipping in Hankow Harbor

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 — (AP) Up to 200 Superfortress squeezed the Japanese in an aerial nutcracker today, leaving "large fires" at the biggest home island aircraft center and getting "good" bombing results at Hankow, China.

The twin bomber commands of the American 20th airforce struck simultaneously from east and west. Maj. Gen. Curtis Le May's 20th command lashed out from Asiatic mainland bases against the communications and supply center in conquered China and Brig. Gen. H. S. Hansell, Jr.'s new 21st command sent bombers streaking from Saipan in the reconquered Marianas against the great Hatsudoki plant of the Mitsubishi interests at Nagoya.

All Superforts Return

All the B-29's returned from both raids, the War department announced in communiques early tonight giving the first details.

Air opposition over Nagoya was described as "slight" and that over Hankow as "weak." In both cases antiaircraft was reported moderate despite reconnaissance reports that the enemy had installed more guns in the vicinity of Nagoya after a damaging attack last week.

Returning crews at Saipan reported "heavy explosions and large fires in the target area of the Mitsubishi aircraft plant," the communique said.

Targets at Hankow, far up the Yangtse river, were docks and warehouses. Five intercepting planes were reported probably destroyed there, and seven more were damaged.

The separate communiques timed the raids at noon today Japanese time, which would be late last night U. S. time.

The Saipan base of the Nagoya raiders had a report that they were over the target for two hours and that the force was of about the same strength as carried out a destructive attack on the same area Dec. 13.

The official description of both the Nagoya and Hankow raiding forces as "sizeable," however, made it clear that both were major operations.

Japs Admit Damage

The enemy was more specific. The Japanese radio described an 18-hour series of Superfortress

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Iran Would Discuss Oil Sales To Russia

Tehran, Dec. 18 (AP)—While press blasts against the Soviets kept Russo-Iranian relations tense, Premier M. Q. Bayatt's Government today proposed that talks be resumed regarding the sale of oil to Moscow, since negotiations for the granting of foreign oil concessions in Iran now are forbidden by law.

The Government said it hoped the Russians would buy oil from north Iran fields "exploited by Iranians wit hthe help of Russian machinery and engineers and money under an Iranian company."

The American and British embassies have refused to comment on whether their governments would accept similar terms for southern Iran.

JAPS BEATEN BACK IN UPPER BURMA

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, Ceylon, Dec. 18 — (AP) British 14th army troops, which now hold a line extending roughly from east to west between the Irrawaddy and Chindwin rivers in upper Burma, have cleaned out the last vestige of Japanese domination in a rugged jungle area containing 2,000 inhabited localities, an Allied communique said today.

Knifing across a 100-mile-wide belt of dense hill country east of the upper Chindwin in the vicinity of Indaw, on the important Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad, British advance elements joined hands with units of the royal Scots fusiliers which had been pushing southward, thus consolidating northern Burma's scattered fronts into a single line, the war bulletin declared.

The two forces made contact in the Banmauk area on the eastern slopes of the Mingin range and, during operations which led up to the juncture, the important communications center of Pinlebu, on the Mu river 45 miles east of Sittung, was stormed and taken by the British.

Before the present line-up the 5th Indian division, striking east from the Imphal valley, and the 11th East African division, pushing down the Kalewa valley, had established contact near Kalemyo, about 145 miles southwest of Indaw.

In the northern combat area, the communique said, a task force attacked a Japanese position yesterday northwest of Tonkwa and captured it, killing many enemy troops.

Newly-identified American infantry and artillery units, known as the "Mars Task Force," last were reported operating in the vicinity of Tonkwa, 120 miles north of Mandalay and some 100 miles southeast of Indaw. This force under command of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey of Hampton, Va., is closer to Mandalay than any other Allied unit in Burma.

The communique added that on the 15th Indian corps front in the Arkan hills West African troops have made a new crossing of the Kalapanain river south of Buthidaung and gained some high ground.

Scattered Burma Fronts United

Southeast Asia Command headquarters, Ceylon, Dec. 18 (AP)—North Burma's scattered fronts were united into a single line when the Royal Scots Fusiliers, advaneing toward the south, linked up yesterday with British 14th Army elements pushing toward the east in the jungle area west of Indaw on the Myitkyina-Mandalay railway.

An area containing 2,000 inhabited localities, was freed from the last vestige of Japanese domination by the juncture, Pinlebu, important enemy base and communications center from which the invasion of India was launched last Spring, was captured during the operations leading up to the meeting.

Earlier Juncture

Prior to the present linkup the 5th Indian Division, striking out from the Imphal Valley, and the 11th East African Division, driving down the Kalewa Valley, had made a junction near Kalemyo, which is about 145 miles southwest of Indaw.

American infantry and artillery, known as the Mars Task Force, are now fighting in the North Burma theater and are closer to Mandalay than any other Allied units.

The force last was reported operating in the vicinity of Tonkwa, 120 miles north of Mandalay and about 100 miles southeast of Indaw. It is under the command of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey, of Hampton, Va.

TRIBESMEN HELP YANKS FIGHT JAPS IN UPPER BURMA

MYITKYINA, North Burma, Dec. 18—(AP) For more than 2 1-2 years 5,000 fierce Kachin tribesmen of upper Burma, who love to jump from Allied airplanes, have been parachuting into the hills killing Japanese and rescuing American pilots who were forced to bail out over enemy territory. Something of their story can now be disclosed.

During the past 30 months they have saved the lives of 220 U. S. airmen, killed 3,000 enemy soldiers and taken 35 prisoners, while operating under the command of American Army, Navy and Marine officers. Most of the American officers whose names are withheld for security reasons, and all the Kachins are volunteers.

One of the strangest of all Allied fighting units, it is known as the American-Kachin ranger force—but the Kachins themselves prefer to call it "Mhyprop Phung" meaning "lightning force."

The colorful Kachins, who know every foot of the dense jungle, have destroyed thousands of tons of enemy supplies, burned scores of bridges behind the lines and wrecked more than a dozen trains which were bringing supplies to Japanese frontline troops in north Burma.

In reprisal the Japanese have burned some of their villages, and in some cases have killed all the inhabitants, both young and old. At one time the Japanese ordered all Kachins killed on sight. One enemy report stated that to kill a single Kachin in the mountains would be worth the lives of 10 Japanese.

One reason why the jungle rangers are known as the "lightning force" is because of their rapid movement in operations. Once, after parachuting into Japanese territory, they covered as much as 54 miles in 27 hours to catch Japanese garrisons by surprise.

One American officer serving with the Kachin force has walked 1,200 miles since the middle of last June. Some of the Americans have been behind enemy lines 18 months.

One native leader among the Kachins, who is only 4 feet, 10 inches tall, is Zing Htung Maw, who was able to defend an area of 1,600 miles against the Japanese during the enemy occupation of Burma.

Some Kachins are paid as low as one rupee, or 30 cents American, per day plus their food. They are quick to understand modern arms. Given a machine gun for the first time htey can take it apart, put it back together again and name all the parts in English—all within an hour.

They maintain modern radio communications with Allied headquarters and send and receive messages in English without being able to read them, despite the fact they code and decode all the messages.

Some of the Kachins smoke opium, and all love to hunt. Once when a group was asked how the hunting was that day a spokesman replied they had flushed three tigers, four deer and two American Air Transport command pilots out of the jungle.

Specialists in jungle warfare, they specialize in ambushing with pungi traps. Pungi pits are holes in the ground studded with sharpened bamboo sticks which cause infection to anyone falling on them.

Stilwell's Son Decorated

MYITKYINA, Burma, Dec. 17 (Delayed) (AP).—Colonel Joseph W Stilwell jr. received the Legion of Merit today for "meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during the Hukawng and Mogaung Valley campaigns." The general's son is assistant chief of staff, G-2, in the northern combat area of the Burma theater.

NEW CHINESE GAINS

Chungking, Dec 18 (A. P.).—Striking down the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad in Kwangsi province, counter - attacking Chinese forces were less than a mile from Hochih, ninety - five miles from Liuchow, the High Command has announced. Meanwhile, Chinese units that already had outflanked Hochin captured Wuyu, Japanese strong point nine and one-half miles southeast of Hochih.

An appeal to the people of the United Nations, particularly those of the United States, to urge their leaders "to take immediate and effective military measures to fight Japan in China before it is too late," was issued by a group of leading Chinese citizens. Among the signers of the appeal were Dr. Hu Shih, former ambassador to the United States; Bishop Paul Yupin, Vicar Apostolic of Kiating; Lin Yutang, author, and James Yen, director of China's mass education movement.

AMERICANS SMASH 742 JAP PLANES DURING PAST WEEK

Invasion Troops Meet No Resistance on Mindoro Island.

ENEMY CAUGHT NAPPING

Construction Crews Repair Airfields, Yanks Drive Ahead.

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Tuesday, Dec. 19—(AP) Destruction or serious damaging of 742 Japanese warplanes during the past week was disclosed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today as American invasion troops met no resistance on Mindoro island.

The Japanese planes were bagged by land-based American aircraft and planes operating from Adm. William F. Halsey's Third Fleet.

Repair Jap Airfields

The chief American purpose in seizing Mindoro island is the construction of airdromes from which further to harry the Japanese. Manila is only a half hour's flight from Mindoro. American and Australian construction men were busy putting airstrips into shape.

The communique said the Yankee landing on Mindoro had "caught him (the enemy) completely off balance," and except for a few nuisance air attacks, the Americans were making their scheduled progress.

Invasion of Mindoro has been the easiest major job of the Pacific war. Associated Press Correspondent Elmont Waite, writing from Mindoro, said "the Japanese have offered not the slightest resistance as yet, aside from harassing air attacks by a few planes."

He said the invasion has been moving "swifter than had been hoped." The Japanese at the city of San Jose fled in such haste they left their breakfast bowls of rice and clams still warm.

Six dead Japanese were found the second day of the invasion.

In the drive against the enemy on Leyte island, the 77th Division reached an airdrome west of Valencia Sunday, and continued its push northward.

MacArthur revealed 905 Japanese were counted dead on Leyte in one day. A spokesman said the majority of the casualties were inflicted by the 7th American division, which was liquidating remnants of the trapped Nipponese 26th division.

In support of the American forces in the Valencia sector, P-40 fighter bombers strafed and bombed enemy positions along the road from the Ormoc highway west toward the coast.

Liberators bombed Puerto Princesa airdrome at Palawan, leaving its runways unusable and destroying three parked planes. A coastal vessel was sunk in this area.

Bembers Hit Davao

At Mindanao heavy bombers struck Padada airdrome in Davao, and mediums hit San Roque, destroying buildings and two parked planes. Patrol planes sank a lugger and damaged three small merchant vessels.

Off Borneo's coast a heavy reconnaissance plane sank a small freighter and damaged five more. An enemy plane attempting to take off from Jesselton airdrome was destroyed.

Enemy installations on Halmahera, Boeroe and Amboina were plastered with 48 tons of bombs. In the lesser Sundas air patrols left a coastal vessel listing and afire.

Far-ranging raids also were carried out on New Guinea and the Solomons. Airfields on Rabaul were attacked, leaving runways unserviceable.

American losses continue light, Gen. MacArthur reported.

"The greatest possible care is being exercised to minimize our losses," he said. "Frontal assault methods are being avoided as far as possible and the artifice of maneuver and superior firepower is being exerted to prevent battle casualties. As a result they continue light."

The fast developing incursion of Mindoro island, just south of Luzon, already had enveloped the coastal plain area around San Jose, where the Americans landed virtually without resistance last Friday.

On Leyte, the 77th infantry division made a wide left end run to the west of the Ormoc corridor highway, advancing seven miles north to outflank the Yamashita line. From positions two miles below Valencia, it battled for that headquarters of Gen. Sosaki Suzuki, top-ranking Japanese commander on the island.

Cut Yamashita Line

North of Valencia, the U. S. First Cavalry division advanced two miles in applying pressure from the upper end of the corridor. This gain cut the Yamashita line between Valencia and Mt. Catabaran, which is about 10 miles above Valencia.

The enemy still had not recoiled from the surprise landing on Mindoro and a headquarters spokesman said Monday that resistance continued scant. The success of American carrier planes in destroying and pinning down the Nipponese airforce on Luzon again was brought out by headquarters, which said enemy air activity was "negligible."

(The enemy radio continued its unconfirmed fulminations of the "wreckage of sunken American warships and transports" covering the waters near San Jose. It said "death-defying sallies" were being carried out by special attack groups on the "remnants of enemy vessels."

(A broadcast by Domei, Japanese news agency, told of "an enemy fleet of considerable strength" being sighted in the Sulu Sea south of Mindoro and interpreted this as meaning other Philippine areas would be invaded.)

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raids on important war production centers and estimated the Nagoya group at 70 planes. It admitted damage there, where the great Hatsudoki aircraft works of the Mitsubishi interests offers the best aircraft production target in Japan.

The enemy broadcasts, intercepted by the Federal Communications commission, said Nagoya took the weight of the explosive and fire-bombs, but reported Yokosuka and Shizuoka were hit too.

A communique from Imperial headquarters dismissed Nagoya damage as slight, but a Japanese domestic broadcast said "resolute fighting" had been required to put out fires.

Crews returning tonight reported a considerable number of fighters, particularly against the later units, but comparatively few showed any aggression.

Airmen Report Fires

The airmen reported a number of fires in Nagoya's industrial waterfront area. A 20-year-old tail-gunner, Corp. Vincent J. Di Filippi, Brooklyn, N. Y., said he counted 19 columns of smoke along the water front "before some Japanese fighters came in and made me lose count."

Sgt. Clarence Ceres, Harvey, Ill., central fire control gunner in a plane commanded by Capt. Pershing L. Yon, Tallahassee, Fla., said he got in some shots at an enemy fighter from 200 yards.

"I fired all six guns at him—put in 50 bursts and he fell away," Sgt. Ceres said.

Tail gunner Di Filippi said he saw the enemy plane, smoking, roll upward, then dive straight down, streaming fire. Gunner Sgt. Thomas Bonvicini, Bridgeport, Conn., said about eight fighters in all attacked but only this one came close, the others diving out when the going got tough.

Lt. William W. Douds, Columbus, Ohio, co-pilot for first Lt. Stanley Pierce, Los Angeles, counted 30 fighters of which he said seven made passes. He saw one Japanese plane catch fire and roll over.

The great superfortresses in their raids today aimed especially at Nagoya's aircraft factories.

Superforts Hit Nagoya And Hankow

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Japanese war machine felt the sledge blows today of up to 200 Superfortresses, unleashed from separate bases.

The giant craft struck a second time at Nagoya on the Nipponese mainland and at Hankow in Japanese-occupied China. The raiders hit both areas today, Japanese time (Sunday, by the United States clocks.)

Dispatches from Saipan, meanwhile, said photographic reconnaissance of the December 13 blow at Nagoya disclosed damage to the Hatsudoki aircraft factory was greater than first reports indicated. Four large assembling buildings and 22 smaller structures were destroyed or damaged badly.

Results Undetermined

Results of the latest strikes still are to be determined here.

These attacks followed the stepped-up schedule which Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the 20th Air Force, has put into effect against the Japanese.

About 20 or 21 communiques of raids on the Japanese by the Superfortresses have been released, a War Department spokesman said today.

Last Thursday important military targets in Japanese-dominated Thailand were bombed.

Transport Centers Hit

Transportation centers in Bangkok, capital of Thailand, and in Rangoon, capital of neighboring Burma, were hit.

The day before, December 13, a major raid was made on Nagoya. Yesterday's attack was the second in five days on Japan's third largest city with a population of 1,328,084 in 1940.

In the previous Nagoya raid, returning flyers reported the big Hatsudoki aircraft factory was left in flames. Examination of photographs revealed at least 47 direct hits on the factory.

Inflammable City

Superfortresses from Brig. Gen. H. S. Hansell's base in Saipan bombed the Nagoya area in yesterday's two-fisted attack while a sizeable force from Maj. Gen. Curtis Le May's 20th Bomber Command struck Hankow targets.

Nagoya has the largest concentration of airplane and aircraft parts plants in Japan, and is a highly inflammable city.

70 SUPERFORTS ARE REPORTED OVER NAGOYA

Foe Tells of Eighteen-hour Series of Thrusts Against Japan.

SAY NANKING ALSO IS HIT

Washington Declares Hankow Base Is Heavily Blasted Along With Enemy Homeland.

The Japanese today reported an eighteen-hour series of American Superfortress raids on some of the most important war production centers, including a seventy-plane assault on Nagoya, aircraft manufacturing center, which admittedly was damaged.

In a series of broadcasts picked up by the FCC and distributed by the Associated Press, the enemy said that Nagoya took the main weight of explosive and fire bombs dropped but that Yokosuka and Shizuoka also were hit. None of the reports even suggested, however, that any of the gigantic bombers had been shot down.

Imperial headquarters conceded slight damage to Nagoya, but the Tokyo radio declared in a domestic broadcast later that the resultant fires required resolute fighting before they were extinguished.

Feint Toward Tokyo.

B-29 Superfortresses from Saipan feinted eastward, in the direction of Tokyo, then turned around and streaked westward to Nagoya, the Japanese said. They also flew over Osaka, Kobe and Kyoto, but the reports indicated that they dropped no bombs on those cities.

Domei, the Japanese official news agency, also reported that six Superfortresses flew over the vicinity of Nanking without dropping bombs. Nanking is the capital of the Japanese puppet government of China.

The Tokyo radio said that the raids started at 9 o'clock last night, when a single superfort bombed Nagoya. Another one passed over at 4:30 A. M. today. Six hours later eight more appeared, but did not drop any bombs. The big push came at 1 P. M., Domei said, when an unspecified number of the B-29s flew over, "sporadically dropping incendiaries and explosives."

[Earlier the War Department in Washington announced B-29's had hit Nagoya, Japanese industrial center, bombed previously on December 13, and Hankow, China.]

Hot Reception Alleged

The Japanese broadcast, recorded here, said "Japanese fighters and anti-aircraft units are now giving a hot reception to the enemy raiders."

This indicated that the Superfortresses were still on the wing over Nippon at the time of the broadcast.

Photos Show 26 Nagoya Structures Hit In Raid

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 18 [AP—*Via Navy Radio*] — Superfortresses bombed Nagoya, Japanese industrial city, for about two hours today with approximately the same number of planes which staged the damaging raid of December 13.

After the B-29's took off on today's raid, Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., 21st Bomber Command skipper, disclosed that additional photos showed that the Hatsudoki factory in Nagoya was damaged even more than previously supposed in last Wednesday's raid.

26 Structures Affected

He said four large assembly buildings and 22 smaller structures in the factory area were destroyed or badly damaged.

In a prepared statement Hansell said:

"Photographic reconnaissance has confirmed an earlier statement that the Hatsudoki factory of the Mitsubishi aircraft works was heavily damaged in the raid of December 13. Two assembly buildings of 180,000 and 216,000 square feet [illegible] 50 and 60 per cent gutted. It may be assumed that these two structures are completely out of operation at this time.

"Two main assembly buildings of 710,000 and 656,000 square feet are 13.5 and 48 per cent burned out. The more severely damaged of the two buildings is probably out of operation for a considerable period. Twenty-two small structures were destroyed or badly damaged within the plant area."

First Raid In Clear Weather

The initial Nagoya raid was in clear weather, which permitted much better visual bombing than four previous Tokyo attacks.

Despite the camera's tribute to the effectiveness of high-level bombing by the Superfortresses, Hansell cautioned against overoptimism and he reminded that the Hatsudoki plant is far from destroyed.

Reports of clear weather over Honshu today gave promise of good bombing, but reconnaissance showed the Japanese have installed new anti-aircraft guns in the Nagoya area, so the flyers anticipated heavier flak.

Radio, the other a Domei wireless dispatch, were recorded here. They quoted Sadao Iguchi, spokesman for the Japanese Board of Information.

JAP PREMIER, MINISTER CONFER WITH EMPEROR

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Tokyo radio said today that Premier Kuniaki Koiso and Foreign Minister Shigemitsu conferred separately with Emperor Hirohito.

Koiso reported on "state affairs in general," the FCC recorded broadcast said. Later, Shigemitsu was granted an audience to report on "matters under his jurisdiction."

(There was no indication whether these meetings may have been inspired by Japan's deteriorating position in the Philippines, where Americans on Mindoro island are within 145 miles of Manila, or by the increasing tempo of the B-29 raids on Japan.)

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY — 1944

By Associated Press.

Dec. 18, 1940—German submarines credited with sinking three merchant ships in British Atlantic service west of Ireland, German occupying forces costing France 400,000,000 francs a day for maintenance. Italian planes raid Port Sudan on the Red Sea.

New York R.C.A.F. Flyer Killed.

Ottawa, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—Flying Officer William Warfield, whose mother, Mrs. William Warfield, lives at 30 East 30th street, New York City, has been killed on active service, the R. C. A. F. announced here.

Jap Admiral Killed; 80th Since May

San Francisco, Dec. 18 (AP)—Domei, the Japanese news agency, disclosed today that another Japanese admiral had died in action, raising to 80 the number reported by Tokyo to have died since May.

The Domei dispatch identified the latest casualty as Vice Admiral Hiroshi Nakagawa. It did not tell where or when his death occurred.

Japs To Deliver Yule Gifts To Prisoners

San Francisco, Dec. 18 (AP)—Japanese ships will leave Japan soon to deliver "relief gifts" recently picked up at the Soviet port of Nakhodka, to American prisoners and internees in the Philippines and China in time for Christmas, Tokyo broadcasts said today.

The broadcasts, one over Tokyo [illegible] Domei wireless

33 JAP VESSELS SUNK BY U. S. SUBS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 — (AP) Score 33 more Japanese ships for the American undersea raiders.

A Navy communique today reported the new successes of its submarines which are hunting in the far Pacific. The announcement boosts the total of enemy ships sunk by United States submarines to 907, of which 94 were fighting ships.

In this latest tally (the last announcement was on December 4) are twelve combatant ships — a light cruiser, three destroyers, six escort vessels, a mine-sweeper and a mine-layer.

The Navy never announces details of the place or circumstance under which one of its submarines makes a kill, but the categories mentioned in today's communique suggests that enemy convoys furnished most of the targets.

Twenty one of the 33 ships were tankers, merchantmen or transports. Destroyers and destroyer escorts usually are protecting vessels for convoys. The Japanese, hard pressed by their losses at sea, probably also use mine-sweepers and minelayers for escort purposes.

SENATE DEBATES FOREIGN POLICY

Britain's Intervention of Greece, Russia's Role in Balkans Hit.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP) The Senate today debated American foreign policy with a bitterness that spilled over into bipartisan condemnation of Britain's military intervention in Greece and criticism of Russia's role in the Balkans.

With six State department nominations before it as the excuse, the Senate furnished an hour's long preview of what might be expected when it receives a peace treaty.

Otherwise loyal New Dealers criticized the slate of staff appointments President Roosevelt had sent up. Republicans defended the President's right to pick the men he wants. Calls came from both sides of the chamber for an enunciation of American foreign policy.

Seventy-eight year old Hiram Johnson, California Republican who fought the League of Nations, raised a quavering voice to urge the Senate to do something about Greece. There, he said, people were being "shot like dogs" with weapons we provided the British.

A. B. "Happy" Chandler, Kentucky Democrat who girdled the world in an Army bomber, said he didn't want American diplomats who might "follow the British."

Tall Burton K. Wheeler, Montana Democrat, shook his finger at his colleagues and asserted it was not the so-called isolationists, but those who had plugged for this country's early intervention in the war, who were fighting the nominations.

Russia and England, he said, were looking after their own interests first but if "anybody here

says he is for America first, he's an isolationist." What could the United States do, he asked, if Russia says she is going to take the Balkans, the Dardanelles and Finland?

Chairman Tom Connally (D-Tex.) of the Foreign Relations committee, his sometime irony sheathed in favor of the soft answer, pleaded for quick confirmation of the appointees. Otherwise, he said, the world would think President Roosevelt has "lost his leadership" on foreign affairs.

258,124 Soldiers Lost On West Front

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—Invasion operations in France, the lowlands and the German border region cost the army ground forces casualties totaling 258,124 up to D cember 1, the War Department reported today.

The total included 44,143 killed, 189,118 wounded and 24,863 missing.

Air Force casualties were not included in the report. Casualties reported in November amounted to 57,775, the department said, adding that this figure might include casualties from previous months.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 18 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 2,137 United States Army casualties in the European and Mediterranean war theaters.

In all these cases next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

U.S., Britain Relief Parley

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—British and American officials sat down today for discussions which may lead to a review of the entire Allied military and civilian supply programs.

Richard K. Law, Minister of State, headed the British delegation which came to Washington primarily to consult with Secretary of State Stettinius and other officials on relief for liberated Europe.

It was understood that Law will submit proposals which are expected to bring a reassessment of the entire military and civilian supply program throughout Allied nations as well as relief problems.

Political Disputes Cited

He is not expected to go into the high policy differences appearing recently between Britain and the United States over ending of governmental problems in several liberated countries.

It is hoped that he will be able to reach an agreement with American officials on the relief problems which might pave the way for settlement of political disputes.

His visit came at a time when the British are still trying to reach a solution with the embattled Greeks and when they appeared little nearer success than at the beginning of the Athens fighting two weeks ago.

Reply Is Drafted

The State Department also was busy preparing an answer to Prime Minister Churchill's statement on drawing a new map of Poland.

Whatever stand the United States takes on the Polish issue is expected to have considerable effect on the rest of liberated Europe. It is felt that Poland is a test of the extent to which the United States intends to be a factor in European politics.

All-Out Battle On Stettinius' Aides Forms

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—Senator Connally (D., Texas), his dander up, asserted today that he will fight for a Senate vote on six State Department appointees "if it takes all winter."

The chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee said he thought a vote could be obtained this week on the nominations headed by Joseph C. Grew to be Under Secretary of State.

Despite reports that opponents will engage in a filibuster in efforts to force President Roosevelt to name recess nominees, Connally said he is determined to hold the Senate in session until it votes on the appointees.

Guffey Plans Four-Hour Talk

"I'm going on with this thing if it takes all winter," Connally said. "That is paraphrasing General Grant somewhat, but I mean business on these nominations."

Senator Guffey (D., Pa.) already has informed the Senate that he wants to speak for four hours on the nomination of Grew. That apparently is part of an opposition move to delay action on the appointments until a quorum of Congress leaves for the holidays.

In the face of this maneuver, Connally said he would insist that the Senate have a quorum present to transact business.

May Go After Absentees

"If it is necessary," Connally said, "we may have to ask the sergeant at arms to bring in the absentee Senators."

Opposition to the nominees centered in an effort to bring up a resolution by Senator Pepper (D., Fla.) which would send all the nominations back to the White House for reconsideration. This resolution was introduced by Pepper on Saturday and officially laid on the table.

Connally said that if Pepper or the three other members of the opposition quartet—Guffey (D., Pa.), Murray (D., Mont.) and La Follette (Pro., Wis.)—attempt to call this resolution up, he will make a point of order.

Opponents May Fail

Under Senate rules, a two-thirds vote is necessary to overrule the Chair's decision on a point of order. There seemed little doubt that the opponents of the nominations would fail to achieve a two-thirds vote if Vice President Wallace or some other Administration supporter in the Chair ruled against the resolution.

There remained, however, the possibility that a great many Senators will go home immediately for the holidays.

If the Senate adjourns *sine die* without acting on the nominees, Roosevelt could name the same group or any others he chose. They would serve, without pay, until his official nominations were confirmed or rejected by the Senate.

If the Senate decides to go ahead with the nomination's discussions, despite the absence of a quorum, the sergeant at arms would be instructed to bring back to Washington and the Senate floor those members who had started home early.

Similar Trouble Previously

Such strict adherence to the rules has caused trouble previously in the Senate, where members ordinarily object to the sergeant at arms appearing with a warrant which calls for their arrest. But Connally left little doubt that the Administration means to go down the line for the six appointments.

These include, besides Grew, five Assistant Secretaries of State: Archibald MacLeish, W. L. Clayton, James C. Dunn, Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes and Nelson Rockefeller.

REMOVAL OF JAPANESE IS UPHELD BY COURT

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 — (AP) The Supreme court ruled, 6 to 0, today that the army had a right to remove all Japanese from the West Coast in 1942 because American shores were "threatened by hostile forces."

But the court said there was a difference between the exclusion order and others under which Japanese were detained in relocation centers in the interior. Unanimously, it ordered unconditional release of Miss Mitsuye Endo, American woman of Japanese ancestry, from a relocation center at Topaz, Utah.

The tribunal ruled that the War Relocation authority had no right to detain loyal citizens under the circumstances. It held no military law was involved.

In neither case were broad constitutional questions ironed out.

Ickes Will Expand WRA In Resettling Of Japanese

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—Secretary Ickes said today that the Interior Department will expand its relocation program to send resettled persons of Japanese ancestry back to their West Coast homes.

At the same time, he expressed the belief that a large proportion of the more than 35,000 Japanese-Americans relocated in other parts of the country may choose to remain.

Ickes emphasized that there will be no "hasty mass movement" of evacués.

His statement, following the War Department's revocation of the West Coast exclusion order, effective January 2, said it "is the responsibility of every American worthy of citizenship . . . to do everything that he can to make easier the return to normal life of those people. . . .

"They are entitled to their full constitutional and legal rights and perhaps something more than ordinary consideration because they have really suffered as a direct result of the war. In a real sense, these people, too, were drafted by their country. They were uprooted from their homes and substantially deprived of an opportunity to lead a normal life. They are casualties of war."

Relocated By WRA

Of the 110,000 persons of Japanese descent originally evacuated, said Ickes, more than 35,000 have been relocated by the WRA outside the West Coast area.

The great majority of these, he asserted, "have become satisfactorily adjusted in their new locations and will probably want to stay where they are.

"Many of them will doubtless now make arrangements for having their parents and other family members still at the centers come out and rejoin them at their new homes."

There were originally ten centers to which West Coast Japanese were evacuated. Later, one was closed and another was set up as a "segregation" area for those who had expressed preference for the cause of Japan.

NEW CONGRESS TO ACT ON YOUTH TRAINING BILL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP) The political hot potato of compulsory military training will be sizzling in the hands of the new Congress before the new members get their chairs warm.

The Army wants it. The President also wants something of the sort, but apparently nobody's sure yet what Mr. Roosevelt would like to have along with it.

Veterans organizations are for it but numerous religious groups are just as certain it's bad business.

Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the House Military committee wants it but isn't sure just how many of his colleagues do.

May proposes to hold hearings in January.

War Department Orders Increase Of 20,000 in Induction Quotas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP) The War department announced today that it has asked Selective Service to increase the army's January and February calls from 60,000 to 80,000.

The Department said that since last July it has asked Selective Service for fewer men than the estimated requirements. The deficits were made up by combing Army units to obtain men for field service.

By this method, the Department said the Selective Service call had been held to 60,000 a month, but that it is now necessary to step up the calls by 20,000 a month.

It will be determined later, the Department said whether it will be necessary to continue the 80,000 rate in March and April.

Selective Service meantime announced that all men under 30 who had been rejected for military service since last Feb. 1, except those with obvious physical defects will be reexamined next year.

A Selective Service official said the order already in the hands of local draft boards applies principally to "border line cases."

Selective Service said the Army agreed to reexamine the men to determine whether some of the "border line cases" might be available for general duty. The matter was taken up with the Army after Selective Service noted an increase in the number of rejections of men once found fit for service but subsequently turned down when finally called for induction.

The Army ordinarily gives draftees a second examination if they are called for induction more than 90 days after taking their original examination.

Congress Feels War Toll

Ten Members Already Have Lost Relatives in Battle

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP).—Congress received some facts and figures today showing that the war is striking the lawmakers close to their hearts. Ten members already have lost sons or sons-in-laws, and approximately 190 others have service stars designating a son or a son-in-law in the Armed Forces.

The information was given by Representative Francis P. Bolton, Republican, of Ohio, president of the informal Congressional War Parents Association composed of members with sons or sons-in-law in service.

Roosevelt Choice Is Now Official

DEC 19 1944

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—Meeting in their respective state capitals, members of the electoral college today officially elected President Roosevelt to a fourth term.

A total of 432 electoral votes were cast for Mr. Roosevelt, with 99 going to his Republican opponent, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York. The popular vote cast for Mr. Roosevelt was 25,611,871 to 22,018,147 for Mr. Dewey, a plurality of 3,593,724.

Two of the electors, John A. Logan, former police chief of Elgin, Ill., and William P. Dapping, managing editor of the Auburn (N.Y.) *Citizen-Advertiser*, cast their fourth electoral votes for Mr. Roosevelt.

No Action Expected On Postwar Rivers Bill

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—A postwar rivers and harbors bill appeared certain today to die with Congress.

Chairman Bailey (D., N.C.) of the Senate Commerce Committee doubted there is time for final action.

The stumbling block is an amendment making reclamation limitations inapplicable to Central Valley, Cal. The rider was attached by the House, rejected by the Senate.

Bailey said last week he might ask the Senate to reconsider. He said today other matters probably would take up the remaining time.

The bill would authorize navigation, reclamation and hydroelectric projects to cost nearly $500,000,000. It makes no appropriation.

Bailey said a new bill would be offered early in the new Congress.

SALE OF E BONDS WILL TOP QUOTA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP) Ted R. Gamble, war finance director, said today the series E bond goal of $2,500,000,000 in the Sixth [illegible] will be ex-

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War loan "undoubtedly ... exceeded when all the money is counted.

He said the sale of E bonds had reached $1,820,000,000 with "hnd-dreds of millons of dollars yet to be tabulated." The bond drive ended Saturday but bond money deposited before Dec. 31 will count.

Today's figures will be the last until the final totals are announced Jan. 2.

Gamble said $18,457,000,000 now is on deposit from the sale of all types of securities—nearly $4,500,000,000 above the $14,000,000,000 quota.

This was a jump of $671,000,000 over the figure announced Saturday and was the biggest day-to-day increase since Dec. 4. Sales to corporations accounted for much of the figure. Saturday was the final day for selling the marketable securities designed especially for corporate investors.

Treasury Secretary Morgenthau told a radio audience Saturday night the figure will soar above $19,000,000,000.

Of the $18,457,000,000 in the bag, corporations had provided $14,154,000,000. Individual bond-buyers provided $4,303,000,000, or 80 per cent of their five-billion goal. Gamble said this assures a "substantial over subscription" of the individual quota.

Robert W. Coyne, field director of the Treasury's War Finance division, said retailers are reporting an "amazing" number of persons buying war bonds as Christmas gifts.

COURT RULES ON RAIL CASE

Firemen-Engineer Group Told To Represent Negroes

Washington, Dec. 18 (AP)—The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was told by the Supreme Court today it must represent nonmember Negro firemen without race discrimination.

In unanimous opinions by Chief Justice Stone, the court ruled that the Railway Labor Act requires an exclusive bargaining agent for any craft or class to provide such representation.

In another case, the court split, 5 to 4, in upholding action of the National Labor Relations Board in setting aside its certification of an independent union as a bargaining agent.

Sees Obstacle Raised

In this case, the Wallace Corporation, of Richwood, W.Va., was ordered to reinstate 43 CIO workmen with back pay, the minority declared the decision raised an obstacle to "all future bargaining for closed shops."

Justice Black delivered the 5-to-4 decision. Justice Jackson wrote a dissent in which Chief Justice Stone and Justices Roberts and Frankfurter concurred.

The Wallace Corporation, operator of a clothespin and wood products plant, complained that the boards abused its administrative discretion in reopening and setting aside a strike stettlement agreement, an election to choose a bargaining representative, and the board's certification of the independent as the winner over a CIO union.

Unfair Practices Found

After the certification the firm signed a closed shop agreement with the independent. The board later found the concern guilty of unfair labor practices in discharging 43 employes. Most of them, the board said, were denied membership in the independent because of previous adherence to the CIO. The board ordered the independent disbanded and the 43 employés reinstated with back pay.

Two Negro firemen were principals in the railway ruling. Bestor William Steele, working on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, said he and other Negro firemen were discriminated against by the company and the brotherhood.

He cited an agreement between the union and 21 southeastern railroads restricting use of Negro firemen. The union also excludes them from its membership.

Claims Force Was Used

Tom Tunstall, who complained he was forced from his job and succeeded by a white man, also cited the agreement and sued the brotherhood for damages and the Norfolk Southern Railway for reinstatement.

The brotherhood contended that the agreement with the companies was to make railroad operation more efficient and provide competent railroad men.

The court said the law does not deny a union the right to determine its membership, but, in cases where it is the exclusive bargaining agent, it must represent nonunion workers "without hostile discrimination."

Other Court Action

The Supreme Court interceded today in a dispute over expected dismissal of students of the Byrd High School, Shreveport, La., because of their membership in fraternities and sororities.

Fred A. Hughes, H. Clay Garrison, J. Steve Varley and Weyman H. Oden asked the court to stay dismissal of their children until the Louisiana Supreme Court decides a case in which they questioned constitutionality of a State law.

The law delegates to parish school boards the power to prohibit fraternities, sororities and secret societies in the public schools. The fathers said the school would expel or suspend their children January 1 unless the high tribunal acts. They contended their children belong to organizations which hold meetings off the school grounds, out of school hours, and under supervision of parents.

The Supreme Court granted an injunction against dismissal of the students pending decision on the case in the Louisiana court.

FEDERAL SEIZURE OF WARD STORES IS THREATENED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18—(AP) The War Labor board made ready tonight to invoke the weapons of seizure or economic sanctions as Montgomery Ward continued to defy WLB directives.

"If we don't hear anything from Ward's by tomorrow morning we will take the next step right away," said Chairman William H. Davis.

The Board had set tonight as the time limit for compliance at Ward plants in seven cities. Davis offered as the only alternative "the usual course" of action in noncompliance cases. The "usual course" would be reference to Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson, necessary preliminary to seizure or economic pressure.

The big mail order house had given no indication that it intended to meet the Board's demands on minimum wages and maintenance of union membership.

Government enforcement action could take the form of seizure by a Government agency—possibly the Commerce department which took over Ward's Chicago plant briefly last Spring in another scuffle with the board. In that case the Government would run the plants in accordance with the terms and conditions of employment prescribed by the board.

In case of seizure the possibility appeared that only the four Detroit stores where the CIO retail employes union has been on strike for ten days might be taken over.

But stores and plants in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y., also are affected by board directives which union representatives testified at hearings last week had been ignored by the company.

Federal operation of all of these plants might follow seizure of the Detroit stores, especially if Sam Wolchok, president of the CIO retail employes, allowed the Detroit strike to spread to the other cities.

Wolchok frankly wanted the government to take over all the Chicago properties, from which the nation-wide Ward network is operated. Directives at issue applied to the printing department and display factory in Chicago.

The union leader would not predict what he would do in the event only the Detroit stores were taken over. Last week he told a news conference, however, that he was "ready for an economic showdown with the company" at its 500 units, even those in which his union lacked a certified majority.

Wolchok conferred today with R. J. Thomas, president of the CIO-United Auto Workers, whose cooperation in the Detroit strikes has been pledged.

Thomas sent a telegram to President Roosevelt, urging immediate seizure of Montgomery Wards.

Vinson could apply sanctions, short of seizure, under Presidential instructions of August 16, 1943. That economic pressure could include control of any war contracts held by the mail order firm, or control of essential materials and of transportation and fuel, if that is possible without impending the war effort.

Ward Pickets Stage Brief Demonstration

Detroit, Dec. 18 (AP)—A brief demonstration in which some 60 pickets sang and marched through aisles of the Grand River store was the only incident reported today in the ten-day strike at the four Montgomery Ward & Co. stores here.

Meanwhile, Circuit Judge John V. Brennan deferred action a second time on a company injunction petition. He explained that in the event the War Labor Board seeks White House intervention the petition would be useless. He said that "we can wait at least another day for the Government to act."

The company sought an injunction restraining the CIO employés' union from interfering with working employés and delivery of merchandise.

The petition was filed following reports of demonstrations last week at the stores in which at least three employés were reported injured.

WILSON TO HEAD AIR FORCE LEAGUE

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 — (AP) Charles E. Wilson, president of the General Electric company, announced today the formation of the Air Force legaue, a national civilian organization "designed to work for permanently strong and efficient United States air forces."

Wilson, who was elected president of the organization, said the League was sponsored by a group of industrial, commercial and professional men. The League's first year's object, he said, would be to enlist a membership of "at least several million men and women" with a subsidiary organization in each state.

Gen. H. A. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air forces, in a letter to Wilson approved the League's program, and said:

"There is no work more important to the future welfare and security of our country and to the peace of the world than the creation by public-spirited, disinterested, patriotic Americans of an organization dedicated to the purpose which you have outlined."

"In the year to come," he wrote, "our first line of defense can only be in the air. From now on our security must rest, above all, upon continuing pre-eminence in the air and alertness to the revolutionary developments necessary to that pre-eminence."

Wilson said incorporation papers had been filed in the District of Columbia.

Other officers elected were Col. Howard W. Angus, formerly of the Army Air Technical Command service, executive vice-president, and John E. Bierwirth, president of the New York Trust company, treasurer.

Incorporators of the League were John Russel Young, president of the board of commissioners of the District of Columbia; Dr. George W. Hutchinson, secretary of the National Geographic society, and F. G. Awalt, attorney, all of Washington.

CANADIAN FAVORS STAND OF BRITISH LABOR

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—(AP) M. J. Coldwell, leader of the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation party, said today he was in favor of the position taken by British labor groups against the policy of the British government in Greece.

"We realize the tremendous difficulties that exist in a country just liberated," Coldwell said at a press conference. "We think of course that the people of a liberated country should be given the right to choose their own government as soon as possible.

"We are most anxious about the situation. Apart from the immediate situation, there seems to be an indication of spheres of influence agreed upon in Europe."

Welders Cut Down Bronze Bust Of Hitler

New York, Dec. 18 (AP)—Adolph Hitler was cut down to his own size today—by two American welders.

A life-size bronze bust of the Nazi leader, captured in a German embassy in a liberated country, was melted down by Alice Holland and William Hanson before 25,000 workers at a Todd Shipyards (Brooklyn) war bond rally.

The metal will be used in ship construction.

The ceremony took place during lunch hour. Guests included Jean Dickenson, radio singer, and Horace McMahon, movie actor.

DEWEY EYES FOREIGN TREND

Concerned With Critical Turn, Brownell Says

New York, Dec. 18 (AP)—Herbert Brownell, Jr., Republican National Chairman, said today Gov. Thomas E. Dewey was "much concerned about critical developments in foreign affairs."

Brownell, who held a dinner conference last night with the defeated Presidential nominee, told a press conference they discussed "the failure of the Administration to exercise strong leadership in world affairs."

Sees Failure To Be Ready

"There seems to be a tendency of the Administration to talk about international cooperation, but there is a failure to be ready to act in meeting these tremendous problems that are now facing us in world affairs," Brownell said, adding that the statement was his own and not Dewey's.

Brownell declined to say what specific problems he had in mind. Brownell said he had not decided whether he would continue as national chairman.

Dewey was much interested, Brownell said, in setting up a world organization for peace along lines proposed at Dumbarton Oaks.

Organization For Peace

"I found that Governor Dewey continues to feel that our part in a world organization for peace must call for the best brains and efforts of the leaders of both parties and must not be bogged down in narrow partisanship at any time," Brownell said.

The chairman, back from a month's vacation in Arizona, said he found in his cross-country trip that party leaders were agreed there must be an "aggressive party organization and an affirmative program of action" to prepare for the 1946 congressional election.

"There is a spirit of determination among the leaders and the rank and file of the party," Brownell said, "that such a program be adopted and plans be put into effect promptly."

To Confer With Congressmen

He said he would confer with members of the Senate and House and the national committee as the legislative calendar permitted. Asked if Dewey would attend the conferences, Brownell said, "on some, undoubtedly."

Brownell said his conference with Dewey was along general lines. He conferred today with J. Rusell Sprague, Republican national committeeman from New York.

Home For War Orphans Planned By Lumber Man

Memphis, Dec. 18 (AP)—Eugene Woods, of Memphis, today revealed he is deeding property valued at $300,000 to a Baptist foundation for establishment of a children's home near Ripley, Tenn.

The Rev. Chesley Bowden, pastor of the First Baptist Church at Ripley, said the Memphis lumber man is giving his 2,437-acre plantation near Ripley for establishment of a school where under-privileged children would be educated and taught a trade. He said it would be patterned after the Berry School in Georgia.

Orphaned children from west Tennessee, eastern Arkansas and northern Mississippi will be eligible for attendance regardless of religious affiliation.

"Mr. Woods has in mind particularly the children of veterans who have died in the war," the Rev. Mr.

Bowden said.

In addition to the land and buildings, Woods's deed would include farm implements, live stock and produce.

PAPER FOUND IN CONTEMPT

Miami Herald And Editor Fined For Criticism

Miami, Fla., Dec. 18 (AP)—Circuit Judges Paul D. Barns and Marshall Wiseheart found the Miami *Hearld* and John D. Pennekamp, associate editor, guilty of contempt of court today as the result of the publication of two critical editorials and a cartoon.

A $1,000 fine was levied against the *Herald* and $250 against Pennekamp, with the proviso that the fines did not have to be paid for 30 days, or while an appeal was pending.

See Violation Of Amendments

"We believe their decision is in violation of the First and Fourteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and of the thirteenth section of the constitution of Florida, guaranteeing freedom of speech and of the press, and equal protection under the law," Pennekamp commented on the judges' action. . . .

"We will, therefore, appeal their findings promptly, not only in behalf of the Miami *Herald*, but in behalf of the basic rights of free speech and a free press generally."

The American Newspapers Publishers Association joined the *Herald* in defending the suit and sent Elisha Hanson, general counsel, to participate in the hearing before Judge Barns and Wiseheart, who themselves heard the case without objection from the defendants.

Thinks He Acquiesced In Policies Of British

Louisville, Dec. 18 (AP)—Richard H. Hill, law director for the city of Louisville, today said he had telegraphed Senators Barkley and Chandler of Kentucky asking them to oppose Senate confirmation of Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes as Assistant Secretary of State.

Hill was a lieutenant colonel with the Allied military government in North Africa, Sicily and Italy from May, 1943, until June, 1944. He now is on inactive status.

In the copy of his telegram made public here, Hill said:

"The British were dominating the whole situation with what in my opinion was an entirely fascist policy and top-ranking American officers were acquiescing.

Saw What Was Happening

"I saw what was happening and feared the situation which has resulted and is now revealed to the public.

"In July, 1943, I tried to communicate with friends in Washington and explain the situation and my fears. My letter was stopped by the censor. I returned to the States in June, 1944.

"The situation had grown much worse. I immediately reported to the military authorities in Washington and also to Senator Connally, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

New Wood Pulp Process Yields Powder For War

East St. Louis, Ill. Dec. 18 (AP)—A new sulphate process for making smokeless powder from low-cost wood pulp used in producing ordinary brown wrapping paper and bags was announced today by the Western Cartridge Company.

John M. Olin, vice president, said the new process has been proven in experimental manufacture of powder from the pulp at Government plants at Radford, Va., and Charlestown, Ind.

Development of the process after ten years of research will relieve America of much of its dependence upon cotton fiber for manufacturing nitrocellulose, the basic material of rifle and cannon powder, Olin said.

Chicago-To-Europe Direct Air Route Seen

Chicago, Dec. 18 (AP)—Envisioning inland Chicago as a great world port for air traffic, Gov. Dwight H. Green told the Illinois aviation conference today that if Illinois citizens are alert "we will have direct Chicago-to-Europe air service shortly after the war is ended."

Chicago, he asserted, has the natural advantage of being "practically as close by the great circle route to the important cities of Europe as is New York or any of the cities on the Atlantic seaboard."

As a major State contribution to the campaign, the Governor disclosed, he will recommend to the 1945 General Assembly the creation of a department of aeronautics.

Gold Star Mother Relights Big Beacon

Chicago, Dec. 18 (AP)—A Gold Star mother last night relighted the world's most powerful beacon, the 2,000,000,000 candlepower light atop the Palmolive Building, which had been blacked out for almost three years.

Mrs. Howard F. Conley, who lost one son in action in the North Atlantic and has three others in service, pressed a button at a war bond show miles from the light. The beacon was shut off after Pearl Harbor.

MYSTERY BALLOON HAS JAP MARKINGS

Incendiary Device Attached To Huge Bag Found In Montana

Kalispell, Mont., Dec. 18 (AP)—The Federal Bureau of Investigation announced tonight that a paper balloon, 33½ feet in diameter, bearing Japanese characters had been found in a mountain region near here.

An official statement said the balloon had attached to its side an incendiary device, apparently intended for destruction of the balloon.

An FBI spokesman gave this explanation of the find:

"On December 11, 1944, a woodchopper named Owen Hill, and his father, O. B. Hill, who had been working in a mountainous forest region 17 miles southwest of Kalispell, Mont., reported to the sheriff's office the discovery of an object which was thought to be a parachute.

Carrying Capacity 800 Pounds

"It was brought into town the next day and the FBI office at Butte was advised. Upon examination, the object was discovered to be 33½ feet in diameter, with a gas capacity of over 18,000 cubic feet and a carrying capacity of at least 800 pounds net.

"The bag itself is of high-grade processed paper. There appeared on the balloon Japanese characters indicating completion of construction at the factory on October 31, 1944. Attached to the side of the balloon was an incendiary device with a fuse apparently intended for its destruction.

"A typical balloon rope structure attached to the flange around the bag ended in an elastic-type cable at the bottom which had been severed. And no determination has been made of the use for which it was intended.

"Prevailing winds on the West Coast have blown strongly directly from the west or northwest in recent weeks, and persons experienced in the use of free balloons report they are known to travel at speeds well in excess of 200 miles an hour.

"The balloon has been turned over to the military authorities who, together with the Navy, checked into the matter with the FBI."

Rising Sun Painted On It

The balloon was found by Rancher Hill and his son while cutting wood in a grove of trees. The balloon apparently had settled into the soft snow at night.

Deputy Sheriff Royal Hopkins said Hill reported the find immediately and Sheriff Duncan McCarthy took a party out to investigate.

"There was a rising run in green painted on it, and there was Oriental printing on it that looked Jap to me," said Hopkins. "It was cream-colored, about 50 feet long and about 150 feet around. The bomb-looking thing—about a foot long—was attached to the balloon and there were several fuses on it."

The balloon was brought to Kalispell and locked in a garage until Federal Bureau of Investigation agents arrived and took it to Butte, headquarters for the Montana-Idaho FBI district.

West's Reaction Varied To Lifting Of Jap Ban

San Francisco, Dec. 18 (AP)—Japanese removed from the Pacific Coast early in the war will be permitted to return to their former homes in California, Oregon and Washington after January 1.

Maj. Gen. Henry C. Pratt, chief of the Western Defense Command, announced yesterday that the War Department had decided to revoke its security order, under which the persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated. The move, Pratt said, was because of "favorable progress of the war in the Pacific, as well as other developments."

Exclusion Provision

Henceforth, he said, they will be excluded only when the Army considers them, personally, dangerous. All persons not specifically excluded will be permitted to return.

Reception of the announcement throughout the West was varied. In Los Angeles, outspoken Mayor Fletcher Bowron declared that if the Government permits the Japanese to return it should send troops to protect them.

"If they come back and start moving war workers to get a place to live, I don't know what the result will be," Bowron said, adding that because of inadequate police facilities "we just can't guarantee them protection."

Warren Urges Caution

Earl Warren, Governor of California, in a formal statement at Sacramento, said the Army's decision had been reached on the basis of the "military situation as it exists today," and appealed for "an attitude that will discourage friction and prevent civil disorder."

It was uncertain how many evacuees would be affected. More than 115,000 persons were affected by the order of March 24, 1942, and it was estimated that there are now about 119,000 under jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority.

Spokesmen for the Western Defense Command said that lifting of the ban will not mean a sudden return of population, adding further strain to war-taxed housing conditions. They said the WRA is expected to see that the process is gradual, and added that those permitted to return will be carefully investigated.

C. A. Bottolfsen, governor of Idaho, voiced accord with the revocation order. Idaho is the site of the Minidoka Relocation Center, which at one time housed 10,000 Japanese Americans.

"Having proved themselves loyal American citizens, these people should be given every opportunity to return to their homes . . . ." Bottolfsen said.

Yoshito Fujii, chairman of the Minidoka Community Council, told a Seattle *Post-Intelligencer* representative by phone that the 7,500 Minidoka internees "have been waiting for this day. We long to return to our homes, our farms, our businesses. We feel that we are good Americans. . . ."

At Salt Lake City, Saburo Kido, president of the Japanese-American Citizens League and a former San Francisco lawyer, termed the action "a vindication of the loyalty of the Japanese-American population to the United States."

But at Kent, Wash., Benjamin Smith, president of the Remember Pearl Harbor League, said the Japanese are still dangerous to the war effort, and added that his organization has pledged 500 persons not to sell, lease or rent farms, homes or stores to the returning evacuees. He said that "further steps" may be taken.

An orderly dismissal from the camps was envisioned by the WRA.

At the Topaz (Ariz.) center Director Luther T. Hossman said it would probably be a year before the center is abandoned.

Procedure To Be Announced

Director Leroy H. Bennett, of the Gila River Center at Rivers, Ariz., said the residents won't be returned "immediately" and promised that a detailed announcement of procedure would be made later in Washington.

In the nation's capital, West Coast Congressmen were reluctant to comment. Representative Lea (D., Cal.) said he hoped that many of the Japanese who left the State would stay away. Congressmen from Oregon and Washington said there was still considerable feeling against the Japanese in some parts of their districts.

Representative Sheppard (D., Cal.) said he thought the housing situation in many California areas would retard the return of the Japanese.

Japanese Flags For Cargo Ship

Wilmington, Cal., Dec. 18 (AP)—Something new in the way of cargo ship decorations: 26 Japaanese flags, representing the 26 planes Major Joseph Foss, of Sioux Falls, S.D., shot down, are being painted on the Sioux Falls Victory, which will be launched tomorrow by Calship. The major's wife will christen the vessel.

FILM UNIONS HAVE CONFLICT

Jurisdictions Overlap For Extras Who Do Bit Parts

Los Angeles, Dec. 18 [Special]—The winning by the Independent Screen Players' Union of the collective-bargaining election among Hollywood motion-picture extra players Sunday has produced a serious conflict of union jurisdiction, it appeared today in union, studio and Federal labor relations circles.

Principals in the new SPU and in the AFL Screen Actors' Guild, which lost the election, were in separate special meetings last night and on their conclusion it seemed to interested parties that the National Relations Labor Board, which ordered and conducted the election, must now define or classify exactly those borderline jobs for whom the two unions can bargain.

Until the election, the AFL Guild always had bargained for all players. The new union won extra player bargaining away from the Guild. The new problem resulting from this is: Which union will bargain for those borderline players who do both extra playing and acting? Many do such double work among the 3,000 or more doing principal extra playing.

Borderline Individuals

The AFL union has accepted the election results as to extra playing. But it still believes that it has exclusive bargaining rights for extras, as well as its A or A-J members, when they become "actors"—that is when they do bits, parts, singing, etc.

On the contrary, the new union believes that its jurisdiction covers extras when they do bits, parts, singing, etc.

The new union bases this belief on the fact that the board included those borderline individuals in the electorate that voted Sunday. Some, however, believe that they were merely included to give all in the extra playing business an opportunity to have a voice, as extras only.

The question of demarcation is expected to be settled eventually by the board upon formal request.

Meanwhile, the new union has set up temporary headquarters with Harry Mayo, chairman; Michael Jeffers and Jack Fitzpatrick, principally in charge.

The union is planning a general meeting to select its first official family and to set up a negotiating committee.

Brooklyn Marine Decorated

Sergeant Diamond Is Cited for Heroism on Guadalcanal

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 18 (AP).—Sergeant Le Roy P. Diamond, of 647 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, one of the first Marine Corps heroes of the Pacific war, received a belated decoration today. Winner of the Navy Cross for heroism during the early fighting on Guadalcanal, Diamond was awarded the

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Presidential unit citation ribbon for service with the 1st Marine Division.

Diamond, with Private Albert Schmidt, of Philadelphia, piled up more than 200 Japanese in front of their positions as the enemy sought to cross the Tenaru River in August, 1942. They stood their ground on the river after all marine machine guns except theirs were silenced.

ties in the last four presidential elections:

	1944	1940	1936	1932
Socialist	74,787	99,557	187,720	884,781
Prohibition.	72,295	57,812	37,661	81,869
Soc. Labor	44,674	9,410	12,508	33,276

27 Soldiers Sentenced for Riot Against Italians Serving in U.S.

DEC 17 1944

SEATTLE, Dec. 18 (AP).—Prison sentences totaling more than 200 years were given tonight to twenty-seven Negro soldiers found guilty by a United States Army General Court Martial board of rioting against an Italian service unit at Fort Lawton on Aug. 14.

Three of the defendants were found innocent of additional charges of murder in the death of Private Guglielmo Olivotto, whose body was found hanging in a near-by gully the morning after the riot.

Those cleared of murder charges, however, were convicted of rioting and their sentences were the heaviest assessed by the Court Martial board.

They were Corporal Luther Larkin, twenty-three years old, of Helena, Ark., twenty-five years in prison; Private William G. Jones, twenty, of Decatur, Ill., fifteen years, and Sergeant Arthur J. Hurks, twenty-two, of Houston, Tex., twelve years.

With the exception of a single defendant, the convicted men were sentenced also to dishonorable discharge and forfeiture of all pay in addition to the prison terms. The exception was Corporal Riley L. Buckner, twenty-five, of Houston, Tex., who was sentenced to six months at hard labor and forfeiture of two-thirds of his pay for the period.

In addition to dishororable discharge, loss of pay and confinement, the sentences carried reduction to the rank of private for all non-commissioned officers. There were originally forty-two defendants in the trial, making it the Army's largest court martial of this war. One was dismissed early in the trial, thirteen were found not guilty at the end of the trial and one, Pfc. Roy L. Montgomery, twenty-three, of Greenwood, Miss., is in the hospital with pneumonia. His sentence will be pronounced later.

HOW THE MINORS FARED ON VOTES

The Associated Press has compiled the following table showing the votes cast for the candidates of four minor par-

"THERE WOULD THEN SEEM TO BE NO WAY OUT BUT A DECLARATION THAT THE KING HAS, BY HIS ACTION, FORFEITED THE THRONE, THE PROCLAMATION OF A REGENCY AND ITS IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION BY THE ALLIES."

THE BRITISH COMMUNIST PARTY URGED TODAY ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN GREECE "REPRESENTATIVE OF ALL SECTIONS OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE RESISTED THE NAZI AND FASCIST INVADERS," AND URGED "ALL SUPPORTERS OF DEMOCRACY TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THE GOVERNMENT TO END ARMED INTERVENTION IN GREECE AND ADOPT A POLICY OF IMMEDIATE ARMISTICE AND SETTLEMENT."

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SN440PEW

LONDON--SECOND ADD NIGHT LEAD RUSSIAN X X X AUSTRIAN FRONTIER.

A PARIS RADIO REPORT SAID 40,000 TODT WORKERS HAD BEEN MOBILIZED TO FORTIFY THE AREA OF VIENNA, AUSTRIAN CAPITAL, MENACED BY RUSSIAN TROOPS 115 MILES TO THE EAST IN THE IPOLY-SAG AREA AND 110 MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST AT THE LOWER TIP OF LAKE BALATON. (BERCHER)

BERLIN SAID "EXTREMELY HEAVY FIGHTING" WAS TAKING PLACE ALONG THE 125-MILE EAST-WEST FRONT BETWEEN SATORALJAUJHELY AND IPOLY-SAG AS THE RUSSIANS SOUGHT TO ROLL NORTHWARD FROM HUNGARY INTO SLOVAKIA. THE GERMANS CLAIMED THEIR TROOPS HAD STOPPED A DETERMINED RUSSIAN BREAK-THROUGH ATTEMPT NORTHWEST OF IPOLY-SAG AT THE EDGE OF THE BRATISLAVA PLAINS, AND ALSO TOLD OF BITTER BATTLES AROUND SZECSENY,

ADD LONDON - (PARIS) XX RENCHED

THE PROFESSORS WORKED OUT INTRICATE BOMBING TABLES FOR 28 DIFFERENT TYPES OF ALLIED BOMBS, INCLUDING RUSSIAN. THE RESULT OF HUNDREDS OF TESTS, THESE TABLES GIVE COMPLETE DATA ON FUSE SETTINGS, DROPPING POINTS AND WIND DRIFT AT ALL ALTITUDES AND CONDITIONS -- ALL ENABLING THE BOMBARDIERS TO HIT THEIR TARGETS WITH STILL GREATER ACCURACY.

DISPATCHES FROM THE GREEK CAPITAL, MEANWHILE, DECLARED THAT THE BRITISH HAD LAUNCHED A FULL-SCALE DRIVE AGAINST THE ELAS FORCES AND THAT IT APPEARED THE SIEGE OF THE CITY WOULD BE LIFTED SOON.

A LATE COMMUNIQUE FROM HEADQUARTERS OF MAJ.GEN.R.M.SCOBIE, BRITISH COMMANDER IN GREECE, SAID FIGHTING WAS CONTINUING, BUT THAT BRITISH AND INDIAN TROOPS HAD MADE "CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS" IN THE LAST 24 HOURS. THEY GAINED CONTROL OF THE FALERON-PIREAUS COASTAL ROAD AND THE MAIN FALERON-ATHENS ROAD WHICH THE ELAS FORCES HAD BEEN HOLDING IN STRENGTH, THE COMMUNIQUE ADED.

AT VOLOS, HOWEVER, THE COMMANDER OF A STRONG CONCENTRATION OF ELAS FORCES HAS PRESENTED THE COMMANDER OF THE ALLIED RELIEF UNIT AND SMALL INDIAN GARRISON WITH AN ULTIMATUM TO QUIT THE TOWN, THE MUNIQUE ADDED.

GEOTHE LABORITE DAILY HE[illegible]D'S DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT SAI ALDRGE WAS RELUCTANT TO [illegible]POINT A REGENCY, AND THAT SHOULD HE REFUSE, VAL CHANCE OF A "CONSTITUTIONAL" SETTLEMENT OF THE CRISIS WOULD VISH.

A" THE POSITION OF PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU WOULD BE "UNTENABLE, AND NO OTHER GREEK LEADER OF ANY STANDING WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT OFFICE IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCE," HE WROTE.

25 MILES TO THE EAST.

THE NAZI TRANSOCEAN NEWS AGENCY CONCEDED THAT SOVIET ARTILLERY OF COL.GEN.IVAN PETROV'S FOURTH UKRAINE ARMY HAD "DUG BREACHES IN GERMAN LINES IN THE AREA OF VRANOV, 21 MILES NORTHEAST OF KASSA AND 19 MILES SOUTHEAST OF PRESOV, THE SECOND OF THE LAST MAJOR AXIS STRONGHOLDS LEFT IN EASTERN SLOVAKIA.

THE RUSSIANS, AIDED BY THE FOURTH ROMANIAN ARMY, COMPLETELY TURNED THE ENEMY'S DEFENSES IN THE HEGYALJA MOUNTAINS WEST OF SATORALJAUJHELY, AND SOVIET TROOPS CLEANED OUT THE FORESTED AREA BY CAPTURING EIGHT LOCALITIES.

SOVIET TROOPS REACHED THE HERNAD RIVER ON AN EIGHT-MILE FRONT BETWEEN CAPTURED ALSOKEKED AND SZURDOK AND PROBABLY TRAPPED A NUMBER OF ENEMY TROOPS IN A SIX-MILE-DEEP POCKET SOUTH OF SZURDOK.

SN835PEW

LONDON, DEC 18-(AP)-A GREEK GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT KING GEORGE II OF GREECE WAS "STUDYING THE QUESTION OF A REGENCY." THE GREEK KING YESTERDAY WAS CLOSETED WITH ADVISERS, AND IT WAS UNDERSTOOD HE WAS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE.
MK751AEW

LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC. 19-(AP)-ROMANCE AS WELL AS ADVENTURE BECKONED WHEN AN ENGLISH GIRL AND A CANADIAN OFFICER PARACHUTED INTO ENEMY-HELD TERRITORY IN FRANCE BEFORE D-DAY TO AID THE MAQUIS.

THE DAILY SKETCH, TELLING THE STORY TODAY, SAID THE GIRL WAS SONIA BUTT, 20-YEAR-OLD FRENCH-SPEAKING DAUGHTER OF GROUP CAPT. L.A.K.BUTT OF THE RAF. THE MAN WAS CAPT.GUY D'ARTOIS OF MONTREAL.

THE SKETCH QUOTED AN UNIDENTIFIED FRIEND OF THE COUPLE AS SAYING: "D'ARTOIS FELT HIS HEART LEAP WHEN HE SAW HER WAVE AND SMILE AS SHE JUMPED JUST AHEAD OF HIM FROM THE SAME PLANE." HE TOLD CLOSE ACQUAINTANCES," I SUDDENLY REALIZED I MIGHT NEVER SEE HER AGAIN AND DETERMINED IF WE EVER MET ON THE GROUND SHE WOULD BE MY WIFE."

THEY MET LATER IN PARIS AND WERE MARRIED AT ST.JAMES'S CHURCH IN LONDON SOME MONTHS AGO. NOW THEY ARE IN MONTREAL, WHERE MRS.D'ARTOIS IS EXPECTING A BABY, THE PAPER SAID.
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EV959PEW

LONDON, DEC.18-(AP)-BERLIN PROPAGANDISTS HINTED TODAY THAT FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT'S COUNTER-OFFENSIVE MIGHT BE A "PEACE OFFENSIVE" DESIGNED, THROUGH ATTRITION, TO GAIN FOR GERMANY SOMETHING BETTER THAN UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.

DR.KARL SCHARPING, THE GERMAN RADIO'S CHIEF POLITICAL COMMENTATOR, "IN VIEW OF OUR OFFENSIVE IN THE WEST GERMANY MUST FORCE HER ENEMIES TO GO ALL OUT TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT THEIR DIFFICULTIES AT HOME, THEIR LOSSES AT THE FRONT AND THEIR GENERAL WEAR AND TEAR WILL NO LONGER WARRANT THE VALUE OF THEIR POLITICAL AIMS. WE MUST MAKE THE STRUGGLE TOO COSTLY FOR THE ENEMY."

GERMAN PROPAGANDISTS ALSO WERE USING THE COUNTERATTACK AS AN ANSWER TO THE "WHERE'S HITLER?" MYSTERY. THE NAVY MILITARY RADIO SAID: "WE CAN TELL YOU NOW WHY HITLER HAS BEEN SILENT. HE IS NOT ILL BUT HAS BEEN BUSY PREPARING THIS NEW OFFENSIVE DOWN TO THE MINUTEST DETAIL."
JP1106PEW

BY E. V. W. JONES

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LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC. 19---(AP)---OBSERVERS IN THIS WAR CAPITAL TODAY WERE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THE GERMAN COUNTER-POLITICAL OFFENSIVE WAS TIMED CAREFULLY TO HAVE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON ALLIED HOMEFRONTS AS WELL AS BEING AN EFFORT TO UPSET GEN. EISENHOWER'S OFFENSIVE PLANS ON THE BATTLEFRONT.

STAGED WHILE BRUTAL CIVIL WARFARE IS GOING ON IN GREECE AND THE RUSSIAN-POLISH QUESTION IS BEING SHARPLY DEBATED, THE GERMANS MAY HAVE STRUCK SOONER THAN THEY ORIGINALLY HAD PLANNED IN ORDER TO REAP THE MAXIMUM ADVANTAGE POLITICALLY BY ADDING A MILITARY SETBACK TO OTHER CURRENT ALLIED PROBLEMS.

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THE GERMANS ALSO HOPE, IT IS BELIEVED, THAT LARGE ALLIED CASUALTY LISTS---COMING AT A TIME WHEN A FEW MONTHS AGO MOST OF THE UNITED NATIONS HOPED THE WAR IN EUROPE WOULD BE OVER---MIGHT HAVE A DEPRESSING EFFECT ON HOME FRONTS.

"THE GERMAN PUSH TODAY, UNLIKE THAT OF 1918, IS NOT AN ATTACK BUT A COUNTERATTACK," THE DAILY MAIL SAID EDITORIALLY. "ITS OBJECT IS NOT BY ITSELF TO WIN THE WAR BUT TO PROLONG IT TO A POINT AT WHICH THE ALLIES MAY BE INDUCED TO OFFER TERMS. MORE IMPORTANT STILL, THEIR OBJECT IS TO CREATE FURTHER DISSENSION AMONG THE UNITED NATIONS AND TO DISHEARTEN ALLIED PEOPLES."

THE DAILY MAIL SAID THE GERMANS NOW ARE GIVING US A LESSON WE MUST TAKE TO HEART. THE UNITED NATIONS, IT SAID, MUST "COME TOGETHER, WORK TOGETHER, FIGHT TOGETHER, AS THEY DID IN THOSE DAYS

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WHEN THE ODDS WERE AGAINST THEM. WE MUST NOW FIGHT AND WORK HARDER THAN IN THE MONTHS WHEN IT SEEMED THE WAR WAS ALL BUT WON."

THE DAILY HERALD, OBSERVING THAT THE ALLIES ARE BEING TAUGHT A LESSON IN THE HAZARDS OF WAR, ADDS, "IT IS NECESSARY WE DRAW THE RIGHT MORAL X X X THE FULL DEFEAT OF FASCISM REQUIRES A MILITARY VICTORY AND A POSITIVE POLITICAL STRATEGY."

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THE DAILY EXPRESS EDITORIALIZED THAT THE ATTACK BY THE ENEMY MAY BE WELCOMED BECAUSE DESTRUCTION OF GERMANS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN LOSS OF TERRITORY, PROVIDING THE TERRITORY LOST IS NOT BIG ENOUGH TO AFFECT ALLIED PLANS. THE EXPRESS ADVISED CIVILIANS TO EXAMINE NOW THEIR OWN WAR EFFORT "FOR THE ALL-OUT EFFORT TO SHORTEN THE WAR MUST COME NOT ONLY FROM SOLDIERS BUT FROM TECHNICIANS AND WORKERS AS WELL."

APL JONES 0120 SERIES EJD 914PCW

LONDON, DEC. 18-(AP)-THE STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF STATE STETTINIUS OF THE UNITED STATES' POSITION ON THE POLISH FRONTIER QUESTION, ~~XOSWUNISATES IN ADVANCE TO THIS BRITISH GOVERNMENT~~ WAS WELCOMED IN LONDON OFFICIAL QUARTERS AS CLOSELY PARALLELING PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S ATTITUDE IN THIS RESPECT:

BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN, AS A GENERAL PRINCIPLE, ARE NOT PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE TERRITORIAL CHANGES BEFORE THE PEACE CONFERENCE, BUT RECOGNIZE AN EXCEPTION IN THE RUSSO-POLISH DISPUTE COULD MAKE AN ESSENTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROSECUTION OF THE WAR.

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THE STETTINIUS STATEMENT, COMMUNICATED TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN ADVANCE, WAS HELD TO OFFER NO CONFLICT IN THESE VIEWS:

1. BRITAIN IS URGING A MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN RUSSIA AND POLAND ON THE CURZON LINE. THE UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO A SUCH A MUTUALLY AGREED UPON SETTLEMENT.

2. THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HOLDS STRONGLY THAT PROMPT SETTLEMENT ON THE BASIS OF THE CURZON LINE IS VITAL TO FULL UNRESTRICTED DEVELOPMENT OF THE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST GERMANY THROUGH POLAND AS WELL AS TO FUTURE FRIENDLY RUSSO-POLISH RELATIONS.

THE UNITED STATES WOULD COOPERATE IN ASSISTING THE TRANSFER OF

POPULATIONS NECESSITATED BY POLISH FRONTIER CHANGES, PROVIDED THIS HAD THE APPROVAL OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE.

3. THERE WAS NO SURPRISE IN EITHER BRITISH OR POLISH CIRCLES THAT THE UNITED STATES REFUSED TO GUARANTEE THE NEW POLISH FRONTIERS AS THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO DO IN CONJUNCTION WITH RUSSIA. TO HAVE DONE SO WOULD HAVE MARKED A M REVERSAL OF TRADITIONAL UNITED STATES POLICY.

OFFICIAL POLISH REACTION WAS LACKING, BUT IT WAS LEARNED THE STETTINIUS STATEMENT ALREADY HAD BEEN CAREFULLY STUDIED BY MEMBERS OF THE LONDON POLISH GOVERNMENT. ONE POLISH SOURCE WITH CLOSE CONNECTIONS IN THE EXILED GOVERNMENT COMMENTED, "HE MERELY REAFFIRMED WHAT WE ALREADY KNEW WAS AMERICAN POLICY."

APL OQUINNS 2115 SERIES JS 450PEW

LONDON, DEC. 18-(AP)-A NEW TYPE AMERICAN FRAGMENTATION BOMB IS BEING DROPPED ON THE GERMANS IT WAS DISCLOSED TONIGHT BY COL. PHILIP SCHWARTZ, ARMAMENT CHIEF OF THE U. S. AIR SERVICE COMMAND.

THE BOMB IS 265 POUNDS OF TNT WRAPPED IN WIRE.

EXPERIMENTS AMONG BALES OF COTTON SHOWED THE NEW WIRE BOMB GAVE THE GREATEST NUMBER OF DEADLY FRAGMENTS PER SQUARE INCH.

SCHWARTZ ALSO SAID 40 PER CENT OF THE ALLIES' THUNDERBOLTS ARE NOW BE EQUIPPED WITH A NEW ELECTRICAL BOMB RELEASE which GIVES ALMOST TWICE THE FORMER ACCURACY. BEFORE THE DEVELOPMENT PILOTS WERE NOTING WIDE ERRORS IN LOW ALTITUDE BOMBING BECAUSE THEY HAD TO RELEASE THEIR LOADS BY A MANUALLY CONTROLLED LEVER FROM AN AWKWARD POSITION IN THE COCKPIT.

PARIS--FIRST ADD NIGHT LEAD WESTERN FRONT (ORIGINAL) X X X ITS 35-MILE FRONT. (TUCKER)

THE NINTH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND REPORTED ITS FIGHTERBOMBERS, FLYING IN SUPPORT OF THE FIRST ARMY, KNOCKED OUT 265 VEHICLES AND 50 RAILROAD CARS DURING THE DAY.

THEY BOMBED 20 FORTIFIED BUILDINGS, AND SILENCED 20 GUN POSITIONS. TEN FIGHTERBOMBERS WERE MISSING.

HJ721PEW

ADD PARIS -(KENNEDY) - XX LOSSES

THE GERMANS THREW UP SOME OF THEIR JET-PROPELLED PLANES INTO THE ASSAULT AS WELL AS SOME OF THEIR V-BOMBS, AND BEGAN USING RAILROAD GUNS ON AN INCREASED SCALE TO BOMBARD REAR AREA OF THE NINTH ARMY, TO THE NORTH OF THE FIRST ARMY.

MANY OF THE PARACHUTISTS DROPPED BEHIND AMERICAN LINES ON SATURDAY NIGHT TO HARASS COMMUNICATIONS AS GERMAN ARMOR AND INFANTRY STRUCK THE FRONTAL ATTACKS ALREADY HAD BEEN ROUNDED UP AND THE SEARCH FOR OTHERS WAS GOING ON METHODICALLY.

IN GERMANY, NEAR HECKHUSSCHEID, 19 MILES SOUTHEAST OF MALMEDY, ND IN LUXEMBOURG NEAR VIANDEN, 17 MILES FARTHER SOUTH, AND NEAR CHTERNACH, 13 MILES STILL FARTHER SOUTH, THE GERMANS INFILTRATED MERICAN LINES BUT MADE ONLY SLIGHT PROGRESS.

THE DOUGHBOYS DUG IN AND WITH THEIR TANKS, BAZOOKAS AND RTILLERY, HELD THE GERMANS TO THEIR SLIGHT GAINS OF YESTERDAY.

THERE WAS NO GROUND ACTIVITY AS YET REPORTED FROM THE U.S. INTH AND BRITISH SECOND ARMY FRONTS TO THE NORTH.

OVERSHADOWED BY THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE, LT. GEN. GEORGE .PATTON'S THIRD ARMY AT LENGTH HAD SCORED A NOTABLE VICTORY BY SMASHING THROUGH THE PRIMARY SIEGFRIED LINE DEFENSES AT DILLINGEN, THREE MILES NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN.

DIGGING DEEPER INTO THE SIEGFRIED DEFENSES FARTHER BACK, THE THIRD ARMY'S 90TH DIVISION PUSHED FORWARD ANOTHER 300 YARDS TO THE EASTERN EDGE OF DILLINGEN. TEN MORE BLOCKS OF THE TOWN WERE CAPTURED IN THIS FOOT-BY-FOOT PLUGGING.

THE 95TH INFANTRY ALSO GAINED SLIGHTLY IN FRAULAUTERN AND ENSDORF WESTWALL DEFENSES JUST EAST AND NORTHEAST OF SAARLAUTERN.

THE 35TH INFANTRY DIVISION GAINED ANOTHER HALF MILE NORTH OF REICHEIM IN GERMANY, NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF SAARBRUCKEN, AND OTHER INFANTRYMEN ALSO GAINED A HALF MILE NEAR SEYWEILLER, SEVEN MILES SOUTHWEST OF ZWEIBRUCKEN.

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ON THE THIRD ARMY'S RIGHT THE SEVENTH ARMY OF LT. GEN. ALEXANDER M.PATCH BUTTED SQUARELY AGAINST THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THE WISSEMBOURG GAP BY GAINS ON A 14-MILE FRONT BETWEEN THE RHINE AND THE VOSGES.

MEDIUM BOMBERS PLOUGHED SIEGFRIED PILLBOXES, TANKTRAPS AND WIRE TANGLES BETWEEN OBER-OTTERBACK AND STEINFELD JUST AHEAD OF THE SEVENTH ARMY WHERE THE U.S. 14TH ARMORED DIVISION, NEWLY DISCLOSED IN ACTION, HAD SURGED TO WITHIN 32 MILES OF THE RHINE CITIES OF MANNHEIM AND LUDWIGSHAFEN.

FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS WERE CONCENTRATED ON A 30-MILE FRONT HERE, AND THE 7TH ARMY WAS FINDING HARD PLUGGING ON ITS LEFT FLANK NEAR BITCHE WHERE FOUR MAIN MAGINOT FORTS--SIMSERHOF, SCHIESSECK, OTTERBIEL AND GRAND HOHEKIRKEL, EACH SURROUNDED BY SIX TO 11 SATELLITE FORTS AFTER THE MANNER OF THE METZ DEFENSES--BLOCKED THE WAY.

ONE OF THE SERIES OF FORTS, FRUNEBURG, HAD BEEN TAKEN.

TO THE SOUTH OF STRASBOURG IN THE ALSACE PLAIN, THE GERMANS WHO HAD REINFORCED THEIR BRIDGEHEAD ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE RHINE, WERE DISCLOSED TO HAVE RECAPTURED MITTELWEHR AND BENWIHR NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND 13 MILES FROM THE RHINE; DIEBOLSHEIM, EAST OF SELESTAT AND A MILE FROM THE RHINE, AND MOUNT HOHNECK IN THE SCHLUCHT PASS.

THE GREATEST GERMAN PRESSURE WAS BEING EXERTED ALONG A 60-MILE FRONT FROM MONSCHAU SOUTHWARD TO THE REICH FORTRESS CITY OF TRIER.

WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE MAIN ENEMY BLOW CARRIED TO WITHIN 10 MILES OF THE BELGIAN CITY OF MALMEDY, 23 MILES SOUTH OF AACHEN AND 14 MILES WEST OF THE GERMAN FRONTIER. ENEMY INFANTRY AND FROM 30 TO 50 TANKS OVERRAN SOME AMERICAN POSITIONS IN THE AREA OF HONSFELD, TWO MILES INSIDE BELGIUM, AND CONTINUED ON ANOTHER TWO MILES BEFORE

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THE ATTACK EASED.

ASSUMING THAT THE AMERICANS IN THIS SECTOR ORIGINALLY WERE AT THE FRONTIER, THE GERMAN ADVANCE REPRESENTS A PENETRATION OF FOUR MILES. HOWEVER, AMERICAN LINES ON THAT LONG-QUIET SECTOR ARE ILL-DEFINED.

GERMAN PARACHUTE TROOPS WERE DROPPED IN FOUR AND EIGHT MAN TEAMS IN TWO CORPS AREAS ON THE FIRST ARMY FRONT AND ALSO BEHIND THE U.S. NINTH ARMY.

THE GERMAN AIR FORCE WAS PAYING A STEEP PRICE FOR THE SUPPORT IT WAS GIVING THE ATTACKING GROUND TROOPS. IN THE FIRST 36 HOURS OF THE ATTACK THE GERMANS HAD 194 PLANES SHOT DOWN WHILE AMERICAN AIR LOSSES BY NIGHTFALL LAST NIGHT TOTALLED 33 FIGHTERS. DEC 17 1944

THERE WERE THREE OTHER PENETRATIONS OF AMERICAN POSITIONS IN ADDITION TO THE ENEMY THRUST TOWARD MALMEDY.

ONE WAS SOME 19 MILES SOUTHEAST OF MALMEDY AT A POINT JUST SOUTH OF THE GERMAN VILLAGE OF HECKHUSCHEID, WHERE THE AMERICANS HOLD A SLENDER STRIP OF ENEMY SOIL. HECKUSCHEID IS FIVE MILES NORTHEAST OF THE JUNCTION OF THE BELGIAN, LUXEMBOURG AND GERMAN BORDERS. IN THIS SECTOR ARTILLERY FIRE BROKE UP AN ATTACK BY 100 GERMAN TROOPS.

A SECOND WAS 17 MILES FARTHER SOUTH, WHERE 150 GERMANS MOVED INTO THE WOODED AREA SOUTHWEST OF THE LUXEMBOURG BORDER TOWN OF VIANDEN.

A THIRD CARRIED INTO LUXEMBOURG SOUTH OF ECHTERNACH, A BORDER TOWN 13 MILES SOUTHEAST OF VIANDEN. ECHTERNACH IS 18 MILES NORTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL OF THE GRAND DUCHY.

IN THE DUREN AREA AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE ASSAULT FRONT THE GERMAN BLOWS WERE NOT ON THE SCALE OF THOSE IN THE SOUTH. GERMAN

ATTEMPTS TO RETAKE MARIAWEILER AND GURZENICH, A MILE AND A HALF NORTHWEST AND A MILE WEST OF DUREN, RESPECTIVELY, WERE REPULSED.

VON RUNDSTEDT, IN AN ORDER TO HIS TROOPS, SAID: "STRONG ATTACKING ARMIES ARE ADVANCING X X X AGAINST THE ANGLO-AMERICANS. I DON'T NEED TO SAY MORE TO YOU. BEAR IN YOURSELVES A HOLY DUTY TO GIVE EVERYTHING AND ACHIEVE THE SUPERHUMAN FOR OUR FATHERLAND AND OUR RUEHRER."

AMERICAN THIRD ARMY TROOPS SMASHED THE PRIMARY SIEGFRIED LINE DEFENSES AT DILLINGEN IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE SAAR BASIN. THE THIRD ARMY ALSO DEEPENED ITS INVASION OF THE SOUTHERN SAARLAND TO TWO MILES BY CLEARING THE ENEMY FROM MEDELSHEIM AND WALSHEIM AND FORCING INTO GERSHEIM. ALL THREE TOWNS ARE NORTHEAST OF SARREGUEMINES.

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FATHER EAST FOUR DIVISIONS OF THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY REACHED THE SIEGFRIED LINE BEYOND CAPTURED WISSEMBOURG, MOVING STEADILY AHEAD AGAINST GRADUALLY STIFFENING RESISTANCE. THEY TOOK SCHWEIGHOFEN, THREE MILES NORTHEAST OF WISSEMBOURG, AND KAPSWEYER, A MILE FARTHER NORTH AND REACHED A POINT ABOUT THREE MILES SOUTH OF BERGZABERN AFTER SWEEPING THROUGH SEVERAL MORE VILLAGES.

THE ADVANCES PUT THE SEVENTH ARMY AS MUCH AS THREE MILES DEEP INTO GERMANY AT POINTS ALONG A 14-MILE FRONT, AND SOME AMERICAN TROOPS WERE ONLY EIGHT MILES WEST OF THE BADEN PROVINCE CAPITAL OF KARLSRUHE.

NORTH OF WISSEMBOURG THE FORTIFICATIONS OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE HAVE A DEPTH OF ABOUT 20 MILES, A FRONT DISPATCH SAID. ELEMENTS OF FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS PLUS SOME FORTRESS TROOPS WERE FACING THE SEVENTH ARMY IN A 30-MILE AREA STRETCHING NORTHWEST OF LAUTERBOURG.

NEAR THE SOUTHERN END OF THE ALLIED LINE COUNTERATTACKING GERMANS RETOOK TWO ALSATIAN VILLAGES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND SURGED BACK INTO A TOWN EAST OF SELESTAT.

BZ435AEW

BY GEORGE TUCKER

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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, DEC. 18 (AP)—IN THE GREAT AERIAL BATTLE YESTERDAY DURING WHICH THE GERMANS LOST 108 PLANES FOUR OF THESE WERE KNOCKED DOWN BY LT. WILLIAM KERR, 218 SOUTH 18TH STREET, RICHMOND, CALIF., SUPREME HEADQUARTERS SAID TODAY.

JUST BEHIND LT. KERR IN THE DAY'S SCORING WAS CAPT. JOHN S. HOSKER, 135 PARK ROAD, FORT MITCHELL, KY., WITH THREE AND ONE-HALF PLANES.

LT. RICHARD J. SCHOLZ, 3840 ARMY STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., AND LT. ELTON V. KERN, 1105 HARNEY ST., VANCOUVER, WASH., EACH KNOCKED OFF TWO.

OTHERS CREDITED WITH TWO APIECE ARE:

LT. JOHN W. ACKLEY, ATHENS, O.; LT. RUFUS A. COX, COMANCHE, TEXAS; LT. WILLIAM F. SHEAFFER, BOONE, IOWA; LT. MILVIN TAISLEY, 3124 N.E.

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50TH AVE.,PORTLAND,ORE.;LT. FRANK S.KERCHNER,13 LINDEN ST.,LONG BRANCH, N.J., AND MAJ. ~~MAJOR (SQ.)~~ John E. MARSHALL,SCHENELY APARTMENTS,FORBES AND FIFTH ST., PITTSBURGH,PA.

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CREDITED WITH ONE VICTORY EACH ARE:

CAPT.VINCENT D.KRAMER,14 REVILL ST.,ANNAPOLIS,MD., AND CAPT. WARR T.LEMIART,302 CARROLL PARKWAY,FREDERICK,MD.

LIEUTENENTS JAMES B.AAGBERG,120 NOBLE ST.,HAMMOND,IND.;GEORGE WORANAGE,HAGERSTOWN,MD.;RALPH W.WOTHERS,PITCAIRN,PA.;JOSEPH FREEMAN, JR.,FORT MC KAVETT,TEXAS; GEORGE H.MAIER,95 PLYMOUTH ST.,OAKLAND, CALIF.;JAMES T.DYERS,MYRTLE POINT,ORE.;GENE K.NICKOK,2626 WEST MAPLEWOOD ST.BELLINGHAM,WASH.;DAVID B.HARDING,601 THIRD ST.,ROCKFORD,ILL.; FLOYD N.HANS,760 EAST CENTRAL ST.,ROCKFORD,ILL.; CLYDE B.EAST,CHATHAM,VA.; MYRON A.STRONG,1112 37TH ST.,ROCK ISLAND,ILL.;ENDON L.DUNKELBERGER,1017 HIGH ST.,WILLIAMSPORT,PA.

JOHN T.PICTON,640 BLAIN ST.,PEORIA,ILL.,MARTIN R.ENGLER,JR., 513 BARE OAKS,PASADENA,CALIF.;PAUL C.DAVENPORT,425 LAWRENCE ST.,EUGENE, ORE., AND CHARLES W.DAVIDSON,ALVIN,TEX.

HARRY E.KRIG,627 SLOCUM ROAD, NORTH DARTMOUTH,OHIO;WILLIAM F. OSBORNE,ST. JOSEPH,KY.;GEORGE R.DAVIS,DANIELSON,CONN.;THOMAS W.BLOOR, 2418 ~~XXXXXXXXX~~ EAST AVE.,BURLINGTON,IOWA;EDWARD P.BRADFORD,BANKS, ORE.,AND CLAIR T.CULLINAN,CLARION,OHIO

GEORGE L.BAUER,8 RIVER ST.,DUNDEE,ILL.; CHARLES NELSON, HUNTINGTON PARK,CALIF.; JAMES JORNIGAN,1145 23RD ST.,SAN DIEGO,CALIF.; ROBERT H.BONNA,MADERA,CALIF.,AND MARVIN W.MILLER,4413 MERDOSA, REDONDO, CALIF.

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MAJ.LOREN W.HORWAY,310 ASHLAND ST.,INDIANOLA,IOWA.,CAPT. ALFRED E.BENTON,1700 EUCLIDE, DANMORINO,CALIF.; CAPT. HARRY C.SANDERS, MONTEREY,CALIF.,AND CAPT.JAMES CARTER,157 EAST 5TH ST.,DOWNEY,CALIF., ALSO WERE CREDITED WITH ONE EACH.

DE 17 1944

OTHERS CREITED WITH ONE NAZI PLANE

DAVID C.JOHNSON,JR.,PASADENA,CALIF.; LT. L.R.LEONARD,MIARTIC,ILL.; LT. RONALD R.RICCI, 38 TIERNEY ST.,NORWALK,CONN.;~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ CAPT. JOHN E.GARDNER,1026 MEADOW PLACE,MILWAUKEE,WIS.;CAPT. JOSEPH LANNA,4023 PLEASANT AVE.,ST.LOUIS,MO.; CAPT. WAILLIAM M.LEE,410 EAST ~~XXXX~~ INDIANA ST.,ROCKVILLE,ILL.,AND CAPT. HARRY S.BAKER,MOULTRIE,PA.

PW1445SERIES AM1235PM

ADD DILLINGEN, GER. - (BAIL) XX CAPTURED

CAPT.VICTOR DILEO, A MEDICO FROM PORTCHESTER, N.Y., SAID SOME WOUNDED WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN LITTER CASES THEMSELVES PITCHED IN AND HELPED TO CARRY OTHER WOUNDED. "AND WE GOT EVERYONE OF OUR WOUNDED BACK ACROSS THE SAAR," DILEO SAID.

CAPT.MCLEAN DECLARED SGT.RICHARD LARSEN OF CENTRAL CITY, NEB., "WENT CRAZY KILLING GERMANS." LARSEN, HE ADDED, KEPT CHUCKING GRENADES AND DIRECTING MORTAR FIRE AFTER HIS OWN GUN HAD BEEN SHOT OUT OF HIS HANDS AND HIS RADIO WAS DISABLED.

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"THEN LARSEN BARGED RIGHT INTO A POSITIONHE KNEW THE GERMANS HAD OVERRUN TO SEE IF HE COULD SAVE ANY OF OUR MEN. HE FOUND TEN OF THEM AND BROUGHT THEM OUT."

PARAPHRASING PRIME MINISTER CHURCHIL'S NOW FAMOUS PHRASE, LT.COL.FREDERICK LOOMIS OF SALT LAKE CITY, THE 358TH'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER, WHO DIRECTED THE SAAR CROSSING, SAID: "NEVER DID SO FEW DO SO MUCH TO SO MANY IN SO LITTLE TIME."

KK551AEW

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY IN GERMANY, DEC.18-(AP)-AMERICAN EIGHT AND TEN-INCH SHELLS EXPLODED IN KARLSRUHE TODAY AND A CIVILIAN COMING THROUGH THE LINES SAID THE CANNONADING HAD TOUCHED OFF A RUN ON THAT RHINE CITY'S BANKS.

"WE'VE STARTED A LOT OF THINGS WITH OUR BIG SHELLS," SAID LT. COL.C.V.CLIFTON, SUMNER, WASH., DIRECTING SOME OF THE HEAVY GUNS, "BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE EVER STARTED A BANK RUN."

MAJOR ROBERT S.BATES, 6323 BROADWAY, INDIANAPOLIS, IND., SAID: "WE HOPE TO START MORE THAN THAT SOON."

JP1232AEW

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY INSIDE GERMANY, DEC.17 -(DELAYED (AP)- LT.GEN.JACOB L.DEVERS, COMMANDER OF THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, JEE INTO GERMANY FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY TO WATCH AMERICAN TROOPS HAMMERING AT THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

DEVERS, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MAJ.GEN.EDWARD BROOKS, COMM OF THE 6TH CORPS, SPENT ABOUT AN HOUR INSIDE THE REICH, STANDING AT ONE TIME ON GROUND WHICH THE GERMANS HAD BEEN SHELLING ONLY A FEW H BEFORE.

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RC WIANTS 01954--JA-- 335A

THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY INSIDE GERMANY, DEC.18-(AP)-THE FOURTEENTH ARMORED DIVISION FOUGHT THROUGH SEVEN ROWS OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE'S TANK BARRIERS OF DRAGON TEETH BEFORE ADVANCED ELEMENTS WERE PINNED DOWN TODAY BY INTENSE FIRE ON THE WEST EDGE OF THE RHINE PLAIN.

IT PROBABLY HAD HIT THE STIFFEST OPPOSITION OF ANY OF THE FOUR DIVISIONS WHICH ARE INCHING INTO THE FIRST POSITIONS OF THE SIEGFRIED'S 20-MILE DEEP FORTIFICATIONS ON A 14-MILE FRONT FROM THE RHINE WESTWARD.

"ANY TIME ONE OF US MOVES DOWN COME 20 SHELLS," DECLARED CAPT. JOHN FORRIANO, STOCKTON, CALIF. CAPT.DAN GENTRY, FORT WORTH, TEX., DESCRIBED THE OPPOSITION AS "THE TOUGHEST WE'VE ENCOUNTERED."

ALL ALONG THE FRONT THE GERMANS WERE LETTING FLY WITH EVERYTHING FROM HEAVY GUNS TO GRENADES.

ON THE EASTERN END OF THE FRONT, THE 79TH DIVISION NEAREST THE RHINE PROBED BEYOND THE TOWN OF BERG, WHICH IS EIGHT MILES WEST OF THE RHINE CITY OF KARLSRUHE.

TO THE WEST THE 14TH WAS LOOKING INTO THE SIEGFRIED LINE'S DRAGON TEETH SOUTH OF OBER OTTERBACH, WHICH IS TWO MILES INSIDE THE REICH.

SOME THREE MILES NORTHWEST, THE 103RD DIVISION HAD DRIVEN ABOUT FOUR MILES INTO GERMANY--THE SEVENTH'S DEEPEST PENETRATION--AND WAS NEARING THE VILLAGE OF REISDORF.

THE 45TH DIVISION, A FEW MILES FARTHER WEST, FOUGHT INTO NEIDERSCHLETTEBACH AND BUNDENTHAL, BOTH APPROXIMATELY THREE MILES INSIDE GERMANY, WAS APPROACHING RUMBACH, TWO AND A HALF MILES WEST OF BUNDENTHAL.

THE 45TH'S PROGRESS WAS SLOWED BY TERRIFIC FIRE FROM CONCRETE PILLBOXES AND SMALL FORTS DISGUISED AS HOUSES.

U.S. 240-MM AND EIGHT INCHERS WERE SHELLING KARLSRUHE AND RASTATT, ANOTHER GERMAN CITY ON THE EAST BANK OF THE RHINE 13 MILES SOUTHWEST OF KARLSRUHE.

SHELLS LANDED NEAR RASTATT'S RAILROAD STATION AND A COLUMN OF SMOKE SHOT 2,000 FEET INTO THE AIR. THE GERMANS BLEW THE BRIDGE ACROSS THE RHINE TO KARLSRUHE.

AMERICAN ARTILLERY ALSO SHELLED PIRMASENS, GERMANY, 12 MILES NORTH-EAST OF BITCHE.

SINCE THE LANDINGS IN SOUTHERN FRANCE, AUG.15, LT.GEN.JACOB L. DEVERS' SIXTH ARMY GROUP, WHICH IS COMPOSED OF THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY AND THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY, HAS TAKEN 155,113 PRISONERS, 80,951 OF THEM CAPTURED BY THE AMERICANS AND 74,162 BY THE FRENCH.

JP1123PEW

30 24 — 21365

BY HAL BOYLE (200)

A BELGIAN VILLAGE UNDER GERMAN ATTACK, DEC. 18-(AP)-ONE FIGHTING LIEUTENANT WITH TWO ANTITANK GUNS AND THEIR CREWS KNOCKED OUT FOUR GERMAN ROYAL TIGER TANKS TODAY IN A FLAMING STREET BATTLE DURING WHICH FOR SIX HOURS THEY HELD UP AN ARMORED COLUMN SPEARHEADING THE GREAT NAZI OFFENSIVE.

AT DUSK, AFTER AMERICAN REINFORCEMENTS HAD ARRIVED, THE DOUGHBOYS WERE LOCKED IN A DESPERATE HOUSE-TO-HOUSE STRUGGLE WITH ENEMY TANKS AND INFANTRY AS GRAY-BODIED P-47 THUNDERBOLTS STRUCK AGAIN AND AGAIN FROM MISTY SKIES WITH BOMBS AND STREAMS OF BULLETS IN AN EFFORT TO HALT THE SUPPORTING GERMAN COLUMNS.

NIGHT NOW COVERS FRIEND AND FOE AND THE TARGETS ARE DIFFICULT TO DISCERN IN THE DARKNESS PIERCED BY BRIGHT, SPANKING ORANGE ARTILLERY BURSTS AND THE FLAMES OF BURNING HOMES AND VEHICLES. FOR MILES THIS PICTURESQUE VALLEY AMID ROLLING GREEN HILLS IS FILLED WITH BILLOWING SMOKE AND A CHILL MIST.

EXCEPT FOR THE BATTLE WISDOM OF LT.JACK DOHERTY, 27, 27, OF LATROBE, PA., AND THE VALOR OF HIS TWO GUN CREWS, HOWEVER, THIS FIGHT WOULD HAVE BEEN LOST BEFORE IT WAS WELL STARTED AND THIS SURPRISINGLY SPEEDY GERMAN COLUMN MIGHT NOW HAVE BEEN MILES INSIDE AMERICAN LINES, SHOOTING UP REAR AREA OUTFITS TOO LIGHTLY ARMED TO WITHSTAND IT.

JP1103PEW

WITH THE U.S.FIRST ARMY SOUTH OF MONSCHAU DEC 17-(DELAYED)-(AP)-

THE COMMANDER OF A COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION WHOSE MEMBERS ARE FIGHTING AS FOOT SOLDIERS WAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR ON THE SPOT TODAY BY HIS DIVISION COMMANDER FOR A GALLANT STAND WHICH SLOWED THE PACE OF THE CURRENT NAZI COUNTER-DRIVE INTO BELGIUM.

ALTHOUGH OUTNUMBERED, SOMETIMES AS MUCH AS EIGHT TO ONE, THE ENGINEERS HELD ON TO A CROSSROADS POSITION UNTIL REINFORCEMENTS COULD BE BROUGHT UP AND REMAINED IN THE LINE FOR ANOTHER HALF HOUR UNTIL THE FORCE OF THE ENEMY ATTACK HAD BEEN BLUNTED.

DURING THE ATTACK ENEMY TANKS ROARED INTO THE VILLAGE WHERE LT. HOWARD STEPHENS OF ST.LOUIS, MO., WAS STATIONED WITH PVT.ERNEST SIEGEL OF 2601 HANOVER STREET, RICHMOND, VA., AND SIX OTHER ENLISTED MEN.

THE MEN TOOK TO THE CELLAR WHEN GERMAN ARTILLERY LEVELED THE HOUSE IN WHICH THEY WERE SHELTERED. AFTER THE NAZI AIR COVER WAS BROKEN UP BY AMERICAN PLANES THE MEN WORKED THEIR WAY OUT THROUGH THE BACK OF THE VILLAGE AND UP A RIDGE TO SOME FOX HOLES.

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STEPHENS TOLD SIEGEL TO TRY TO GET BACK TO THE UNIT COMMANDER, CAPT.GEORGE YOUNG, WHOSE WIFE LIVES IN PORTSMOUTH, OHIO. SIEGEL FORCED A GERMAN TRUCK TO TURN BACK BY FIRING MOST OF HIS LONE CLIP OF AMMUNITION AT IT AND THEN HAD TO HOLE UP FOR A HALF HOUR TO AVOID ENEMY MACHINEGUN FIRE. HE EVENTUALLY REACHED A RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY WHICH GAVE HIM AMMUNITION AND WALKED THE REST OF THE WAY TO DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

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KK608AEW

[redacted] WILSON

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS NEAR BITCHE, FRANCE, DEC. 18-(AP)-HUGE MAGINOT LINE FORTRESSES IN THIS PART OF NORTHWESTERN ALSACE BEGAN TO CRUMBLE TODAY UNDER THE COMBINED ASSAULT OF YANK DOUGHBOYS AND ENGINEERS EMPLOYING EVERY WEAPON FROM BAZOOKAS TO DYANAMITE.

TWO SECTIONS OF FORT SIMSERHOFF AND EIGHT SECTIONS OF FORT SCHIESSECK WERE OVERRUN BY THE TROOPS WHO HAVE BEEN HAMMERING AT THE POWERFUL PILLBOXES FOR NEARLY A WEEK. BOTH FORTS ARE WITHIN TWO MILES OF BITCHE.

IT WAS NECESSARY TO CAPTURE SOME OF THE PILLBOXES TWO OR THREE TIMES BECAUSE THE GERMANS FILTERED BACK INTO THEM THROUGH TUNNELS.

"IT TOOK 675 POUNDS OF DYNAMITE TO WRECK ONE PILLBOX SO THE GERMANS COULDN'T USE IT AGAIN," SAID CAPT.CHARLES HIBBARD OF PINEVILLE, KY., OF AN ENGINEER BATTALION COMMANDED BY MAJ.CHARLES ALVORD OF MARQUETTE, MICH.

THE MAIN FORTS OF SIMSERHOFF AND SCHIESSECK ARE CONCRETE STRUCTURES 800 YARDS LONG AND 300 YARDS WIDE SURROUNDED BY DOZENS OF PILLBOXES AND SUBSIDIARY FORTIFICATIONS, ALL ON COMMANDING HEIGHTS AND ALL WITH THICK STEEL DOORS AND ALMOST IMPENETRABLE ROOFS. THE GERMANS TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO TAKE THEM FROM THE FRENCH IN 1940.

THEIR FALL WOULD OPEN THE WAY FOR FORCES HERE TO FOLLOW THE OTHER SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS INTO GERMANY.

IN THE WISSEMBOURG GAP, MEANWHILE, 79TH DIVISION MEN PROBED BEYOND BERG ALONG THE RHINE IN THE PALATINATE.

THE 14TH ARMORED DIVISION PENETRATED SEVEN ROWS OF DRAGON TEETH IN THE SIEGFRIED LINE BUT WAS PINNED DOWN BY INTENSE FIRE FROM SIEGFRIED LINE FORTS JUST SOUTH OF OBER OTTERBACH.

OF THE FOUR SEVENTH ARMY DIVISIONS FIGHTING IN THE GAP, THE 103RD INFANTRY MADE THE DEEPEST PENETRATION INTO GERMANY--ABOUT FOUR MILES TO THE VICINITY OF REISDORF.

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THE 45TH INFANTRY ON ITS WEST FLANK WAS FIGHTING IN NIEDER SCHLETTENBACH AND WAS APPROACHING RUMBACH AND BUNDENTHAL ABOUT TWO MILES INSIDE THE BORDER.

ONE OF THE CAPTURED SECTIONS OF ONE OF THE FORTS WAS CONVERTED

TO AN AMERICAN COMMAND POST.

PVT. CLARENCE DUEWIGER, 630 HOPKINS ST., BUFFALO, N.Y., SAID IT "HAD SHOWERS IN THE OFFICERS QUARTERS. WE TRIED A BAZOOKA ON THE STEEL BOMR AND ONLY DENTED IT. WE WENT DOWN 19 PLATFORMS BEFORE WE RAN INTO WATER."

PVT. ORAN GAMBLIN, 826 MAPLE AVE., DALLAS, TEX., SAID "THEY WERE THROWING EVERYTHING BUT THE KITCHEN SINK AT US."

LT. DONALD BOURNE, 1714 55TH ST., PORTLAND, ORE., WAS COMMANDING ONE COMPANY MAKING THE ASSAULT.

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PVT. JOSEPH BOBACK OF CROSWELL, MICH., CORP. HENRY ROBINETT OF PENDLETON, ORE., PVT. JOSEPH BOONE, 831 BRADSHAW ST., INDIANAPOLIS, IND., AND SGT. WILLIAM FERRIGNO OF CAMDEN, N.J., WERE AMONG THE BOYS TAKING ALL THE GERMANS COULD THROW OUT.

AN ENGINEER PLATOON LED BY LT. JACK CHARLES OF FRUITA, COLO., BRAVED ENEMY FIRE TO GET UP THE FORTRESS OUTLETS AND PLANT DYNAMITE CHARGES IN THE ENTRANCES AND EXITS, SOME OF WHICH WERE 1,000 YARDS FROM THE MAIN DEFENSE POSITION.

ADVANCE FIFTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS--FIRST ADD HOUSE MILITARY COMMITTEE (ORIGINAL) X X THE FRONT.

OTHER REMARKS BY THE CONGRESSMEN INCLUDED:

REP. JOHN MARTIN COSTELLO (D-CALIF): "THE PEOPLE BACK IN THE UNITED STATES HAVEN'T THE LEAST IDEA OF THE TYPE OF FIGHTING IN ITALY. THAT SHOULD BE CORRECTED.

"IT IS QUITE EVIDENT THAT THERE IS GOING TO BE A LONG, HARD STRUGGLE, IF THE PEOPLE AT HOME KNEW, THEY WOULD BE A LITTLE LESS OPTIMISTIC. THEY WOULD REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS. THERE WOULD BE NO SHORTAGE OF AMMUNITION."

(FIELD MARSHAL SIR HAROLD ALEXANDER, COMMANDER IN CHIEF IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, ACKNOWLEDGED IN A STATEMENT LAST MONTH THAT THE ALLIED ASSAULT ON THE NAZI GOTHIC LINE HAD COME TO AN ALMOST COMPLETE HALT IN THE MUD OF THE PO VALLEY AND PEAKS OF THE APENNINES. ALEXANDER'S STATEMENT WAS PROMINENTLY PUBLISHED.

("I CAN'T TELL HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE TO DRIVE THEM OUT," HE SAID, "BUT IT WILL BE DONE." HE DECLARED THAT THE ORIGINAL PLAN FOR ATTACKING THE GOTHIC LINE HAD TO BE ALTERED BECAUSE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ALL FRENCH DIVISIONS AND SOME AMERICAN DIVISIONS FOR THE INVASION OF SOUTHERN FRANCE, ADDING "AT NO TIME DURING THE ITALIAN CAMPAIGN HAVE WE HAD ANY BUT A SLIGHT SUPERIORITY IN NUMBERS.")

REP. PAUL SHAFER: (R.-MICH.) "I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT THE MAJORITY AND MINORITY RECOGNIZE THERE IS NOT ENOUGH NEWS GETTING BACK HOME. WE SHOULD BE GIVEN MORE TRUTH BACK HOME. WE HAVE GOT TO GET THE PEOPLE OVER THE IDEA THAT THE WAR IS OVER."

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REP. CHARLES H. ELSTON (R-OHIO): "I THINK THE PEOPLE ARE NOT GETTING ALL THE NEWS BACK HOME AND THE BOYS OVER HERE ARE NOT GETTING THE NEWS OF HOME. I THINK SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE TO SEE THEY GET MORE NEWS. I DON'T THINK THE FAULT LIES WITH NEWSPAPER MEN AND WOMEN. SOMEWHERE THERE IS A BLUE PENCIL. I WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOME AMERICAN NEWSPAPER ISSUE EDITIONS IN THE WAR THEATERS."

REP. ARTHUR WINSTED (D-MISS): "A GREAT JOB IS BEING DONE BY ALL. I AM MUCH IMPRESSED BY THIS THEATER."

REP. PAUL J. KILDAY (D-TEX): "THE LAWMAKERS ARE LEARNING MUCH THAT WILL BE HELPFUL IN REWRITING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE ACT."

THE DELEGATION ATTENDED CHURCH SERVICES ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF A BLASTED BUILDING NEAR THE FRONT LINES. CAPT. DEAN STEVENSON, POTTSVILLE, PA., EPISCOPAL CHAPLAIN, WAS IN CHARGE. A SMALL ORGAN WAS PLAYED BY SGT. STANLEY GUNN OF KENOSHA, WIS., WHO USED TO PLAY THE ORGAN IN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT APPLETON, WIS.

HJ120 PEW

30-2x—21367

ROME, DEC 18-(AP)-ALLIED AIRMEN KNOCKED DOWN 48 OF MORE THAN 100 GERMAN PLANES ATTEMPTING TO INTERCEPT HEAVY 15TH AIR FORCE BOMBER FORMATIONS EN ROUTE TO BOMB SYNTHETIC OIL PLANTS IN GERMAN SILESIA YESTERDAY, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

BOMBER GUNNERS DESTROYED 26 OF THE NAZI PLANES AND THE REMINDER FELL TO ESCORTING FIGHTERS.

THE LAST COMPARABLE OPPOSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED BY ITALY-BASED BOMBERS ON AUG.22 WHEN SOME 150 GERMANS ATTACKED FORMATIONS OVER SILESIA. THE NAZIS LOST 57 PLANES ON THAT OCCASION.

THE MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE LOST 29 PLANES DURING THE DAY OUT OF A TOTAL OF 1,900 SORTIES WHICH INCLUDED SWEEPS OVER GERMAN TARGETS IN ITALY AND YUGOSLAVIA.

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RETURNING AIRMEN SAID ONE GROUP OF NAZI FIGHTERS PENETRATED PROTECTIVE SCREEN AROUND A GROUP OF LIBERATORS AND SUCCEEDED IN KNOCKING DOWN 10 OF THE BIG BOMBERS AT A LOSS OF 20 OF THEIR OWN PLANES.

HIGH SCORER OF THE DAY WAS CAPT. ROBERT A.KARL, FOND DU LAC, IOWA, 22-YEAR-OLD LEADER OF A MUSTANG SQUADRON WHO BAGGED THREE PLANES IN RAPID SUCCESSION. HE NOW HAS A TOTAL OF SIX ENEMY PLANES TO HIS CREDIT.

THE LEADING FIGHTER GROUP ON THE SWEEP INTO GERMANY WAS LED BY CAPT. JACK R.SMITH, 23, SAN SIMON, ARIZ.

OTHER PILOTS SCORING TWO VICTORIES WERE LIEUTENANTS CHARLES L.MCCLOSKEY OF STOW, OHIO; PAUL E.MALONE OF 89 LAUREL ST., RIDGEFIELD PARK, N.J.; NORMAN C.SKOGSTAD OF BARRON, WIS., AND MANNIE E.RASK OF ROUTE 1, VICTORIA, ILL. SKOGSTAD NOW HAS A TOTAL OF EIGHT CONFIRMED.

GROUP LEADER SMITH KNOCKED DOWN ONE ENEMY PLANE, AS DID THE FOLLOWING LIEUTENANTS:

VINCENT TRANQUILLO OF 1530 MCKEAN ST., PHILADELPHIA, JERRY C. WEILER OF 911 NORTH BIRNEY ST., BAY CITY, MICH.; KENNETH C. CAMPBELL OF 1430 EAST 67TH ST., CHICAGO; GEORGE W.GIBSON JR. OF 1111 CONGRESS ST., EMPORIA, KANS.; JAMES CORWIN JR. OF 4117 UPTON AVE., SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.; REVIS G.SIRMON OF ABBEVILLE, LA.; JOHN E.MICHELSON OF 4529 COLBATH AVE., VAN NUYS, CALIF.; ROBERT B.NOURIE OF 206 WEST EL PARDO DRIVE, SAN ANTONIO, TEX.; WALTER J.STIMLER OF NORTH CUMBERLAND, MD.; AND ROBERT C. GROOM OF 730 KIRKWOOD ST., DUBUQUE, IA.

CH327PEW

(NY) ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, (BY MAIL)-(AP)-STAFF SGT. JACK TAYLOR OF (29 W. 9TH ST.) OSWEGO, N.Y., IS DOING THE SAME JOB IN THE ARMY AS HE DID AT HOME -- SKIPPERING A TUGBOAT.

EXCEPT FOR DUTY BOSSING STEVEDORES IN NORTH AFRICA AND 42 DAYS AT THE ANZIO BEACHHEAD, TAYLOR HAS BEEN HANDLING AN ARMY TUGBOAT, FIRST AT NAPLES AND THEN LEGHORN.

HIS WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN TUG TO ENTER THE HARBOR, TOWING FLOATING PORT EQUIPMENT AND HE DIRECTED THE BERTHING OF THE FIRST LIBERTY SHIP TO ARRIVE FROM THE UNITED STATES.

"THE PORT COMMANDER HAS ORGANIZED A SMALL CRAFT SECTION AT LEGHORN WHICH IS MADE UP ALMOST ENTIRELY OF MEN FROM MY COMPANY," TAYLOR SAID. "WE DON'T WANT TO BRAG, BUT WE THINK THE ARMY HAS A PRETTY GOOD LITTLE NAVY."

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FOR 12 YEARS BEFORE ENTERING THE ARMY, TAYLOR OPERATED A TUGBOAT FOR THE CAHILL FISH CO., OF OSWEGO. BEFORE THAT HE SAILED THE GREAT LAKES.

ME918AEW

ADD ATHENS -(BARBER) xx GOVERNMENT

HIGH MILITARY SPOKESMEN REAFFIRMED THE AMERICAN POSITION OF STRICT NEUTRALITY TODAY, STATING THAT AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN ATHENS WERE LIMITED TO RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.

RELIEF SHIPS, LOADED WITH SUPPLIES FOR THE UNDERFED CIVILIANS OF GREECE, STILL HAVE NOT BEEN UNLOADED BECAUSE OF THE GENERAL STRIKE CALLED BY THE EAM.

PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU'S PRESS SECRETARY REPORTED TODAY THAT THE ELAS HAD BEEN ENTIRELY CLEARED FROM PIRAEUS, BUT THERE WAS NO CONFIRMATION FROM THE BRITISH.

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SN715PEW

ADD MYITKYINA THEATER

BRIG.GEN.ROBERT M.CANNON OF 5386 COTTONWOOD LANE, MURRAY, UTAH, CHIEF OF STAFF IN THE NORTHERN COMBAT AREA, RECEIVED THE SAW AWARD FOR "EXCEPTIONALLY MERITORIOUS PERFORMANCE AS ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF AND G-3 OF THE CHINESE ARMY IN INDIA-BURMA DURING THE HUKAWNG AND MOGAUNG CAMPAIGNS, AND FOR PREPARING PLANS FOR THE INVASIONS OF THE HUKAWNG VALLEY AND THE MYITKYINA AREA."

J.I1003AEW

ADD MINDORO (WAITE) 1X RACE

AUSTRALIAN AND AMERICAN MEN AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT WENT TO WORK ON THE FIELD THE NIGHT OF INVASION DAY--LAST FRIDAY.

THE WORKERS WERE NOT HANDICAPPED BY MUD, SUCH AS WAS ENCOUNTERED ON LEYTE, SINCE THIS IS THE DRY SEASON FOR MINDORO.

THE JAPANESE FLED FROM SAN JOSE IN SUCH HASTE THEY LEFT BEHIND WARM BREAKFAST BOWLS OF RICE AND TINY CLAMS.

GENERAL DUNCKEL TOURED THE PERIMETER OF THE INVASION AREA THE SECOND DAY AND COUNTED A TOTAL OF SIX JAPANESE KILLED. THAT TOTAL HASN'T RISEN SINCE--NOT COUNTING ENEMY PILOTS SHOT DOWN.

LT.JACOB V.EDGE, DOWNINGTON, PA., OF AN ARMY ENGINEERING UNIT, SAID THE UNLOADING OF THE INVASION CONVOY AND THE CLEARING OF THE BEACHES WAS "BEAUTIFUL--THE BEST I'VE EVER SEEN."

THE DAY FOLLOWING THE FIRST INVASION WAVE, THE BEACHES WERE CLEARED. THERE WAS NO CONGESTION--NO PILES OF SUPPLIES, AS HAVE LITTERED OTHER ISLAND BEACHES.

AN AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE CONSTRUCTION UNIT, WORKING ON THE SAN JOSE AIRFIELD, WAS PICKED FOR THE JOB. IT HAD ALREADY PROVED ITS ABILITY AT DARWIN, AITAPE AND MOROTAI.

THE UNIT INCLUDES A STARTLING VARIETY OF SPECIALISTS, FROM HEAVY MACHINERY OPERATORS TO ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, CARPENTERS, MECHANICS, BRICKLAYERS AND LANDSCAPE GARDENERS.

ITS BULLDOZERS WERE AT WORK THE FIRST NIGHT ON THE AIRFIELD.

EVERYWHERE THINGS MOVE WITH EQUAL SMOOTHNESS.

THE FIRST NIGHT CARL F.PLATE, RED CROSS FIELD DIRECTOR, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT 27 WILSON ST., UNION, S.C., HAD A PHONOGRAPH PLAYING ON THE BEACHHEAD IN AN IMPROMPTU "JAM SESSION" OF POPULAR SWING BAND RECORDINGS.

SWEATING SOLDIERS TOOK TIME OUT FOR HOT COFFEE WHILE THEY LISTENED TO THE MUSIC.

A SMALL ENEMY BOMB WAS THE ONLY INCONVENIENCE.

PLATE SIMPLY MOVED HIS PHONOGRAPH A SHORT DISTANCE ALONG THE BEACH AND STARTED OVER.

ANTIAIRCRAFT BATTERIES ARE NOW PLACED AT ALL VITAL POINTS; DEFENSES OF THE INVASION PERIMETER ARE BEING STRENGTHENED AND PLANES WILL SOON BE LANDING AND TAKING OFF.

THE NAVY'S SPEEDY TORPEDO BOATS ARE PATROLLING NEARBY WATERS, BUT HAVE MADE NO REPORT OF CONTACT WITH ENEMY SURFACE CRAFT. THEY HAVE SHOT DOWN 11 JAPANESE PLANES TO DATE.

SAN JOSE IS A BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY OF HOMES AND MANY OF THE RESIDENTS APPEAR WELL TO DO. SOME OF THEIR GUEST HOUSES ARE PALATIAL. THEY HAVE SUCH THINGS AS PRIVATE SWIMMING POOLS. THERE'S EVEN A BOWLING ALLEY.

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L MN6PPW

ADD USFFA (LANDSBERG) XXX TONS

AN UNDETERMINED NUMBER OF OTHER VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED IN WHAT THE COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO AS A SEVERE ATTACK ON A 200-TRUCK CONVOY NEAR SAN JOSE, NORTHEAST OF MANILA.

BOMBS AND STRAFING ALSO CAUSED DAMAGE TO NUMEROUS MILITARY BUILDINGS BRIDGES, PIERS, WAREHOUSES, DERRICKS, OIL AND GAS STORAGES AND ANTIAIRCRAFT AND AVIATION FACILITIES.

THE JAPANESE, DESPITE THE REPEATED POUNDING OF LITTLE IWO JIMA, MANAGED TO MOUNT THREE INTERCEPTORS. ONE LIBERATOR WAS DAMAGED BY ACKACK.

ROCKET-FIRING MITCHELLS OF THE SECOND MARINE AIRCRAFT WING POUNCED ON A SMALL ENEMY TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE BONINS AND THE VOLCANOS SATURDAY, AND OBSERVED TWO EXPLOSIONS ABOARD THE SHIP. THE SAME DAY MARINE AVENGERS AND CORSAIRS STRUCK THE AIRSTRIP AT YAP ISLAND. LIBERATORS BOMBED WOLEAI IN THE WESTERN CAROLINES.

MARINE FLIERS BOMBED AND STRAFED SHIPPING AND OTHER TARGETS AT BABELTHUAP IN THE PALAUS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, SINKING A LAUNCH.

QD705PPW NM

BY JAMES HUTCHESON (490)

LEYTE, PHILIPPINES, DEC.18-(AP)-NAVY P-T BOATS TODAY RESCUED 23 AMERICAN SOLDIERS FROM A FISHING BOAT ON WHICH THEY HAD FLED WITH 73 SPANIARDS AND FILIPINO GUERRILLAS AFTER BEING SURROUNDED BY JAPANESE.

THOSE RESCUED IN THE PRE-DAWN [illegible]S THANKED THEIR LUCKY STARS

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THAT THE P-T SKIPPERS, LT. (JG) G.J.AZARIGIAN, 458 EDGEWOOD, HARTFORD,CONN., AND ENSIGN DUDLEY JOHNSON, KERRVILLE,TEX., FOLLOWED A POLICY OF INVESTIGATING BEFORE SHOOTING, EVEN IN ENEMY WATERS.

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THE TWO-MASTED FISHING BOAT HAD SERVED THE AMERICANS AND THEIR FRIENDS AS A GETAWAY CRAFT FROM THE JAPANESE HELD NORTHWEST LEYTE COAST.

RETURNING FROM A NIGHT PATROL, THE P-T BOATS SPOTTED THE UNIDENTIFIED CRAFT, VISIBLE AS ONLY A DARK SHADOW.

LT.AZARIGIAN SAID HE FIRED A FLARE WHICH "LIGHTED THE WHOLE AREA -- THEN I HOLLERED 'WHO ARE YOU?' WHEN I DID THAT ROWS OF HEADS BOBBED UP ALONG THE BOAT'S RAIL. YOU NEVER HEARD MORE HAPPY SHOUTING IN YOUR LIFE THAN WHEN THEY SAW WHO WE WERE."

THE RESCUED SOLDIERS TOLD THE P-T OFFICERS THEY HAD BEEN SENT ON RECONNAISSANCE PATROL DEEP INTO ENEMY TERRITORY ON LEYTE. JAPANESE THEY BYPASSED CLOSED IN BEHIND, CUTTING THEM OFF. THEY ESTIMATED THEY WERE SURROUNDED BY 1,500 JAPANESE.

THE TRAPPED SOLDIERS RAN OUT OF AMMUNITION, FOOD AND WATER AFTER A WEEK IN THE MOUNTAINS. THEIR RADIO SET WAS BROKEN.

FINALLY THEY MADE THEIR WAY TO THE COAST, THEIR ONLY AVENUE OF ESCAPE THE SEA. THERE THEY ENCOUNTERED THE SPANIARDS AND GUERRILLAS WHO TOOK THEM ABOARD THE 70-FOOT FISHING BOAT.

THE CROWDED LITTLE CRAFT WAS ONLY 800 YARDS OFF THE JAPANESE HELD SHORE WHEN IT WAS SIGHTED BY THE P-T BOATS.

"THERE WAS NO WIND," SAID LT.AZARIGIAN, "SO THE SAILBOAT WAS DRIFTING HELPLESSLY.

"IT WAS DAYLIGHT BEFORE WE COULD CARRY ALL OF THEM TO THE P-TS BY DINGHY AND RUBBER LIFE RAFT. WE NEVER EXPECTED TO REMAIN IN THOSE WATERS AFTER DAYLIGHT AND WE WERE REALLY AFRAID ENEMY PLANES WOULD SPOT US.

"IF IT HAD BEEN A FEW WEEKS AGO, WE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD A CHANCE OF GETTING BACK ALIVE," ENS.H.F.NORTON, 3357 BISHOP, TOLEDO,OHIO, AZARIGIAN'S EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SAID.

"IT WAS A STRANGE COLLECTION OF PEOPLE, WITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN AMONG THEM. THEY RANGED FROM BABES IN ARMS TO GRANDMOTHERS.

"WE BROUGHT 55 OF THEM IN. WITH OUR CREW OF 16, THAT MADE JUST ABOUT A RECORD FOR A P-T BOAT LOAD.

"WE SCRAPED TOGETHER SOME FOOD FOR EVERYBODY. THE CREW WENT WITHOUT BREAKFAST TO HELP.

"ONE WOMAN EXCLAIMED AT THE SIGHT OF BREAD: 'I HAVEN'T SEEN BREAD FOR THREE YEARS.'"

OFFICERS WITH ENSIGN JOHNSON ON THE OTHER P-T BOAT WERE LT.(JG) EDMUND MCNAMARA, 228 MAIN, CLINTON,MASS., AND ENSIGN WATSON MAGEE, 500 NORTH SIXTEENTH, NASHVILLE,TENN.

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FJ1221ACW

BY VERN HAUGLAND

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, DEC.18-(AP)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-THE FIRST B-29 FORMATIONS ATTACKING NAGOYA THIS AFTERNOON FOUND THE CITY COMPLETELY OBSCURED BY OVERCAST, BUT THEY DROPPED THEIR BOMBS BY PRECISION INSTRUMENTS THROUGH THE CLOUDS.

THE RAIDERS KEPT GOING OVER UNTIL MID-AFTERNOON, HOWEVER, AND THE LAST TWO FORMATIONS FOUND THE CLOUDS DISSIPATED SUFFICIENTLY TO ENABLE THEM TO DROP THEIR EXPLOSIVES VISUALLY.

CREWS RETURNING TONIGHT REPORTED A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF FIGHTERS, PARTICULARLY AGAINST THE LATER UNITS, BUT COMPARATIVELY FEW SHOWED ANY AGGRESSION.

THE AIRMEN REPORTED A NUMBER OF FIRES IN NAGOYA'S INDUSTRIAL

WATERFRONT AREA. A 20-YEAR-OLD TAILGUNNER, CORP. VINCENT J. DI FILIPPI, (1037 SIXTY-FIRST ST.) BROOKLYN, N.Y., SAID HE COUNTED 19 COLUMNS OF SMOKE ALONG THE WATER FRONT "BEFORE SOME JAPANESE FIGHTERS CAME IN AND MADE ME LOSE COUNT."

SGT. CLARENCE CERES, HARVEY, ILL., CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER IN A PLANE COMMANDED BY CAPT. PERSHING L.YON (CORRECT), TALLAHASSEE, FLA., SAID HE GOT IN SOME SHOTS AT AN ENEMY FIGHTER FROM 200 YARDS.

"I FIRED ALL SIX GUNS AT HIM--PUT IN 50 BURSTS AND HE FELL AWAY," SGT. CERES SAID.

TAIL GUNNER DI FILIPPI SAID HE SAW THE ENEMY PLANE, SMOKING, ROLL UPWARD, THEN DIVE STRAIGHT DOWN, STREAMING FIRE. GUNNER SGT. THOMAS BONVICINI, BRIDGEPORT, CONN., SAID ABOUT EIGHT FIGHTERS IN ALL ATTACKED BUT ONLY THIS ONE CAME CLOSE, THE OTHERS DIVING OUT WHENEVECTHE GOING GOT TOUGH.

LT.WILLIAM W.DOUDS, (457 TORRENCE ROAD,) COLUMBUS, OHIO, COPILOT FOR FIRST LT.STANLEY PIERCE, LOS ANGELES, COUNTED 30 FIGHTERS OF WHICH HE SAID SEVEN MADE PASSES. HE SAW ONE JAPANESE PLANE CATCH FIRE AND ROLL OVER.

THE GREAT SUPERFORTRESSES IN THEIR RAIDS TODAY AIMED ESPECIALLY AT NAGOYA'S AIRCRAFT FACTORIES.

MAJ.WILBUR E.HURLBUTT, GENEVA,N.Y., AND LT.DELBERT BARRON, BORGER,TEX., PILOTING EARLY B-29S OVER THE TARGET, CALLED IT RATHER UNEVENTFUL BOMBING THROUGH THE OVERCAST WITH FEW FIGHTERS AND MODERATE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE.

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LATER FLIERS WHO GLIMPSED THE CITY WERE MORE ENTHUSIASTIC. THEY INCLUDED CAPT.JOHN H.BREWSTER, MANCHESTER,N.H., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT (45 ST.PAUL'S PLACE) NEW ROCHELLE,N.Y., AND CAPT.JAMES B.LAMPLEY, HENDERSONVILLE,N.C.

BREWSTER SAID "I BELIEVE PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BEAR ME OUT WHEN I SAY THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST BOMBING MISSIONS I HAVE BEEN ON. OUR BOMBARDIER (2ND LT.THOMAS A.CUMMINS, WHEELING,W.VA.) REALLY LAID THEM ON."

LAMPLEY SAID DIFFICULT WINDS MADE IT ONE OF THE LONGEST AND MOST DIFFICULT MISSIONS HE HAS FLOWN.

"THE FIGHTERS WEREN'T BAD," HE SAID. "THERE WAS QUITE A BIT OF ACK-ACK BUT IT NEVER CAUGHT UP WITH US."

2ND LT.WALTER SIWEK, WILLIMANTIC,CONN., FLIGHT ENGINEER FOR CAP.YON SAID HE BELIEVED YOU'S PLANE RAN INTO HEAVIER FIGHTER OPPOSITION THAN THE OTHERS.

FOR TWO HOURS THE BIG PLANES FROM SAIPAN RANGED OVER THE IMPORTANT WAR INDUSTRY CITY IN THE HEART OF THE JAPANESE MAINLAND ON HONSHU ISLAND, DUPLICATING IN NUMERICAL STRENGTH THE DEVASTATING RAID THEY MADE ON THAT SAME TARGET DECEMBER 13.

(AT THE SAME TIME SUPERFORTS OF THE 20TH BOMBER COMMAND, STRIKING FROM AN ASIATIC BASE, BLASTED DOCKS AND STORAGE FACILITIES AT HANKOW, JAPANESE-OCCUPIED CHINESE CITY ON THE YANGTZE RIVER, WITH "GOOD" RESULTS, THE WAR DEPARTMENT SAID. THE CIRCUMSTANCES INDICATED THERE WERE UPWARDS OF 100 B-29'S IN THE RAID. ALL RETURNED TO THEIR BASE. THEY PROBABLY SHOT DOWN FIVE JAPANESE FIGHTERS AND DAMAGED SEVEN OTHERS.

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(POSSIBLY 200 OF THE GIANT PLANES PARTICIPATED IN THESE OPERATIONS. THE JAPANESE SAID THERE WERE 70 IN THE NAGOYA RAID AND ADMITTED THEY HAD DONE DAMAGE, INCLUDING THE STARTING OF FIRES WHICH REQUIRED "RESOLUTE EFFORTS" BY AIR RAID DEFENSE WORKERS BEFORE THEY WERE PUT OUT.)

(A LATE WAR DEPARTMENT COMMUNIQUE IN WASHINGTON SAID THE SUPERFORTS STARTED "LARGE FIRES AT THE MITSUBISHI AIRCRAFT PLANT" IN THE NAGOYA RAID. THE CREWS WERE REPORTED AS OBSERVING "HEAVY EXPLOSIONS" IN THE PLANT. ONLY "SLIGHT" AERIAL INTERCEPTION AND "MODERATE" ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE WERE ENCOUNTERED AND ALL PLANES RETURNED.)

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WHILE THE SAIPAN PLANES WERE ON THEIR WAY, BRIG.GEN.HAYWOOD HANSELL, JR., COMMANDER OF THE 21ST, REPORTED THAT PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AFTER THE DECEMBER 13 NAGOYA BOMBING SHOWED GREATER DAMAGE TO THE HATSUDOKI FACTORY OF THE MITSUBISHI AIRCRAFT WORKS THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED.

TWO ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS OF 710,000 AND 656,00 SQUARE FEET WERE RESPECTIVELY 13.5 PER CENT AND 48 PER CENT BURNED OUT, HE SAID. TWO OTHERS OF 180,000 AND 216,000 SQUARE FEET WERE 70 AND 60 PER CENT GUTTED AND PRESUMABLY PUT OUT OF OPERATION. TWENTY-TWO SMALLER STRUCTURES WERE DESTROYED OR BADLY DAMAGED.

DESPITE THIS PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF DESTRUCTION, HANSELL SAID THE HATSUDOKI PLANT STILL WAS FAR FROM DESTROYED. HE CAUTIONED AGAINST OVER-OPTIMISM.

WEATHER REPORTS TODAY INDICATED CLEAR SKIES OVER NAGOYA, GIVING PROSPECTS FOR MORE PRECISION BOMBING. RECONNAISSANCE, HOWEVER, SHOWED THE JAPANESE HAD INSTALLED ADDITIONAL ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS THERE SINCE THE FIRST BIG RAID.

(JAPANESE REPORTS OF TODAY'S OPERATIONS SAID THERE HAD BEEN AN 18-HOUR SERIES OF SUPERFORT RAIDS, BEGINNING AT 9 P.M. SUNDAY, JAPAN TIME, WITH NAGOYA THE MAIN TARGET. BUT THE BIG PLANES ALSO FLEW OVER OSAKA, KOBE AND KYOTO, WITHOUT DROPPING BOMBS, AND APPEARED OVER NANKING, SEAT OF THE JAPANESE PUPPET GOVERNMENT IN CHINA.

(THE JAPANESE WIRELESS AGENCY SAID THE SUPERFORTS FEINTED TOWARD TOKYO AND THEN TURNED WESTWARD FOR NAGOYA, WHICH IS JAPAN'S GREATEST CENTER FOR THE PRODUCTION OF PLANES AND AIRCRAFT PARTS.

(THE ENEMY REPORTS MADE NO CLAIMS OF SHOOTING DOWN ANY OF THE SUPERFORTS).

DV415PCW

TWENTY-FIRST U.S. BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, DEC.18-(AP)-WO SUPERFORTRESSES GAVE NAGOYA AN UNEASY NIGHT BEFORE TODAY'S SECOND AID IN FORCE BY THE BIG BOMBERS ON THAT IMPORTANT JAPANESE INDUSTRIAL ITY.

ONE B-29, COMMANDED BY CAPT. JAMES M.CAMPBELL, SUMMIT AVE. EXTENSION, GREENSBORO, N.C., BOMBED NAGOYA AT 10:15 LAST NIGHT. THE OTHER, COMMANDED BY LT.PAUL D.BOLTON, 1449 ROLLINS ROAD, TOLEDO, OHIO, BOMBED THE CITY SEVEN HOURS LATER.

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CAPT. CAMPBELL SAID HE FOUND NAGOYA MOSTLY BLACKED OUT, WITH ONLY A FEW LIGHTS ALONG THE COAST.

"WE BUCKED AN 180-MILE CROSS WIND, SO STRONG WE SEEMED ALMOST STANDING STILL, AND WERE HELD OVER THE AREA 20 MINUTES," HE ADDED.

"THE JAPS FLICKED ON SEARCHLIGHTS AND THEN TURNED THEM OFF. ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE WAS MEAGER AND INACCURATE.

"WE BOMBED THE CENTER OF THE CITY. EIGHT MINUTES LATER WE BANKED TO THE RIGHT AND I COULD LOOK. I SAW AN AREA HALF A MILE LONG AND 200 YARDS WIDE BURNING IN A STRAIGHT BROAD LINE LIKE A RACE TRACK, WITH A TREMENDOUS FIRE ON ONE END. I COULD SEE IT ALL THE WAY TO THE COAST--ABOUT 50 MILES--BEFORE CLOUDS OBSCURED IT."

ONE OF CAPT.CAMPBELL'S ENGINES STARTED SPUTTERING DURING THE APPROACH TO THE TARGET AND CONTINUED ACTING UP ALL THE WAY HOME.

LT.BOLTON AT 4:45 NEXT MORNING FOUND THE AREA PRETTY WELL CLOUDED OVER BUT MADE A GOOD RUN. ONE GUNNER SAW BOMBS BURST. THE RED GLOW OF FIRES WAS VISIBLE AGAINST THE FIRE STARTED BY CAPT.CAMPBELL'S BOMBS, WHICH HAD PROBABLY BEEN EXTINGUISHED HOURS BEFORE.

MM905PPW NM

BY VERN HAUGLAND

21ST U.S.BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS,SAIPAN,DEC.18-(AP)-

TWO ENLISTED MEMBERS OF A PLANE GROUND CREW ACTED AS IMPROMPTU FIREMEN DURING A RECENT JAPANESE AIR RAID AND SAVED A SUPERFORTRESS FROM DESTRUCTION.

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LOW-FLYING BOMBING AND STRAFING ZEROS SET THE B29 AFIRE. DESPITE REPEATED STRAFING ATTACKS AND THE DANGER OF AMMUNITION EXPLOSIONS, THE TWO MEN PUT THE FLAMES OUT BEFORE THE BIG BOMBER WAS BADLY DAMAGED.

THEY WERE TECH.SGT.GEORGE A.LUCAS, 78 KEYSTONE PARK, OMAHA,NEB., AND CORP.LEO F.KOSIER, 692 PINE ST., CENTRAL FALLS,R.I.

LUCAS SAID HE AND KOSIER WERE POLICING AROUND THE PLANE AT THE NOON HOUR WHEN "SUDDENLY MACHINEGUN AND CANNON FIRE STARTED RIPPING ALL AROUND US." HE WENT ON:

"KOSIER YELLED, 'THE SHIP'S BEEN HIT!' AND I SAW STREAMS OF GASOLINE RUNNING OUT ALONG THE BOMB BAY DOORS. I STARTED AROUND THE

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REAR OF THE SHIP TO A SANDBAGGED HOLE WHEN TWO OR THREE ZEROS ATTACKED AGAIN. I HUGGED THE GROUND AND WAITED UNTIL THEIR PASSES WERE MADE. I LOOKED OVER THE AIRPLANE AND I SAW NO.2 ENGINE BILLOWING SMOKE FROM THE NACELLE."

LUCAS AND KOSIER WEATHERED TWO MORE SWEEPS BY THE ZEROS, THEN TOOK PROTECTION PLATES OFF THE ENGINE AND PLAYED A FIRE EXTINGUISHER AT THE FLAMES.

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DV1052PCW

WITH ARMY ENGINEERS IN THE PALAU ISLANDS,NOV.30-(DELAYED)-(AP)-A LITTLE LUCK PLUS SOME TYPICAL YANKEE INGENUITY HAS GIVEN THIS ARMY ENGINEERING UNIT A CORAL SWIMMING POOL OF FRESH, COOL WATER, IN WHICH TO SEEK SURCEASE FROM THIS ISLAND'S BURNING HEAT.

THE ENGINEERS WERE BLASTING OUT POSTHOLES AND WHEN THEIR TRAINED EARS DETECTED A STRANGE NOTE IN A BLAST, THEY INVESTIGATED. FAR BELOW THEY SAW THE GLEAM OF WATER.

LT.COL.ALAN E.GEE, THEIR COMMANDING OFFICER, WAS LOWERED BY ROPE TO INVESTIGATE. HE FOUND A CAVERN 100 FEET LONG AND 50 FEET WIDE, FILLED WITH WATER, COLD CLEAR AND DEEP.

"COOLEST PLACE ON THE ISLAND," HE REPORTED ON EMERGING. "BLAST THE OPENING BIGGER AND WE'LL MAKE A SWIMMING HOLE."

SO 200 SERVICEMEN OF ALL BRANCHES DISPORT THEMSELVES DAILY AND FIND LIFE ON THIS TROPIC ISLE A LITTLE MORE BEARABLE.

DV1130PCWNM

BY OLEN CLEMENTS

HEADQUARTERS, ALASKA DEPT., ANCHORAGE,DEC.17-(AP)-A 3,700 TON ARMY SUPPLY SHIP OUT OF SEATTLE WAS DRIVENAGROUND AT COLD BAY, ALASKA YESTERDAY AS TERRIFIC STORMS AND HEAVY SEAS BUFFETED THE ALEUTIAN CHAIN.

THERE WAS NO REPORT HERE OF ANY LOSS OF LIFE ABOARD THE VESSEL, WHICH WAS ABANDONED. HEAVY SEAS AND WINDS TIED UP SHIPPING AND GROUNDED AIR TRAFFIC.

THE FEDERAL WEATHR BUREAU AT ANCHORAGE YESTERDAY RECORDED WINDS ALOFT OF 174 MILES AN HOUR VELOCITY AND ANOTHER LATER MEASUREMENT

ALOFT S. UED THEM EVEN STRONGER--OBSERVERS SAID SO STRONG IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR AN ACCURATE CHECK. THEY ESTIMATED THE VELOCITY AT 250 MILES AN HOUR, HOWEVER.

MT.MCKINLEY NATIONAL PARK WAS THAWING OUT AFTER RECORD BREAKING COLD. THE MERCURY AT ONE POINT DROPPED TO 52 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND 40 HOURS LATER HAD RISE TO 40 ABOVE--A DIFFERENCE OF 92 DEGREES IN THAT SHORT TIME.

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EW752PCW

HAVANA, DEC.18-(AP)-THE NATIONAL POLICE, IN A CAMPAIGN TO SUPPRESS A SERIES OF BOMBINGS, FORBADE THE CARRYING OF SUSPICIOUS OBJECTS ON HAVANA STREETS AFTER 10 P.M., AND ORDER PATROLMEN TO QUESTION ANY PERSON CARRYING ANY SORT OF PACKAGE.

IN THE LATEST INCIDENT, A BOMB DAMAGED THE FACADE OF THE HAVANA SALESMEN'S CLUBHOUSE EARLY TODAY. HOME-MADE EXPLOSIVES WERE THROWN AGAINST THE HOME OF LT.COL.PEDRO DIAZ BEFORE DAWN SUNDAY.

JP1233AEW

OTTAWA, DEC. 18-(AP)-THE PRICES BOARD ANNOUNCED TONIGHT THAT THE SUGAR QUOTA FOR THE MORE THAN 10,000 INDUSTRIAL USERS IN CANADA WILL BE REDUCEDIN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1945 FROM 80 TO 70 PER CENT OF 1941 USAGE.

A CORRESPONDING REDUCTION WILL BE MADE IN THE QUOTA FOR PUBLIC CATERERS AND HOTELS. NO CHANGE WILL BE MADE IN THE HALF-POUND A WEEK RATION FOR COUPON BOOK HOLDERS.

SAVING FROM THE QUOTA REDUCTION IN CANADA WILL AMOUNT TO ABOUT 10,000,000 POUNDS A QUARTER, THE BOARD SAID. A SIMILAR INDUSTRIAL QUOTA CUT WAS ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK IN THE UNITED STATES.

HJ825PEW

OTTAWA, DEC 18-(AP)-CPL.THOMAS JOHN COCHRANE, MEMBER OF A WESTERN ONTARIO REGIMENT AND SON OF MRS.MARY E.COCHRANE, 3249 EAST NINE MILE ROAD, HAZEL PARK, MICH., HAS DIED OF INJURIES, A CANADIAN ARMY CASUALTY LIST RELEASED TONIGHT.

BY133

NEW YORK,DEC.18 (AP)--THE NEW YORK TIMES IN A DISPATCH FROM LONDON TODAY BY RAYMOND DANIELL SAID THAT PREMIER STALIN AND PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL "DIVIDED EUROPE INTO SPHERES OF BRITISH AND RUSSIAN INFLUENCE" AT THE TEHERAN CONFERENCE A LITTLE MORE THAN A YEAR AGO.

THE DISPATCH SAID THE PART PLAYED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, WHO ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE, "IN THE DEAL IS NOT QUITE CLEAR."

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"IT APPEARS THAT HE WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME WHEN PREMIER STALIN AND MR.CHURCHILL REACHED THEIR AGREEMENT UNDERSTANDING ON THE DIVISION OF THE BALKANS AND THE PARTITION OF POLAND," THE ARTICLE STATED. "BUT MR. CHURCHILL HAS SAID THAT AT NO TIME IN ALL THE NEGOTIATIONS TO INDUCE THE POLISH GOVERNMENT IN LONDON TO ACQUIESCE IN THE DEAL HAS MR.ROOSEVELT INDICATED DEFINITELY THAT HE WOULD NOT GO ALONG.

"THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT THE PRIME MINISTER INDICATED THAT THE PRESIDENT EVER GAVE HIS APPROVAL TO A PLAN THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN HALF OF POLAND TO RUSSIA AND ALLOWED POLAND TO COMPENSATE FOR THE LOSS BY TERRITORIAL ACCRETIONS WESTWARD AT GERMANY'S EXPENSE."

THE TIMES SAID THAT NOT ONLY WAS THE POLISH BOUNDARY PROBLEM SETTLED AT TEHERAN BUT IT WAS [illegible] THAT BRITAIN WAS TO HAVE A

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"FREEHAND IN GREECE AND MAKE YUGOSLAVIA A KIND OF IDEOLOGICAL TESTING GROUND OF WESTERN DEMOCRACY IN EXCHANGE FOR BRITISH ACQUIESCENCE IN A SIMILAR RUSSIAN EXPERIMENT IN ROMANIA."

"AT LEAST," THE ARTICLE SAID, "THAT IS THE STORY BEING RETAILED NOW BY SOURCES WITH NO AX TO GRIND."

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BEFORE THE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AT TEHERAN THE TIMES ARTICLE SAID "THERE WAS CONSIDERING BARGAINING BETWEEN RUSSIA AND BRITAIN WHILE THE UNITED STATES MAINTAINED WHAT IS DESCRIBED AS A NEUTRAL ATTITUDE."

THE LONDON DISPATCH DECLARED THAT PREMIER STALIN HAD REFUSED TO COORDINATE THE RED ARMY'S OPERATIONS WITH THOSE OF THE WESTERN ALLIES UNTIL HE HAD RECEIVED DEFINITE ASSURANCE THAT GREAT BRITAIN WOULD SUPPORT RUSSIA'S CLAIM TO POLISH TERRITORY AS FAR WEST AS THE COURZON LINE.

THE TIMES SAID THAT EVENTS IN ITALY AND GREECE AND ELSEWHERE IN THE BALKANS TOGETHER WITH CHURCHILL'S RECENT SPEECHES HAVE BORNE OUT EARLIER REPORTS THAT AT THE TEHERAN CONFERENCE BRITAIN AND RUSSIA REACHED AN AGREEMENT ON EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL AND SPHERES OF INFLUENCE PROBLEMS.

REW TIMES AM936AM

30.24-21373

ASHINGTON,DEC.18-(AP)-SECRETARY OF STATE EDWARD R. STETTINIUS TODAY THAT BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE RICHARD K. LAW'S MISSION TO INGTON WAS CONFINED TO ECONOMIC MATTERS RELATING TO THE WAR. THE SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS NOT ALWAYS SIBLE TO DIVORCE ECONOMIC SUBJECTS FROM POLITICS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN A.

STETTINIUS SAID HE HAD A PLEASANT FIRST MEETING WITH LAW AND ADDED AT THEY WERE TO CONTINUE THEIR CONVERSATIONS LATER TODAY.

AB206PEW

(ADVANCE) WASHINGTON,DEC 19-(AP)-THE STORY OF A PHARMACIST'S MATE BROOKLYN WHO RESCUED AT LEAST THREE WOUNDED MEN FROM THE SINKING DESTROYER ESCORT EVERSOLE IN THE NAVAL BATTLE OF THE PHILIPPINES BEFORE HE WAS LOST WASHTOLD TODAY BY THE SKIPPER.

LT.COMMANDER GEORGE E.ARIX CITED THE HEROISM OF VITO THOMAS ACCARDI OF 241 STAGG ST.,BROOKLYN, AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE MAGNIFICENT BEHAVIOR OF THE CREW OF THE DE DURING HER FIGHT AND SINKING ON OCTOBER 29. THE EVERSOLE HAD FOUGHT OFF ENEMY AERIAL ATTACKS WHEN TWO TORPEDOES STRUCK HER.

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"WE HAD SOME CASUALTIES FROM THE TORPEDO HITS AND THE HEROIC EFFORTS THE ABLE MEN MADE TO GET THE WOUNDED TO SAFETY WERE MAGNIFICENT," MARIX RECALLS.

"I SAW ACCARDI, WHO WAS PAYING NO ATTENTION TO HIS OWN SAFETY, GET AT LEAST THREE WOUNDED MEN OUT OF A COMPARTMENT," HE RELATES.

ACCARDI IS LISTED AS MISSING IN ACTION.

WHEN THE SHIP ROLLED ON HER SIDE BEFORE GOING DOWN, THE WATER WAS ALIVE WITH SURVIVORS, MARIX REMEMBERS.

LT.ARTHUR E.LARKIN,JR., THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, OF 2840 GLENHURST, MINNEAPOLIS, ALTHOUGH HIMSELF WOUNDED, SAVED AT LEAST FIVE OR SIX MEN, HIS SKIPPER REPORTS.

LT. (JG) STEPHEN G.MROCZKOWSKI, 5964 CHENE ST.,DETROIT,

SAID MARIX, "KEPT SWIMMING BACK AND FORTH HELPING THE WOUNDED, FINALLY GIVING HIS OWN LIFE PRESERVER TO ONE MAN, EVEN THOUGH HE COULDN'T SWIM. LATER, WHEN HE WAS BADLY WOUNDED HIMSELF, HE REFUSED TO TAKE UP SPACE ON A RAFT. HE WAS STILL ALIVE WHEN RESCUED, BUT HE DIED 36 HOURS LATER."

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THE COURAGE OF THE MEN CONTINUED EVEN AFTER ANOTHER DE HAD PICKED UP SURVIVORS, SAYS MARIX, CITING THE CASE OF CHIEF PHARMACISTS MATE GEORGE KELLY FAIRCLOTH, OF THE NAVARRO APARTMENTS, ORANGE ST. MACON,GA. ALTHOUGH WOUNDED AT THE TIME HE WAS RESCUED, FAIRCLOTH STAYED ON HIS FEET TO HELP WITH THE EMERGENCY WORK ON THE RESCUING SHIP FOR 36 HOURS AND THEN COLLAPSED. HE HAD TO BE CARRIED ABOARD A HOSPITAL SHIP."

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 9 A.M.,(EASTERN WARTIME,TUESDAY,DEC.19)

HY536AEW

PHILADELPHIA, DEC 18-(AP)-THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS SHIP CARITAS, 2D, BEARING 300,000 CHRISTMAS BUNDLES FOR GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN THIS COUNTRY, ARRIVED HERE SATURDAY AND NOW IS RELOADING TO TAKE CHRISTMAS PACKAGES TO AMERICANS INTERNED OVERSEAS, THE AMERICAN RED CROSS DISCLOSED TODAY.

THE JOB OF UNLOADING GIFTS FROM GERMANY WAS COMPLETED OVER THE WEEK-END, A RED CROSS SPOKESMAN SAID. TODAY THE FIRST OF ABOUT 500,000 GIFT PACKAGES FOR AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR WERE SWUNG ABOARD THE SHIP.

SHIPMENTS OF CLOTHING, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND FOOD FOR THE LIBERATED NATIONS ALSO ARE BEING SENT OVERSEAS, THE RED CROSS SAID.

FIRST PORT OF CALL ABROAD FOR THE CARITAS WILL BE MARSEILLES, FRANCE. THE NEXT STOP WILL BE GOTEBORG, SWEDEN, ACCORDING TO THE RED CROSS.

THE SHIP, WITH CAPT.W.BAARTWIJL IN COMMAND, SAILS WITHOUT CONVOY, WITH IMMUNITY UNDER SWISS REGISTRY.

JH1154PEW

HOLLYWOOD, DEC 18-(AP)-AN UNUSUAL KIND OF A CHRISTMAS PRESENT WAS ON ITS WAY TODAY TO AMERICAN SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN AROUND THE GLOBE FROM THE ARMED FORCES RADIO SERVICE.

IT'S A DELUXE PACKAGE OF CHRISTMAS RADIO SHOWS, RECORDED HERE AND NOW EN ROUTE BY WAY OF THE AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND FOR USE ON MORE THAN 440 BROADCASTING OUTLETS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD DEC. 25.

COL.THOMAS H.A.LEWIS, COMMANDING OFFICER OF AFRS, SAID THE RADIO PACK INCLUDES A TWO-HOUR COMMAND PERFORMANCE WITH SUCH STARS AS BOB HOPE, FRED ALLEN, JACK BENNY, DANNY KAYE, JUDY GARLAND, DOROTHY LAMOUR AND MANY OTHERS.

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ANOTHER OF THE PROGRAMS IS "CHRISTMAS STOCKING" WITH GINGER ROGERS, CORNELIA OTIS SKINNER, ROLAND YOUNG, DINAH SHORE AND VICTOR YOUNG'S ORCHESTRA. FRED WARING AND HIS PENNSYLVANIANS PROVIDE A PROGRAM OF OLD FASHIONED CAROLS.

DINAH SHORE PRESENTS A MUSICAL "CHRISTMAS CARD" FEATURING THE AFRS BAND AND HER OWN BLUE-SHADED SINGING. FOR THE BING CROSBY FANS THERE IS A SPECIAL EDITION OF "PERSONAL ALBUM."

COL.LEWIS SAID THE TALENT WAS PROVIDED THROUGH COOPERATION OF THE HOLLYWOOD VICTORY COMMITTEE.

EV359APW NM

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY (MONDAY):

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CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S. NINTH ARMIES: LINES UNCHANGED.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: FIGHTING TO BLUNT GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE THAT MADE GAINS OF SEVERAL MILES IN PENETRATIONS OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: PARTLY BREACHED SIEGFRIED LINE AT DILLINGEN.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: FIVE PALATINATE VILLAGES CAPTURED IN DEEPER PENETRATION OF GERMANY.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: BATTLED GERMANS NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

-DASH-

U.S. DIVISIONS

14TH ARMORED (7TH ARMY): ADVANCED THROUGH WISSEMBOURG GAP TO WITHIN 32 MILES OF MANNHEIM AND LUDWIGSHAFEN.

35TH INFANTRY (THIRD ARMY): FOUGHT INTO GERSCHEIM, TWO MILES INSIDE SAAR BASIN; GAINED HALF-MILE NORTH OF REICHEIM.

36TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): SEIZED KAYSERBERG, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

90TH INFANTRY (THIRD ARMY): SMASHED STALEMATE AT DILLINGEN IN DECISIVE VICTORY.

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95TH INFANTRY (THIRD ARMY): GAINED SLIGHTLY IN FRAULAUTERN AND
INSDORF WESTWALL DEFENSES EAST AND NORTHEAST OF SAARLAUTERN.

103RD INFANTRY (SEVENTH ARMY): FOUR MILES INSIDE GERMANY NORTH OF
ISSEMBOURG.

79TH INFANTRY (SEVENTH ARMY): PROBED BEYOND BERG ALONG THE RHINE
N THE PALATINATE.

MD

undated hungarian

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by the associated press

the nazi-controlled budapest radio reported in a broadcast recorded tonight by the federal communications commission that hungari troops "in considerable force" were being sent into germany for "train

the broadcast, apparently trying to placate the hungarian soldiers being transferred inside the reich, urged them to accept thei removal from hungary.

it said that since part of hungary had fallen ~~into~~ "temporarily into enemy hands," it was necessary "that hungarian troops who began their training in occupied countries, troops that represent a considera force, should receive additional training, which is a prerequisite to

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victory, in safe gr[illegible]n territ[illegible]ry" and that the troops ~~xhxx~~ "should

be pleased ~~thxk~~ with the fact that friednly germany is sharing her weap

nd bread with you."

DEC 17 1944

mp-owi-1145pew

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SOB).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).
M515AEW

Germans Halted On Northern Flank Of Offensive In Monschau Sector; Six Attacks Thrown Back

SOME AMERICANS STAND UNTIL OVERRUN BY TANKS RATHER THAN FALL BACK

Fighting On Front To The South, However, Is Called Fluid And Obscure, With Deep Enemy Penetrations Reported

DEC 18 1944

By J. W. GALLAGHER

South of Monschau, Dec. 19 (AP)—Veteran American troops, flung into one of the war's weirdest battles on a moment's notice, brought the German attack on the northern flank near here to a bloody halt today in a welter of wrecked tanks and dead men.

At least six German counterattacks were smashed.

Farther to the south the situation remained fluid and obscure, with deep German penetrations reported, but in this mountainous pine-covered area, where millions of snow-covered evergreens stand like Christmas trees, the German Elite Guard tank columns have been stopped and hurled back while their flying bombs still thunder overhead.

How it was done is one of the war's most fascinating battle stories.

Held Until Run Over

Some gallant Americans stood fast in their foxholes and allowed tanks actually to run over them rather than retreat. It was one of the most spectacularly courageous actions since a British Coldstream Guard unit in Tunisia two years ago this month fought a German *Panzer* attack outside Medjez el Bab until the tanks crushed them in their trenches.

Not all the actions in this bitter fighting are of such exemplary bravery, for there are other American formations which are cracking under the onslaught.

It is a front of wild confusion. Often officers and men who have been trapped for days behind the German lines smash their way back to the 1st Army side and bring with them fantastic tales of what they saw. Just as often these stories are greeted with calm disbelief by the tough veterans who have been fighting off the Germans and who now have succeeded in stabilizing this section of the front.

Road Changes Hands

There was a colonel who told us that if we went down a certain road we would be "corpses within an hour." But we drove down that same road for an hour and found the front still an hour away. The highway was as safe as New York's Fifth avenue and just as crowded.

Battles are being fought in the rolling, wooded front along roads on which Belgian refugees peddle one way on bicycles and long lines of guns and tanks go in the other direction.

The ground is snow-pocked, and a slight thaw has sent a steamy fog rising out of the trees, making the whole scene look like a subdivision of Dante's Inferno. Out of the fog come the thunder and whistle of shells. Out of the low-hanging clouds come the drone of hundreds of planes. Whose they are no one knows, because the pilots don't dare drop down for strafing. The clouds touch the top of the trees.

Hospital Overrun, Retaken

An American hospital south of here was overrun by a German tank column which pushed on, leaving some parachutists to load the nurses and wounded onto trucks for transfer to Germany.

Lieut. Col. Charles Horner, of Doylestown, Pa., an infantry battalion commander on reconnaissance, dashed into the town in a jeep. Two American half-tractors followed.

The hospital was recaptured intact in some fast gunplay that outdid any wild west thriller.

"The colonel sized up the situation and started shooting and the parachutists ran for it," declared Major William R. Washington, of Crozet, Va., a member of the small battalion.

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Wounded Evacuated Quickly

The wounded and hospital personnel then were evacuated hurriedly and Americans took over the town just in time to shoot up two jeeploads of Germans who drove into town in captured American vehicles.

Then more German tanks appeared, and American troops and tank-destroyers started slugging it out with them. The town now is firmly in American hands.

A few miles south of here, another group of tank destroyers knocked out three of five German tanks that they engaged in a furious three-hour fight.

The German infantry suffered heavy losses today for the first time since their offensive started.

Baltimore Major Quoted

"The pushing days for those Krauts are finished around this sector. If there is any pushing to be done, we will do it," declared Major Albert H. Smith, of 522 Chateau avenue, Baltimore.

American losses also have been heavy, as shown by crowded aid stations. Many men are being picked up after hiding in the woods behind the German lines two or three days.

At one station Sergt. Ronald Johnson, of Creekside, Pa., had just helped two wounded men from behind the German lines.

Caked with mud and weaving on his feet from lack of sleep, he said: "When the attack started, artillery hit our

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company command post, killing everyone but another fellow and myself. The Germans took us prisoner but some of our boys counterattacked and we escaped into the woods.

Made Their Way Back

"We made our way back to our unit—or what's left of it—and the boys dug in again when we were attacked by big German tanks.

"Some of the boys stood right in there fighting until the tanks ran over their foxholes and crushed them.

"I got away again with two wounded boys. By keeping to the woods, I was able to bring them into our lines. That's all, I guess."

In the same station, two weary scouts dozed against the wall. They were Private Walter Malenofsky, of South River, N.J., and Sergt. Edward Stozenback, of 1 Tyrone street, Baltimore, whose unit fought a rear-guard action through territory they had captured only two days before.

"We had captured twelve pillboxes before they hit us and we had to start back, but we destroyed them all as we fell back," Malenofsky said.

"It was all mixed up. We kept fighting and retreating and then fighting and retreating again."

New Attacks Beaten Back

Capt. William Bartlett, of El Paso, Texas, declared: "This front has been stabilized for several miles now. The Germans have launched several counterattacks today, but we have beaten them all back."

The front has been stabilized in this area by Americans going down roads until they met the Germans and then slugging it out. The skirmishes are won by the men who shoot first and the straightest. Where the front has been stabilized it has been done on the spot in blood and steel.

It is apparent that Field Marshal von Rundstedt's attack was cunningly conceived. At first he pushed out small units along a 50-mile front attempting to engage as many American units as possible and then he shot over power punches at several selected spots.

South of here one of these power punches carried forward several miles in the first day. Another was supposed to go through the sector where I am now. It was stopped cold last night and today. Hour by hour, the Germans are finding the going harder.

Armor in Attempt To Stem the Tide

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, Paris —(AP)— The German Christmas counter-offensive on the Western Front assumed the proportions of an attempted major breakthrough last night as the first frontline dispatches trickling through a news blackout disclosed that the U. S. First Army was massing infantry and armor in an effort to stabilize the front.

Despite the Americans' desperate holding fight, the enemy's tank-led battering ram continued probing into Belgium and Luxembourg on a front of approximately 70 miles extending from above Monschau in the north to the vicinity of Echternach in the south.

The Germans apparently were hammering with the same fury that in the first three days of the assault rolled back the First Army at least 20 miles at one point.

Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher said the Nazi advance had been halted south of Monschau yesterday in bloody fighting during which "some gallant doughboys stood fast in their foxholes and let themselves actually be run over by the Nazi tanks without retreating."

But further south the situation still remained fluid and obscure, Gallagher said.

Supreme headquarters maintained its own strict news censorship, but promised a full and truthful account of the reverse on the First Army front would be given the public at the earliest moment consistent with military security.

A front dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent William F. Boni said "General Hodges was throwing all available forces into the effort to stem the "most serious setback to American arms on this side of the world since Kasserine Pass in Tunisia."

Boni said the main German effort had been fairly well channelized and contained on its flanks but that the enemy spearhead still was probing into Belgium, with elements of crack divisions providing the impetus. The press camp was evacuated to the rear during the night.

Late yesterday an emergency call brought a big force of U. S. Flying Fortresses and British Lancasters from British fields to spread 2,000 tons of fragmentation and high explosive bombs on rail and road junctions immediately behind the attacking Nazi forces.

They were forced to bomb through thick ground-clinging clouds and fog which shrouded the blazing 60-mile front and denied the hard-pressed doughboys the invaluable support of fighters and fighter-bombers.

As Von Rundstedt's battering ram smashed into the deeply-dented American line south of Aachen, Allied headquarters imparted only the terse information that "the attack is continuing." This curtain of silence appeared to indicate that the enemy's forward momentum had not been halted. The Germans still were packing the roads with equipment and men.

The German high command declared that Nazi tank forces "have broken through, smashed and dispersed units of the American First Army deep into the enemy rear." Like the Allies, however, the Germans dealt only in generalities.)

Up to last night the only specific clue as to the extent of the German penetration was the report that British Typhoons had attacked a score of enemy armored vehicles "west of Stavelot," a town 22 miles by road from the Reich frontier. Stavelot is 9½ miles southwest of Malmedy and 2 miles from the fortress city of Liege.

Despite the terrific enemy pressure against its right, the First Army sustained its pressure along the Roer River east of Aachen, sending patrols across the stream into the Nazi stronghold of Duren, 20 miles from Cologne.

Fog rolled like grey surf along the Ninth Army front just to the north, while ever-increasing floods in Holland limited the British and Canadians to patroling. Clouds clung to the treetops.

German resistance stiffened markedly all along the Siegfried Line from Luxembourg to Switzerland and it was plain that the Allied winter offensive had been fought to a temporary standstill.

General Patton's Third Army lines remained practically unchanged—his gains dwindled to almost nothing after 41 days of steady advances.

The Seventh Army of General Patch hammered at Siegfried defenses along a 20-mile front westward from the Rhine in the Bavarian Palatinate, but met savage opposition and registered no gains of consequence. The Americans' every move was being furiously and accurately fired upon by Nazi artillery which was registered on every foot of terrain.

German observation planes ranged thickly over the Third Army front with every break in the weather, bombing and strafing American movements and obviously making a supreme effort to prevent any possible transfer of forces to the threatened First Army front.

In Belgium the once-happy civilians who just 10 weeks ago kissed their American liberators were reported standing mute in the village streets, watching the Yanks retreat.

Paris, Dec. 19 (AP) — American doughboys and tanks struck back today at the German counteroffensive that had cut twenty miles into Belgium, while to the north 1st Army patrols had crossed the Roer River barrier into Duren.

American blows to stabilize the front were thrown in as the bold Nazi push probed into Belgium and Luxembourg on a 60-mile front.

The 1st Army maintained pressure on the Cologne front despite the menacing counteroffensive. Just before noon yesterday patrols of the 83d Division's 329th Regiment crossed the Roer and pushed into Duren, stronghold city twenty miles from Cologne. (LONG)

Nazi Success Reported

Supreme headquarters imposed security silence on the powerful German counteroffensive, but a 1st Army dispatch said one German tank thrust below Monschau "had some success in a frontal push," with the Germans being contained on some sectors.

The Germans were striking from above Monschau to near Echternach. The deep plunge into Belgium carried a broad flanking threat to Aachen.

The German onslaught was powered by massed reserves and supported by a new vengeance weapon of an undisclosed type. Supreme headquarters was silent on details of the battle.

20 Miles Inside Belgium

But the Germans at one point were twenty miles or more inside Belgium and 25 miles south and slightly west of Aachen. An air report told of British Typhoons shooting up Nazi armored vehicles "west of Stavelot," which lies eighteen airline miles and nearly 22 by road from the German border.

The 1st Army line had been wedged back fifteen miles or more at this point. The enemy assault driving in at Stavelot may have been launched from somewhere west of the Reich border.

The 1st Army patrols sent into Duren felt out one of the main strongholds on the Cologne plain. The Germans had pulled back to the east bank of the Roer on a broad front above and below Duren after weeks of costly battle.

Heavy Artillery Fire

Heavy German artillery fire fell on the 1st and 9th Army fronts. Ninth Army men in the Linnich area above Duren mopped up the towns of Wurm and Mullendorf.

Along the southern sector of the long Western front, the United States 7th Army hacked at stubborn German resistance along a line running twenty miles northwest from the Rhine. German artillery was extremely active. West of Bitche, 7th Army men battled to overcome two Maginot forts. Two towns were taken in a two-mile gain northwest of Wissembourg.

Farther west the 3d Army mopped up all but the factory district of Dillingen, and cleaned up strongpoints in Roden, suburb of Saarlautern. Small gains were scored east and northeast of Saareguemines.

The crucial battle was centered on the 1st Army sector, and fighting still was heavy and costly.

Here the 1st Army was fighting desperately, with magnificent air support. The Germans swept to Stavelot in a day and a half.

The news blackout was 24 hours old. This was the second time that news silence had been imposed over an Allied reverse—the first was at Arnhem. It was the first time a news ban had been imposed on the American front for reasons other than to mask great United States advances.

Berlin said Hitler himself had planned this recoil drive, upon which may hinge the outcome of the whole Western campaign.

[Berlin dispatches to Bern declared the counteroffensive was designed to retake Aachen and expel Allied forces from Nazi soil.]

24 Miles From Liege

Stavelot is but 24 miles from the fortress city of Liege, and four and a half miles southwest of Malmedy. The situation at Malmedy and other towns in line of the drive was shrouded in silence.

The circumstances hardly call for easy optimism. The foe's "risk-all" drive could, by a deep wedge, threaten lateral communications between the Allied northern and central fronts. But, on the other hand, the Germans are pushing into a pocket of their own making—a hazard so obvious that Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt, or perhaps even Hitler, must have weighed the danger long before committing the German forces in such strength.

The Germans have tried this same desperate game before—and both were times when Hitler had snatched control from his generals. He attempted it once in Africa and again about a year ago in the Ukraine with the famed but futile "Iron Avalanche" counteroffensive intended to gain back Kharkov and split the Red Army offensive.

Air Power Vital Factor

Against this latest drive, Allied air power may again tip the scales, as it did at Avranches and in the Falaise gap.

The weather was bad today, but it was also bad yesterday when British and American fighter-bombers gave German armor one of its heaviest batterings. Revised United States 9th Air Force figures claimed 112 German tanks, half-tracks and other vehicles destroyed or damaged yesterday, trimming earlier estimates of 95 smashed and 26 destroyed. The British did not report their total for the day.

One pilot described the havoc left from the aerial attacks, made through low clouds and hailstorms, as the greatest destruction of German armor since the battle of the Falaise Gap in Normandy last summer, when the German 7th Army went to its death.

Nazis Lose 46 Planes

Rundstedt was apparently throwing in his whole arsenal. German planes were aloft again by the hundreds along the United States 9th Army front, as well as over the dented 1st Army lines. The Germans lost at least 46 planes, bringing their total losses for two days to close to 200. Eleven American fighter-bombers were missing yesterday.

The 1st and 9th Army fronts were athunder with anti-aircraft fire and the explosions of new type V-weapons which the Nazis hurled against forward as well as rear areas, a front dispatch said. Official censorship did not permit a description of this new weapon.

A British correspondent at the front said the 1st Army was not being pushed back but was "being torn up in battle or not budging."

Meanwhile, from Washington came casualty figures showing that the American offensive in November had been costly. The November casualties were 57,775—almost one fourth of the total American losses on the Western Front since D-day.

First Army Masses

1ST ARMY SPLIT, GERMANS SAY

Strong Reserve Forces Still Available, Berlin Asserts

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Berlin claimed tonight that the United States 1st Army had been "cut in two" by the German counteroffensive employing "more than two divisions" on the Western front and said that the attack was planned personally and was being directed by Hitler.

Although a news blackout on military developments was maintained by the Germans as it was by the Allies, Berlin broadcasts to listeners both within the Reich and abroad said that strong German reserves were available to keep up the momentum of the drive despite "considerable losses in the last few months."

"It is clear that more than two divisions have been flung into the attack," a German Army broadcast said, "but how big our reserves are and where they are placed is known only to the Führer and a few selected persons."

Hitler Reported Well

Without giving details, another broadcast said that German armor had cut Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's army in two and, for the first time, gave definite indication that the idea behind the offensive was to stabilize the entire Western front by beating the Allies to the punch.

The whole secret of Hitler's silence now is revealed, a German announcer told German forces in the west.

"The Führer is excellent," he said. "In all tranquillity we let the enemy guess, lie and provoke because we didn't want to tell the world the reason the Führer surrounded himself with a veil of silence—because he planned and prepared the German offensive during these last days and weeks to the last detail."

Sertorius Comments

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, German military commentator, asserted that as a result of the counterblows, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower would have to use reserves he has been building up for "purely offensive purposes" and added:

"Eisenhower, the man who has been regarded as the prototype of methodical warfare, has been coerced to take improvised methods of defense. Necessarily, he is bound to weaken his assault armies and now draw on them, among them the 1st Canadian and the 2d British armies."

At the same time, the German DNB news agency reported that British forces were preparing to launch a mass attack on the Roer River front in collaboration with the left wing of the 1st American Army.

Withdrawal In South

The German withdrawal from their Siegfried Line positions on the Alsatian frontier between the Rhine and the South Palatinate woods was admitted by Wolfgang Rohbeil, a frontline German war correspondent, who said, "the enemy is closely pressing on our heels with mobile and tank forces."

The Germans still were cautious in predictions on the results of the counteroffensive. The German Army newspaper *Front und Heimat* said only "Whatever the outcome of this offensive, the aim of which is not known to us, perhaps it has shown us that things are moving. We are about to make a return."

From Berlin

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The German high command declared today that Nazi tank forces "have broken through, smashed and dispersed units of the American 1st Army deep into the enemy rear."

The broadcast German communiqué said that American tanks hurled against the advancing Germans were repulsed "during a night tank battle."

Attacks Continue

"Our troops continued attacks along the whole front," the communiqué added.

The bulletin declared 24 aircraft were shot down by Nazi fighters and bombers.

Press dispatches received in Stockholm from Berlin declared that the Germans were comparing their current Western front operation with the Russian counterdrive in 1941 that hurled the Nazis back from the gates of Moscow.

"Christmas Offensive"

A German spokesman who made the comparison was quick to add, however, that it could not be considered likely to create such a "turning point" in the fortunes of war as did the 1941 Soviet winter attack.

The Berlin dispatches received in Stockholm were generally cautious, but stressed that the home front was pleased at the news the high command was able to launch a "Christmas offensive" after so many months of bad news.

The announcement coincided with the issuance of Christmas rations of 50 grams (less than two ounces) of coffee and a half bottle of schnapps.

Shell Superiority

A Berlin correspondent for the *Stockholms Tidningen* reported that the first evidence of something afoot on the Western front came three days ago, when the German military declared its artillery was able to fire more shells than the Allies for the first time since the invasion began.

The correspondent quoted from a recently published German review of the fighting in the West, which declared that the Allies were suffering losses of 6,000 killed and wounded daily, and that the United States 9th Army had won a 15-mile advance at a cost of 300,000 casualties.

NEWS OF 1ST ARMY HELD UP FOR SECURITY

Full Account Is Promised By SHAEF At Earliest Possible Moment

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 19 (AP) — The full and truthful account of the reverses on the American 1st Army front will be given the public at the earliest moment consistent with military security, supreme headquarters promised tonight.

The statement was in answer to protests of American and British correspondents against the news blackout imposed on the German counteroffensive in Belgium and Luxembourg.

There was no indication, however, as to how soon any part of the story would be brought into the open, and no likelihood that the restrictions would be removed within the next 24 hours.

Correspondents here were told that the news ban was imposed upon the specific direction of Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, commanding the 1st Army, with the concurrence of supreme headquarters.

Hodges's Approval Awaited

The blackout, it was said, would not be lifted until Hodges agreed that Allied disclosures would not be giving the Germans information on the extent and location of the penetrations, which they might not otherwise know definitely due to the fluid battle and extended communications.

Correspondents expressed the view that it should be possible at least to give an account of the first day's developments in the counteroffensive, declaring it unlikely to assume that the German command was not now fully aware of its gains on Sunday. The question was raised whether continuance of the blackout was now due entirely to security or stemmed in part from actual inability to communicate between SHAEF and 1st Army headquarters.

Nazis Using V-3 Rocket To Aid Offensive in West

Variant of V-2 Is Smaller and Is Fired at Shorter Range

CLEVELAND, Dec. 19 (AP).—Major General Levin H. Campbell, chief of Army ordnance, disclosed today that the new secret German "V" weapon used by the Nazis in their current western front offensive is a variant of the V-2 rocket which bombed London.

At a press conference, General Campbell described the new weapon, which he termed the "V-3 or V-4," as wingless, capable of speed greater than sound, but smaller than the V-2. The smaller size, he said, was for use at much shorter ranges than the V-2.

The ordnance chief said that some of the new rockets, which, like the V-2, soar into the stratosphere, were captured and were under examination by Army experts.

of sleep in a small Belgian home near the still raging battle, Doherty told with wry humor of his epic stand.

Gets Action In A Jiffy

"We moved down to the line after an all-night trip and didn't get into position until 6 o'clock this morning," he said. "The battle started at 6.05, and once we started we kept firing until noon—just as our help came up."

Against this small force of two guns and one infantry company came battering at least a full battalion of German infantry and 22 or more tanks.

"It was still dark and I sent one of my three-inch anti-tank guns across a stream at the edge of the town to try to hold a wooden bridge there. We did hold it until daybreak, when machine gunners drove us away, but we retook it by 8 o'clock—but we lost it again at 9. It was burning when we finally pulled back at noon," Doherty said.

"Their machine gunners and snipers gave us hell from the very start. The Jerries were firing at us from houses which we discovered later were fortified pillboxes.

"We put thirteen direct hits at 800 yards through one house and after we found we were getting trouble from several of them we just cracked down on the whole row. An anti-aircraft outfit helped us spray them and we set six houses aflame.

"At 10 o'clock I got another of my guns up and had both set up in cobblestoned streets 300 yards apart when four Royal Tiger tanks came nosing down the street. We were ready and with the first shots each of my guns set one Tiger ablaze.

"Nobody came out of one tank put a shell squarely through the turret," said Doherty. "Nobody climbed out."

During the fight another Tiger moved up and knocked out Doherty's halftrack and set his jeep on fire. To save his men Doherty ordered them back.

He managed to pull back one gun with the help of Sergt. Louis Celanto, of New Haven, Conn.; his corporal, Gunner Roy Ables, of Cleveland, Tenn., and the rest of the crew.

To protect them, the leading gun commanded by Sergt. Martin Hauser, of Los Angeles, and Gunner Corporal Paul Lanzo, Newark, N.J., continued to engage the well-placed Tiger.

Two Stick By Gun

"Hauser and Lenzo didn't want their buddies killed, so they ordered them to stand flank guard and then stuck by the gun themselves," said Doherty. "They were squarely in the middle of the street and stood exposed to fire, shot for shot with the Tiger, for ten rounds.

"That gave us time to get the other gun away. Then Hauser and Lenzo destroyed their own gun so the Germans wouldn't get it and made their way back afoot six miles to headquarters.

"When he got back our platoon sergeant, Vester O. Lowe, of Sarasota, Fla., raised himself from his bunk and remarked: 'Hitler would be damned unhappy if he knew those two guns which caused so much trouble to his pet tanks were commanded by an Italian and German—Celanto and Hauser.'"

Political Aims Seen In Timing Of Drive

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Observers in this war capital today were in general agreement that the German counteroffensive was timed carefully to have the greatest possible political effects on Allied home fronts as well as being an effort to upset General Eisenhower's offensive plans on the battlefront.

Staged while civil warfare was going on in Greece and the Russian-Polish question is being sharply debated, the Germans may have struck sooner than they originally had planned in order to add a military setback to other current Allied problems.

Effect Of Casualty Lists

The Germans also hope, it is believed, that large Allied casualty lists might have a depressing effect on home fronts.

"The German push today, unlike that of 1918, is not an attack but a counterattack," the *Daily Mail* said. "Its object is not by itself to win the war but to prolong it to a point at which the Allies may be induced to offer terms. More important still, their object is to create further dissension among the United Nations and to dishearten Allied peoples."

Lesson In War

The *Daily Herald*, observing that the Allies are being taught a lesson in the hazards of war, added that "the full defeat of Fascism requires a military victory and a positive political strategy."

The *Daily Express* said the attack may be welcomed in so far as destruction of Germans is more important than loss of territory, providing the territory lost is not big enough to affect the Allied plans.

Nazis Holding French Ports Tie Up Yanks

Paris, Dec. 19 (AP)—German-held pockets at Lorient and St. Nazaire on France's west coast are exerting an influence on the great battle raging in Belgium by tying down thousands of American troops originally intended for that front.

These troops were diverted to the pocket areas as an emergency measure to relieve armored units operating in the marshy country around the two ports.

It was felt that the low terrain was more suitable to infantry than tanks, and the commanding general was told his forces were needed to "clear up a quick job" before being reassigned to the main Allied front.

Enemy Bottled Up

These forces now are bottling up 50,000 Germans who occupied the ports as a part of the general plan to deny all principal French ports to Allied use. Brest and St. Malo have been taken, but the Lorient, St. Nazaire, La Rochelle and Bordeaux areas are still blocked by a total of 100,000 Germans.

Thus at a critical moment in the Reich's history this long-range German plan, conceived before D-day but largely nullified by the swift Allied advance, is paying dividends by immobilizing thousands of United States Army troops.

2 U.S. Anti-Tank Guns Stop Nazis 6 Hours

A Belgian Village Under German Attack, Dec. 18 [AP—Delayed]—Two American anti-tank guns commanded by Lieut. Jack Doherty, 27, of Latrobe, Pa., knocked out four German Tiger tanks in a flaming street battle today and for six hours held up an armored column spearheading the Nazi offensive in this sector.

Doherty and his men, supported only by a single company of doughboys, bore the brunt of sledgehammer thrusts by the vanguard of the German armored smash.

Standing hollow-eyed from lack

and only two men got out of the other. They ran into a house and climbed on the roof—so we shot the roof off right out from under them.

"A third German tank came around a corner and both my guns trained on it and hit it simultaneously. The Tiger bounced back just like a man hit square in the nose by big fist. The crew took shelter in a house and we tore it apart with fifteen rounds and wiped them out—and most of the house with them."

The fourth Tiger backed along the road like a blind beetle.

"We finally got a line on it and

Belgians Hastily Erase Gibes at Returning Foe

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LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP).—With the German Army driving back into Belgium, Belgian civilians are hurriedly scrubbing from walls and buildings slogans derogatory to the Nazis, front dispatches said today.

One correspondent told of seeing a man hastily washing from the side of his home a picture of Adolf Hitler receiving a kick in the pants. The Belgians, he said, were stunned by the turn of events.

Himmler Said to Command Germans in Colmar Area

By The Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY, in Germany, Dec. 19—Heinrich Himmler is personally directing the Germans in the Colmar-Mulhouse pocket and on the Alsatian plain, reports received by the Seventh Army said.

The Gestapo chieftain was said to have come to the Alsatian plain to urge the German forces there to resist as strongly as possible to relieve pressure on the Siegfried Line to the north. The Germans have recently reinforced their troops in this area.

Marshal Rundstedt Reported Wounded

New York, Dec. 19 (AP)—The *Stockholms Tidningen* said today that Field Marshal von Rundstedt had been "slightly wounded," according to a dispatch reported to the OWI.

The Swedish newspaper said Rundstedt was reported to be dissatisfied with the German offensive in the West because "too large reserves have been lost from the beginning."

"Rundstedt at first definitely refused to start this hazardous offensive, which would demand the entire German army's fighting capacity," the dispatch said.

According to the "German Officers' Opposition," the Swedish newspaper declared, the order for the German counteroffensive was issued by Interior Minister Heinrich Himmler and not by Hitler, as widely published in Germany.

Much Staked on One Card.

Berne, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—The German High Command has increased the strength of its western offensive in a gigantic effort to recapture Aachen and drive the Allied forces from German soil, the Berlin correspondent of the Basler Nachrichten said today. The correspondent was permitted to report that much concerning the Nazi counter-offensive, but detailed information was withheld by Military Security Control.

He said there was no doubt in Berlin that "a great deal has been staked on one card," and that "consequently, great results are awaited." Neutral observers agree that if the Allied armies can be pushed back across the German border the Nazi will to fight on will be enhanced.

LUFTWAFFE USING ITS 'GAS' RESERVES

Twenty-first Army Group Headquarters, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—The German air force is dipping into its gasoline reserves at the rate of 630,000 gallons a week in the current counter-offensive, and "the Boche will find it difficult to keep up," a R. A. F. officer said today.

But German planes roared in great strength over the American sector yesterday and carried out sporadic hit-run raids on widely scattered British-Canadian sectors in Holland. Supporting the Americans, the R. A. F. flew more than 550 sorties over American sectors, but German flyers repeatedly refused to give battle.

Under the combined American and British air assault, German ground troops are taking a terrible punishment. The state of their nerves was reflected in a captured German order declaring: "The super-sensitivity of our troops to enemy aircraft must be overcome."

So battle-hardened Americans who chased the Germans out of France and fought them on their own soil are taking a hand in a new war well behind the present front lines.

War Against Pilfering

It is a war against pilfering of supplies en route from ports or beaches to the battlelines and the "shock troops" who are beginning to win it are new military police battalions composed largely of officers and men who have recovered from wounds but are not fit for heavy combat.

They are guarding supply trains rolling hundreds of miles to the front.

It has been found that men who themselves suffered shortages at the front as the result of pilfering now are the best watchdogs for the supply trains. Every train departing from a beachhead or port for the front now is "personally conducted" by enough of these MP's to frustrate the various devices used by pilferers.

Credited In Theft Reduction

Hard-boiled, they are given credit for cutting thefts down to manageable proportions. Once these thefts had reached a point where black-market operators got almost a bigger share of some trainloads than did the frontline troops.

The Army has learned that it also needs battle-hardened men where policing jobs call for special tact and understanding.

A considerable number of these new MP's from the frontlines also are assigned to Paris, where frontline soldiers naturally gravitate on leave.

Experienced In Reactions

Because the MP's themselves are experienced in battle strain, wounds and muddy boredom, they know how to handle these men who are eager for relaxation.

The black market, however, provides most of the headaches. There are more angles to it than legs to a centipede.

Bootleg currency is one. The franc officially is valued at 50 to the dollar. But bootleggers are willing to give four or five times that much, while black marketers are eager to trade francs for American cigarettes, soap, coffee, candy and foodstuffs.

Examples Given

As an example of comparative values, I hired a bicycle taxi for what in New York would have been a 50-cent ride. I was given the choice of paying 200 francs ($4) or two package of cigarettes. A cup of American coffee in a Paris café costs 60 frnacs ($1.20).

All this is a tremendous temptation and opportunity for wholesale black marketers whose operations are running into millions of dollars.

A curious sidelight is that 500 franc notes brought in by Allied troops and circulating since D-day already are getting heavy competition from counterfeit notes. One gang was exposed when it tried to bribe a GI to act as a middle man.

Army Fights In Rear, Too, To Halt Thefts In France

Paris, Dec. 4 [AP — *Delayed*]—Gasoline has been hijacked at the point of a gun on Paris streets as liquor was hijacked in the United States during prohibition.

Pilfering of vitally needed American Army supplies, particularly rations and gasoline, reached such proportions that it seriously menaced military operations.

More Fags For Troops Slated Christmas Eve

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Army is playing Santa Claus to its American personnel in the communications zone by increasing its weekly cigarette ration from two to five packages, effective Christmas Eve.

Adding an even brighter note to the military observance of the season was the announcement from zone headquarters that when stocks have reached the necessary level, the normal ration of seven packages a week will be restored.

Paris Pledges Aid to Colonists

Paris, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—Speaking in a dedicatory address as the French radio began regular broadcasts to Indo-China, Colonial Minister Paul Giacobbi declared last night that France intends to give all possible assistance in ousting the Japanese from that French colony.

French News Agency Hit

Paris Socialist Paper Says A. F. P. Keeps Public "Badly Informed"

PARIS, Dec. 19 (AP).—In a front-page editorial today the Socialist "Populaire" demanded more and better news sources than the semi-official Agence France Presse. It argued that the agency is keeping the public "badly informed" on events abroad.

Comparing the pre-war diversity of news sources with what it called a "monopoly in fact" enjoyed by A. F. P., "Populaire" urged greater impartiality and objectivity on the part of the French agency. "Otherwise," it said, "our press is no longer free in every sense of the word."

A. F. P. is supported by the French government, but "Populaire" said that its "monopoly" was an outgrowth of current communications difficulties, not government legislation.

Brig. Gen. Griswold Wins Legion Of Merit

U.S. Strategic Air Forces Headquarters in Europe, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Legion of Merit has been awarded to Brig. Gen. Francis H. Griswold, 39-year-old chief of staff of the United States 8th Air Force's 2d Bombardment Division, headquarters of the United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe announced today.

Griswold, formerly commander of a United States 8th Air Force fighter unit, was decorated for "outstanding services" as head of the fighter group and for his "conception of his responsibilities." The citation said "his sincere devotion to duty contributed directly to the victorious culmination of the great battle fought with the *Luftwaffe*."

General Griswold has been an air forces officer since 1929 and has been in the European theater since July, 1943. He is a graduate of Ohio State University. His wife and two daughters presently are living in Harrodsburg, Ky. His parents live in Erie, Pa.

REDS ENCIRCLE KASSA SECTOR

Pierce Blockhouse Network Around Slovak Hub

London, *Wednesday*, Dec. 20 (AP). Bursting through a network of trenches and blockhouses within 9 miles of the Czechoslovak communications hub of Kassa, the Red Army yesterday threw a siege arc around that hinge position of the German defenses and cut the road-rail escape route to the southwest.

The drive on Kassa was the high spot of a day of general advances on a front of more than 80 miles in southern Slovakia and northern Hungary, the Moscow broadcast communiqué disclosed, with gains as much as 8 miles and entries into Slovakia at many new points.

Kill 400 To Take Village

In capturing the village of Senya, alone, 9 miles south of Kassa, the Russians killed 400 Germans and Hungarians and captured more than 2,000, it was announced.

They thrust within 8 miles of the frontier south of Losonc in a series of fighting maneuvers that promised quickly to give them a solid front of 140-odd miles from Kassa on the east to Ipoly-Sag on the west.

Pressing through thick forests in mountainous country, the Russians captured 24 Slovak towns. The closest announced approaches to the city were at Davidov, 18 miles northeast; Dargov and Kerestur, 13 miles east and southeast; Senya, 9 miles south, and Perin, 11 miles southwest.

Thrust Across Border

Twenty miles southwest of Kassa the Russians thrust across the Hungarian border and took the railway station of Turnava and the adjacent highway town of Turna, cutting that chance of escape for the Germans in Kassa.

In advancing on Kassa the Russians announced that on the east and southeast alone they took prisoner 2,044 Germans and Hungarians in the three days ended Monday, and added another 1,600 to the bag Monday in the push into Slovakia south of Losong from the area north of Miskolc, Hungary.

There was no official word of developments in the continuing siege of Budapest or on any other sections of the Eastern front.

A Moscow radio broadcast, however, said the Soviet forces before Budapest had almost completely surrounded the Hungarian capital, while the German radio said a new Soviet offensive was impending in the Lake Balaton area southwest of Budapest, where the 3d Ukraine Army was regrouping for a renewed push toward Vienna.

Nazi Peril Grows In Slovakia

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Russian troops swarmed across the Czechoslovak frontier from northeastern Hungary today on a widening front, threatening early collapse of the entire German salient in eastern Slovakia, between Poland and Hungary.

Driving down out of the Kecske Mountains Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukrainian Army gained up to twelve miles and poured into the broad Bodva and Hernad River valleys leading to Kassa, the enemy's major east Slovak stronghold.

Two Miles From Escape Route

By yesterday, Moscow said, one of Malinovsky's columns already was within two miles of the Germans' southern highway escape route out of Kassa. Once it is cut the garrison in Hungarian-annexed Kassa would be able to flee only through the patriot-infested Czechoslovak mountains.

By Russian and German account the Red army was closing in on Kassa from three directions. Moscow placed vanguards within fourteen miles on the southwest and eleven and a half miles on the southeast, while Berlin reported other units attacking fifteen miles to the east.

Cross North Of Miskolc

One of the more extensive new crossings of the border occurred in the Horvaty-Janok-Buzita area, 30 miles north of Miskolc and south of the communications center of Moldava. It was here that the Russians, already two miles beyond the border, were approaching the enemy's highway escape route to the west.

The Russians also advanced into Slovakia, in the area of captured Banreve, 23 miles northwest of Miskolc. There they seized the rail station of Kamenec, on the Slana River.

Russian infantrymen were fighting within five and a half miles of Budapest, but there was no official word of new gains there.

PO ES DELAY OVER FRONTIER

Feeling Growing That Commitment Is Not Urgent

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—A feeling is growing in Polish circles here that there is no urgency for Poland's exiled Government to make a commitment on the frontier question, sources close to the Cabinet of Premier Tomasz Arciszewski said today.

This view appeared to be general among Polish officials, who apparently have reached a point where they believe there is little left for them to salvage.

The Government's officially stated view is that there be a "free and independent Poland," but what Arciszewski intends to propose regarding territorial changes is left to speculation.

Premier Issues Statement

the Premier, in a statement issued by the Polish Telegraph agency said:

"We consider the statement by Mr. Stettinius (United States Secretary of State) as a confirmation of the United States' attitude with regard to Soviet intentions toward Poland.

"This attitude has already been previously stated by authoritative American quarters, and also has been previously known to the Polish Government.

"Need For Agreement"

"The Polish Government are glad to welcome the emphasis again laid by Stettinius on the necessity of respecting the principle of mutual agreement among members of the United Nations in important matters of future postwar settlement. It is, of course, understood that mutual agreement is an agreement only when and if it is a voluntary one."

Meanwhile, authoritative British quarters appeared to be taking the view that, while the British and American statements do not differ greatly, they feel that the American announcement was not as emphatic.

These quarters feel that Stettinius could have backed up Prime Minister Churchill more if he had insisted the question be settled immediately.

Pole Estates Reported Divided Among Peasants

Moscow, Dec. 19 (AP) — The estates of 683 former landlords were reported today to have been divided among 53,000 peasants in Lublin province of Poland.

A dispatch said Edward Bertold, assistant manager of the agricultural section of the Polish Committee of National Liberation, made the announcements before delegates to the first peasant congress at Lublin.

Nazis Killed 465,000 While In Lithuania

Moscow, Dec. 19 (AP)—The state committee investigating war crimes in Lithuania said today that 165,000 prisoners of war and 300,000 civilians were killed by the Germans during their occupation of that Baltic republic.

Another execution camp was reported discovered at Porani, five miles from Wilno, Poland.

U.S. Starts New Magazine In Russia

Moscow, Dec. 19 (AP)—*Amerika*, a monthly magazine designed to acquaint the Soviet people with the United States, has been placed on sale in Russia by the United States Office of War Information.

Printed in the Russian language, the new publication is the first effort by the United States to circulate propaganda in the Soviet Union. British agencies have been publishing a monthly magazine and weekly newspaper for some time.

Ten thousand copies of the United States magazine were turned over to the Soviet book agency and placed on sale yesterday at 3 rubles a copy. The agency will keep 25 per cent of the gross sale profits to cover distribution costs. The magazine is pocket size, the first issue containing 64 pages.

134 ex-Officials Face Arrest in Romania

Bucharest, Dec. 18 (Delayed), (A. P.).—Charged with being war criminals, 134 former Ministers and Deputy Ministers faced arrest today. The Government ordered the arrest of all persons in authority in Romania held responsible for placing the country at war on the side of Germany against Russia.

BIG BOMBERS AID 1ST ARMY

300 Fortresses Bomb Road Junctions In Germany

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—American Flying Fortresses and British Lancasters today bombed German rail and road arteries opposite the United States 1st Army, despite nasty weather that shackled the bulk of Allied fighter strength in France and Belgium.

Some 300 Fortresses scattered more than 1,000 tons of high explosive and fragmentation missles between Trier and Gemund on road and rail intersections crowded with German troops and vehicles being poured into the current offensive.

A small force of Thunderbolts accompanied the bombers and shot down three enemy fighters. American losses were withheld by the United States command because many bombers and fighters were believed to have landed in France due to bad weather.

1,000 Tons On Trier

The four-engine Lancasters of the RAF dumped another 1,000 tons on Trier alone.

From bases in Italy, Fortresses and Liberators of the United States 15th Air Force attacked German synthetic oil refineries at Blechhammer in Silesia for the fourth consecutive day. Other bombers of the 15th attacked targets in the Vienna area and railways in Germany, Austria and northern Yugoslavia.

Supreme Allied headquarters in Paris reported that hundreds of Thunderbolts, Mustangs and Spitfires were unable to get off fog-shrouded fields to get in the battle in support of Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's 1st Army troops.

Fortresses Bomb Blind

The Flying Fortresses soared miles above the clouds and bombed blind with their "magic eye" radio beams. Yesterday an emergency daylight mission of 500 Fortresses and 600 fighters attacked the Rhine rail centers of Cologne, Coblenz and Mainz—centers feeding Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Runstedt's counteroffensive.

Only a small force of fighters kept the big bombers company yesterday and they might as well have stayed at home. The Thunderbolt pilots could not get down through the heavy cloud bank to strafe or dive-bomb and German fighters could not get up through it.

Some of the B-17s were forced to land at bases in France after they had emptied their bomb bays rather than risk the long trip home in the bad weather.

While the weather restricted aerial activity it did not hamper the round-the-clock assault by German robots which battered the American lines.

Monday, German warships sheltered in the Baltic port of Gdynia, north of Danzig, were attacked by 500 RAF Lancasters which poured more than 2,500 tons of bombs on the remains of the Nazi surface fleet—the pocket battleships Lutzow and Scheer and four cruisers. The attack involved a 1,600-mile roundtrip.

300 Forts Drop Bombs On Nazi Supply Lines

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Three hundred Flying Fortresses spread nearly 1,000 tons of explosives on German supply lines immediately behind counterattacking Nazi troops today. It was the first mission of its kind in the European war.

The British-based heavyweights, crammed with fragmentation bombs and high explosives, struck at three rail and five road junctions on a 50-mile front stretching from Trier north to Gemund.

Nazi Warships Attacked

The daylight blows followed an attack last night by some 300 RAF Lancasters on German warships sheltered in the Baltic port of Gdynia north of Danzig. Other British bombers struck Nurnberg and Munster.

Today was the first time four-engined dreadnaughts had been dispatched in the European war to tackle targets so close behind an enemy counteroffensive. That precision task usually is left to medium or dive bombers.

Transportation Network Hit

The forts, however, were called in with their trainloads of bombs to carpet the vital German transportation network directly serving Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's powerful thrust.

The United States 8th Air Force bombers, accompanied by a small force of Thunderbolts, made the emergency mission through thick clouds and released their loads at the usual operational altitude of about four miles.

First reports said there was no aerial opposition.

British Planes Team Up

Big British Lancasters teamed up in this assault, hurling about 1,000 tons of explosives on Trier.

Heavyweight Flying Fortresses and Liberators tore in from Italy also, with the United States 15th Air Force planes bombing installations at Blechhammer in Silesia, rail yards and other targets in Germany, Austria, and northern Yugoslavia, and an unspecified objective in the Vienna area.

Neither the big bombers nor their escorting fighters from Italy met any enemy fighters. They bombed by instrument. Other planes hit the Germans near the 5th Army front in Italy.

One enemy plane was destroyed in the night operations, which also included attacks on airdromes well behind the German lines. Five British planes were missing.

The night blows followed up an emergency daylight mission by 1,100 Britain-based American planes which bombed the Rhine rail hubs of Cologne, Coblenz and Mainz—centers feeding Field Marshal Karl Rudolph Gerd von Rundstedt's powerful counteroffensive.

The greater part of what remains of the Nazi surface fleet—the pocket battleships Lutzow and Scheer and four cruisers—was the objective of the Lancasters, which carried nearly 2,500 tons of bombs to the Polish Harbor. The British planes made a round-trip flight of 1,600 miles.

The Mediterranean Air Force announced that twenty-three heavy bombers and one other plane were missing from yesterday's widespread American Fifteenth Air Force attacks on oil targets and railyards in German Silesia, Austria and Hungary. Heavy flak as well as twenty to thirty enemy fighters were encountered. Four of the interceptors were shot down.

All But Three Girls Die As Robot Hits Factory

London, *Wednesday*, Dec. 20 (AP). Tragedy struck among singing girls in a southern England factory recently when a Germen V-bomb exploded in a workshop, killing or injuring all but three, it was reported today.

The girls had just finished recess on the night shift and returned to their machines singing, "You Are My Sunshine."

"Suddenly the place was filled with flames," said Anne Savill, 26. "Debris was falling everywhere, and all the lights went out. I grabbed Margaret Kelly and Vera Houghton who were working beside me, and somehow we made our way out through a gap in the wall. The heat was terrible. Blazing rafters fell among macihnes, setting oil on fire. Behind us we heard the other girls screaming as they tried to scramble over blazing machinery."

Two 8th Air Force Officers Promoted

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Orvil A. Anderson, U.S. 8th Air Force deputy commander for operations, has been promoted to major general, and Walter E. Todd, deputy chief of staff for operations, has been made a brigadier general, it was announced today.

With Lieut. Gen. James H. Doolittle, commander of the 8th, the two men map the 8th's battle strategy, make final decisions on targets to be attacked and dispatch thousands of fighters and heavy bombers every month on missions to Germany.

Anderson, 49, led early experiments in balloon ascensions. In 1935 he and another officer set a record by attaining an altitude of 72,395 feet. A native of Springville, Utah, he has been connected with aviation since entering the Army in 1917 as a flying cadet.

Todd, 37, was born in Gonzales, Texas. He left the University of Texas in 1924 to enter West Point.

The wives of both generals live in Alexandria, Va.

GREEK SHOWDOWN SET IN COMMONS

Labor Party Accepts Churchill Challenge For Debate

Greek ministers consider possible action on regency...*Page 3*

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—A showdown on British policy in Greece developed suddenly tonight when it was agreed that a special emergency debate on the issue should be held in the House of Commons tomorrow.

Prime Minister Churchill, who had refused requests to debate the Greek question today, served notice on his critics that if they wanted a showdown it would have to come on a vote of censure, with his coalition government standing or falling on the outcome.

Laborites Call Meeting

The minority Labor party accepted the Prime Minister's challenge and agreed to the debate on the vote of censure.

Churchill himself and possibly Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, are expected to plead the Government's case.

Leaders of the Laborite members of Parliament called a special meeting to draft the party's policy.

Just a few hours before the announcement of the emergency debate Churchill hit back at his critics in a stormy session of Commons, defending the policy of intervention, not only in Greece, but also in Belgium, where, he said, "we are acting upon American instructions."

The Prime Minister declined to give any review of the military situation to Parliament before Christmas in view of security censorship imposed by the military command on the Western front.

"A great battle is proceeding now," he said. "The question of a temporary news blackout on the Western front is one for the supreme commander to settle on the spot, and, of course, I support him."

While this apparently satisfied Britain's lawmakers, the bitter tenor of a barrage of questions directed at Churchill about Greece and Belgium demonstrated clearly the cleavage on diplomatic policy between the Prime Minister and an outnumbered but extremely vocal Liberal faction in Parliament.

Churchill's Points

Churchill made these points:

Intervention in both Greece and Belgium was necessary to prevent violence.

In Greece, "I do not think the situation is deteriorating. I think it has greatly improved"; and, "I am afraid you cannot always stop shooting by saying you would like to stop it."

In Belgium, "we were acting under American instructions" that supply lines be kept open, and Britain "had been right to intervene in putting down disorders on the lines of communications at the request of the supreme commander."

With the Belgian steps this time provoking acrimony, Churchill's critics openly challenged the accuracy of his previous report to Commons on the extent of the Brussels demonstration last month which brought the intervention.

Says He Checked Facts

But the Premier, insisting that he had checked his facts with "the best authorities," bluntly declared, "far from withdrawing anything I said in my speech, I may say that mature reflection—apart from some small details—leads me to reiterate it."

Earlier, when the liberal faction pressed without success for full debate on Greece today, Churchill acknowledged sharp division in Britain on the issue which has caused "heart-searching and criticism."

But he maintained that this division would not be allayed by a new debate and said that only placing of a vote of censure would induce the Government to agree to debate.

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Commons To Hold Debate On Greece

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The House of Commons will hold a special debate on Greece tomorrow, with Prime Minister Churchill expected to speak.

This was announced tonight several hours after Churchill had sidetracked a new effort in Commons to get his comments on the Greek situation. Churchill refused also to give a full-scale review of the war.

Cabinet Ministers agreed to tomorrow's debate after a committee of the Labor party submitted a formal demand.

Belgian Step Defended

In Commons today Churchill was forced into a hot-tempered defense of British troops' intervention in Belgium.

"We were acting under American instructions," he said in upholding use of armed force in last month's riots in Belgium.

Referring repeatedly to General Eisenhower in hitting back at the acid criticism of opposition members, Churchill said "a great battle is proceeding now."

He declined to review the general war situation on the ground that Eisenhower was right in imposing a "temporary news blackout" on Western front developments.

Says Greek Situation Better

He reported the situation in Greece "has greatly improved," but refused to elaborate.

Churchill made it clear earlier that if the House of Commons wanted an immediate review of the Greek situation it would have to come on a vote of censure—a parliamentary maneuver which would mean his Government would stand or fall on the outcome.

The opposition did not appear disposed to accept the challenge on those terms.

Laborite Emanuel Shinwell sought to pin down the Prime Minister on the question of whether establishment of a regency in Greece "is being in any way frustrated or impeded by the attitude" of King George II of Greece.

Shooting Discussed

"I said just now that I had no further statement to make at present on Greece," the Prime Minister said.

"Would not it be wise to advise that all shooting should stop in Greece and that a debate should take place, not here but in Athens?" asked Communist William Gallacher.

"I am afraid you cannot always stop shooting by saying you would like to stop it," retorted Churchill.

Belgians' Part Cited

Opponents of Britain's policy then shifted to Belgium, challenging Churchill's account of precautionary steps taken in November when truckloads of armed insurgents were moving on Brussels from Mons.

Churchill said he checked the

[Continued On Page ... Column 7]

...week with ... cost of the ... nts had been done by Belgian authorities, he said, but "in a few cases Belgian civilians willingly approached British troops to surrender their arms and they were naturally helped to do so." Then he added:

"The attitude of the British military authorities was regulated by instructions received from the supreme military commander. Those instructions were in full accord with views of British Government and we should be glad to share his responsibility."

Says Eisenhower Was There

Churchill said General Eisenhower himself visited Brussels "and gave very decided and clear instructions as to the importance of preserving tranquillity of communications."

"Therefore," he added, "far from withdrawing anything I said in my speech, I may say that mature reflection, apart from some small details, leads me to reiterate it."

Sir Richard Acland, Common Wealth party leader, suggested the Prime Minister should check up on his sources of information, "which seem to be letting him down all over the world."

Exchange Continues

The sharp exchange continued as Churchill recounted his version of a demonstration at the Belgian Parliamentary House.

"I believe there was also an advance by a large crowd on Parliament House, or wherever it was," he began.

"A peaceful demonstration," shouted Sir Richard.

"A peaceful demonstration until you get well mixed up with troops," continued Churchill.

"An unarmed demonstration," broke in Sir Richard.

Churchill answered:

"You don't know who is armed or who is not in these days when a small pistol can be produced from a pocket. At any rate there was firing and very regrettable loss of life."

Bevan Enters Picture

With tempers taut and the House turbulent, Aneurin Bevan, bitter and frequent critic of Churchill, openly scoffed at the Prime Minister's account of the Belgian situation and demanded:

"Will he desist from deceiving the House in this irresponsible manner?"

Amid cries of "withdraw," Churchill snapped back: "I certainly do not ask Mr. Bevan to withdraw. Insults from him are compliments."

Denies Deception Attempt

Then he asserted:

"I repeat that supreme American authorities and British authorities on the spot were extremely anxious about the position in Brussels for four or five days surrounding these events.

"I have not tried to deceive the House. Why should I try to deceive the House? I should certainly not think Mr. Bevan worth trying to deceive."

More News Demanded

Churchill's declaration came after one member observed that newspapers were publishing stories from German sources and asked him "to see that the British press had the fullest information from British sources in regard to British prowess."

"The question of a temporary news blackout on the Western front," said the Prime Minister, "is one for the supreme commander to settle on the spot and we, of course, support him."

Churchill said that for his part he had no intention of bringing up Britain's policy of intervention in Greece before Christmas. He served notice that he would not dodge immediate debate on the issue if challenged, but said it had best come on another vote of censure. The last such vote he won 279 to 30.

In view of the Prime Minister's 279-to-30 victory in his last test of strength on a vote of confidence in Parliament, it did not appear likely that his government would meet defeat on the issue of Greece.

ON JAP ROADS

British Charge 24,000 White Prisoners Died On Job

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Japanese forced more than 60,000 white prisoners to labor under worse-than-slavery conditions to speed through the Thailand-Burma railway and road and then left a monument to 25,000 men who died along the way, the British War Office charged today.

Citing cases of extreme brutality, of sick men carried to work on stretchers, men forced to labor naked in insect-ridden jungles, the War Office declared there also were cases of torture and killing. It added:

"The Japanese themselves erected a memorial at Tamakan to approximately 25,000 men who had died on the railway. Of these less than 1,000 were Japanese, the remainder being represented as English, Australian and Dutch."

Over 60,000 Captives Used

War Secretary Sir James Grigg opened the subject in Commons with an oral statement that "the strongest possible protest" had been made against past conditions existing in Burma and Siam (Thailand)." The number of white prisoners employed was "probably much higher" than 60,000 he said, although he added it was difficult to speak with certainty.

"In addition," Grigg asserted, "many thousands of Asiatics were used and the death rate among them was almost certainly much heavier than among the white men."

Conditions have improved, he said, and are much better in the rear camps. He declared, however, that in building the railway and road, the Japanese proceeded "with all speed and regardless of conditions under which the prisoners worked and of the cost of human life."

Jammed In Cattle Trucks

The War Office then took over with a formal supplementary statement. It said all the prisoners had been forced to travel from Singapore to Thailand in metal cattle trucks—so jammed together for five days and nights that they could not lie down and could sleep only by leaning against piles of materials or one another.

The men then had to march up to 50 miles through disease-infected jungles. Their thirst was such, the War Office said, that they drank from muddy puddles, and at the end of each march were so exhausted they fell to the soggy ground, covering their heads with whatever they could as protection against the mosquitoes.

The prisoners slept 200 to each work camp hut on platforms stretched along each side of a central gangway. They were compelled to work if they could move at all, and some were even carried to their road jobs on stretchers, the statement said.

Some Forced To Work Naked

Since worn-out clothing was not replaced, some had to work naked or in loin-cloths made of rags. The work load was increased until each man had to remove one and a half cubic yards of earth and rock each day—a job the War Office said required up to 14 or 15 hours of labor.

Men and officers were beaten, the statement said, and "other forms of greater brutality were not infrequent." Sometimes the men were given meat to eat, the War Office concluded, but "one pig was supposed to provide for 1,200 men."

In addition, many thousands of Asiatics were used, and the death rate among them was almost certainly much heavier than among white men."

Conditions Cited

Grigg reported conditions improved somewhat after completion of the railroad in October, 1943, but he said:

"I should make it clear to the House that these conditions are far below anything which would be regarded as reasonable for our prisoners of war in Europe."

"Men have, however, adapted themselves and become to some extent inured to these lower standards, while many of the conditions which caused such heavy sick and death rates in jungle camps did not obtain in rear camps to which the men were withdrawn."

Reports Confirmed

Grigg said his report was confirmed by British troops formerly in Japanese hands. The United States Navy rescued these troops from the sea in September.

Japs Work 24,000 Captives To Death, British Say

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The British War Office asserted today that the Japanese had worked more than 60,000 white captives under such brutal and inhuman conditions that 24,000 of them had died.

The Japanese themselves have erected a memorial to 25,000 men who died in building the Thailand-Burma railway and road, the War Office said. Of the 25,000 men, the War Office reported, fewer than 1,000 were Japanese and the remainder were English, Australians and Dutch.

Inhuman Treatment Reported

The Japanese disregarded completely "the cost in human life," the War Office said. Sick prisoners were even carried to work on stretchers. Severe beatings were administered to officers and men, the statement said, and there were also cases "of torture and killing."

The statement supplemented an oral report to Commons by Sir James Grigg, War Secretary, who said the Japanese used at least 60,000 white prisoners "regardless of conditions under which the prisoners worked and of the cost in human life."

Figure May Be Higher

"The figure is probably much higher," he added.

"The great majority were from the United Kingdom or Australia.

Grigg said the protecting powers had been asked to make the "strongest possible protest regarding past conditions in Siam (Thailand) and Burma" and said Britain would continue to press the Japanese to allow all prison camps to be inspected regularly by neutral observers and to make arrangements for Red Cross relief supplies.

Transported In Cattle Trucks

All the prisoners traveled from Singapore to Thailand in metal cattle trucks so crowded that the men could not lie down for five days and nights and were forced to sleep leaning against piles of equipment or against one another, the War Office said.

They were forced to march 50 miles through disease-ridden jungles, so thirsty they drank from muddy puddles, the statement said, and so exhausted they fell to the water-logged ground at the end of each march, wrapping their heads in anything they could find as protection against the mosquitoes.

Forced To Work

The prisoners were forced to work if they could move at all. They were required to move one and a half cubic yards of earth and rock a day—a task sometimes requiring fifteen hours labor. Worn-out clothes were not replaced and some men were reduced to going naked or were clad only in a loin-cloth.

The War Office said the prisoners' rations sometimes included meat, but "the quantities can be judged from the fact that one pig was supposed to provide for 1,200 men."

Lords Learn Of Nazi Role In Madrid

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Spain was "morally occupied" by the Germans in the early years of the war, and Nazi influence directed much of Spain's national life, Lord Templewood told the House of Lords today. He resigned two days ago after serving five years as Ambassador to Madrid.

Reviewing his experiences in the once-hostile Spanish capital, the former Sir Samuel Hoare said that "although Spain was not militarily occupied in those early years of the war, Spain was morally occupied."

He was assigned to Madrid in 1940 with instructions to keep Spain as neutral as possible.

Germans Influenced Press

Speaking as a patient man who endured much, Templewood said: "During the greater part of this time the German armies were on the frontier. German influence pervaded many important sections of the national life. The Germans for instance had great influence with the police and the press."

The conservative, aristocratic diplomat, who has been under fire frequently at home for alleged appeasement of Fascists, carefully refrained from criticizing the regime of the Spanish dictator, Generalissimo Franco.

Templewood confined his criticism to the Germans and the Gestapo who he said spied on him in Madrid, tried to bribe his servants, and stirred up mobs to break windows of the British Embassy while the Gestapo took pictures.

Gestapo Spied On Him

"I have many instances in my own experience of this kind of non-military occupation," the former

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envoy said. "I had the Gestapo living in the next house looking over the wall between me and them, watching every movement I made.

"I had the Gestapo constantly trying to suborn my domestic staff. I saw the Gestapo taking photographs when riot was stirred up for the purpose of breaking the windows of the British Embassy.

"I saw again what was more sinister. From time to time the Gestapo would seize some man or woman in Spanish territory and take them over the frontier to their death or torture in Germany or one of the occupied countries.

Created Bitter Hatreds

"I had the conviction that this German influence—this terrible German peril—was leaving behind it corruption, bitter hatreds and vendettas and was steadily undermining all the moral standards of life into which it instilled its poison."

Templewood advised against intervening in the interior politics of any country.

"I see at this moment many of my friends here talking airily about general elections and plebiscites," he said. "It may be they are necessary, but let no one think for a moment that in certain parts of Europe today general elections and plebiscites are going to resemble anything like what they would be here."

Warns Of Factional Divisions

He also urged, "let us not divide Europe into definite camps, into reds and whites, Communist and Fascist. This is playing the German game. This is what the Germans are trying to do in Spain and every other country on the Continent."

Templewood spoke enthusiastically of the Russian-British and Russian-French mutual assistance treaties as safeguarding both the east and west against German aggression, but said he wondered whether "within that framework we were moving fast enough to fill in the details."

Nazi Activities In Spain Are Described

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Lord Templewood said today Spain was "morally occupied" by the Germans during the first part of his five-year tenure as British Ambassador to the Franco Government.

"I have had many instances in my own experience of this kind of nonmilitary occupation," he told the House of Lords. "I had the Gestapo living in the next house, looking over he wall between me and them, watching every movement I made."

The former Sir Samuel Hoare, who went to Madrid with instructions to keep Spain neutral, if possible, resigned his ambassadorship recently.

Tells Of Seizures

"I had the Gestapo constantly trying to suborn my domestic staff," he said, "I saw the Gestapo taking photographs when a riot was stirred up for the purpose of breaking windows of the British Embassy.

"I saw again what was more sinister. From time to time the Gestapo would seize some man or woman in Spanish territory and take them over the frontier to their death or torture in Germany or one of the occupied countries.

"I had a conviction this German influence—this terrible German peril—was leaving behind it corruption, bitter hatreds and vendettas, and was steadily undermining all moral standards of life into which it instilled its poison."

Draws Parallel

"Although Spain was not militarily occupied during those early years of war, Spain was morally occupied," he declared.

With German armies on the French-Spanish frontier, German influence pervaded many important sections of Spain's national life, coinciding with a period when Britain's military fortunes were at low ebb, Templewood said.

The diplomat drew a parallel for all Europe from his Spanish experience.

"When the final account is made against the Nazi regime," he declared, "I believe that though the material devastation in Europe is great, posterity will say the worst German crime is this studied destruction of all the moral values of Europe."

Templewood asserted that Europe would drift into an "invertebrate anarchy" unless it could be given "a backbone."

Britain And Ethiopia Sign New Agreement

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—An agreement between Great Britain and Ethiopia was signed today in Addis Ababa.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden probably would make a statement on the subject in Commons tomorrow. The agreement supersedes an agreement and military convention signed.

British-Ethiopian Pact

Empire to Give Up Some Privileges Held in Republic Since 1941

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP).—An agreement between Britain and Ethiopia, in which the British relinquish some privileges they have maintained in the East African republic since its liberation in 1941, was announced today by the British Information Service. The pact was termed "an interim agreement," and was said to mark "a further step in the return to peace-time conditions" for Ethiopia. It will be effective until "a final general peace settlement."

YANKS USE NEW BOMB

London, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—A new type American fragmentation bomb, made of 265 pounds of TNT wrapped in wire, is being dropped on the Germans, it was disclosed by Col. Philip Schwartz, armament chief of the United States Air Service Command. Experiments showed that the wire bomb gave the greatest number of deadly fragments per square inch.

Col. Schwartz also said that 40 per cent of the Allies' Thunderbolts were equipped with a new electrical bomb release which gives almost twice the former accuracy.

To Return To Pastorate Of Cathedral In Paris

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Very Reverend F. W. Beekman, for 27 years dean of the American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris, will return there tomorrow to resume the pastorate he left in June, 1940, after the fall of France.

He returned to London recently from the United States, where he lectured under auspices of the War Department.

HESS'S CONDITION REPORTED WORSE

London, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—The British Press Association today distributed and then withdrew a story saying that Rudolf Hess suffered a leg fracture recently when he jumped over a banister during "a brain storm." In cancelling the story, the press association said the War Office reported there was no truth in the statement that Hess had broken his leg.

Hess's "nervous and mental condition has deteriorated in the last few months," said the withdrawn story.

Hess was Adolf Hitler's deputy until he flew to Britain on a mysterious mission in May, 1941.

The Press Association said its information came from unofficial sources. It reported Hess was often surly and sulky and refused to speak to his guards.

"He has become morbid-minded and these attacks are the culmination of his morbidity," the association declared.

British Plan 'Design Centers'

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP).—British government plans to aid industry financially to set up "design centers" were disclosed in commons today by Hugh Dalton, preisdent of the Board of Trade. He announced formation of a central council of industrial design and said the design centers would study problems and collect information about products in their own industry.

Change in Britain's Auto Tax

LONDON, Dec. 19 (AP).—Beginning next year, Britain's automobile tax will be based on the cubic capacity of the vehicle's engine instead of horsepower. Sir John Anderson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who announced the change today, said the new tax basis would produce the same revenue.

New Attempt On Life Of Hitler Is Reported

Stockholm, Dec. 19 (AP)—The *Aftonbladet* said in an unattributed story today that it was rumored in Berlin a new attempt was made recently on the life of Adolf Hitler.

The rumors say the Plessheim Castle in Bavaria was swept by fire while Hitler was staying there, the newspaper stated.

Finns to Pay Reds

Helsinki (Wednesday)—(AP)—The Finnish government today announced that the $300 million in war reparations pledged to Russia will be paid in goods valued at $50 million annually for the next six years.

50 U.S. Business Men Conclude Swiss Visit

Bern, Dec. 19 (AP)—A group of 50 American business men today concluded a visit to Switzerland during which they arranged to purchase Swiss products.

It was reported Swiss officials urged the Americans to supply raw materials and to attempt to obtain Allied military permission to truck the supplies across France.

German Counterattacks Force 8th Army Troops To Fall Back

Rome, Dec. 19 (AP)—A savage counterattack mounted by the Germans in an effort to hold their positions on the west bank of the Lamone River northeast of Faenza against a British flanking drive has forced the 8th Army troops to fall back to the northern edge of the town.

Allied headquarters disclosed the action tonight.

The tank-supported Nazi defense appeared to indicate the Germans were having trouble extracting their forces from a 9-mile-wide salient between Faenza and the important road center Bagnacavallo.

The enemy has concentrated much artillery as well as tanks and infantry in the bulge.

The main 8th Army flanking move struck northward from Faenza, but the armored counterthrust forced the British to draw back to the railway tracks skirting the northern sector of the town, the capture of which the Allied command announced Sunday.

The counterattack afforded the Germans only momentary relief, however, as another Allied flanking move was developing 6 miles west of Faenza, where Indian patrols moved out across the Senio River in a drive aimed at the important road junction of Castel Borognese, 7 miles west of Faenza.

Capture of Castel Borognese would put the Indains astride the important Via Emila—Highway 9—and in a position to drive north in an enircling movement aimed at trapping the Germans against the Lamone.

Farther west Polish troops pushed on toward the River Senio, only five and a half miles from Imola, a headquarters communiqué said.

Patrols remained active on the United States 5th Army front.

The Mediterranean Allied air forces flew more than 1,450 sorties yesterday, destroyed four enemy aircraft and lost 24 planes. The operations included attacks on targets in Germany, Austria, Hungary Yugoslavia and [illegible] Valley communications in It[illegible]

Pope's Yule Message Scheduled Sunday

Vatican City, Dec. 19 (AP)—Pope Pius XII will make his annual Christmas broadcast next Sunday, at 1.15 P.M. (8.15 A.M. Eastern war time), the Vatican announced today.

The address will be delivered over the Vatican radio in Italian and subsequently rebroadcast in other languages.

Hard Fighting In Po Valley

Rome, Dec. 19 (AP)—Heavy fighting continued on the 8th Army front around Bagnacavallo, about ten miles inside the Po Valley above the captured Rimini-Bologna highway town of Faenza, Allied headquarters announced today.

GREEKS STUDY REGENCY MOVE

Quisling Premier Escapes As ELAS Seizes Prison

Athens, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Greek Government denied officially tonight a report that it had received a telegram from King George II consenting to setting up a regency. Panayiotis Kanellopoulos, Greek Minister of Marine, told a press conference that the regency question would be settled within a few days, but asserted that in the final analysis the Government could "act in a revolutionary fashion"—meaning that the consent of King George II might be immaterial.

ELAS troops fortified the Averoff prison tonight after a strong mortar-and-grenade attack by the Left-wing militia had forced the British garrison and Greek gendarmes and wardens to evacuate the institution.

Quisling Premier Escapes

A widespread hunt was launched by the British, Greek and undoubtedly by the ELAS—militia of the Left-wing EAM political party for Jean Rallis, quisling Premier of Greece during the German occupation, who escaped during the fighting for the prison.

[In London Herbert H. Lehman, director general of UNRRA, announced that the civil war in Greece had compelled the temporary evacuation of a substantial part of the relief mission after several members of the staff had been wounded in the course of duty.]

The ELAS leaders were reported tonight ready to make a fresh attempt to settle their political differences with the Government, and an emissary of the EAM central committee conferred with Gen. Nicholas Plasteras, who recently was mentioned as a possible choice to set up a new government acceptable to all sides. Plasteras led the 1922 Greek revolution.

Said To Want Assurance

It was reported the EAM-ELAS forces were now ready to accept the British proposals that they quit the Attica peninsula, surrender their arms and stop fighting as a preliminary to any discussions for a permanent peace. It was said that before making any final commitment the Left-wingers wanted assurances of certain changes in the political situation.

In addition to Rallis, it was estimated 205 men and 30 women prisoners fled, out of the 475 persons held at Averoff. Most of the prisoners were awaiting trial on political charges.

Saved By Relief Attack

The ELAS attack trapped the British garrison and 115 Greek gendarmes and 149 wardens in the prison. A communiqué from the headquarters of Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, said a midmorning relief attack by British troops enabled the imperial garrison, 130 of the Greek gendarmes and wardens and some prisoners to be evacuated.

The fate of those left was not immediately known.

British headquarters said the recapture of Rallis, who took office in April, 1943, and resigned by his own decree the day the German commander fled Athens, was considered a "highest level affair."

Rallis was arrested last October 13 by order of the Government of Premier George Papandreou. In a recent interview he said he assumed the premiership during the Nazi occupation to fight communism.

Attack RAF Headquarters

Another force of ELAS troops estimated at about 600 attacked RAF headquarters at Kifissia, 12 miles northeast of Athens and the trapped noncombatant RAF clerks and base officers thus far were suc-

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cessfully holding off the besiegers.

Britons said they believed the ELAS were making a special effort to capture the headquarters in reprisal for strafing attacks by RAF rocket-firing Beaufighters and Spitfires.

Scobie's communiqué said the British were sucessfully clearing the ELAS from the main Athens-Pireaus highway and were consolidating their positions astride the route.

ELAS Attack Ousts British From Prison

New York, Dec. 19 — Greek Premier George Papandreou has sent a cable to King George of Greece in London, recommending the appointment of Archbishop Damaskinos, of Athens, as regent, the London radio said today in a broadcast recorded by CBS.

Athens, Dec. 19 (AP)—A strong ELAS attack on the Averoff Prison has forced the British to abandon the bastion. Quisling Ex-Premier Jean Rallis, who apparently escaped during the disorder, was being sought today.

The attack on the prison was made late yesterday. This morning the British launched a counter-thrust to relieve the 115 policemen, 149 wardens and members of the British garrison. A British communiqué said the British garrison and 130 of the Greeks in the prison and "some political prisoners" were successfully withdrawn.

ELAS Fortify Prison

The ELAS immediately began to fortify the prison.

It was estimated that some 205 men and 30 women prisoners of the 475 persons held there, escaped in the disorder. Most of the inmates were awaiting trial on political charges.

The fate of the remainder of the Greek prison attendants and the other prisoners was not immediately known.

All cells were locked when the west wing caught fire from mortar shells.

Hunt For Rallis Intensive

The hunt for Rallis was taken up immediately by the British and Greeks and undoubtedly by the ELAS.

Rallis became Premier in April, 1943, and resigned by his own decree the day the German commander quit Athens. October 13 the 67-year-old lawyer was imprisoned by the Government of Premier George Papandreou. In an interview then Rallis contended he took over the Premiership during the Nazi occupation to combat Communism.

British authorities said the recapture of Rallis was considered a "highest level affair." He was reported to have visited his wife's apartment briefly shortly after his escape.

Meanwhile, RAF headquarters at Kifissia, twelve miles northeast of Athens, was subjected to a stiff ELAS siege with noncombatant RAF clerks and base officers thus far successfully holding out against 600 ELAS troops seeking to halt strafing by rocket-firing Beaufighters and Spitfires.

The British communiqué said ELAS troops were being cleared from the main Athens-Piraeus highway and that Imperial troops were consolidating their positions astride the route.

Elsewhere in Greece, the communiqué said, "there is nothing to report."

War In Greece Impedes UNRRA

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—Herbert H. Lehman, director general of UNRRA, announced tonight that the fighting in Greece had forced the temporary withdrawal of a substantial part of the UNRRA mission there after several staff members were wounded "in the course of their duties."

"The decision to evacuate," Lehman said, "was taken by military authorities in the light of the present situation, which made it impossible for the mission to carry out its objectives."

Loans To Greece Reported

London, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Anderson, told Commons today the British Government had loaned the Greek Government $185,000,000 during the war, in addition to about $71,000,000 in market loans.

BURMA ROAD PUSH MEETS FEW OF FOE

2 Chinese Forces Are About 80 Miles Apart—British Go On Toward Akyab

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 19 (AP)—Two Chinese armies, seeking to establish the first overland route to China since 1942, now little more than eighty miles apart, are encountering comparatively light Japanese resistance in their drive to join along the Chinese-Burmese border.

Operating in the rugged strip between the Irrawaddy and Salween rivers, the two forces are slashing toward the town of Namhkam, which is about sixty-five miles north of Lashio, former important station of the Burma Road.

The Chinese force on the western flank is moving in a southeasterly direction from Bhamo, thirty road miles northwest of Namhkam. The army to the east, driving toward Burma from China, is attacking fifty miles northeast of Namhkam, a few miles north of the border town of Wanting.

Road Must Be Repaired

When the two forces meet, the first land route to China since the Japanese stormed into North Burma in 1942 will be opened. However, supply convoys may not roll from India to China for several months after the juncture because the road is damaged.

In Southwestern China an enemy counter-attack was repulsed northeast of Wanting on the China-Burma border, a Chinese High Command spokesman said, adding that on Dec. 15 part of a Japanese force was destroyed in a four-hour battle when Chinese units attacked an enemy strongpoint six miles east of Wanting.

The High Command said Col. Yosimi Hara, commander of the Japanese garrison that held out unde a two-week siege at Bhamo, was killed when Chinese forces captured the town.

A Southeast Asia Headquarters communiqué said British Fourteenth Army advance elements, pushing down the West Burma coast on the Arakan front, had proceeded more than twenty miles southeast of Maungdaw and taken up positions less than thirty miles northwest of the important coastal base of Akyab.

Allied naval ships poured shells into Japanese troop concentrations two miles ahead of the British vanguards, the communiqué said. Heavy bombers raided enemy installations near Andrew Bay, Japanese coastal supply point 165 airline miles southeast of Akyab.

Other heavy bomber formations hit targets on Great Coco Island, north of the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal, and Allied airmen operating in northern Burma destroyed two by-pass bridges, attacked rail and river communications and strafed Japanese airfields.

On the Fifteenth Indian Corps sector of the Arakan front two bridgeheads on the east bank of the Kalapanzin River have been joined and the advance to the east and south continued.

Allies Nearer Maungdaw In Burma Akyab Drive

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 19 (AP)—Allied vanguards on the West Burma coast are more than twenty miles southeast of Maungdaw in the advance on the important base of Akyab, now less than 30 miles away, a Southeast Asia communique disclosed tonight.

Meanwhile in North Burma little more than 80 miles of road, damaged, but at one time usable by motor, separated two Chinese forces steadily approaching one another from Burma and western China.

When these two armies meet the first land route to China since 1942 will be opened, although supply convoys may not roll from India to China until several months later.

On the Bhamo road the Chinese met comparatively light resistance approximately 30 road miles northwest of Nankham. From China troops moving toward Burma are some 50 miles northeast of Namkham. This force at present is a few miles north of Wanting and also is meeting comparatively light resistance.

On the West Burma coast Allied naval craft shelled a group of Japanese two miles ahead of the vanguards driving down toward Akyab.

Japanese Retreat Slower

CHUNGKING, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Japanese withdrawal in Kwangsi Province in south China appeared to be slowed down tonight as a Chinese High Command announcement said that Chinese forces advancing southeastward along the Kwangsi-Kweichow had taken Pushan, an important height west of Hochih.

The High Command also announced that Chinese troops had made a surprise raid against the enemy northeast of Hingan, which is on the Hunan-Kwangsi railway about thirty-three miles northeast of Kweilin. A number of Japanese were killed and wounded ahd several prisoners were taken, the announcement said.

In Hunan Province to the north Chinese troops operating in the Yoyang area northeast of Changsha intercepted an enemy column from Yuankiang on the southern shore of Tungting Lake, throwing the enemy back the following morning, High Command spokesmen said.

Meanwhile, fighting continued against stiffening Japanese resistance outside the railroad town of Hochih, and one Chinese column knifed farther into Kwangsi Province and established positions within six miles of Chinchengkiang, eighty-one miles west of Liuchow, the High Command announced.

United States planes have supported ground troops and attacked Japanese targets over widely separated sectors in China, Burma, Thailand and French Indo-China.

In a Saturday sweep, four spans of a bridge over the Yellow River north of Chengchow were knocked out. A locomotive and railroad cars also were destroyed in freight yards south of the bridge by fighters and medium bombers of the United States Fourteenth Air Force and the Chinese-American Composite Wing, an American communiqué announced.

On Sunday Liberators under Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's command bombed Japanese naval installations at Cam Ranh Bay, 180 miles northeast of Saigon, on the southern coast of French Indo-China, with unobserved results. Other Fourteenth Air Force planes raided Kengtung in eastern Burma, 240 miles east of Mandalay, and fighter bombers damaged the Wanpahsa bridge in Thailand along the Thailand-Burma border.

Chungking was alerted for nearly three hours tonight as Japanese planes invaded Szechwan Province, apparently seeking reprisals for yesterday's devastating attack on Hankow by Superfortresses and more than 200 Fourteenth Air Force bombers and fighters.

CHINESE ADVANCE ON GOLDEN CITY

Chungking, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—The Chinese High Command announced today that Chinese forces driving southeastward into Kwangsi Province were within six miles of the "Golden City" of Chin-Cheng-Kiang, eighty-one miles west of Liuchow, former American air base now in Jap hands.

The city is situated on the Kwangsi-Kweichow railroad, along which the Chinese have been pursuing enemy forces retreating from Kweichow.

The column advancing on Chin-Cheng-Kiang passed south of Hochih, ninety miles northwest of Liuchow, where the Japanese are making stand against another Chinese column.

B-29'S POUND OMURA PLANT

Targets At Shanghai And Nanking Also Bombed

San Francisco, Dec. 19 (AP)—More than ten B-29s raided Japanese-held Shanghai for four hours Tuesday morning (Tokyo time) the enemy radio said tonight in an unconfirmed broadcast. The broadcast made no mention of damage or claims of shooting down any Superfortresses.

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—The big Omura aircraft factory on the Japanese home island of Kyushu came in for another blasting from Superfortresses today while other B-29's hit targets at Shanghai and and Nanking on the Chinese mainland.

These new blows in the stepped-up air war aimed at knocking out Japanese sources of airpower and supply lines for the enemy forces in China were reported in a War Department communiqué.

Called Medium Force

China-based B-29's in "medium force"—an expression which usually means about 40 planes—bombed Omura through an overcast with precision instruments. It was the fifth time that Omura, which has a huge aircraft assembly works, has been hit since last July.

"Good to excellent" results were reported for the raids on docks and engineering works at Shanghai and Nanking. The B-29's shot down five enemy fighters, probably bagged three others and damaged an additional nine, although a communiqué said little opposition was encountered.

Meantime checks of air photographs showed that heavy damage was inflicted by strikes 24 hours earlier at Nagoya, Japan's third city, and Hankow, China.

Black smoke rolled up to 1,000 feet above a big airplane plant at Nagoya, a communiqué said, while it was disclosed that more than 250 planes—the largest force ever sent into the air over China—participated in the attack on Hankow.

Interpretations of bomb-strike photos "indicate a concentration of bomb bursts directly on the target," the communiqué said.

Damage "Clearly Extensive"

A dispatch from Saipan by Vern Haugland, Associated Press correspondent, said the photographs showed the Kokui aircraft factory, one of Japan's largest, was hit with "devastating accuracy" in the Nagoya raid.

"Damage to the plant is clearly extensive," Haugland quoted Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., commander of the 21st Bomber Command. "This plant was our primary target."

The photographs also indicated a Nagoya shipyard and the power plant serving the sprawling city of 1,300,000 were hit heavily.

The Kokui plant is operated by Mitsubishi, but is distinct from that concern's Hatsudoki plant at Nagoya, which was the principal target of a B-29 raid on December 13. The two plants are about 9 miles apart.

Jap Omura Plant Hit By B-29's

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—China-based Superfortresses today pounded an enemy aircraft plant at Omura on the Japanese home island of Kyushu and attacked targets at Shanghai and Nanking on the China coast.

A War Department communiqué said that results of the attack on the Omura aircraft plant could not be determined because of the heavy cloud cover. The B-29's bombed through an overcast with the use of precision instruments.

"Good to excellent" results were achieved in the raid on docks and engineering works at Shanghai and Nanking, however. Weather over the targets there was clear.

Little Opposition

A medium force of the B-29's from the 20th Bomber Command, possibly comprising 40 planes, carried out the raids. Little opposition was encountered from enemy fighters, five of which were shot down by the B-29 crews. Three more enemy fighters were probably destroyed and nine damaged.

A Japanese imperial communiqué reported that between 30 and 40 Superfortresses bombed Omura in the fifth reported attack on the city since last July.

Large Fire Reported

The communiqué telling of the attacks followed shortly a report that serious damage had been inflicted on the Mitsubishi aircraft plant in yesterday's raid on Nagoya, Japan's third-largest city.

Large fires and smoke columns rising to a height of 1,000 feet were observed in the wake of direct hits on the Mitsubishi aircraft, a communiqué said.

The raiders, numbering probably upward of 100, apparently inflicted "serious damage," the War Department reported.

Superfortress crews reported that they had destroyed two enemy planes, probably destroyed six and damaged three. None of the B-29's was lost to "enemy action," the communiqué said.

Hankow Targets Hit

War Department spokesmen said the Mitsubishi plant struck in yesterday's raid was not the Hatsudoki factory pounded in the first raid on December 13.

The raid at Nagoya, on Japan's principal island of Honshu, was carried out simultaneously with a raid by China-based Superfortresses on the Japanese-occupied city of Hankow in China.

In the Hankow raid docks and warehouses were pounded. The Superforts knocked down five intercepting planes and damaged seven more.

Biggest Air Force In China Takes Part In Hankow Raid

By CHARLES A. GRUMICH

A B-29 Base, Szechwan Province, China, Dec. 18 [*AP—Delayed*]—Huge fires were left blazing along almost the entire length of Hankow's 3-mile-long Yangtze River front area today following a perfectly coordinated assault by virtually every type of operational airplane in the China theater.

The combined power of Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Le May's 20th Bomber Command, Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's 14th Air Force and the Chinese-American composite wing made the strike. The raiders evidently achieved a fine element of surprise.

Opposition Slight

The biggest force of American planes ever sent aloft over China encountered slight opposition despite the heavy concentration of Japanese aircraft based in the Hankow area.

[Official sources in Washington on Monday issued only the bare announcement of the raid.]

Approaching the target area in perfect visibility, more than 250 Superfortresses, Liberators, Mitchells, Mustangs and Warhawks dumped over 1,000 tons of high explosives on shipping installations, railyards and the city's air base—most important Japanese airfield in China.

Carry Maximum Load

The Superfortresses, many of them carrying their maximum load of substantially more than eight tons each, dropped hundreds of tons of incendiaries.

Instead of following the fighters and fighter-bombers over the target, the Superfortresses acted both as wholesale incendiarists and lures for enemy aircraft in a cleverly devised plot to trap Japanese planes into a helpless position for kills by swarms of Chennault's bombers and fighters which swept over Hankow after the unescorted B-29's.

The first Liberators flew over the city 45 minutes after the Superforts, and upon returning to base, reported that a belt of flame was sweeping the dock area. Mustang pilots who flew top cover for the Liberators allowed only five Japanese Zekes to get in two passes at the bombers. Returning airmen described the enemy ground fire as "meager and inaccurate."

Japs' Supply Center

The dual attack centered on Hankow's warehouse district, which supplies the Japanese lifeline to South China and aerial installations in Central China.

But the water front was not the only area blasted by Allied airmen. A strong formation of Liberators raided the city's airfield and fuel storage area, where large fires and secondary explosions followed the bombing.

Every bomb dropped from the B-24's struck the Hankow airfield. Their explosions touched off other blasts on the enemy field, as fires sprang up in gasoline storage tanks.

Incomplete reports from 14th Air Force headquarters show fifteen Japanese planes destroyed in the air and three destroyed on the ground; six probably destroyed in the air, two probably destroyed on the ground; eight damaged in the air and one damaged on the ground.

Heaviest Attack in Asia.

Aboard a B-24 Liberator over Hankow, Dec. 18 (Delayed).—(A. P.).—Hankow, principal supply base for the Japanese drive through south-central China, today received the heaviest bomb-load ever dropped on the Asiatic mainland by the largest force of American planes ever sent into China's skies.

The attack was perfectly coordinated by more than 250 Superfortresses, Liberators, Mitchells, Mustangs and Warhawks from the Twentieth Bomber Command, the Fourteenth United States Air Force and the Chinese-American Composite Wing. More than 1,000 tons of bombs plastered the docks and rail yards at Hankow and the city's airdrome, the most important Japanese airfield in China.

In the briefing six hours ago, Capt. Ross McLeod of New York city, told the Fourteenth Air Force crews that Major Gen. Claire L. Chennault had been wanting to knock out Hankow for a long time. "He thinks this time we'll do it," Capt. McLeod added.

On the basis of ample evidence of the flame-swept, smoke-shrouded docks, and the fire-scorched, smoking airdrome, all discernible from the flight deck of this Liberator, one of the last planes over the target, Hankow was knocked out.

Americans Trap Force Of Japs On West Leyte

Airfield And Enemy Headquarters Town Captured—Mindoro Drive Meets No Opposition

Superfortresses bomb Omura, Shanghai and Nanking . . . *Page 5*

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Wednesday*, Dec. 20 (*AP*)—The largest Nipponese organized force still in action on west Leyte has been caught in a trap and no organized resistance at newly invaded Mindoro has yet been encountered in twin battles for the central Philippines.

Headquarters announced today that Gen. Sosaki Suzuki's headquarters town of Valencia and its airfield were captured Monday on west Leyte by 77th Division troops, which have moved 8 miles north above Ormoc.

Caught Between Divisions

Meanwhile, dismounted 1st Cavalry Division troops driving south from the direction of Carigara Bay have seized Lonoy, 6 miles north of Valencia, and in so doing have cut to the rear of forces pinned down by another southbound element, the 32d Division.

The enemy troops caught between the 1st Cavalry and the 32d are believed to comprise the largest organized Nipponese force still in action on Leyte.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today the 77th was "rolling up remnants of the Yamashita Line."

The captured airfield near Valencia had been used as an emergency strip by the enemy. This probably was the first time the Yanks under MacArthur ever won an airfield which would be put to immediate use by their own supporting planes.

The successes give the Americans a major portion of the corridor road from Ormoc to Valencia although isolated pockets of resistance remain to be accounted for.

Negros Airdrome Raided

A total of more Japanese dead were found abandoned on Leyte Island Monday, the communiqué said.

In the Mindoro phase of the campaign, American planes shot down thirteen Japanese aircraft Sunday and Monday.

An airdrome at Palawan, on Negros Island, was hammered with 226 tons of bombs in a raid which destroyed twelve enemy planes on the ground.

In far-ranging raids over the Philippines, Borneo, Celebes, Moluccas, Lesser Sundas, New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago and the Solomons, today's communique listed the expenditure of approximately 500 tons of explosives on enemy defenses.

In these activities at least 47 enemy planes were destroyed and probably two others. A small freighter was sunk off Luzon; a 3,000-ton freighter-transport was damaged in the Borneo area; a small enemy vessel was hit off Celebes; three small freighters were either destroyed or heavily damaged in the Lesser Sundas area, and light naval units accounted for three barges off Cebu.

Calatagan airdrome on Luzon Island, the Licanan airfield area near Davao on Mindanao, two airfields on Borneo, and airfields on Amboina and Ceram were bombed.

A Japanese plane raided the American position at Morotai southeast of the Philippines but the communique said the bombs were dropped "harmlessly into the water."

Naval aircraft from carriers tore the greatest hole in Nippon's air arm. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced at Pearl Harbor that 461 enemy aircraft had been destroyed or damaged in just three days of sustained strike on Manila Bay and elsewhere on Luzon.

Admiral Nimitz's communique told of widespread destruction of Jap facilities and shipping during the aerial siege. At least twenty-eight ships were sunk and sixty-six others were damaged. Later reports may increase the toll.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today that many scores of other Jap aircraft were knocked out of the sky by Army and Navy flyers supporting the amphibious invasion of Mindoro.

Major Richard I. Bong of Poplar, Wis., top American ace, shot one of them down in flames Sunday for his fortieth victory.

Keeping Losses Low on Leyte.

American infantrymen scored impressive gains on Leyte, invaded nearly two months ago. Seventy-seventh Division troops seized an airdrome near Valencia nine miles from captured Ormoc in their drive up the Ormoc Corridor toward a juncture with the Thirty-second Division pressing southward. Thousands of crack Nipponese troops are caught in the squeeze, and the fighting is bloody all the way. In one day 905 abandoned Jap dead were picked up.

Gen. MacArthur made it clear that "the greatest possible care is being exercised to minimize our losses" on Leyte. As a result, they continue light," he said.

The enemy threw aircraft against the invaders, but twenty-three Jap planes were destroyed by anti-aircraft fire and aerial interception, against the loss of only one American plane.

On Mindoro airfields were nearing completion at the island's southern end to bring Manila within a half hour's flying range.

This is the dry season for Mindoro. American and Australian crews putting airfields into condition are not handicapped by mud such as was encountered on Leyte and previous invasion points.

The lack of opposition was puzzling to the Americans. Only six Japanese dead were counted on a tour of the invasion perimeter the second day. Waite reported yesterday that the total had not risen since.

Mindoro Drive Is Easiest Yet

Yanks Meet Few Japs—Enemy Flyers Give Most Trouble—742 Downed in Week.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—America's easiest invasion job of the Pacific war went ahead at full tilt on Mindoro Island today without the slightest ground resistance as American commanders announced a staggering toll of at least 742 Jap planes put out of action the past week.

PT'S RESCUE YANKS AND LEYTE FUGITIVES

LEYTE, Philippines, Dec. 18 (*AP*) (Delayed)—Navy PT-boats today rescued twenty-three American soldiers from a fishing boat in which they had fled with seventy-three Spaniards and Filipino guerrillas after having been surrounded by Japanese.

Those rescued in the pre-dawn darkness thanked their lucky stars that the PT skippers, Lieut. (j. g.) G. J. Azarigian of Hartford, Conn., and Ensign Dudley Johnson of Kerrville, Tex., followed a policy of investigating before shooting, even in enemy waters.

The two-masted fishing boat served the Americans and their friends as a getaway craft from the Japanese-held northwest coast of Leyte. The PT-boats spotted the vessel when they were returning from a night patrol.

The rescued soldiers had been sent on reconnaissance patrol deep into enemy territory. Japanese they by-passed closed in behind and cut them off. They estimated they were surrounded by 1,500 Japanese.

The trapped soldiers ran out of ammunition, food and water after a week in the mountains. Their radio set was broken. Finally they made their way to the coast and encountered the Spaniards—men, women and children fugitives from the Japanese—and the guerrillas who took them aboard the seventy-foot fishing boat.

20-Plane Ace Is Killed

Col. Westbrook, of Hollywood, Dies Attacking Japanese Gunboat

AN ADVANCED SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AIR BASE, Nov. 24 (Delayed), (*AP*).—Lieutenant Colonel

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Robert B. Westbrook, twenty-seven-year-old Hollywood, Calif., air ace with twenty enemy planes definitely to his credit, was killed Nov. 22, while making a strafing run against a gunboat which was escorting two Japanese freighters in Macassar Strait.

He flew his Lightning repeatedly into anti-aircraft fire and he and his wingman knocked out all but one of the gunboat's batteries. Then one of his engines burst into flames and his plane dived into the sea.

Colonel Westbrook flew 367 combat missions from the Solomons to the Indies and the Philippines. In twenty months he rose from second lieutenant to lieutenant colonel and leader of a 13th Air Force squadron.

On the fatal mission the freighters were riddled and the gunboat was left on its side.

Japs' Luzon Loss Rises To 41 Ships

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 19 (AP)—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz today reported the additional destruction of fourteen ships and small craft in the carrier-plane sweeps over Luzon December 13, 14 and 15, raising to 41 the number of enemy vessels sunk in the three-day attack.

The communiqué revised downward from 66 to 61 the number of vessels damaged.

United States combat losses were placed at 27 planes.

Nimitz And British Fleet Heads Confer

Headquarters, Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 19 (AP)—Pacific Fleet headquarters disclosed officially today that discussions are under way here between Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and the staff of the new British Pacific Fleet.

The brief announcement by Admiral Nimitz, five-star commander of the United States Pacific Fleet, said a series of conferences were being held.

Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, G.C.B., K.B.E., is commander in chief of the new British fleet. He arrived recently for the conferences.

On Jap Aircraft Plant

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 19 [AP—*Via Navy Radio*]—The Kokuki aircraft factory—one of Japan's largest—was hit with devastating accuracy Monday, bombing-run photographs show today.

Bombing through a heavy overcast with precision instruments, many destructive hits were scored on this Mitsubishi plant. It was a tribute to United States precision instruments and bombardier training.

Many Direct Hits Scored

Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., commander of the 21st Bomber Command, after making a study of the strike photographs—pictures made during the bombing runs as contrasted with reconnaissance photos made subsequently—said:

"We can now state that many direct hits were scored on the Kokuki plant and that damage to the plant is clearly extensive.

"This plant (on the east side of Nagola harbor and nine miles from earlier raided, sprawling Hatsudoki plant) was our primary target. We will know more facts and figures when photographic reconnaissance pictures are available."

The Hatsudoki factory was a previous B-29 target and is some seven miles inland from the harbor and was not attacked on this raid.

Strike photos taken by later elements which bombed visually showed that earlier elements, bombing by precision instruments through a heavy overcast, hit Kokuki and the shipyard and the Nagoya power plant adjacent to it, burning out two large buildings in the shipyard and probably knocking out the power plant, which is one of the major structures of this type in the Nagoya area.

21 Direct Hits Shown

The bombing of Kokuki was like pin-pointing an area such as Rockefeller Center in New York or Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco.

Kokuki is located on a well-defined spot on the congested Nagoya water front, running from the water's edge back across reclaimed land. The factory covers an area of only 3,200 by 1,400 feet.

One photo showed at least 22 direct hits in the target area by one element. Other photos showed a few bombs landing in the water, most of them in excellent pattern directly across the selected target. Later elements sped over the target at more than 400 mile an hour.

Many Direct Hits Scored

Nimitz Assumes Rank Of 5-Star Admiral

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 19 (AP) — Admiral Chester W. Nimitz today assumed the five-star rank of United States Fleet Admiral, his headquarters announced.

Nimitz's promotion was confirmed by the Senate December 15, along with similar promotions of Admirals William D. Leahy and Ernest J. King, as a move to give American fleet commanders rating comparable to foreign naval chieftains.

Being commander in chief of the United States Pacific Fleet, Nimitz is Commander of the Pacific Ocean Areas.

FIND 7 JAPS ON SAIPAN

Saipan, Dec. 17 (Via Navy Radio) (Delayed) (A. P.).—Five enlisted men from a B-29 unit went exploring today and brought in seven Japanese who had been hiding in caves since the start of the Marianas campaign—a father, a mother and five children. They had evidently been living on hidden stores.

Pfc. Henry M. Pahnke of Glidden, Iowa, from a point high above the shore saw a child run into a cave. He and his companions—who included Private Fred F. Kessler of 347 New Jersey avenue, Atlantic City—descended the cliff as they peered into the cave the Japanese inside raised their hands. Obeying the soldiers' motions, the father came out followed by his wife and five ragged children. The Japanese showed the soldiers a better path up the cliff.

Several Americans rifled their Christmas packages and gave the children candy, cookies and other edibles. None would eat until the eldest, 8 years old, looked the food over carefully, smelled it, nibbled it and then nodded approval.

Blacklisted Firm Opens Argentine Plane Plant

Buenos Aires, Dec. 19 (AP)—A factory for producing new types of airplanes and gliders for the recently reorganized Argentine Air Force, founded by a company blacklisted by both the British and United States governments, was opened at special ceremonies today.

The company, popularly known as IMPA (Industrias Metalurgicas Plasticas Argentinas) was organized by Fritz Mandl, onetime Austrian munitions manufacturer and former husband of Hedy Lamarr, screen actress.

President Edelmiro Farrell and Vice President Juan Peron were present at the ceremonies. Other IMPA plants produce bicycles, armaments and plastics.

Brazil To Keep Price Of Coffee At Cent A Cup

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 19 (AP)—Brazilians will continue to pay 20 centavos (1 United States cent) for their indispensable demitasse at the corner coffee shop.

Efforts by coffee-shop owners to raise the traditional price of the Brazilian's *cafezinho* (little coffee) to 30 centavos are "an extemporaneous pretension and at conflict with the times," the Government's service of supply announced today.

Arevalo Far In Lead In Guatemala Election

Guatemala City, Dec. 19 (AP)—Juan Jose Arevalo, supported by the National Renovation and Popular Front Liberation parties, apparently had clinched election as President of Guatemala today.

With the vote incomplete, Arevalo had three times the ballots of his opponents, Adrian Recinos, former Ambassador to Washington, and Manuel Maria Herrera.

The new President will be inaugurated March 15, when the present revolutionary junta, which ousted President Federico Ponce in October, will retire. Decrees by the junta have limited the presidency to one four-year term, established women's suffrage and mandatory voting by all literate persons, and called for a constitutional convention to write a new constitution before March 15.

Tito's Forces T[illegible] odgorica

New York, Dec. 19 (AP)—Marshal Tito announced today in a broadcast communiqué recorded here that his Yugoslav Partisan forces had captured Podgorica, an important center in southern Montenegro ten miles from the Albanian border.

JAP CABINET SHIFT

Domei, the Japanese official news agency, said today that Ginjiro Fujiwara, Munitions Minister, has resigned his Cabinet post and that Shigeru Yoshida, director of the regional Mines bureau, appointed his successor.

At the same time Admiral Seizo Kobayashi, former commander in chief of the Combined Imperial Fleet, was made a Minister without Portfolio. Now 68 years old, and a former Governor of Formosa, he has served successively as commander of the Japanese Third Fleet, chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau, commander in chief of the Training Squadron, Vice-Minister of the Navy, commander in chief of the Combined Fleet and member of the Supreme War Council, Domei said.

In another dispatch, intercepted by the FCC and distributed by the Associated Press, Domei said that there is a growing sentiment in various Japanese quarters that the internal government structure should be reformed and strengthened "in the critical period of the war." The recent reshuffling of official posts indicates that the Japanese "government is attempting to strengthen the administrative structure," Domei added.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

Dec. 19, 1940 (A. P.).—Finnish electoral college chooses Ryti President of Finland to succeed ailing Kyosti Kallio. Kallio dies of a heart attack a few hours later.

Senate Comfirms 6 State Dept. Aides; Congress Adjourns

Washington —(AP)— The 78th Congress adjourned last night shortly after the Senate had put a belated stamp of approval on the six appointees to the reorganized State Department.

The appointments were confirmed only after President Roosevelt had personally intervened.

The gavel dropped in the House at 6:59 p. m., and the Senate quit at 8:22.

Rolling roughshod over a noisy but sparse-voted opposition, the administration won overwhelming approval of the nominations of Joseph C. Grew as undersecretary of state and four assistants.

Republicans made it closer, however, for Archibald MacLeish, poetry-writing librarian of Congress, who came through with 3 to 25 approval in what proved to be largely a partisan test.

MacLeish thus becomes assistand secretary of state in charge of cultural and public relations. Some senators described the latter as "propaganda" activities."

Here's how the others ran in the voting to confirm:

Grew, former ambassador to Japan, to be under secretary of state, 66 to 7.

Nelson Rockefeller, formerly coordinator of inter-American affairs, to be assistant secretary in charge of Latin American relations, 62 to 10.

Will L. Clayton, formerly surplus property administrator, to be assistant secretary in charge of economic affairs, 52 to 19.

James C. Dunn, State Department career man, to be assistant secretary in charge of European affairs, 62 to 10.

Brig,. Gen. Julius C. Holmes, formerly attached to General Eisenhower's staff abroad, as an assistant secretary to be the principal administrative officer in charge of organization and personnel, 62 to 9.

Three die-hard Democrats—Senators Pepper of Florida, Guffey of Pennsylvania and Murray of Montana—cast their votes against Grew as a protest to the whole slate which Pepper said was "out of character" with President Roosevelt's policies.

They were joined in the opposition by Progressive LaFollette of Wisconsin and Republicans Aiken of Vermont, Langer of North Dakota and Johnson of California. The 78-year-old Johnson dramatically halted the roll call to announce that while he held nothing personally against Grew he "would not vote to turn the State Department over to the House of Morgan."

There was little formal opposition to Rockefeller, who will move his activities as co-ordinator of inter-American affairs to the State Department.

But the cotton south, as represented by Senator Russell (D-Ga) arose in protest against Clayton, millionaire cotton broker.

Russell arraigned what he called Clayton's "dangerous" views on the farm problem. Senator Chandler (D-Ky) added his opposition to Clayton.

But Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo), who was one of those who led the fight which sent the nominations of Clayton, Grew, Rockefeller and Archibald MacLeish back to the foreign relations committee previously, voted for Clayton. He said he was satisfied that the official was opposed to international cartels.

President Roosevelt broke the back o fthe Senate opposition before the voting began. The result seemed a foregone conclusion when he told Senator Pepper in a telephone conversation that if the Senate delayed action now he would submit the same list of names in January.

The President gave him assurance, Pepper tol dthe Senate, that if any of the men involved failed to carry out the Roosevelt policies he would be removed promptly.

With that, Pepper gave up the ghost and organized opposition to the nominees collapsed. But that didn't keep the Senate from talk-

ing.

Senator LaFoliette was not willing to give up without making it clear that he was unsatisfied with the "team" of aides that Secretary of State Stettinius had picked.

Asserting that confirmation of the six would "tend to destroy the hope of the American people for a just and democratic peace," LaFollette took the State Department to task for "pious" statements recently issued favoring self determination by peoples.

The events taking place in Europe, the Wisconsin senator said, made it clear to him that the Atlantic Charter had become nothing more than "a scrap of paper."

Senator Nye (R-ND), one of the severest congressional critics of the administration's foreign policies, sang his Senate swan song with a prediction that in another 20 years the country would be "told we must go into another European war to keep Russia from seizing control of the world."

The half-billion-dollar postwar rivers and harbors bill died with the adjournment of the Senate.

Opposition against the measure developed from a House-passed rider exempting the $360,000,000 Central Valley project in California from a 42-year-old reclamation law.

La Follette Objects

Spearheading objection to the rider were Senators La Follette (Prog., Wis.) and Hatch (D., N.M.), who contended it would affect the basic land laws of the country, and should not be handled in a hasty manner.

The two Westerners suggested, instead, that the Central Valley issue be studied by the Senate Irrigation and Reclamation Committee.

Had the measure passed, it faced a possible veto because of opposition of Interior Secretary Ickes to the rider which, he said, would pave the way for land speculation in California.

Fewer than two dozen members were in the House when the adjournment resolution was adopted. The House had spent the entire day marking time, waiting for the Senate to clear the business of Congress.

The last business of the House was to adopt a resolution offered by Representative Michener (R., Mich.) expressing the assembly's thanks to Speaker Sam Rayburn for "the able, impartial, dignified manner" in which he presided over Congress.

Rayburn On Way Home

The Speaker was not at his desk to hear the brief tribute from the Republican spokesman. He left yesterday for his home in Texas and turned the chair over to Representative Cox (D., Ga.).

The Seventy-eighth Congress was highlighted by unprecedented spending and intermittent battling with the White House.

Twice during the two years of almost continuous sessions the President was overridden on vetoes of major legislation. Over his objections Congress wrote into law the Smith-Connally War Labor Disputes Act and the 1944 Tax Act.

The latter measure, a $2,300,000,000 bill which fell far short of Administration hopes, so irritated the President that he wrote Congress a stinging rebuke that precipitated the historic but temporary break between the White House and its Senate floor leader, Alben W. Barkley, of Kentucky.

The President fared better on a third major veto, of legislation outlawing the Administration's food subsidy program. The House sustained him in that act.

182 Billions Appropriated

To finance the nation's biggest war and the stepped-up activities of its home-front agencies, Congress approached approximately $182,000,000,000 and boosted the national debt limit to $260,000,000,000 during its two years of work.

While not a record—the Seventy-seventh appropriated approximately $204,000,000,000 — the funds supplied by the Seventy-eighth Congress included the biggest single supply bill of all time, a $59,000,000,000 War Department measure passed in 1943.

To that sum it added $15,000,000,000 this year to rocket the Army's appropriations for the two years to $74,000,000,000.

The Navy received approximately $57,000,000,000 during the biennial period, while other agencies described as directly connected with the war were given an estimated $14,000,000,000.

Despite the huge appropriations, money furnished by Congress dipped downward during the two years, dropping from $115,000,000,000 last year to approximately $67,000,000,000 this year. It was the first sharp curtailment since the war started, and a further drop was sighted for 1945.

War, Taxes Leading Topics

The first session of the Seventy-eighth Congress devoted its time almost exclusively to war matters. With little dissension it extended the Lend-Lease program, provided allotments and allowances for service men's dependents and put pre-war fathers at the bottom of the draft pool.

But on domestic matters it was another story. A major battle developed over the Ruml pay-as-you-go tax plan, which House Republicans backed almost to a man.

It ended in a compromise which the GOP called a 75 per cent victory. Other fights broke out over subsidies, crude oil prices and railway workers' wages.

The second session was interrupted by recesses for the presidential nominating conventions in June and the national elections in November, in which the Democratic party strengthened its slim control of the House.

The second session enacted a tax-simplification program intended to east computation procedures for some 5,000,000 taxpayers. It extended wartime price, wage and rent controls and miscellaneous emergency powers given the President in the Second War Powers Act.

Aids To Servicemen Cited

It wrote legislation expediting absentee voting by service men, providing mustering-out pay and giving veterans job preference, Government-backed loans, unemployment compensation, hospitalization and Government-financed education.

It blueprinted the procedure for settling terminated war contracts, outlined the method of disposing of huge stocks of surplus war material, and created the War Mobilization and Reconversion Administration to chart the transition from wartime to peacetime economy.

Internationally, it again extended the Lend-Lease program and provided for United States participation in the Untied Nations Relief and Rehabilitation program to give aid to liberated nations.

The final major concerted act of the expiring Congress was thumping approval of a bill blocking an increase in Social Security payroll taxes January 1.

These taxes for old-age pensions woul dhave risen to two per cent had not Congress pegged them at one percent, over the President's objections. Although he approved the legislation "reluctantly," the President cited the need for a thorough study of the entire Social Security program by the new Congress.

Battle In 79th Congress Seen

That study, and resulting legislation, may furnish ammunition for one of the major battles of the 79th Congress. Many members want "cradle-to-grave" social security protection.

Another headache facing the incoming legislators is the matter of compulsory peacetime military training. Hearings on peacetime draft bills probably will start before the House Military Committee next month.

Entering the new Congress, Democrats will have a tighter hold on the House, with 243 seats to start, against 190 for the Republicans.

They started the 78th Congress with 222 seats, against 208 for the Republicans and ended it in a 212 deadlock brought about by deaths and resignations.

Guffey Attacks Dunn

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP)—Senator Guffey declared today that James C. Dunn "and his friends in the State Department" had worked for the Franco regime during the Spanish Civil War and "have been following a pro-Franco policy ever since."

Mr. Guffey made his remarks partly in the Senate and partly in an extension he entered for printing in the Congressional Record.

The Senator said that "Mr. Dunn and his friends," at a time in 1937 when Mr. Dunn was a special assistant to former Secretary Hull, advocated successfully before Congress adoption of the arms embargo when the President, Mr. Hull and the then under-secretary of state, Sumner Welles, were in South America.

As a result, he continued, Congress passed the arms embargo prohibiting munitions shipments to aid the Spanish Loyalists and thereby aided Franco who "had all the supplies he wanted from his dictator friends."

Senator Guffey said that Dunn had been "evasive" in answering questions regarding the arms embargo recommendation before the Foreign Relations Committee recently and had argued that he had only followed policies outlined by the President and Congress.

Senator La Follette told the Senate that confirmation of his six nominees would "tend to destroy the hope of the American people for a just and democratic peace," and he took the State Department to task for "pious" statements recently issued favoring self-determination by peoples.

Events taking place in Europe, the Senator said, made it clear to him that the Atlantic Charter had become nothing more than "a scrap of paper."

Senator Wheeler, Democrat, of Montana, declared that it was high time for Mr. Rooseelt to lay down surrender terms for America's enemies.

"It is the utmost stupidity just to stand by and say that we're for unconditional surrender," Mr. Wheeler said. "As long as we go on demanding unconditional surrender, we are costing the lives of thousands of American boys every day."

His idea, the Montanan continued, was to have the United States dictate the terms of peace—the removal of Hitler and all his satellites, and the establishment of a democratic form of government in Germany.

Unless Marshal Stalin chooses soon to open an offensive against Germany through Poland, Mr. Wheeler said, the whole Allied strategy would have to be changed

F. D. R. Returns From 3-Week Vacation

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—President Roosevelt returned today from a three-week vacation at Warm Springs, Ga.

Facing momentous months in the fields of war and Allied diplomacy —plus the beginning of a fourth term and organization of a new Congress—the Chief Executive came back sun-tanned and a few pounds heavier.

During the morning he telephoned Senators Pepper (D., Fla.) and Guffey (D., Pa.), who are bucking his nominations of six top State Department executives.

Other Engagements

He also scheduled engagements with George Messersmith, soon returning to his post as Ambassador to Mexico, and with Acting Senate Majority Leader Hill, of Alabama.

Following a late-afternoon news conference, Roosevelt arranged to see some 60 representatives of the motion-picture industry who will direct the annual "March of Dimes" next month to raise funds to combat infantile paralysis.

Presidential Secretary Stephen Early, reminded by reporters that Roosevelt conferred with Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark during a vacation in South Carolina last spring, was asked whether the Chief Executive had had any conferences in Warm Springs.

"No Conferences"

Early said that Secretary William D. Hassett, who accompanied the President, "tells me there were no conferences down there."

Early remarked that the President "looks wonderful and seems to be in grand shape."

He returned from Georgia via Camp Lejeune, on New River, at Jacksonville, N.C., where yesterday he inspected the marine combat reservation. This was his only side trip outside of Georgia during his vacation.

On the drive through the camp with its commandant, Maj. Gen. John Marston, he saw 64 marine war dogs parade with their trainers while T.N.T. blasts went off in simulation of combat explosions.

Roosevelt planned to hold a news conference late today. It will be the first since the special one he called the day he left for Warm Springs, at which he announced the resignation of Cordell Hull as Secretary of State.

For security reasons, news of the trip was withheld until the President was back in the White House. Representatives of three news services accompanied the party.

Signed Over 75 Bills

During his absence, Roosevelt signed more than 75 bills and vetoed a few, kept informed of the European political developments, and reorganized the whole top level of the State Department. All of the executive actions, however, were announced at the White House in Washington.

Despite the heavy routine, the President slept ten to twelve hours every night.

He made two informal speeches. He spoke to the polio patients at a turkey dinner the night of his arrival. Although he talked about half an hour to some 300 people, the speech was officially classed as "off the record."

ROOSEVELT EDITS ACCOUNTS OF TRIP

Washington, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—President Roosevelt turned editor on his way back to Washington from his southern vacation.

By request, representatives of the three national news services who accompanied him submitted their stories on the trip to him for review yesterday after leaving Camp Lejeune, N. C. He suggested a few minor changes.

This has been the custom on several "off-the-record" trips by the Chief Executive.

Camp Lejeune, Jacksonville, N. C., Dec. 18 (Delayed) (A. P.).—President Roosevelt toured this great United States Marine combat training camp for two hour today en route home from his Warm Springs, Ga., vacation. He left with vivid impressions of men training for early overseas duty, of trick drills, and of steel-jawed dogs trained for scout duty under combat fire.

In company with Major-Gen. John Marston, camp commandant, Mr. Roosevelt motored through nearly two-thirds of the 107,000-acre tract. Here are trained officers and men, women's reserves, riflemen and specialists, Negro depot battalions and ammunition companies.

The presidential car stopped nearly a dozen times for Mr. Roosevelt to view various units on parade and to receive honors for the Commander in Chief. The women Marine officers were questioned at length by the President as they were called to the side of his car.

A war dog training company of sixty-four Doberman pinchers and German shepherds put on the noisiest show as they went through their drills amid loud explosions of TNT, part of the routine to accustom them for duty under combat conditions.

Although several loud speakers had been set up at various points in the camp, Mr. Roosevelt limited his remarks to private conversations with officers.

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F.D.R. Still Stands On Principles Of Atlantic Charter

Washington —(AP)— President Roosevelt, returning to a capital seething with debate on foreign policy, yesterday declared he still stood on the Atlantic Charter's principles.

He said the charter did not exist as a formal document signed by himself and Prime Minister Churchill but that it was signed in substance.

It was Mr. Roosevelt's first opportunity to use the world sounding board of a White House conference in more than three weeks —he returned yesterday morning from a visit to Warm Springs, Ga.—and he picked his way carefully through a cross-fire of questions dealing chiefly with foreign affairs.

Besides the Atlantic Charter, the conference revolved about these key subjects:

POLAND—The President was told the Washington Evening Star had a headline saying the United States opposes the partition of Poland and the Washington Times-Herald had a headline saying this country supports the partition. "Which do you prefer?" he was asked. He much preferred the Star to the other paper, the President replied.

GREECE—The President was told that British Labor Minister Ernest Bevin had said that at Quebec the President initialed a British plan for stabilizing Greece. Hadn't that been denied at the State Department? Mr. Roosevelt asked. Told it had not, he said perhaps something more polite was said but that anyway it shouldn't have been brought up because it was too contentious.

A GENERAL STATEMENT OF AMERICAN POLICY — An observer said some of Mr. Roosevelt's strongest supporters in Congress as well as some of his strongest opponents were urging that he re-state this country's policy. The President said he didn't think he could comment; that the policy was on the record, and he advised against trying to re-state it.

A ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL-STALIN CONFERENCE — "Do you welcome and do you foresee" an early conference? he was asked. That was all highly speculative, the President replied. When his questioner said he would like to remove the speculation by going to the "highest source," the President laughed and said, so would he. No definite date for a meeting has been set, Mr. Roosevelt said.

Asked whether he intended to go "right or left" from now on, Mr. Roosevelt said that when he first took office he said he intended to go a little to the left of center and that still stood. Someone remarked that the President had said some time back that Dr. New Deal had been replaced by Dr. Win-the-War. The President repeated he intended to go along a little left of center and that included winning the war. That was not, he remarked, much of an answer.

"Would you call the State Department nominations left of center?" he was asked. Some critics of the selection of Edward R. Stettinius Jr., former head of U. S. Steel, as secretary of state and of his top aides have described them as forming a "millionaire's club."

Mr. Roosevelt replied that he called himself left of center. There were lots of people in the government, he remarked, some to the right and some to the left.

The Atlantic charter came up when Mr. Roosevelt was asked:

"Did Mr. Chufchill sign the Atlantic Charter?"

Nobody ever signed it, the President replied.

"Where is it?" he was asked.

Nobody has one, the President said, adding that the nearest thing to it probably was in the hands of the radio operators on the Cruiser Augusta and the British battleship Prince of Wales.

The charter was released after a sea meeting of the President and Prime Minister in the summer of 1940. Relating how it was composed, Mr. Roosevelt said it was scribbled by various persons; that Sumner Welles, then undersecretary of state, wrote part of it, and then the President's and the Prime Minister's aides were directed to send it to the governments and the press.

Among the points in that charter were:

No territorial changes not in accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned.

Respect for the rights of all peoples to choose their forms of government.

"Isn't it true," he was asked, "that all the United Nations have signed the principles of the Atlantic Charter?"

That was right, the President replied, they signed on Jan. 1, 1942.

Later, his secretary, Stephen Early, showed the document received by radio from the Augusta in August, 1941.

JAPS GET THEIR BOMBS BACK

Washington, Dec. 19 (A. P.). The Japs now are being hit with "Made in Japan" bombs.

Jap bombs captured at Tarawa have been used by the Army Air Forces in attacking islands in the Marianas and Marshall groups, Col. William S. McCulla, ordnance officer from Lieut.-Gen. Millard Harmon's command, reported today.

"Planes of the Seventh Air Force dropped a few duds on Tinian," Col. McCulla said, "so the Japs could see that they were getting their own bombs back."

Paul V. McNutt To Visit Western Battlefront

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Paul V. McNutt, War Manpower Commissioner, will leave shortly for Europe for a first-hand inspection of the Western battlefront, it was learned today.

He will be accompanied by other officials of WMC and representatives of the War Production Board. They are expected to be away two or three weeks.

One reason for the trip is to appraise the munitions supply situation, with special attention on shortage problems.

McNutt has just returned from about a month's stay in Miami, Fla., where he went for treatment of a throat ailment and sinus infection.

7 Tug Masters Decorated

2 New Yorkers and a Jerseyite Won Bronze Star Off Normandy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP).—Admiral Harold R. Stark, commander of United States Naval Forces in Europe, has awarded the Bronze Star Medal to the masters of seven sea-going Merchant Marine tugs. Announcing the awards today, the War Shipping Administration said they were for "meritorious service and courageous devotion to duty" during landing operations in Normandy.

Among the captains decorated were H. Jessey, of 4214 Thirtieth Avenue, Astoria, New York, master of the Moose Peak; C. I. Parkin, Woodbury, N. J., master of the tug Great Isaac, and W. H. Halme, 1033 Third Avenue, New York City, master of the Bodie Island.

By The Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19—Among 2,677 casualties announced today by the War Department, all based upon prior notification to next of kin, were the following from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut:

Senate Confirms Steinhardt

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP).—The Senate today confirmed the nomination of Laurence A. Steinhardt, of New York, to be Ambassador to the government of Czechoslovakia now in London. Mr. Steinhardt was formerly American Ambassador to Turkey.

FLYER DEFIES FIRE IN RESCUE

Saves 20 From Flaming Sea When Japs Sink Tanker

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—The pilot of a little seaplane who defied a mass of flames to rescue twenty men as a Navy tanker sank is a hero the ship's captain would like to meet.

His name is not even known to the skipper, P. G. Beck, whose U.S.S. Mississinewa, 23,000-ton auxiliary oiler, went down from enemy action in the central Pacific, surrounded by fire after explosions had ripped her hull.

Taxied To Rim Of Flames

Beck said the pilot "saw our plight and put his plane down in the water. He would taxi up to the rim of flames, throw out a thin line with a floater on it for those struggling men to grab onto, and then tow them to safety."

"He kept on going back, until he had rescued at least twenty men who otherwise probably would have burned to death. I wish I could find out who that pilot was—he just disappeared after his rescue work was done."

Naval men in small boats were at work and about 80 per cent of the approximately 250 officers and men were saved. Next of kin of all those lost have been notified, the Navy said, in disclosing the sinking today.

Built At Sparrows Point

The Mississinewa, built at the Bethlehem plant at Sparrows Point, Md., was commissioned in May, 1944.

She was the 234th American naval vessel listed as lost since the war began. This total includes 186 ships sunk, 38 overdue and presumed lost and 10 destroyed to prevent capture.

The sinking vessel was almost completely surrounded by burning oil after the first explosion and two subsequent ones in the fuel bunkers.

First Blast Rips Bow

All men who were not killed in the explosions went over the side into one narrow channel of free water and swam toward the edge of the flames.

The first explosion ripped the [illegible]w while many of the crew were [illegible]ving breakfast.

Seconds later the forward gas tanks blew up and Beck said flames poured in the portholes "like a giant blow torch."

Only one man, Eugene G. Cooley, a seamen, who was an exceptionally good swimmer, escaped from the forepart of the ship after the initial explosion.

Army Planes In Full Flight Pick Up Human Passengers

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Army airplanes in full flight can now pick human passengers off the ground with scarcely a jolt.

The method, announced today by the Army Air Forces, is based on a pickup idea first used by a rural air-mail service in West Virginia.

As a result of experiments conducted by the Air Technical Service Command at Wright Field, project engineers of the ATSC said the practice had been developed to a point where AAF standardization can be seriously considered.

Washingtonian Was First

The first human pickup was a paratrooper, the late First Lieutenant Alexis Doster, of Washington. On September 5, 1943, he demonstrated the practical use of the new equipment which may make possible a revolutionary means of rescue for stranded AAF airmen forced down in inaccessible locations.

Since then, the feat was successfully accomplished on September 23, 1944, and again October 7.

After the first try, despite its success, engineers concluded the risk was still too high and that the safety factor would have to be improved. Practice was continued on cargo, dummies and live sheep.

First Sheep Was Killed

The first sheep picked up was killed when the harness twisted and the rope strangled it. Changes were effected which made all other sheep pickups successful.

The pickup mechanism includes a reel inside the plane cabin with 185 feet of half-inch Nylon rope. At the free end of the rope is a hook held by a release mechanism. A 10-foot wooden pole hanging below the plane guides the tow rope hook into the pickup loop.

Automatic delayed action brakes and an electric reeling motor weighing a total of 200 pounds complete the airborne mechanism.

In Ground Equipment

Ground equipment includes a special harness fastened to a Nylon loop hung above the ground between two poles.

To the eyewitness, the picked-up subject gains altitude smoothly after an initial vertical ascent of about eight inches. The plane climbs until it is just above stalling speed. With the plane mushing along, the subject hangs almost perpendicularly.

Then the reeling-in begins and the plane levels off. It takes 2 minutes and 45 seconds from the time the man leaves the ground until he is in the plane.

Shock Termed Only Slight

Engineers reported that there was less sensation of shock to the human pickup than if one jumped from a kitchen chair stiff-legged.

Pickups are now made at 130 miles an hour air speed. Experiments will continue with the goal of eventually being able to use faster cargo ships and even fighters.

'41 SHIP RATES HELD TOO HIGH

House Group Cites Profits Of Voyages To Red Sea Area

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—A story of how nineteen steamship lines made profits averaging $300,000 a voyage hauling war cargoes was filed with Congress today.

The information came from the House Merchant Marine Committee in a report which labeled the payments, made with lend-lease funds, "completely out of line."

The committe blamed the Maritime Commission for the situation, saying it had fixed "excessive rates" for the voyages.

The report said two of the lines—the Weyerhaeuser Steamship Company and the American President Lines—have refunded 51 per cent of their profits and that the commission now was trying, with little success, to get back some of the profits from others through court action.

To Suez Via Red Sea

The profits were made, the report stated, on war cargoes hauled in 1941 from the United States to Suez and vicinity via the Red Sea for the British Government.

Ninety voyages were reported made, with profits totaling $26,874,176. In many cases, the committee

said, the profit per voyage equaled nearly half the ship's value.

Although not making a detailed criticism of the commission, the committee declared that "at the very time it was fixing the Red Sea rates at a level above that of the going commercial rate, it was taking the position that going rates were excessive and unjustifiably high and was taking steps to reduce them."

Called World Rates At Time

Edward P. Farley, board chairman of the American-Hawaiian Steamship Company, one of the lines concerned, commented that Government witnesses had informed the committee that the Red Sea rates were world shipping rates at the time.

"Any lower rates would discriminate against those American ship owners whose ships were used for this purpose," Farley said. "It is to the ship owners' credit that they were equipped, ready, able and willing to venture into the hazardous Red Sea area while the United States was neutral."

Nye In Farewell Talk Predicts Third War

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Senator Nye (R., N.D.) said today he was sure that within ten or twenty years "we will be told that we must go into another European war."

Every sign now indicates, Nye said in a farewell speech in the Senate, that following this war Europe is going to be "divided into two great blocs—a Russian bloc and a British bloc."

"Knowing the power of British propaganda," he declared, "we will be told that we must fight another European war "to keep Russia from seizing control of the world."

Defends His Record

The North Dakotan, defeated for re-election, defended his twenty-year record in the Senate and said he did not know whether "we are going to go isolationist after this war." He added:

"But I do know this—that all the elements for an isolationist policy are either here already or rapidly accumulating."

He called the proposed Dumbarton Oaks world security organization a "three-power military alliance," and asserted:

"When World War III comes along, as it certainly will as a result of this attempt to divide up Europe and the Near and Middle East between Russia and England, we will be in it from the first day.

"Purpose Of Commitments"

"As a matter of fact, that is the real purpose of the commitments we are asked to make under the Dumbarton Oaks scheme."

Nye declared there was only one way to keep out of another world war and that was "by minding our own business—by keeping out of these entangling alliances."

HONORS PAID TO 4 HEROIC CHAPLAINS

D.S.C. Presented Posthumously By General Somervell

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Distinguished Service Crosses today were presented posthumously to the families of four chaplains who lost their lives in the Atlantic after giving up their life belts to soldiers when their ship went down.

Lost in the sinking of the troop ship Dorchester, the quartet included a Catholic and a Jewish chaplain who linked arms as the waves closed over the vessel.

Presented By Somervell

Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, commanding general of the Army Service Forces, presented the decorations in the post chapel at nearby Fort Myer, Va. A sister of the Catholic priest and the wives of the rabbi and the two protestant ministers received the awards.

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Poling, of Schenectady, N.Y., received the award for her husband, First Lieutenant Clark V. Poling, Baptist minister. With her was their 4-year-old son, Clark, Jr. The boy's grandfather, Dr. Daniel Poling, of Philadelphia, head of the world's Christian Endeavor Union, wrote the new noted booklet, "Your Daddy Did Not Die."

Others Given Awards

Mrs. Isadore Fox, of Chicopee Falls, Mass., accompanied by her son, Sergt. Wyatt R. Fox, of the Marine Corps, and daughter, Mary E. Fox, received the award on behalf of her husband, First Lieutenant George L. Fox.

The award to First Lieutenant John P. Washington, Newark, N.J., the Catholic priest, was received by his sister, Mrs. Leonard A. Schwoebel.

Mrs. Theresa Goode, Washington, D.C., received the Cross for her husband, First Lieutenant Alexander D. Goode, who presided at the Washington Hebrew Congregation before the war as a substitute rabbi.

ARMY GETS BULK OF ALL OVERCOATS

Washington, Dec. 19 (A. P.).—The largest manufacturers of wool clothing in the country will be frozen to the manufacture of woolen overcoats for the Army on January 1.

The order, issued today by the War Production Board, is effective through April 30, 1945, and requires equal deliveries of the garments through February, March and April.

The action applies to all manufacturers who produced, between July 1 and Sept. 30 of this year, at least 1,750 men's overcoats, or 7,000 men's coats, including overcoats, from wool fabric.

Before being allowed to make civilian men's clothing while the directive is in effect, the manufacturer must meet certain requirements. They are that he accept contracts from the Army to produce a quantity of Army overcoats at least equal to the total numbers of all overcoats made by him from July 1 through September 30, 1944, or equal to 25 per cent of the total number of all coats produced by him in that period, whichever quantity is larger.

One week after the Army delivers the uncut cloth to him, the manufacturer must halt sewing operations on civilian garments unless he has first begun on the Army cloth in quantity sufficient to produce the required ratio of military garments.

The directive was signed Saturday, December 16, but was not publicly announced and did not become general knowledge until copies of the text were filed officially.

Radio Ferry Dispatching Test

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 (AP).—The radio division of the Bendix Aviation Corp. was authorized by the Federal Communications Commission today to experiment in the radio dispatching of car ferries and trains in the Great Lakes area. The company was granted permits for a portable coastal harbor station and two portable-mobile ship stations for radio-telephon

Murray, Green In Clash Over Labor Unity

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Philip Murray, CIO president, and William Green, AFL president, clashed today over the type of unity their labor groups could support in war or in peace.

Both organizations in their recent conventions flirted with the subject of labor unity, and Murray reopened it last night with a letter to Green urging a meeting to work out a broad program of action.

Murray's plan definitely omitted the possibility of a merger—the point on which Green and convention delegates felt strongest. The AFL wants the CIO and John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers to come back to the Federation, from which they departed seven years ago.

"No Prodigal Son Question"

"It is too late in the day merely to talk of labor unity. It is no longer a question of the prodigal son returning to the fold, nor of the disgraced daughter being sent forth into the winter snows," Murray wrote.

The alacrity with which Green leaped upon Murray's offer, which he termed "the same sort of phony functional unity which the CIO has often prated about in the past," evoked no comment from Murray as he left on a vacation.

In Keeping With Convention

This was in keeping with his convention action when he hurdled the AFL leadership, which he described as "frustrated and corroded," with a direct appeal to the rank and file of the AFL and the mine workers to join with the CIO in its program.

Green's group, on the other hand, adopted resolutions authorizing its idling committees on peace negotiations with the CIO and Lewis to resume discussions whenever that seemed feasible.

Green said he interpreted Murray's letter as a "flat refusal on the part of the CIO to accept the American Federation of Labor's appeals for resumption of conferences seeking a united labor movement in America."

War Production Board Staff Chief Resigns

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Resignation of Arthur H. Bunker, of New York city, as chief of staff of the War Production Board was announced today by Chairman J. A. Krug.

Bunker, who had served WPB and its predecessor agency three and one half years gave ill-health as his reason for leaving.

The resignation left a new vacancy in WPB's top command, which Krug recently shuffled by naming H. G. Batcheller his chief of operations and moving Harold Boeschenstein, another WPB veteran, up to the operations vice chairmanship formerly held by Batcheller.

Federal Jury Indicts Merck And Company

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—The Justice Department announced today a Federal grand jury at Trenton, N.J., indicted Merck & Co., manufacturing chemists, on charges of violating the Food and Drug Act.

The department said the indictment charged that the labeling used by the Rahway (N.J.) company for the crystalline form of the drug "Doryl" was insufficient to guard against improper use, which might result in death.

The Justice Department said that two patients died in a Detroit hospital in November, 1941, almost immediately following Doryl injections. It said that at a coroner's inquest it was established that a nurse had mistakenly given the crystal instead of the liquid form, and that the jury charged that Merck had been "grossly negligent by its mislabeling of the drug."

Postal Work Raise Killed in Senate

Washington (AP)—An objection by Senator Bailey (D-NC) killed in the Senate last night house-approved legislation to increase the pay of most postal employes $400 a year.

Senator Mead (D-NY) sought action on the measure but Bailey made a parliamentary point that it had not been before the Senate sufficient time. Senator Connally (D-Tex.), presiding, upheld the point of order.

Bailey complained that the bill granted uniform increases to all postmasters and employes, regardless of merit.

"It breaks down the line of stabilization," Bailey declared.

Senator Downey (D-Calif) said that the pay hike was "long overdue and well earned."

WARD SEIZURE HELD IMMINENT

Firm's Wage Action Short Of Compliance, WLB Says

Washington, Dec. 19 (AP)—Montgomery Ward's refusal to comply with War Labor Board directives apparently was turned over to the White House tonight. Early seizure of some of the mail-order firm's properties appeared possible.

William H. Davis, chairman of the WLB, and Lloyd Garrison, public member, conferred with Fred Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, late in the day.

While there was no announcement as to the reason, there appeared little doubt the conference concerned the Ward case.

Earlier, the WLB reported that it was continuing with the Ward case in the customary manner. . . . That of preparing papers for Vinson's consideration.

Gypsum Seizure Indicated

Meanwhile, eventual seizure of properties of the United States Gypsum Company, also headed by Sewell Avery, board chairman of Montgomery Ward, was indicted.

The United Mine Workers of America asked the WLB to refer to the White House two cases involving alleged noncompliance by Boston and Los Angeles plants of United States Gypsum.

A board member told a reporter that these cases probably will be turned over to Davis with authority to pass them along to Vinson.

The WLB set a deadline of Monday night for Avery to announce compliance with board directives in the Montgomery Ward case. With no direct word from Avery, the board turned to the White House.

Possible Courses For Vinson

Vinson now is expected to dig into the details of the record.

Other Ward units involved in pending cases are in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore.; San Rafael, Cal., and Jamaica, N.Y.

Vinson could invoke economic restrictions against the Ward chain with its 500 units across the continent or could pass the file along to President Roosevelt for possible seizure of stores in some or all of the seven cities involved.

The WLB said it learned that Montgomery Ward this morning announced to Detroit area employés that it would increase minimum wages to 46 cents an hour with retroactive pay.

Notices to this effect were distributed to employés as they entered the firm's four retail stores where members of the CIO-Retail Employés' Union have been on strike.

Held Short Of Compliance

The board said that the company's move would still fall short of the compliance order on retroactive pay.

The board ordered retroactive pay from December 7, 1942, compared with the company's intention of dating it from September 1, 1943.

Last spring Ward's Chicago plant was taken over by the Commerce Department when Avery refused to meet the terms and conditions of another board directive.

Then Avery questioned the right of the CIO union to represent his workers.

Now he particularly opposes the union-security issue—WLB orders requiring the company to conduct a check-off of union dues and requiring union members to maintain their union membership for the life of a union-management contract.

Company's New Wage Scale

Detroit, Dec. 19 (AP)—Montgomery Ward & Co. notified employés of its four strike-affected Detroit-area stores today it was placing in effect a minimum basic wage scale which it first offered in 1943 and similar to one which the War Labor Board recommended in May, 1944.

R. W. Rosevear, Detroit-area manager for the company, said pay adjustments would be made retroactive to September 1, 1943, and that checks would be issued to the employés "as soon as the amounts can be figured."

Spokesmen for the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employés (CIO) said the union would continue its strike until the company agreed to make the wage adjustments retroactive to December, 1942, as directed by the WLB and to comply with other WLB orders.

Some $500,000 is involved in the

dispute over the retroactive date, they said.

Circuit Judge John V. Brennan today directed the striking unionists to show cause at a hearing December 27 why they should not be enjoined from interfering with Montgomery Ward employés. The company applied for an injunction last Saturday, charging violence and intimidation of nonstriking workers.

NORDEN SIGHT FIRM INDICTED

Government Charges Output Was Hampered

DEC 20 1944

New York, Dec. 19 (AP)—Carl L. Norden, Inc., makers of the famed Norden bombsights, was indicted by a Federal grand jury today, accused of conspiracy to hamper output of the war devices which have been credited with playing a major part in American air successes.

Named in two indictments were Theodore H. Barth, president, and Ward E. Marvelle, vice president of the Norden firm; the efficiency survey company of Corrigan, Osburne & Wells; Commander John D. Corrigan, USN, as head of the concern, and Robert H. Wells, vice president.

The indictments further charged a conspiracy designed to force war plants to employ the survey company, specialists in the installation of production control systems.

Norden Not Involved

Carl L. Norden, Dutch-born inventor of the bombsight who recently turned over to the United States Government all patents, models and designs, was not involved, Government officials said, adding that he no longer was associated with the firm.

The Norden firm said later in a statement that the charges were "as utterly fantastic as they are untrue."

"This corporation developed the Norden bombsight, turned the patents over to the Navy, and has not only met but exceeded every production schedule set up by the Navy," the statement continued.

Denies Misconduct

Wells, in another statement, denied any misconduct by himself, the corporation or Corrigan, and expressed confidence that all would be "fully vindicated at any trial."

The first bill accused the four men and the Norden company with conspiracy to impede navy supervisors of production by Remington Rand, Inc., Emira, N. Y., of the bombsight under subcontract with the Norden concern.

Corrigan, Wells and their firm were named in the other indictment which made a similar charge and accused Corrigan of concealing his financial interest in his company and filing false reports of war plant surveys to the Navy.

Under Suspension

Corrigan's navy commission has been under suspension since June when inquiry into the case was started by the grand jury, the Justice Department and the Senate War Investigating Committee. In Washington, the Navy said the question of a court-martial for Corrigan had been held in abeyance pending completion of the grand jury proceedings.

None of the defendants was under arrest when the indictments were handed to Federal Judge Edward A. Conger. The Justice Department said conviction on the charges would mean a miximum penalty of $10,000 fine and two years' imprisonment.

Indictment Language

The first indictment charged that:

Shortly after war was declared the Norden firm, sole manufacturers of the secret bombsight, negotiated a subcontract with Remington Rand to manufacture a component part.

The Norden defendants furnished faulty information to Remington Rand so that Corrigan, in charge of the production management subsection of the Navy's ordnance bureau, could recommend that the plant be taken over by the Navy.

The Navy did this, giving the Norden firm a management contract. Later, the Norden concern and the Elmira plant hired the Corrigan firm, paying it a total of $104,000.

Slowdown Charged

In July, 1943, the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America union (CIO) charged the Norden company with slowdown practices, but Corrigan made a survey for the Navy denying the allegations.

Barth and Marvelle plotted to keep control of production by slowing down output of their subsidiary, the Cardanic Corporation, which failed to fulfill a contract to supply bombsights to the Army Air Forces. The War Department canceled the contract in July, 1943, and the Navy then contracted with the Norden firm, taking the sights which Cardanic had failed to deliver.

Corrigan Charges

The second indictment said:

Corrigan concealed his interests in his company, although purporting to have severed himself from it when he became a navy civilian employé in May, 1942.

Using his navy position to procure private business, he received $109,000 from his firm after his purported resignation.

Corrigan, Wells and the survey firm conspired to force several manufacturing companies to employ the Corrigan concern under threats that adverse reports would be submitted to the Navy.

Among those so coerced were: Bell & Howell, Inc., Chicago; Downington Manufacturing Company, Downington, Pa.; Remington Rand, and Vickers, Inc., Waterbury tool division, Waterbury, Conn.

Called "Vicious Lie"

The Norden company's denial also said that "not only did the Remington Rand Corporation receive the fullest co-operation of Carl L. Norden, Inc., but Remington Rand has repeatedly acknowledged this fact."

The statement continued:

"To allege that Carl L. Norden, Inc., and its officials conspired to interfere with war production is to state a vicious lie and is an inspired attempt to cover up the utter failure of Remington Rand, Inc., to produce bombsights acceptable to the Navy in the plant formerly operated by Remington Rand, Inc., at Elmira, N.Y."

The defendants were ordered into Federal Court December 28 to plead to the indictments.

Phone Strike Vote Begins

New York, Dec. 19 (AP)—Approximately 6,000 long-distance telephone operators employed here by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company began voting today on whether they should strike if they fail to win their demands for a general wage increase of $5 weekly, now pending before the War Labor Board.

The vote continues tomorrow and will be tallied tomorrow night.

Demands Stated

Mrs. Norma Naughton, chairman of Local 101, Federation of Long Lines Telephone Workers, said long-distance operators in New York receive from $20 to $34 weekly. The union is asking, in addition to the general wage increase, that the twelve-year employment period for maximum wages be reduced to nine years.

A company spokesman said the company agreed to cut the twelve-year employment period and referred the proposed wage increase to the WLB. A WLB panel approved the increase and sent its report to Washington, the spokesman said.

Mrs. Naughton said a strike vote was being taken today in Kansas City, with 300 operators voting, and one was scheduled next week in Philadelphia.

Ford Files Demurrers To Election Indictment

Albany, N.Y., Dec. 19 (AP)—The Ford Motor Company filed demurrers in county court today to an indictment alleging it had docked three employés of its Green Island plant for time off to vote election day.

John Broderick, attorney for the company, and three codefendant officials claimed the indictment did not conform to certain provisions of the code of criminal procedure and that the alleged act did not constitute a crime.

Ship Loads U.S. Prisoner Gifts

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19 (AP).—Christmas packages for American prisoners of war overseas are being loaded aboard the International Red Cross ship Caritas 2d, which arrived here Saturday with 300,000 bundles for German prisoners in this country. In addition to about 500,000 packages for American soldiers, the Caritas will carry clothing, medical supplies and food for liberated nations.

Re-Educate Reich, Rabbis Urge

Chicago (AP)—A re-educated German people "can in time become a worthy member of the family of mankind," the commission on justice and peace of the Central Conference of American Rabbis said yesterday.

"In considering the treatment of a defeated Germany," the statement read, "we as religious leaders first affirm our confident hope that the victorious Allies will be guided by justice rather than by vengeance.

"We believe that a re-educated German people can in time become a worthy member of the family of mankind. We accept, however, the necessity for such effective measures of control as will insure the spiritual and material changes that will prevent Germany from again building up a military machine to threaten the peace of the world."

The commission said it favored "the immediate and speedy trial" in Allied courts of Germans responsible for crimes against civilians and violations of international law.

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HESS HAS BEEN EXAMINED BY NERVE AND MENTAL SPECIALISTS, THE
ACCOUNT ADDED. FOR A TIME HE WAS DETAINED IN A WELL-APPOINTED
APARTMENT, IT SAID, BUT HE IS "NOW IN THE COUNTRY."

SK 1223PEW

ALLIED PLANES SUPPORTING AMERICAN FIRST ARMY GROUND TROOPS BATTLIN
THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE SHOT DOWN 46 ENEMY AIRCRAFT YESTERDAY
OUT OF A FORCE OF MORE THAN 300. ELEVEN ALLIED FIGHTERS ARE MISSING.

INCLUDING 20 NAZI AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN BY GROUND GUNNERS THE GERMAN
AIR FORCE IN TWO DAYS HAS SUFFERED AT LEAST 190 LOSSES IN THE WESTERN
FRONT AREA ALONE, AND 101 MORE OF ITS PLANES HAVE BEEN DAMAGED OR
PROBABLY DESTROYED. AT LEAST 48 OTHERS WERE BELTED FROM THE SKY BY
ITALY-BASED PLANES WHICH ATTACKED OIL AND RAIL TARGETS IN GERMAN
SILESIA.

THE LATEST FIGURES OF THE TOTAL ALLIED LOSSES WAS 85 PLANES.
DESPITE GROUND-HUGGING CLOUDS, FIGHTERBOMBERS OF THE U.S. NINTH
AIR FORCE BASED ON THE CONTINENT MADE 600 TRIPS ALONG THE BATTLEFRONT
BELOW AACHEN YESTERDAY AND GAVE NAZI ARMOR AND SUPPLY TRANSPORTS THE
WORST MAULING SINCE THE GERMAN SEVENTH ARMY WAS POUNDED IN THE FALAISE

GAP IN NORMANDY LAST SUMMER.
FIGHTER PILOTS DESTROYED OR DAMAGED 112 ENEMY TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES AND KNOCKED OUT 265 TRUCKS, 60 FREIGHT CARS AND THREE LOCOMOTIVES AND DAMAGED 181 OTHER VEHICLES. MARAUDERS, HAVOCS AND INVADERS BOMBED 20 FORTIFIED BUILDINGS AND SILENCED 20 GUN POSITIONS.
REFERRING TO LAST NIGHT'S OPERATIONS, THE BRITISH AIR MINISTRY SAID GDYNIA BECAME GERMANY'S MAIN NAVAL BASE WHEN KIEL AND WILHELMSHAVEN BECAME TOO VULNERABLE TO AIR ATTACK.
ONE OF THE VICTIMS WAS SHARED BY TWO BOMBER GUNNERS, STAFF SGT. L.M.SCHOFIELD, 3827 SOUTH 40TH ST., LINCOLN, NEB., AND SGT. M.H.LAUDE, 1127 SCRIBNER AVE., GRAND RAPIDS, MID.
MT925AEW

ADD LONDON - (CHERCHEZ) KXVIENNA

MEANWHILE IN SLOVAKIA THE BOLT POSITIONS OF THE NAZI LINE AT BOTH KASSA AND PRESOV TO THE NORTH GAVE SIGNS OF CRACKING.

DISPATCHES FROM MOSCOW EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT THE GERMAN POSITION IN EAST CENTRAL HUNGARY ALSO WAS BECOMING UNTENABLE AND THAT TO AVOID ENCIRCLEMENT THE GERMANS WOULD HAVE TO RETREAT SOON AND FORM A NEW LINE SOMEWHERE EAST OF BRATISLAVA.
ABOVE THE GREAT BEND OF THE DANUBE, A FURIOUS FIGHT CONTINUED AS THE SOVIETS SOUGHT TO BREAK THROUGH WESTWARD TOWARD BRATISLAVA.
ACTIVITY ALSO WAS RESUMED BY THE RUSSIANS IN THE REGION OF THE DUKLA PASS IN NORTHEASTERN SLOVAKIA WHERE ITS TERRITORY JOINES THAT OF POLAND.
A HARD FIGHT FACES THE RUSSIANS SEEKING FOOTHOLDS NORTH OF THE DANUBE BEND FOR WHAT IS EXPECTED TO BE AN ALL-OUT OPERATION WESTWARD TO BRATISLAVA AND VIENNA.
THE GERMANS ARE WELL ENTRENCHED ON THIS ROUTE, WHICH LIES SOUTH OF THE MOUNTAINS OF CENTRAL SLOVAKIA. THEY HAVE THE BUDAPEST-VIENNA RAILROAD AS THEIR MAIN SUPPLY LINE AND NUMEROUS GOOD ROADS. MOREOVER, THEY RECENTLY HAVE REINFORCED THIS FRONT AND THE NUMEROUS STREAMS AND RANGES OF HILLS RUNNING NORTH AND SOUTH WILL GREATLY AID THEIR DEFENSE.
HOWEVER, KASSA AND PRESOV IN EASTERN SLOVAKIA APPEAR TO BE THE FIRST GOALS OF THE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE. WHEN THEY FALL, THE WHOLE SITUATION IN SLOVAKIA WILL BE SUBJECT TO SUDDEN CHANGE.
SB255PEW

DEC 20 1944

BY LOUIS P.LOCHNER
LONDON, DEC 19-(AP)-THE GERMAN RADIO CLAIM ACCORDING TO WHICH ADOLF HITLER HIMSELF IS THE MASTER MIND BEHIND THE RUNDSTEDT OFFENSIVE MAY WELL BE A FAIR INDICATION OF THE DESPERATENESS OF THE GERMAN SITUATION. IT MAY ALSO SIGNAL THAT GERMANY WILL BE NEAR THE END OF HER RESOURCES IF GENERAL EISENHOWER'S STRATEGY SHOULD TURN THE PRESENT FORWARD RUSH INTO A CATASTROPHIC ROUT.
USUALLY IT HAS NOT BEEN CUSTOMARY TO CLAIM GLORY FOR HITLER AS THE DIRECTING GENIUS OF A MILITARY UNDERTAKING UNTIL ITS SUCCESS IS ASSURED. IF HIS NAME IS LINKED, THIS EARLY WITH THE RUNDSTEDT OFFENSIVE BY GOEBBELS' STOOGES, THERE WOULD SEEM TO BE A DOUBLE EXPLANATION, ESPECIALLY AFTER HITLER'S WEEKS OF SILENCE.
FIRST, THERE HAS EVIDENTLY BEEN SO MUCH HARMFUL SPECULATION CONCERNING HITLER'S WHEREABOUTS AND STATE OF HEALTH THAT THEY MAY HAVE FELT IT WAS IMPERATIVE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF FAILING GERMAN MORALE ONCE AGAIN TO PROJECT HIM ONTO THE SCENE IN HIS USUAL SUPERMAN ROLE.
SECOND, THE RUNDSTEDT OFFENSIVE MAY HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED SO HAZARDOUS THAT THE GERMAN PEOPLE, TO HAVE FAITH IN IT, NEEDED THE FURTHER ASSURANCE THAT THE MAN WHO CAN DO NO WRONG WAS PERSONALLY GUIDING GERMANY'S MILITARY DESTINY NOW.
HOWEVER ONE MAY LOOK AT IT, THE INVOKING OF HITLER'S NAME SEEMS AN ACT OF DESPERATION RATHER THAN ONE OF STRENGTH. FOR, ALREADY THE GERMAN RADIO HAS BEEN CAUTIONING THE PUBLIC NOT TO EXPECT TOO MUCH BUT RATHER TO REFLECT UPON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE STRUGGLE IMMEDIATELY AHEAD.
THE GERMAN PRESS, ACTING UNDER GOEBBELS' ORDERS, HAS ISSUED SIMILAR WARNINGS. IN OTHER WORDS HITLER'S NAME IS CONNECTED WITH SOMETHING WHICH MAY FAIL. IT IS A MOST UNUSUAL PROCEDURE FOR GOEBBELS, WHO CONSISTENTLY HAS REPRESENTED HITLER AS INFALLIBLE.
ASSUMING, AS EVERY AMERICAN DOES, THAT THE RUNDSTEDT OFFENSIVE FAILS, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE THAT THE FUEHRER WAS RIGHT IN HIS PLANNING BUT THE EXPERIENCED FIELD MARSHAL WRONG IN ITS EXECUTION. HITLER THIS TIME HAS STUCK HIS NECK OUT. FAILURE OF THE GERMAN COUNTERATTACK WILL BE HIS PERSONAL FAILURE.
IT MUST BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED THAT THOSE IN CHARGE OF GERMAN PROPAGANDA KNOW WHAT FAILURE OF THE RUNDSTEDT OFFENSIVE WILL DO TO HITLER'S PRESTIGE. IT WOULD, THEREFORE, SEEM A FAIR DEDUCTION THAT THIS OFFENSIVE IS NAZIDOM'S LAST BID FOR A SETTLEMENT SHORT OF EVENTUAL UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.
SB1008PEW

DEC 20 1944

LONDON, DEC.19-(AP)-- ALL GERMAN ~~EAW~~ NEWSPAPERS ARE PRINTING DETAILED ACCOUNTS OF THE NAZI ~~EAWXXXXXXX~~ COUNTER OFFENSIVE ON THE WESTERN FRONT WHILE WARNING THEIR READERS AGAINST THE DANGER OF FALSE HOPES, THE PROPAGANDA AGENCY TRANSOCEAN SAID TODAY IN A BERLIN BROADCAST.
THE BROADCAST QUOTED ADOLF HITLER'S PAPER, THE VOLKISCHER BEOBACHTER, AS SAYING:
"WE MUST NOT FORGET THIS ATTACK TAKES PLACE AFTER THE LOSS OF ALMOST ALL OCCUPIED TERRITORIES IN THE WEST AND AFTER THE INVASION OF GERMAN TERRITORY BY STRONG ENEMY ARMIES. NOBODY

IN GERMANY WILL BE GIVEN TO FALSE HOPES AFTER THE EVENTS OF THE LAST FEW DAYS.

"THE ROAD TO THE ULTIMATE GOAL DOUBTLESS WILL BE LONG AND NOT EASY, BUT THE LAST FEW DAYS AGAIN PROVE THE STRENGTH OF THE GERMAN NATION." APL JONES 00700-JA--228.

LONDON, DEC.19-(AP)-THE GERMAN-CONTROLLED MILAN RADIO SAID TODAY BENITO MUSSOLINI HAD REVIEWED ITALIAN BLACKSHIRTS THERE, PROMISING THEM IN A BALCONY ADDRESS THAT "IN SPITE OF A GRAY AUTUMN, THE SPRING OF OUR COUNTRY IS IMMINENT."

A GERMAN BROADCAST SAID ALL ITALIAN FORCES WHICH HAVE BEEN TRAINING IN GERMANY NOW HAVE RETURNED TO ITALY AND ARE FIGHTING ON THAT FRONT.
JP614AEW

LONDON, DEC.19-(AP)-A TOKYO BROADCAST TODAY SAID GINJIRO FUJIWARA, MUNITIONS MINISTER, HAD RESIGNED "FOR HEALTH REASONS" AND HAD BEEN SUCCEEDED BY SHIGERU YOSHIDA, FORMER WELFARE MINISTER.

AN ADMIRAL KOWAYSHI, OTHERWISE UNIDENTIFIED, WAS NAMED MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO.

JP708AEW

LONDON, DEC. 19-(AP)-HUGH DALTON, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, TOLD COMMONS TODAY HE WOULD CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR INVESTIGATION OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE BRITISH CELANESE COMPANY IN CONNECTION WITH A RECENT DIVIDEND WHICH WAS UNSUPPORTED BY CORPORATION PROFITS, BUT ASSERTED NO BREACH OF LAW HAD BEEN INVOLVED.

(THE BRITISH CELANESE COMPANY IS AN AFFILIATE OF CELANESE CORP. OF AMERICA.)

SIR MERVYN MANNINGHAM BULLER (CONS) SAID ANNOUNCEMENT OF A 15 PER CENT DIVIDEND BY BRITISH CELANESE WAS NOT ACCOMPANIED BY A STATEMENT OF PROFITS, WITH THE RESULT THAT A FALSE MARKET IN SHARES WAS CREATED TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. HE SUGGESTED CONSIDERATION OF THE MATTER BY A COMMONS COMMITTEE, WITH A VIEW TO AMENDMENT OF THE LAW.

DALTON SAID THE COMMITTEE HAD BEEN ASKED TO "TAKE ACCOUNT OF THIS INCIDENT" IN FRAMING ITS REPORT.

TERMING IT "MOST UNFORTUNATE AND REGRETTABLE" THAT THE COMPANY FAILED TO COMPLY WITH RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE COMMITTEE, DALTON SAID WHILE THE ACTION "CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED" IT NEVERTHELESS WAS NO VIOLATION OF LAW.

SEVERAL DAYS AFTER DECLARATION OF THE DIVIDEND, THE FIRST IN 25 YEARS ON ORDINARY SHARES, THE COMPANY PUBLISHED DETAILS DISCLOSING THAT THE RATE COULD ONLY BE PAID AS RESULT OF A REBATE ON THE EXCESS PROFITS TAX. MEANWHILE, NEWS OF THE DIVIDEND HAD CAUSED PRICE FLUCTUATIONS ON THE BRITISH STOCK MARKET.

DEFENDING THE COMPANY, THOMAS LEVY (CONS) DECLARED NO DIRECTOR ON THE BOARD OF BRITISH CELANESE EITHER HAD BOUGHT OR SOLD SHARES DURING THAT PERIOD, BUT DALTON REPLIED: "I CANNOT BE AWARE OF PRIVATE TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY."
RQ1133AEW

ADD PARIS- (LEAD) XX D-DAY

THE ONLY INDICATION OF THE GERMAN ADVANCE PERMISSABLE AT SUPREME HEADQUARTERS WAS AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE U.S.NINTH AIR FORCE WHICH SAID THAT BRITISH TYPHOONS HAD ATTACKED 20 GERMAN ARMORED VEHICLES WEST OF THE BELGIAN TOWN OF STAVELOT.

THIS TOWN IS 18 MILES FROM THE GERMAN BORDER IN THE VICINITY OF BUCHHOLZ AND IS 21.8 MILES FROM THE BORDER BY HIGHWAY. IT IS 4 1/2 MILES SOUTHWEST OF MALMEDY AND 24 MILES SOUTHEAST OF THE FORTRESS CITY OF LIEGE.

THE EXACT EXTENT OF THE GERMAN PENETRATION WAS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE. BEFORE THE PRESENT ENEMY COUNTEROFFENSIVE BEGAN THE FRONT HAD BEEN INACTIVE FOR SOME TIME, AND WHILE THE ORIGINAL LINE GENERALLY CONFORMED TO THE GERMAN FRONTIER IT BULGED INTO GERMANY IN SOME PLACES AND INTO BELGIUM AT OTHERS, DEPENDING ON GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES. THERE ALSO WAS A CONSIDERABLE NO MAN'S LAND.

THERE WAS NO NEWS FROM LUXEMBOURG BEYOND THE EARLIER DISCLOSURES THAT ENEMY DRIVES WERE AIMED AT THE LUXEMBOURG FRONTIER TOWN OF VIANDEN AND HAD REACHED ECHTERNACH, 13 MILES SOUTHEAST OF VIANDEN.

(THE GERMAN RADIO SAID GERMAN TROOPS HAD CROSSED NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG ON A BROAD FRONT AND WERE NEARING THE BELGIAN BORDER. THIS WOULD PUT ENEMY UNITS ABOUT EIGHT MILES BEYOND POSITIONS FROM WHICH THEY STRUCK THREE DAYS AGO. OTHER ENEMY BROADCASTS SAID FORWARD AMERICAN POSITIONS HAD BEEN OVERRUN FOR 20 MILES NORTHWARD FROM LUXEMBOURG'S NORTHERN TIP).

THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE THUS FAR HAD FAILED IN ONE OF ITS APPARENT OBJECTIVES. IT HAD NOT FORCED THE FIRST ARMY TO LET UP PRESSURE ON THE ROER RIVER FRONT WEST OF COLOGNE.

THE AMERICANS CLEARED ROLSDORF, LESS THAN A MILE SOUTHWEST OF DUREN. THE VILLAGE OF LENDERSDORF, A MILE FARTHER SOUTH AND ONLY A HALF MILE FROM THE ROER, WAS ALL BUT CLEARED OF THE ENEMY.

TO THE NORTH NINTH ARMY TROOPS IN LOCAL LINE STRAIGHTENING OPERATIONS AND IN ADVANCES OF ONE TO TWO MILES TOOK WURM AND MULLENDORF AND CLEARED BEECK, NORTHEAST OF GIELENKIRCHEN. GERMAN OPPOSITION WAS LIGHT AND MANY PILLBOXES ACTUALLY WERE UNMANNED.

AMERICAN THIRD ARMY TROOPS HAVE DRIVEN TO THE EASTERN EDGE OF THE FORTIFIED CITY OF DILLINGEN. TO COMPLETE THE OCCUPATION OF THAT CITY IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE SAAR BASIN THE AMERICANS HAVE TO REDUCE FIVE STRONG PILLBOXES.

IMMEDIATELY TO THE SOUTH ANOTHER GERMAN STRONGPOINT IN THE SAARLAUTERN SUBURB OF RODEN FELL. OTHER THIRD ARMY UNITS SCORED GAINS OF A HALF-MILE IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF THE BASIN.

ON A 14-MILE FRONT EXTENDING WESTWARD FROM THE RHINE FOUR DIVISIONS OF THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY EDGED FORWARD INTO THE GERMAN PALATINATE'S SIEGFRIED LINE DEFENSES. IN FORESTS NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG, THE AMERICANS CAPTURED NIEDER-SCHLETTENBACH AND BUNDENTHAL, BOTH TWO MILES INSIDE GERMANY.

PARIS, DEC 19-(AP)-A NEW PARIS DAILY NEWSPAPER, LE MONDE, SIMILAR IN TYPOGRAPHY AND FORMAT TO THE PRE-WAR LE TEMPS, APPEARED TODAY, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CAPITAL DAILIES TO 17.

MEANWHILE, IN A FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL THE SOCIALIST POPULAIRE DEMANDED MORE AND BETTER NEWS SOURCES THAN THE SEMI-OFFICIAL AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE. IT ARGUED THAT THE AGENCY WAS KEEPING THE PUBLIC "BADLY INFORMED" ON EVENTS ABROAD.

COMPARING THE PRE-WAR DIVERSITY OF NEWS SOURCES WITH WHAT IT CALLED A "MONOPOLY IN FACT" ENJOYED BY AFP, POPULAIRE URGED GREATER IMPARTIALITY AND OBJECTIVITY ON THE PART OF THE FRENCH AGENCY.

"OTHERWISE," THE SOCIALIST ORGAN SAID, "OUR PRESS IS NO LONGER FREE IN EVERY SENSE OF THE WORD."

AFP IS SUPPORTED BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, BUT POPULAIRE SAID THAT ITS "MONOPOLY" WAS AN OUTGROWTH OF CURRENT COMMUNICATIONS DIFFICULTIES, NOT GOVERNMENT LEGISLATION.

DEC 20 1944

MT10AEW

PARIS, DEC 19-(AP)-DESPITE THE WAR AND PROPAGANDA, GERMAN CIVILIANS SEEM TO BE JUST AS MUCH DIETRICH FANS AS EVER AND HOLD NO RESENTMENT AGAINST HER FOR HER ACTIVITIES IN BEHALF OF ALLIED SOLDIERS, MARLENE HERSELF RECOUNTED DURING LEAVE FROM THE FIGHTING FRONTS.

"I EXPECTED THEY WOULD SPIT AT ME," THE GERMAN-BORN MOVIE ACTRESS SAID. "BUT INSTEAD THOSE WHO SAW AND RECOGNIZED ME, WAVED AND GRINNED FROM EAR TO EAR."

BACK FROM AN ENTERTAINMENT TOUR WITH THE AMERICAN FIRST AND THIRD ARMIES, MISS DIETRICH SAID SHE SPENT SOME TIME IN AACHEN WHICH SHE DESDRIBED AS A "DEAD CITY." THE ONLY GERMANS SHE SAID SHE SAW WERE IN STOHLBERG.

THE ACTRESS SAID SHE WOULD LEAVE TOMORROW FOR A TOUR WITH THE NINTH AND SEVENTH ARMIES. "I WANT TO BE THERE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY," SHE SAID. "THAT IS WHEN THEY WILL NEED ME MOST."

SB944PEW

PARIS, DEC. 19-(AP)-- THE ARMY NEWSPAPER "STARS AND STRIP PUBLISHED A LETTER FROM EIGHT UNIDENTIFIED DOUGHBOYS TODAY SUGGES THAT CAPTURED GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR BE PUT TO WORK REBUILDING WAR TORN FRENCH CITIES.

"HOW ABOUT TAKING THESE JERRY PRISONERS AND INSTEAD OF SHIPPING THEM TO THE UNITED STATES KEEP THEM OVER HERE TO CLEAN UP THE MESS THEY CAUSED?" ASKED THE LETTER. "WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO SEE THE JERRIES DO SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE FOR A CHANGE."

DEC 20 1944

PW DYNANS 139R 02357-JA-- 139A

PARIS, DEC.19-(AP)-PAUL CHACK, 68-YEAR-OLD FORMER OFFICER IN THE FRENCH NAVY AND THE AUTHOR OF 25 ROMANTIC NOVELS, WAS CONDEMNED WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH YESTERDAY FOR COLLABORATING WITH THE ENEMY.

CHACK ADMITTED HE HAD HEADED ANTI-RUSSIAN AND ANTI-JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS.

POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS IN CHACK'S FAVOR WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE JURORS DURING HIS TRIAL RESULTED IN THE ARREST OF TWO SPECTATORS.

CHACK, ONCE A CAPTAIN IN THE FRENCH NAVY, IS A FORMER CHIEF OF THE FRENCH MARITIME HISTORICAL SERVICE. HE ADMITTED HEADING ORGANIZATIONS ATTACKING THE JEWS AND RUSSIANS DURING THE PERIOD OF THE NAZI OCCUPATION.

MT1234PEW

PARIS, DEC.19-(AP)-EARLY STEPS TOWARD A MUTUAL ASSISTANCE PACT BETWEEN BRITAIN AND FRANCE, PARALLELING THE 20-YEAR TREATY JUST SIGNED BY FRANCE AND RUSSIA, WERE FORECAST TODAY BY FRENCH OFFICIAL SOURCES.

A PARIS-LONDON ACCORD WOULD COMPLETE A POWERFUL EUROPEAN TRIANGLE WALLING OFF GERMANY FROM FUTURE AGGRESSION, THEY SAID. BRITAIN AND RUSSIA ALREADY HAVE A 20-YEAR ALLIANCE.

JP654AEW

DEC 20 1944

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY, DEC 19-(AP)-LT.GEN. COURTNEY H.HODGES' FIRST ARMY THREW INFANTRY AND ARMOR TODAY INTO AN ATTEMPT TO STBAILIZE THE FRONT AS A POWERFUL GERMAN TANK-LED COUNTEROFFENSIVE CONTINUED TO PROBE INTO BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG FOR THE THIRD ARMY. DAY-

AT THE MOMENT THE FIRST ARMY IS RALLYING ALL AVAILABLE FORCES TO STEM THIS MOST SERIOUS SETBACK TO AMERICAN ARMS ON THIS SIDE OF THE WORLD SINCE THE KASSERINE PASS FIGHTING IN TUNISIA.

THE NAZI ATTACK EXTENDS FROM ABOVE MONSCHAU SOUTH TO THE VICINITY OF ECHTERNACH. ON THE NORTH FLANK OF THE ENEMY SALIENT INTO BELGIUM, A SMALL, MIXED FORCE OF DOUGHBOYS AND ENGINEERS IS ENGAGED IN A TINY PORTION OF THE OVERALL FIRST ARMY PICTURE.

A TASK FORCE, WITH TANK DESTROYERS, JEEPS AND SELF-PROPELLED GUNS, SWEPT DOWN YESTERDAY FROM THE CREST OF A RIDGE INTO THE VALLEY THROUGH

30. 24 — 21393

WHICH GERMAN ARMOR HAD RACED A FEW HOURS BEFORE. ITS PURPOSE WAS TO PROCEED A FEW KILOMETERS FROM THE HALTING POINT INTO A SMALL VILLAGE, WHERE THERE WERE NURSES, DOCTORS AND PATIENTS IN TWO AMERICAN HOSPITAL UNITS WHOSE OUTFITS HAD BEEN OVERRUN IN THE ENEMY'S FORWARD SWEEP.

LT.COL. CHARLES R. (CHUCK) HORNER OF POTTSVILLE, PA., WITH JEEP DRIVER T/5 WILLIAM J.CAZARA OF DETROIT, EARLY SUNDAY HAD PROBED DOWN INTO THE VALLEY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF AN ENEMY SALIENT HEAVILY DEFENDED WITH ALL TYPES OF ANTI-TANK AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS. BUT THEY GOT INTO THE VILLAGE UNSCATHED. THEY FOUND TWO GERMAN PARACHUTE TROOPERS GUARDING THE HOSPITALS.

HORNER OPENED FIRE. BOTH GUARDS RAN AWAY. HORNER RETURNED TO HEADQUARTERS OF HIS VETERAN INFANTRY DIVISION AND REQUESTED THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TASK FORCE TO EVACUATE THE HOSPITAL PERSONNEL AND PATIENTS, AND TO SALVAGE A SIZEABLE AMMUNITION DUMP ALONG THE ROAD LEADING INTO THE VILLAGE.

THE TASK FORCE WAS UNDER THE COMMAND OF LT.COL.HENRY L.DAVISSON, A TANK DESTROYER OFFICER OF 3433 NORTH 195TH ST., PHILADELPHIA.

DAVISSON'S RECONNAISSANCE FORCES STABBED DOWN INTO THE VALLEY, DRAWING SOME ENEMY FIRE.

(NO PICKUP)

DEC 20 1944

MT114PEW

BY ROBERT EUNSON (210)

BRUSSELS, DEC.19-(AP)-MANY PEOPLE OF WAR-WEARY LITTLE BELGIUM, FEARING A SECOND GERMAN INVASION WITHIN FIVE YEARS, WERE ON THE MOVE AGAIN TODAY WITH WAGONS, TRUCKS AND ANYTHING THAT HAD WHEELS.

TODAY I RODE IN A JEEP FROM HERE TO THE FRENCH BORDER AND EAST TOWARD THE FRONT. I SAW THE OLD, THE YOUNG AND THE VERY YOUNG TRUNDLING ALONG ANCIENT ROADS FROM LIEGE, AND EVEN IF THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY DOES STOP THE GERMAN COUNTERATTACK, IT IS DOUBTFUL IF MANY OF THESE PEOPLE WILL BE HOME BY CHRISTMAS.

IN ONE PLACE A CIVILIAN OFFERED THE DRIVER OF MY JEEP THREE BOTTLES OF COGNAC FOR A RIDE TO BRUSSELS. COGNAC NOW IS SELLING FOR ABOUT $20 A BOTTLE.

WE SAW ONE COUPLE PAST MIDDLE AGE PEDALLING A TANDEM BICYCLE AND CARRYING EXTRA CLOTHES ON THEIR BACKS. MANY TIMES WE SAW STRONG-BACKED BELGIAN MEN PUSHING TWO-WHEELED CARTS LOADED WITH FOOD AND CLOTHES AND A FEW BELONGINGS WHILE THEIR WIVES LENT A HAND BY PULLING A ROPE ATTACHED TO THE CART. LITTLE CHILDREN WERE STRUNG OUT BEHIND.

BIG U.S. ARMY TRUCKS COMING BACK EMPTY FROM THE FRONT CARRIED LOADS OF CIVILIANS DOWN ONE SIDE OF THE ROAD WHILE ON THE OTHER SIDE AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS WITH RIFLES SLUNG AT EASE GUARDED BRIDGES AND CROSS ROADS.

RUMORS RUNNING THROUGH BELGIUM LIKE FIRE THROUGH TINDER HAVE STARTED THE MOVE FROM THE SOUTHEASTERN SECTOR OF THE COUNTRY. ANOTHER FACTOR OF FEAR IS THAT OF GERMAN PARACHUTE LANDINGS IN THE REAR OF AMERICAN LINES AND MERCILESS USE OF NAZI ROCKET PROJECTILES.

WM1043PEW

BY KENNETH L.DIXON (290)

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM, DEC.19-(AP)-IT IS OBVIOUS, DESPITE THE INEVITABLE CONFUSION AND FLURRY OF ATTACKS AND COUNTER-ATTACKS, THAT THE ENEMY PENETRATIONS OF THE FIRST ARMY LINE REPRESENT AN ALL-OUT GERMAN EFFORT TO CRACK THE WESTERN FRONT.

IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THESE PENETRATIONS REPRESENT THE ONLY STRONG PUSH AGAINST THE ALLIES OR ARE PART OF A PROJECTED GERMAN PINCER MOVEMENT, BUT THE SITUATION ON THE FIRST ARMY FRONT REMAINED TODAY IN A SEMI-FLUID STATE.

THE ENEMY APPEARED TO BE UNABLE TO WIDEN MATERIALLY THE BASES OF HIS TWIN PENETRATION TRIANGLES, BUT THE POINTS OF THOSE TRIANGLES WERE PUSHING DEEPER INTO BELGIUM.

THAT FIELD MARSHAL KARL RUDOLPH GERD VON RUNDSTEDT WAS DEFINITELY THROWING ALL HIS MIGHT AT GEN.EISENHOWER SEEMED CLEAR, IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN THE APPEARANCE OF CERTAIN CRACK GERMAN ELEMENTS WHICH WERE WELL KNOWN TO BE IN RESERVE FOR A "LAST DITCH" DEFENSE OF THE REICH.

OTHER FACTORS SHOWED IT WAS NOT MERELY A FIGHT FOR TIME OR SOLELY AN ATTEMPT TO UPSET PLANS FOR AN ALLIED OFFENSIVE, BUT A FULLBLOWN

ACK IN ITS OWN RIGHT.

THEY WERE CONTINUED UNSTINTED USE OF THE GERMAN AIRFORCE ALONG THE ENTIRE FRONT IN SPITE OF COSTLY LOSSES, CONCENTRATIONS OF ENEMY ARMOR AND MOTOR TRANSPORT IN OBVIOUSLY OFFENSIVE MOTION AND NUMBERS REMINISCENT OF THE FALAISE GAP DAYS, AND COORDINATION OF THE NEW V-WEAPON WITH THE UNLEASHING OF THIS OFFENSIVE.

THERE WAS INDICATION THAT ENEMY ARMORED, INFANTRY AND PARATROOP DIVISIONS IN SOME INSTANCES WERE OUTFITTED WITH AMPHIBIOUS EQUIPMENT FOR RECROSSING VITAL RIVERS, ILLUSTRATING THE EXTENT OF VON RUNDSTEDT'S HOPES.

IN ANY CASE, OUT OF THE MILLING CONFUSION IT HAS BECOME APPARENT THAT VON RUNDSTEDT AND THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND ARE BOSSING THE FIGHT ---NOT HITLER---AND THAT THEY ARE NOT MERELY COUNTERING ALLIED BLOWS, BUT MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT TO BREAK THROUGH THE WESTERN FRONT.

WM1038PEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY IN BELGIUM, DEC 19-(AP)-WAR HAS COME AGAIN TO BELGIUM, WHICH ESCAPED MOST OF ITS PAINS AND PERILS THE FIRST TIME WHEN ALLIED ARMS WERE IN HOT PURSUIT OF THE GERMAN ARMY RETREATING SWIFTLY TO THE SAFELY OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

NOW THE GERMANS ARE ON THE RAMPAGE IN A COUNTEROFFENSIVE THAT IS STRONGLY REMINISCENT OF THE EARLY AMERICAN SETBACKS IN AFRICA. TOWNS THAT APPEARED WELL OUT OF THE WAR FOUR DAYS AGO TODAY ARE IN THE THICK OF THINGS AS ENEMY ARMOR PUSHED FORWARD AND AMERICAN INFANTRY, ARMOR AND WAR PLANES DID THEIR BEST TO THROW A DECISIVE BLOCK ACROSS THE NAZI ADVANCE.

IN A VILLAGE WHERE YESTERDAY GIS STILL LOUNGED CASUALLY IN DOORWAYS CHATTING WITH THE TOWNSFOLK, TODAY THERE WAS AN AIR OF TENSION. CIVILIANS CLUSTERED ALONG THE ROAD IN LITTLE KNOTS WHILE UP AND DOWN THE HIGHWAYS RACED MOTORIZED ARMORED COLUMNS, SOME MOVING FORWARD TO LEND FRESH STRENGTH TO OUR COUNTER-MEASURES, OTHERS HAULING SUPPLY DUMPS AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS OUT OF THE POSSIBLE PATH OF THE ENEMY.

IN RECENT MONTHS THE SOLDIERS AND EVEN THE CITIZENS IN WHAT WERE THEN REAR AREAS PAID LITTLE ATTENTION WHEN PLANES WENT OVERHEAD BECAUSE IT WAS A FOREGONE CONCLUSION THEY WERE FRIENDLY. BUT THE LUFTWAFFE RESERVES HAVE BEEN TAPPED TO LEND WEIGHT TO THIS SUDDEN COUNTERTHRUST AND EACH FORMATION THAT IS HEARD OR SIGHTED NOW DESERVES AND GETS CAREFUL SCRUTINY FROM THOSE ON THE GROUND.

WE WERE PERSUADED TO MOVE THE PRESS CAMP TO A MORE SECURE AREA LATE YESTERDAY AND IT WAS AN EXPERIENCE INVOLVING A WORMS-EYE-VIEW OF GERMAN BUZZ-BOMBS FLARING OVERHEAD, TRACERS STREAKING THROUGH THE SKY AND BURSTS OF HEAVY FLAK LOOKING LIKE SPARKLERS AS AMERICAN GUNNERS TRIED FOR GERMAN PLANES ON NIGHT HARASSING MISSIONS. CONVOYS WERE ON THE MOVE IN A COMPLETE BLACKOUT YET THEY WERE PROCEEDING IN REMARKABLY ORDERLY FASHION.

SB/WM1014PEW

BY FRANKLIN BANKER

U.S. NINTH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, BELGIUM, DEC. 18-(DELAYED)-(AP)-REBOUNDING DESPITE THE SEVERE BLOWS IT RECEIVED YESTERDAY, THE GERMAN AIR FORCE ATTACKED THE U.S. FIRST ARMY AREA ON AN ALL-OUT BASIS AGAIN TODAY, BUT SUFFERED A 15 PER CENT LOSS AT THE HANDS OF MAJ.-GEN.HOYT S.VANDENBERG'S NINTH AIR FORCE.

THE NINTH, SHOULDERING A LARGE PART OF THE BURDEN OF STOPPING THE NAZI AIR-SUPPORTED ARMORED THRUST, DESTROYED 60 PLANES OUT OF 400 SORTIES FLOWN BY THE NAZIS, PROBABLY DESTROYED 16 MORE AND DAMAGED 16. IT LOST SIX FIGHTERBOMBERS.

BRITISH SPITFIRES AND TEMPESTS HEADED OFF ENEMY PLANES ENROUTE FROM THE NORTHEAST.

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"THEY DID A MAGNIFICENT PIECE OF WORK, LEAVING A LARGE NUMBER OF OUR FIGHTERS FREE TO OPERATE AGAINST GERMAN ARMORED COLUMNS," SAID COL.LES CROCKETT OF 7016 WINSTON ROAD, CHESTNUT HILL,PA., A NINTH CONTROL OFFICER.

MAJ.-GEN.ELWOOD QUESADA'S NINTH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND WHICH SUPPORTS THE FIRST ARMY DESTROYED 207 ARMORED VEHICLES, MOTOR TRANSPORT AND TANKS. ITS THUNDERBOLTS AND LIGHTNINGS TOOK OFF IN CEILINGS AS LOW AS 600 TO 700 FEET. NERVY PILOTS DIVED THROUGH OVERCAST TO BOMB GERMAN COLUMNS.

"THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHERE THE BASE OF THE CLOUDS WAS BUT THEY DIVED IN ANYWAY, ALTHOUGH REALIZING THEY MIGHT CRASH INTO HILLS," CROCKETT SAID.

THUNDERBOLTS LED BY CAPT.DENNIS CRISP OF LEXINGTON,KY., BOMBED AND STRAFED A COLUMN OF 60 NAZI TANKS, DESTROYING PERHAPS 18 AND DAMAGING 18 MORE.

"WE HIT THEIR COLUMN RIGHT ON THE NOSE," CRISP SAID. "I DIVED AND SCORED DIRECT HITS ON FOUR TANKS. MY WINGMAN SCORED ANOTHER HIT AND THE PILOTS FOLLOWING ME ALSO GOT SOME."

LT.CHARLES J.KENNEDY OF 4023 HAWTHORNE ST., DALLAS,TEX., SAID "WE CAUSED TWO LARGE EXPLOSIONS, EITHER OF AMMUNITION OR FUEL, AND LEFT FOUR BIG FIRES BURNING IN THE ROAD."

ANOTHER NINTH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND SQUADRON FLYING OVER A SOLID OVERCAST WAS LED RIGHT ABOVE A GROUP OF GERMAN FIGHTERS BY GROUND CONTROL RADIO. BURSTING THROUGH THE CLOUDS THEY SURPRISED THE ENEMY AND SHOT DOWN 12 OF THEM WITHOUT LOSS.

N1019AEW

DEC 20 1944

BY ROBERT WILSON

NEAR BITCHE, FRANCE, DEC. 19-(AP)-U.S. SEVENTH ARMY DOUGHBOYS BATTLED TODAY FOR THE LAST TWO OF FORT SCHIESSECK'S BLOCKHOUSES AFTER FIGHTING THEIR WAY INTO THE COLLEGE OF BITCHE IN THE MAGINOT LINE FORTRESS TOWN.

SHELLS FROM AMERICAN GUNS ARE CASCADING ON THE BITCHE CITADEL, ON A KNOLL IN THE CENTER OF THE TOWN A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE COLLEGE.

THE AMERICANS, LED BY LT.JAMES SHIELDS, 998 REANEY AVE., ST.PAUL, MINN.; LT.RALPH FERGUSON, MEMPHIS, TENN.; AND LT.ROBERT HAKALA, SIOUX CITY, IOWA, FOUGHT THEIR WAY INTO THE COLLEGE YESTERDAY, AND BATTLED THE GERMANS IN ITS CORRIDORS.

FROM AN INFANTRY COMPANY COMMAND POST ON A HILLTOP OUTSIDE THIS TOWN, WHICH NORMALLY HAS 5,552 INHABITANTS, ONE LOOKS DOWN ON EMPTY STREETS AND SHATTERED HOUSES IN WHICH THE GERMANS HAD DUG

30. 24— 21395

IN FOR A FINAL STAND.

OVERHEAD SCREAM OUR OWN SHELLS, POURING INTO GERMAN POSITIONS. THE CITADEL, WHICH UNDERWENT SIEGES IN 1793 AND 1870, IS BELCHING SMOKE FROM OUR ARTILLERY HITS.

"OUR MEN ARE IN THERE," SAID MAJ.BERNARD LENTZ, IN PEACETIME A LAWYER IN PHILADELPHIA. HIS WIFE NOW LIVES IN LOUISVILLE,KY., AND HIS PARENTS RESIDE AT NEW ROCHELLE,N.Y.

"THAT IS SMALL ARMS FIRE YOU HEAR," HE SAID. "YOU HEAR US AND THE GERMANS TRADING BLOWS ACROSS THE QUADRANGLE."

BY WADE WERNER

DEC 20 1944

METZ, DEC. 19-(AP)-NEARLY A MONTH AFTER ITS LIBERATION BY TROOPS OF LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON, JR.'S THIRD ARMY, METZ TODAY WAS THE PICTURE OF A SADLY WOUNDED CITY GRADUALLY BEING NURSED BACK TO LIFE.

THE NURSING JOB IS A TOUGH ASSIGNMENT BUT IT IS BEING TACKLED BY THE ARMY'S CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION UNDER MAJ.S.S.BEAN, FORMER MAYOR OF WOBURN, MASS., COLLABORATING WITH REESTABLISHED FRENCH AUTHORITIES.

THE GERMANS LEFT PILES OF GARBAGE, WRECKED BUILDINGS, AND A LOT OF GERMAN PAPER MONEY, BUT FORTUNATELY THEY WERE IN SUCH A HURRY TO GET AWAY THEY ALSO LEFT LARGE SUPPLIES OF FOODSTUFFS.

THE LATTER HAS BEEN A BIG HELP. THE DETACHMENT'S SUPPLY OFFICER, CAPT.J.KOVAC, 2502 NORTH ROCKWELL, CHICAGO, WAS ABLE TO RELEASE FOR CIVILIAN NEEDS A QUANTITY OF THE CAPTURED SUPPLIES EQUAL TO THREE WEEKS RATION FOR 100,000 PERSONS. INASMUCH AS THE PRESENT POPULATION OF METZ IS ABOUT 70,000 THIS MEANT THE DANGER OF A DRASTIC FOOD SHORTAGE WAS STAVED OFF--AT LEAST FOR THE CRITICAL WINTER MONTHS--WITHOUT DRAWING ON AMERICAN RELIEF SUPPLIES.

UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION METZ FARED BETTER THAN THE PEOPLE OF INTERIOR FRANCE. THE NAZIS REGARDED METZ AS A GERMAN CITY AND WENT TO GREAT PAINS TO PERSUADE THE PEOPLE TO LIKE IT. THEIR BASIC MEAT RATION WAS FOR EXAMPLE 900 GRAMS (TWO POUNDS) WEEKLY COMPARED TO 250 GRAMS FOR THE INTERIOR.

A LABOR SHORTAGE HAMPERS THE HUGE JOB OF CLEANING UP THE RUBBLE AND REFUSE. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES IN METZ WAITING A CHANCE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES IN THE OUTLYING VILLAGES AND TOWNS BUT THEY ARE RELUCTANT TO ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT FOR FEAR IT WILL DELAY THEIR RETURN TO THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES AND THE JOBS THEY EXPECT TO FIND THERE.

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CAPT.L.W.BOYKIN, JR., CAMDEN, S.C., THE DETACHMENT'S PUBLIC UTILITY OFFICER, WAS ABLE TO GET THE CITY'S POWER PLANT GOING WITHIN THREE WEEKS AND NOW ELECTRICITY IS AVAILABLE TO MOST SECTIONS OF THE TOWN. THE WATER SUPPLY HAS BEEN RESTORED ALTHOUGH PRESSURE STILL IS WEAK. SOME TELEPHONES ARE WORKING BUT THE ARMY SIGNAL CORPS LINES REMAIN THE BACKBONE OF OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

THE RESTORATION OF NORMAL BANKING OPERATIONS AND CURRENCY CIRCULATION ARE PARTICULAR PROBLEMS. THE GERMANS ALLOWED ONLY GERMAN MONEY IN METZ. AS A RESULT THE POPULATION HAS POCKETSFUL OF REICHSMARKS BUT PEOPLE WITH GOODS TO SELL WANT FRENCH FRANCS.

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SEVEN BANK OF FRANCE OFFICIALS NOW ARE LIQUIDATING THE GERMAN BANKS PREPARING TO DISTRIBUTE FRENCH CURRENCY IN EXCHANGE FOR MARKS AT THE RATE OF 15 FRANCS FOR ONE MARK. BEGINNING JAN. 1 THEY WILL EXCHANGE UP TO 500 MARKS FOR THE FRENCH EQUIVALENT. A WEEK LATER

THE MARK WILL BE DECLARED OUT OF CIRCULATION. THIS WAY, THEY HOPE, TRADE WILL BE ENCOURAGED.

STREET SIGNS AND SHOP ADVERTISEMENTS STILL ARE IN GERMAN, THOUGH MANY ARE DISFIGURED GIVING NOTICE THIS WILL BE CHANGED SOON.

SO FAR THERE IS LITTLE POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN METZ. THERE IS NO BAN ON PUBLIC MEETINGS BUT APPARENTLY THE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TOO BUSY TRYING TO SOLVE THEIR PERSONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS TO WORRY ABOUT POLITICS. THERE ARE SOME COMMUNIST PLACARDS AROUND.

THE 6 P.M. CURFEW HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 8 P.M., AND MILITARY POLICE REPORT LITTLE TROUBLE WITH SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS.

THE NIGHTTIME ATMOSPHERE, HOWEVER, STILL IS GLOOMY WITH ONLY ONE THEATER AND ONE CAFE OPEN SO FAR.

JS243PEW DEC 20 1944

BY HOWARD COWAN (300)

A U.S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE BASE SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, DEC. 20-(AP)-THE TAILGUNNER'S COMPARTMENT IN A FLYING FORTRESS IS FITTED WITH A TRAPDOOR IN CASE THE GUY BACK THERE WANTS TO GET OUT IN A HURRY. JUUT TRIP THE DOOR AND PRESTO, DOWN YOU GO.

TAILGUNNER JIMMY TAYLOR'S TROUBLE WAS THAT HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO ANYWHERE, AT THE MOMENT. THAT WAS GERMANY DOWN THERE FOUR MILES UNDER THE CLOUDS AND THERE WAS A LOT OF FLAK IN BETWEEN THE PLANE AND THE GROUND.

THE 22-YEAR-OLD SAN FRANCISCO SERGEANT (2224 VALLEJO ST.) ACCIDENTALLY BUMPED THE HANDLE WHILE SLIPPING ON HIS FLAK SUIT. HE HAS ABOUT AS MUCH ROOM BACK THERE AS A FAT MAN IN AN UPPER BERTH.

"OUT I WENT," HE EXPLAINED, "HEAD FIRST."

TAYLOR'S CHUT SHAGGED AND LEFT HIM DANGLING AND GASPING -- HALF IN AND HALF OUT. HE LOST HIS OXYGEN HOSE.

SOME WAY, HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW, HE GOT BACK IN.

"I PUSHED," HE SAID. "I REACHED OUT TO CLOSE THE HATCH AND THAT'S ALL I REMEMBER."

FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES THE TAILGUNNER LAY THERE ON THE CATWALK OF THE LURCHING BOMBER ON THE EDGE OF THE STILL-OPEN TRAPDOOR.

SGT.CLOYD HICKS OF MOUNT UNION, PA., WENT BACK TO SEE WHY TAYLOR DIDN'T ANSWER ON THE INTERCOM. HE BUMPED HIS HEAD -- HARD -- ON THE WAY, BUT FASTENED THE HATCH AND RESTORED THE TAILGUNNER'S OXYGEN AND STARTED WORKING ON HIM.

ANOTHER SAN FRANCISCO GUNNER, SGT. JACK WHITE OF 424 ELLIS ST., WAS DOWN IN THE BALL TURRET GIVING FIRST AID INSTRUCTIONS. HE USED TO BE A MEDIC.

IN THE EXCITEMENT HE LOST HIS OWN OXYGEN CONNECTION AND PASSED OUT. HICKS DISCOVERED THAT HIS "BUMP" WAS A CHUNK OF STEEL FROM AN ACK-ACK SHELL. DEC 20 1944

THERE IS NO TELLING WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF THE BOMBS HADN'T BEEN DROPPED RIGHT THEN SO THE PILOT COULD GET DOWN INTO DEEP-BREATHING SPHERES. HE DID, THOUGH, AND EVERYBODY LIVED TO TELL THE TALE.

WD713PEW

ADD BERN-(DRAWKINS) AS ENHANCED

HITLER IS BEING GIVEN CREDIT BY THE NAZI PROPAGANDA MACHINE FOR DIRECTING WESTERN FRONT OPERATIONS.

A REPORT ATTRIBUTED TO BERLIN EARLIER THIS WEEK SAID THAT

HITLER WAS WELL AND ACTIVE, THAT THE STORIES THAT HE WAS "OUT OF ACTION" HAD BEEN PLANTED AND THAT HE WOULD EMERGE AT THE PROPER TIME.

NEUTRAL REPORTS FROM GERMANY INDICATE THAT THE GERMAN ARMY STILL DERIVES GREAT STRENGTH FROM FAITH IN HITLER'S LEADERSHIP, FROM CONTINUED BELIEF AMONG CIVILIANS IN AN ULTIMATE GERMAN VICTORY AND FROM THE CONTEMPT OF NAZI INDOCTRINATED SOLDIERS FOR "DEMOCRATIC DECADENCE" AS WELL AS FROM UNEXPECTED RESOURCES OF MEN AND MATERIALS.

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MT157PEW

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 19--(AP)--THE MAIN OFFICES OF DENMARK'S EAST ASIATIC COMPANY, LTD., ONE OF THE LARGEST BUILDINGS IN COPENHAGEN WERE WRECKED BY BOMBS EARLY TODAY, THE FREE DANISH PRESS SERVICE REPORTED. THE AGENCY SAID THE EXPLOSION WAS THE WORK OF THE NAZI SCHALBURG CORPS IN RETALIATION FOR SABOTAGE BY DANISH PATRIOTS.

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MC 516PEW DEC. 19 STUDEVANTS 01145

BY RUTH COWAN

BARI, ITALY, DEC 19-(AP)-MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE MILITARY COMMITTEE WHO AGREED THAT THEIR 25-DAY TOUR OF THE WESTERN AND ITALIAN FRONTS HAD GIVEN THEM THE REALIZATION THAT THE WAR IS NOT LIKELY TO END SOON, WERE BOUND FOR HOME TONIGHT BY PLANE.

WEARY AND LAUGHINGLY DESCRIBING THEMSELVES AS SUFFERING FROM "WAR FAG," THEY RAISED A TIRED CHEER WHEN THEY REACHED THE AIRFIELD NEAR HERE AND SAW THEIR HOMEBOUND PLANES.

THE COMMANDS OF THE EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN THEATERS HAD TAKEN THE COMMITTEE AT ITS WORDS THAT IT WANTED TO SEE AND LEARN ABOUT THE WAR, AND PUT THE MEMBERS THROUGH A TIGHTLY PACKED SCHEDULE. ON EACH OF THEIR LAST THREE DAYS IN ITALY THEY ROSE AT 6:30 A.M. FOR A LONG, HARD DAY OF TRAVEL AND INSPECTION.

AT THEIR FINAL PRESS CONFERENCE, THE TRAVELING CONGRESSMEN EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN OVERSEAS ARMY COMMANDS AND REP. JOHN M. COSTELLO, (D-CALIF) ANNOUNCED THAT ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE HE HAD SENT A MESSAGE TO LT.GEN. JOSEPH MCNARNEY, COMMANDER OF U.S. FORCES IN ITALY, EXPRESING APPRECIATION FOR THE CORDIAL RECEPTION THEY HAD BEEN GIVEN.

REP. J.PARNELL THOMAS (R-NH) SAID THAT THE THREE OUTSTANDING EVENTS OF THE COMMITTEE'S VARIED EXPERIENCES ON ITS TRIP WERE SWEATING OUT A BOMBER MISSION AT AN AIRBASE IN BRITAIN, A TRIP TO THE FORWARD LINES IN THE METZ AREA IN FRANCE AND A VISIT TO THE U.S. FIFTH ARMY FRONT LINES IN ITALY.

THESE, HE SAID, "GAVE US A FIRSTHAND PICTURE OF THE WAR AS THE SOLDIERS ARE EXPERIENCING IT. THAT IS WHAT WE CAME FOR."

THE OTHER MEMBERS OBSERVED THAT THEY HAD HAD AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND THEY AGREED THAT THE GI'S HAVE NO GRIPES ABOUT FOOD AND CLOTHING, BUT COMPLAINED ABOUT THE CIGARETTE SHORTAGE AND THE SMALL VALUE OF THE FRENCH FRANC. REP.CHARLES H.ELSTON (R-OHIO) SAID THE AMERICAN FIGHTING MAN'S MONEY TROUBLES WERE NEWS TO THE COMMITTEE.

THOMAS SAID HE PLANNED TO SUGGEST THAT AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS ISSUE EDITIONS IN PARIS AND ROME TO GIVE THE NEWSHUNGRY GI'S MORE NEWS OF HOME AND TO PRESENT AMERICA MORE ADEQUATELY TO THE LIBERATED COUNTRIES. ELSTON AND THOMAS ALSO FAVORED THIS PROJECT, PROVIDED THE PAPER IS AVAILABLE.

REP.CLARE BOOTHE LUCE (R-CONN) PREDICTED THAT A NUMBER OF NEWS STORIES WOULD BE BREAKING WHEN THE COMMITTEE GETS HOME.

ELSTON REPORTED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD ASKED FOR ADDITIONA INFORMATION ON SOME SUBJECTS, INCLUDING OPERATION OF THE ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT. HE ADDED THAT THE CONGRESSMEN WERE IMPRESSED WITH THE ARMY'S EFFORTS TO SAVE MATERIALS AND THE EVIDENCE THAT, WHILE WAR IS WASTEFUL, THE TAXPAYERS' MONEY WAS NOT BEING SPENT WITH UNCONCERN.

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THE FIFTH ARMY MADE A GREAT EFFORT TO FACILITATE A TRIP THAT WOULD PERMIT THE COMMITTEE TO SEE WHAT IT WISHED AND YET EASE THE HARDSHIP OF WAR ZONE TRAVEL AND LIVING. TWO AND THREE-STAR GENERALS GAVE THEIR TIME FREELY. CLOSELY GUARDED WAR ROOMS WERE OPEN TO THEM AND THE TRAVELING LAWMAKERS WERE ASKED REPEATEDLY IF THEY HAD ANY QUESTIONS.

MRS.LUCE, SUFFERING FROM EAR TROUBLE WHICH WAS AGGRAVATED BY FLYING, LEFT THE COMMITTEE AT FLORENCE AND PLANNED TO REJOIN IT LATER AFTER A VISIT TO AIRFORCE HEADQUARTERS. WHEN THE WEATHER PERMITTED PLANES TO DEPART FROM BARI, HOWEVER, SHE WAS LEFT BEHIND. SHE SAID SHE MIGHT SPEND CHRISTMAS WITH THE FRONTLINE TROOPS, BUT HER PLANS WERE NOT DEFINITE.

REP.JOHN R.MOONEY (D-N.Y.) WAS ABOARD WHEN THE GROUP LEFT HERE. HE HAD MISSED THE PLANE FROM FRANCE TO ITALY. HE ALSO MISSED THE CONGRESSMEN'S GROUP AUDIENCE WITH THE POPE BECAUSE HIS DRIVER DID NOT KNOW THE WAY TO THE VATICAN. DIRECTED THERE BY A JEWISH SOLDIER, HE ARRIVED LATE AND HAD A PRIVATE AUDIENCE.

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MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, DESPITE THE HEAVY SCHEDULE ARRANGED, MANAGED TO SQUEEZE IN INVESTIGATION OF MATTERS THAT INTERESTED THEM PERSONALLY. REP.CLIFFORD DAVIS (D-TENN) VISITED A HOSPITAL IN THE NAPLES AREA WHICH IS STAFFED LARGELY WITH PERSONNEL FROM NASHVILLE,

WHILE MRS.LUCE SAW THE WACS ATTACHED TO ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FIFTY ARMY.

REP.IVOR D.FENTON (R-PA), WHO AS A DOCTOR WAS INTERESTED IN MEDICAL CARE GIVEN THE TROOPS, REPORTED HE FOUND MEDICAL FACILITIES AND ATTENTION EXCELLENT IN BOTH THE EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN THEATERS. WITH MAJ.GEN.JOSEPH I.MARTIN, HE VISITED A FORWARD CLEARING STATION AND SAW A DENTAL OFFICE SET UP IN A CAPTURED GERMAN TRAILER WHERE THE FRONTLINE SOLDIERS' TEETH WERE TREATED BY CAPTS.BYRON CORDES OF ST.LOUIS,MO., AND JOSEF STOUPALIK OF GREELEY,COLO.

MR1014PEW

CAIRO, DEC. 19-(AP)-IDENTICAL TELEGRAMS DESCRIBING THE FOLL OF THE EAM (NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT PARTY) IN GREECE AS TRAITORS AND DECLARING THEY ARE DOMINATED BY FIFTH COLUMNISTS WERE SENT TODAY TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL, PREMIER STALIN AND PRIME MINISTER SMUTS OF SOUTH AFRICA BY ~~XX~~ THE HEAD OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH AND NUMEROUS GREEK ORGANIZATIONS IN EGYPT TODAY.

THE MESSAGES WERE THE FIRST CONCERTED REACTION FROM THE LARG GREEK POPULATION OF EGYPT TO THE DISORDERS IN THEIR HOMELAND. THE TELEGRAMS ~~XX~~ SAID THAT THE ORTHODOX PATRIARCH OF ALEXANDRIA AND THE OTHE SIGNERS CONSIDERED "THE BANDIT ACTIONS OF THE SMALL EAM MINORITY AS ANTI-NATIONAL AND ANTI-ALLIED" AND ASSERTED THAT GERMANS, BULGARIANS AND ITALIANS WERE SERVING IN THE EAM RANKS.

THEY STATED THAT THE DISORDERS AMONG THE GREEK FORCES STATI IN ~~XXXX~~ EGYPT IN ~~XXXX~~ MARCH, 1943, AND APRIL, 1944, WERE INSPIRED BY THE EAM, WHOSE "AGENTS WERE FIFTH COLUMNISTS."

"GREEKS OF EGYPT CONDEMN THESE TRAITORS, A MAJORITY OF WHO ARE GUIDED BY A DESIRE FOR POWER AND LOOT," THE MESSAGES SAID. "THEY DO NOT EXEMPT THE FEW MISGUIDED IDEALISTS WHO, IN AN EFFORT TO IMPOSE THEIR IDEALS BY FORCE, DISREGARD THE COLOSSAL DISASTERS PARALYZING THE GREEK WAR EFFORT."

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APL/2200/1P-7PEW

CHUNGKING, DEC. 18--(DELAYED)--(AP)-- T. F. TSIANG, WHO WAS THE CH CHINESE DELEGATE AT THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINI CONFERENCE IN ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., IN 1943, TODAY WAS APPOINTED DIRECT GENERAL OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION IN FREE AND OCCUPIED CHINA INCLUDI FORMOSA.

DEC 20 1944

HIS DUTIES INCLUDE THE DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF RECEIVED FROM UNI

OVER HANKOW--FIRST ADD RAID X X X ~~TARGET~~.

WHILE WE WERE STILL MORE THAN 50 MILES OUT FROM THE TARGET WE (RUNDLE) OUT COULD SEE HUGE COLUMNS OF SMOKE ROLLING UP 10,000 FEET AS A RESULT

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OF THE SUPERFORT VISIT 45 MINUTES EARLIER.

AS THE PILOT, 1ST LT.GEORGE R.IGNASIAK OF NEW BALTIMORE, MICH., SET THE PLANE ON THE BOMB RUN WE COULD SEE BRIGHT YELLOW AND DEEP RED FLAMES REACHING THE FULL LENGTH OF THE DOCKS.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS SILENCED BY THE TIME WE ARRIVED, ALL BUT A SCATTERING OF SOOTY SMUDGES IN THE SKY FAR AHEAD AND TO THE RIGHT OF OUR COURSE. OPPOSITION FROM THE SIZABLE FORCE OF JAPANESE PLANES BASED AT HANKOW WAS SLIGHT. THE LIBERATORS CAUGHT THE ZEROES REFUELING.

BOMBARDIER ROBERT C.BRANYON DREW THE LINES OF HIS BOMBSIGHT ACROSS THE LONG RUNWAY FLANKED WITH HANGARS, FIELD DUMPS AND OTHER VITAL INSTALLATIONS.

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FROM THE TAIL GUNNER, ROBERT E.SOUTHERN OF 6814 PARNELL AVE., CHICAGO, CAME THE WORD: "BOY, DID WE PLASTER THEM!"

BRANYON CONFIRMED THAT HE SAW AT LEAST 10 PLANES IN THE REFUELING LINE. AS WE BANKED AWAY FROM THE TARGET, A LONG STREAK OF SMOKE BILLOWED UP AND EXTENDED THE FULL LENGTH OF THE AIRDROME.

WE HAD BEEN PROMISED FIGHTER COVER BEFORE REACHING THE TARGET AREA. WE SWEATED IT OUT NEARLY AN HOUR AFTER THE SCHEDULED RENDEZVOUS. THE CO-PILOT, 1ST LT.HENRY JOHNSON OF HUDSONVILLE, MICH., REMARKED THAT "IF THOSE FIGHTERS DON'T SHOW UP, YOU MAY GET MORE OF A STORY THAN YOU WANT."

BUT THEY SHOWED UP, COMING OUT OF THE SUN FROM HIGH ABOVE JUST BEFORE WE STARTED THE BOMB RUN. WHEN THE JAPANESE MANAGED TO GET FIGHTERS INTO THE AIR AKTER THE COMPLETION OF THE BOMB RUN, THE FIGHTER COVER DID A GRAND JOB.

STAFF SGT.ANGELO J.BARILLARO, BALL GUNNER OF 336 BROWN AVE., COLLINSVILLE, ILL., CALLED OVER THE INTERPHONE: "YOU SHOULD SEE WHAT'S GOING ON BEHIND. OUR GUYS ARE SWARMING ALL OVER THEM."

"KEEP YOUR EYE ON THE BALL," IGNASIAK CAUTIONED. "THEY'LL BE ON US NEXT."

ONE FIGHTER DIVED PERPENDICULARLY THROUGH OUR FORMATION, THEN CAME UP DIRECTLY BENEATH. BARILLARO FIRED A BURST AND THE ENEMY PEELED AWAY. THAT WAS ALL THERE WAS TO IT.

AS THE "ESKY SPECIAL" RETURNED TO BASE AT DUSK AFTER A GRUELLING 11-HOUR FLIGHT, IGNASIAK TOLD THE GROUND CREW TO PLACE A 33RD BOMB EMBLEM ON THE SIDE OF THE PLANE, INDICATING THE NUMBER OF MISSIONS ACCOMPLISHED. FURLOUGHS ARE EXPECTED AFTER THREE OR FOUR MORE.

THE CREW INCLUDED 1ST LT.WILLIAM L.BRICE, (6429 WAYNE AVE.) CHICAGO, NAVIGATOR; WAIST-GUNNERS EDWARD WILSON, GOLDSBORO, N.C., ALBERT W.RHOADES, (231 REAGAN ST.) SUNBURY, PA.; AND GUNNER S/SGT. LEROY F.SKALECKI, (3158 SOUTH PINE AVE.) MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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JS327PEW

A B-29 BASE, SZECHWAN PROVINCE, CHINA--1ST ADD PRECEDE RUNDLE'S POOLER ABOARD B-29 XXX FOLLOWED THE BOMBING. GROUND

BY PARTICIPATING IN THE HANKOW RAID THE GIANT 20TH BOMBER COMMAND PLANES FOR THE FIRST TIME JOINED IN WITH LIGHTER AIRCRAFT IN A SHORT-RANGE STRATEGIC MISSION. IT WAS A MAJOR DIVERSION FROM THE CUSTOMARY TACTICS WHICH UNTIL NOW HAVE FOUND SUPERFORTRESSES MAKING ONLY LONG-RANGE FLIGHTS AIMED AT REMOTE JAPANESE WAR PRODUCTION CENTERS.

(C-GRUMICH)

AFTER THE B-29S LEFT THE FIERY WATERFRONT AREA AND SUBSIDIARY TARGETS INCLUDING THE YOCHOW WAREHOUSE DISTRICT AND THE HANGYANG AIRFIELD, THE APPROACHING 14TH AIR FORCE PILOTS REPORTED SEEING "A BELT OF FLAME WITH SMOKE BILLOWING UPWARD ABOVE 10,000 FEET.

DEC 20 1944

THE 14TH--WHICH ITSELF STRUCK WITH ALL ITS AVAILABLE STRENGTH--SAID IN AN OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASE THAT ITS B-24 CREWS WERE "LOUD IN THEIR PRAISE OF THE DEVASTATING EFFECT OF THE SUPERFORTRESS BOMBING."

EVERY BOMB DROPPED FROM THE B-24S STRUCK THE HANKOW AIRFIELD. THEIR EXPLOSIONS TOUCHED OFF OTHER BLASTS ON THE ENEMY FIELD, AS ROARING FIRES SPRANG UP IN GASOLINE STORAGE TANKS.

AMERICAN MEDIUM BOMBERS HIT WUCHANG AND ITS SATELLITE FIELDS ACROSS THE RIVER FROM HANKOW AS B-25'S OF THE CHINESE-AMERICAN WING BLASTED ENEMY FIELDS AT SIAOKAN, KINGMEN AND NANGYANG.

ENEMY FIGHTER PILOTS WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO MIX IT WITH THE SUPERFORTS. SGT.WILLIAM L.YOUNG, 23, OF SPOKANE, WASH., A TAILGUNNER FLYING HIS SEVENTH MISSION WITH THE "BILLY MITCHELL" GROUP OF THE 20TH BOMBER COMMAND, SAID HE SAW ABOUT A DOZEN TOJOS JUST AFTER HIS ELEMENT LEFT HANKOW BUT "THEY STAYED WAY OUT AFTER MAKING A COUPLE OF PASSES."

MAJ.DON HUMPHREY, 25, OF POSTVILLE, IOWA, FLYING AS A SQUADRON COMMANDER ON HIS TENTH MISSION WITH THE SAME GROUP, SAID ACK-ACK HAD HOLED A FEW OF THE SUPERFORTRESSES.

LT.RAYMOND TOLZMANN, 24, OF FOREST LAKE, MINN., FLYING HIS FOURTEENTH MISSION, SAW INCENDIARIES SET FIRE TO AND EXPLODE A SUPPLY DUMP ON THE HANGYANG AIRFIELD WHICH CONTAINED EITHER GASOLINE OR HIGH EXPLOSIVES.

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ALTOGETHER THE COMBINED ATTACK EMPLOYED SUPERFORTRESSES, LIBERATORS MB-25 MITCHELLS, FIGHTBOMBERS AND FIGHTERS, INCLUDING THE P-51 MUSTANGS OF BRIG.GEN.RUSSELL E.RANDALL'S 14TH AIR FORCE FIGHTER WING.

JS455PEW

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS,PHILIPPINES, WEDNESDAY, DEC.20-(AP)-THE SURPRISING LACK OF GROUND RESISTANCE TO AMERICAN LIBERATION FORCES ON MINDORO ISLAND, NOW LESS THAN 150 MILES FROM MANILA, CONTRASTED TODAY WITH THE BLOODY FIGHTING ON LEYTE, WHERE THE JAPANESE ARE MAKING A DEATH STAND IN THE OROMOC CORRIDOR.

AS A RESULT, THE MINDORO OPERATION WAS PROCEEDING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. INDICATIONS WERE THAT IF THE ENEMY DIDCOUNTERATTACK, THE YANKS WOULD HAVE THE SUPPORT OF PLANES BASED ON MINDORO, WHICH IS JUST SOUTH OF LUZON, PRINCIPAL ISLAND OF THE ARCHIPELAGO.

DEC 20 1944

WORK WAS BEING PRESSED FEVERISHLY ON THE AIR FIELD CLOSE TO SAN JOSE, NEAR WHERE THE REINVASION FORCES LANDED. PLANES WILL BE USING THE FIELD SOON, BRIG.GEN.WILLIAM C.DUNCKEL, COMMANDING THE LANDING FORCE, SAID MONDAY.

EVERY EFFORT WAS BEING MADE ON LEYTE ISLAND, FAR TO THE REAR OF MINDORO, TO SAVE LIVES IN THE CAMPAIGN TO END ENEMY RESISTANCE, SAID TUESDAY'S COMMUNIQUE. FRONTAL ATTACKS WERE AVOIDED AS THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION CONTINUED ITS ENVELOPMENT OF VALENCIA, HEADQUARTERS OF THE JAPANESE COMMANDER.

THE AIRDROME WEST OF THE TOWN HAD BEEN "REACHED." HEADQUARTERS SAID, AND GAINS WERE MADE NORTHWARD ON THE CORRIDOR HIGHWAY.

ATTRITION OF THE JAPANESE AIR FORCE IN THE PHILIPPINES REACHED STAGGERING PROPORTIONS UNDER THE STEADY BLOWS OF CARRIER AND LAND BASED PLANES. HEADQUARTERS SAID YESTERDAY THAT IN A SEVEN-DAY PERIOD, INCLUDING THE MINDORO INCURSION, AT LEAST 742 NIPPONESE PLANES HAD BEEN DESTROYED OR DAMAGED.

(A COMPILATION OF OFFICIAL REPORTS SHOWED THAT 533 JAPANESE PLANES ALREADY HAVE BEEN DEFINITELY DESTROYED THIS MONTH IN THE PHILIPPINES, THE MAJORITY BY NAVAL AIRMEN IN SWEEPS OVER LUZON. OF THE TOTAL, 299 WERE DESTROYED IN AERIAL COMBAT AND 234 ON THE GROUND.)

ADM.CHESTER W.NIMITZ REPORTED AT PEARL HARBOR MONDAY NIGHT THAT BOMBERS OF THE STRAGEGIC AIR FORCE CARRIED THROUGH DEC.16 THEIR SUSTAINED POUNDING OF ENEMY AIRFIELD FACILITIES ON IWO JIMA, IN THE VOLCANOS NORTH OF THE B-29 BASE ON SAIPAN. THAT JAPANESE BASE HAS BEEN BOMBED DAILY SINCE DEC.7.

JW/GH307PCW NM

BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ

ABOARD A LIBERATOR OVER MINDORO, DEC. 15-(DELAYED)-(AP)* A FILIPINO HANGING OUR HER MORNING WASH LESS THAN A MILE FROMK THE BEACH WHERE THE YANKS WERE MAKING THEIR LANDING TODAY LOOKED UP WHEN OUR LIBERATOR ROARED OVER. SHE WAVED. THAT'S WHAT THE LANDING ON MINDORO LOOKED LIKE.

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AN HOUR LATER, TROOPS WALKED INTO SAN JOSE, THE NEAREST TOWN, APPARENTLY WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT.

* THEY WALKED IN LEISURELY, STANDING UP AND SELDOM CROUCHING OR HITTING THE DIRT.

YOU COULD SEE HOW EASY IT WAS WHEN THEY WAVED AT USE WHILE WE CIRCLED LESS THAN 100 FEET OVERHEAD. THEY OBVIOUSLY WERE NOT WORRIED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF HIDDEN MACHINEGUN NESTS AND SNIPERS.

"IT CERTAINLY LOOKS EASIER THAN I EXPECTED," SAID LT. COL. ALEX GUERRY, JR., OF SEWANEE, TENN., WHO WAS AT THE CONTROLS.

DURING THE HOUR A A HALF OVER THE LANDING, I DIDN'T SEE A SINGLE JAPANESE PLANE IN THE AIR. THE ONLY ENEMY PLANES WERE A COUPLE OF WRECKED FIGHTERS ON THE BEACH AND A TWIN-ENGINED BOMBER WITH ITS NOSE IN THE MUD -- ALL VICTIMS OF PREVIOUS ACTIONS.

SIMILIARLY THE ONLY YANK PLANES COVERING THE ACTION WE SAW WERE SIX HELLCATS WHICH ZOOMED ONLY BRIEFLY OVER THE BEACHHEAD, OUR LIBERATOR WAS THE ONLY LAND-BASED PLANE THERE AND WE JUST WERE THERE FOR A LOOK.

COL.GUERRY, WHO SHARED THE PILOT'S JOB WITH MAJ.JOE DAVIS, JR., (313 PARK AVE.) LINDEN, N.J., IS THE SON OF DOCTOR ALEX GUERRY, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH AT SEWANEE. HE IS A VETERAN PILOT AND CASUALLY OBSERVED THAT THIS MISSION

PUT HIM WELL PAST 650 COMBAT HOURS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

MAJ.ROBERT G.ATWOOD, (4318 34TH ST.) SOUTH ARLINGTON, VA., WAS THE NAVIGATOR.

THE CREW OF THE BOMBER, NAMED "NIGHT TAKEOFF," INCLUDED: T/SGTS HAROLD E. BRIGHT, (6211 FOREST AVEM) CLEVELAND, O.; JOHNNY ABLE, (908 SOUTH OCEAN BLVD.) MYRTLE BEACH, S. CAR.; WILLIAM W.FAHRENHOLD (614 MAIN ST.) MCKEESROCKS, PA., AND S/SGTS NICK SHUSTER, 30 FARM, WINDBER, (Co) PA.; ROBERT R.HUMPHREYS, ATLANTA, GA.

SHUSTER,FAHRENHOLD AND HUMPHREYS ARE VETERANS OF FLYING FORTRESSES OPERATIONS IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER AND TARLTON FORMERLY WAS GUNNER ON A MITCHELL BOMBER IN THE ALEUTIANS.

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BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ (250)

AT A LEYTE AIRBASE, PHILIPPINES,DEC.17-(DELAYED)-(AP)-FAST-HARD-HITTING AMERICAN WARHAWK FIGHTER PLANES CAUGHT A JAPANESE TRUCK CONVOY STRUGGLING OVER THE MOUNTAINS EAST OF PALOMPON TODAY AND TURNED THE ROAD INTO A RIVER OF FIRE.

PALOMPON, ON THE WESTERN COAST OF LEYTE, IS THE SOLE PORT REMAINING TO THE JAPANESE FOR THE SUPPLY OF THEIR TROOPS TRAPPED IN THE ORMOC CORRIDOR.

THE TRUCKS, CAMOUFLAGED WITH BRANCHES, WERE SNAKING THEIR WAY OVER THE MOUNTAINOUS ROAD WITH SUPPLIES FOR MAIN JAPANESE FORCES INLAND. BUT THE WARHAWKS SPOTTED THEM 15 MILES INLAND AND NONE ESCAPED.

SCREAMING DOWN IN STRAFING RUNS, THE YANKEE PLANES HIT AN AMMUNITION OR DYNAMITE TRUCK. IT EXPLODED, LEVELING EVERYTHING IN THE VICINITY.

THEN LT.JOHN T.EVANS, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT (611 FIFTH STREET), LAUREL,MISS., SENT TRACERS INTO TWO GASOLINE TRUCKS WHICH WERE CRAWLING UP A STEEP GRADE.

"FIRST A FEW DRUMS EXPLODED," SAID EVANS. "THEN GASOLINE STARTED POURING OUT ON THE ROAD. IT IMMEDIATELY CAUGHT FIRE AND STREAMED BACK DOWNHILL, TURNING THE ROAD INTO A SOLID SHEET OF FLAME."

PILOTS WHO MADE REPEATED STRAFING RUNS UNTIL THE CONVOY WAS WIPED OUT INCLUDED:

LTS.ROBERT PETERSON (912 SIXTH STREET), INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINN.; JOSEPH PRITTS, SOMERSET,PA.; RAYMOND LEONARD, (137 BRIGHTON ROAD), COLUMBUS,O.; 2ND LTS.THOMAS HUBER, (9747 ROSE LAWN) DETROIT,MICH.; WARREN TWIGGS, CASPER, WYO.; ROY RY

E HELENA,MONT.; ALBERT HOUGH, PORTLAND,ORE.;

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ROY RULE, HELENA,MONT.; ALBERT HOUGH, PORTLAND,ORE.; WILLIAM MILTON (516 MAPLE STT.) BRISTOL,TENN.; EUGENE SHERIDAN, JOHNSTOWN,PA.; GEORGE J.LEWIS, HOUSTON,TEX.; ROBERT TURNER, COUNCIL BLUFFS,IOWA; AND FLIGHT OFFICERS MORRIS WASHETKA, STEVENS POINT,WIS., AND MARTIN ALMLOV, MELROSE,MASS.

FJ1216ACW

BY DEAN SCHEDLER 340.

ABOARD A UNITED STATES SEAPLANE TENDER,DEC.18-(AP)-THREE CATALINA SQUADRONS--THE MEN WHO FLY THE NAVY'S "BLACK CAT" PATROL BOMBERS ON RESCUE MISSIONS AND WHO HAVE SENT MANY THOUSAND TONS OF ENEMY SHIPPING TO THE BOTTOM, WERE AWARDED PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS BY ADMIRAL THOMAS C.KINKAID TODAY.

AMONG THEM WAS SQUADRON, 34, WHICH HAS SUNK OR DESTROYED 98,000

TONS OF SHIPPING AND DAMAGED FOUR JAPANESE DESTROYERS AND AN ESCORT VESSEL. PERHAPS EVEN MORE REMARKABLE IS ITS RESCUE RECORD. THE SQUADRON HAS SAVED 266 SURVIVORS OF WRECKED SHIPS AND PLANES. FIVE CATALINAS FROM THIS SQUADRON ON DEC.3 AND DEC.5 PICKED UP [illegible] SURVIVORS OF A U.S.DESTROYER WHICH WAS SUNK DEC.2 AFTER A SORTIE INTO ORMOC BAY.

THE OTHER SQUADRONS HONORED WERE NOS.52 AND 11, WHOSE MEMBERS, THEIR TOUR OF DUTY COMPLETED, HAVE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES. ADMIRAL KINKAID PRESENTED THE CITATIONS TO REAR ADMIRAL FRANK H. WAGNER, COMMANDER OF AIRCRAFT IN THE SEVENTH FLEET, WHO WILL FORWARD THEM TO AMERICA.

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ON DEC.10, SQUADRON 34'S PRESENT COMMANDING OFFICER, LT. CMDR.VADYM VICTORVICH UTGOFF, (155 BAYPORT AVE.) LONG ISLAND, N.Y., RESCUED TWO NAVAL OFFICERS AND FIVE ARMY AND NAVY ENLISTED MEN FROM UNDER JAPANESE GUNS ON LUZON ISLAND.

UTGOFF HOLDS THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS.

THE SQUADRON COMPILED MUCH OF ITS TOTAL OF SHIPPING SUNK IN MASTHEAD NIGHT ATTACKS, BOMBING AT SLOW SPEED.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IN HIS CITATION SAID THE AWARDS WERE MADE FOR "OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE ABOVE THE NORMAL CALL OF DUTY WHILE ENGAGED IN SEARCH MISSIONS AND ANTI-SHIPPING ATTACKS IN THE ENEMY-CONTROLLED AREA OF BISMARCK SEA FROM SEPT.15, 1943 TO FEB.1, 1944."

"DAUNTLESS AND AGGRESSIVE IN THE FULFILLMENT OF EACH ASSIGNMENT, THE GALLANT PILOTS OF SQUADRON 34 CONDUCTED DARING PATROLS, REGARDLESS OF WEATHER IN CONTINUOUS COVERAGE OF THIS AREA--TO DENY THE ENEMY A SEA ROUTE BETWEEN NEW IRELAND AND NEW BRITAIN ISLANDS," SAID THE CITATION, SIGNED BY NAVY SECRETARY FORRESTAL FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

AMONG THE SQUADRON'S OUTSTANDING OFFICERS IS LT.NORMAN L.PAXTON HOLDER OF DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT 5232 COLONIAL ST., JACKSONVILLE,FLA.

SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE THE PHILIPPINES INVASION HE DESTROYED A LARGE FREIGHTER IN THE MOLUCCA SEA. ALTHOUGH HIS PROPELLER, WING STRUTS, WING PANEL AND HULL WERE RIDDLED BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE, HE RETURNED SAFELY TO HIS BASE.

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ADMIRAL KINKAID ALSO AWARDED THE NAVY CROSS TO LIEUTENANT PAXTON. ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 31, IN THE SOUTH MOLUCCA SEA, HE LOCATED A LARGE ENEMY FREIGHTER TRANSPORT, PROTECTED BY TWO ESCORTS. HE ATTACKED IN BRIGHT MOONLIGHT IN THE FACE OF INTENSE ACKACK, AND DESTROYED THE MERCHANT VESSEL WITH TWO DIRECT HITS AND TWO NEAR MISSES. DESPITE DAMAGE TO HIS PLANE HE BROUGHT IT IN SAFELY.

BY1212ACH

HDQRTERS U.S. PACIFIC FLEET, PEARL HARBOR--FIRST ADD BRITISH FLEET (WHICH MAY BE BYLINED BY MORRIE LANDSBERG)
X X X THE CONFERENCES.
THE TWO ADMIRALS, REPRESENTING THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST NAVAL POWERS, WERE EXPECTED TO MAKE PLANS FOR EXTENDING A SEA AND AIR BLOCKADE OF JAPAN, ALREADY BEGUN WITH THE UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET'S ADVANCE INTO THE PHILIPPINE SEA AND CARRIER STRIKES AS FAR NORTH AS NANSEI SHOTO, IN THE RYUKYUS 200 MILES SOUTH OF JAPAN.
THERE WAS NO MENTION IN TODAY'S NNOUNCEMENT OF THE EXTENT OF THE BRITISH NAVAL UNITS THAT WILL OPERATE IN THE PACIFIC. BUT A RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MELBOURNE OF THE BRITISH ADMIRAL'S ARRIVAL IN THE PACIFIC, SAID HE WOULD HAVE A FORCE CAPABLE OF CHALLENGING THE JAPANESE FLEET ALONE.
ADMIRAL FRASER FORMERLY COMMANDED THE BRITISH HOME FLEET.
IT IS POSSIBLE BRITISH BATTLESHIPS AND CARRIERS WILL WORK IN DIRECT CONJUNCTION WITH THE POWERFUL UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET.
THE UNITED STATES NOW HAS TWO TASK FLEETS OPERATING IN THE PHILIPPINES AREA, THE THIRD UNDER ADM. WILLIAM F. HALSEY, AND THE SEVENTH, DIRECTLY SUPPORTING GENERAL MACARTHUR'S DRIVE UNDER VICE ADMIRAL THOMAS C.KINKAID.
PM519PPW

USPFH, PEARL HARBOR--FIRST ADD LUZON RAIDS XXX 27 PLANES.
REVISED INFORMATION, NIMITZ SAID, SHOWED NINE CARGO VESSELS WERE SUNK INSTEAD OF TEN, AS ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY. ADDITIONAL SHIPPING WIPED OUT WAS LISTED AS ONE LARGE OILER, ONE MINELAYER, SEVEN SMALL CRAFT AND FIVE SMALL VESSELS.
IN PLACE OF 10 CARGO AND 25 SMALL SHIPS DAMAGED, THE NEWEST REP[illegible] SAID CARRIER PLANES DAMAGED NINE CARGO SHIPS AND 17 SMALL

CARGO CARRIERS. DAMAGE TO ONE LARGE TRANSPORT, ONE MEDIUM OILER, ONE SMALL OILER AND ONE COASTAL DEFENSE VESSEL WAS REPORTED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN THE TOTAL OF 61 NIPPONESE PLANES SHOT DOWN, 208 DESTROYED ON THE GROUND AND 192 DAMAGED.

U.S.PLANE LOSSES PREVIOUSLY WERE ANNOUNCED AS 20 PLANES IN THE DEC. 13 AND 14 STRIKES ONLY.

LANDBASED AIRCRAFT CONTINUED THEIR DAILY TASK OF KEEPING BY-PASSED ENEMY BASES NEUTRALIZED WITH A SERIES OF RAIDS SUNDAY. NAVY SEARCH PLANES BOMBED AIR STRIPS ON TRUK, OUTFLANKED ENEMY STRONG-HOLD IN THE CAROLINES. THEY ENCOUNTERED "MODERATE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE" AND WERE ATTACKED BY FOUR ENEMY FIGHTERS BUT ALL RETURNED SAFELY.

MARINE TORPEDO PLANES SPRAYED BOMBS ON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS ON ROTA ISLAND, MIDWAY BETWEEN SAIPAN AND GUAM IN THE MARIANAS. OTHER MARINE AIRCRAFT BOMBED AND STRAFED TARGETS ON BABELTHUAP IN THE PALAUS. THE COMMUNIQUE SAID A BARGE, A MOTOR LAUNCH AND FOUR TRUCKS WERE DESTROYED AND TWO ENEMY PLANES BURNED ON BABELTHUAP.

RA447PCW

BY REMBERT JAMES

ABOARD ADM. MCCAIN'S FAST CARRIER FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF THE PHILIPPINES, DEC.17-(DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-THE CONTINUOUS, DEVASTATING DAY AND NIGHT CARRIER RAIDS OVER LUZON ISLAND LAST WEEK WERE A PREVIEW OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE HOME ISLANDS OF JAPAN, VICE ADM. JOHN S. MCCAIN INDICATED TODAY.

"WE CUT THE PHILIPPINES FROM THE JAPANESE EMPIRE LIKE A KNIFE THROUGH A PIECE OF CAKE," THE COMMANDER OF THE FAST CARRIER FORCE SAID. "WE PINNED THEM DOWN COMPLETELY.

"GIVE ME ENOUGH FIGHTER PLANES AND WE CAN GO UP TO THE EMPIRE AND DO THE SAME."

ADM.WILLIAM F. HALSEY, COMMANDER OF THE THIRD FLEET, IN A CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE CALLED THE OPERATION SUPPORTING THE MINDORO INVASION BRILLIANTLY PLANNED AND EXECUTED.

IT WAS PLANNED BY MCCAIN, A LEAN, SALTY, 60-YEAR-OLD ADMIRAL FROM MISSISSIPPI, AND HIS OPERATIONS OFFICER--SLENDER, BALDING, CMDR. JOHN S. THACH OF FORDYCE, ARK.

THEY USED AN OVERWHELMING PROPORTION OF HELLCAT FIGHTER PLANES IN A NEW STYLE OF ATTACK. THE OPERATION CONFIRMED THEIR BELIEF THAT FIGHTERS, ARMED WITH BOMBS AND ROCKETS, COULD TAKE AND HOLD POSSESSION OF THE AIR AS LONG AS THEY MAINTAINED CONSTANT PATROLS OVER THE AIRFIELDS.

THE JAPANESE AIRFORCE WAS VIRTUALLY IMMOBILIZED ON 100 LUZON ISLAND AIRFIELDS AND WAS NEVER ABLE TO GET ANY ATTACK PLANES WITHIN 100 MILES OF THE CARRIERS.

HELLCATS WERE USED EXCLUSIVELY THE FIRST DAY, LAST THURSDAY, AND WITH THEIR BOMBS AND ROCKETS SANK 11 SHIPS, INCLUDING TWO MEDIUM SIZED OILERS.

REVISED FIGURES FOR THE 60 HOUR CONTINUOUS ATTACK SHOWED 62 ENEMY PLANES SHOT DOWN, 217 BURNED ON THE GROUND, AND 192 DAMAGED. TWENTY EIGHT SHIPS, INCLUDING TWO TRANSPORTS, WERE SUNK; AND

[illegible]THER CRAFT WERE DAMAGED.

[illegible]HTERS ARE A THACH SPECIALTY. HE HAS DEVISED MANY OF THE NAVY AIRMEN'S FIGHTER TACTICS, INCLUDING THE FAMOUS THACH WEAVE.

JP235APW NM

MELBOURNE, AUST., DEC. 19-(AP)-DOUBTS SOMETIMES RAISED ABOUT U.S. AIR DESTRUCTION CLAIMS WERE SWEPT AWAY BY THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE'S AIR COMMODORE F.R. W. SCHERGER WHO WAS INTIMATELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE FIFTH U.S. AIR FORCE FOR TWO YEARS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW GUINEA.

IN AN ARTICLE IN THE OFFICIAL RAAF JOURNAL, "WINGS," HE AIR COMMODORE EMPHASISES THAT U.S. CLAIMS ALWAYS VEER ON THE CONSERVATIVE SIDE.

"ONE OFTEN HEARS CRITICAL COMMENT ON CLAIMS OF AIRCRAFT DESTROYED IN THE AIR AND ON THE GROUND OR OF SHIPS SUNK AND DAMAGED" HE WRITES.

"THE HOLLANDIA SHOW WAS A GOOD REPLY. SOME 200-300 AIRCRAFT WERE CLAIMED DESTROYED ON THE GROUND THERE. WHEN WE OCCUPIED THE AREA LATER WE COUNTED NOT 200-300 BUT 472 WRECKED AIRCRAFT.

"IT WAS THE DESTRUCTION OF THESE PLANES WHICH BURIED THE JAPANESE HOPES OF HOLDING NEW GUINEA.

"IT IS ALWAYS WELL TO REMEMBER," HE WROTE, "THAT THE CAMERA CANNOT LIE. NO CLAIM UNSUPPORTED BY PHOTOGRAPHS IS ADMITTED. IF YOU HAVE BEEN PRIVILEGED TO SEE THE PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IN ATTACKS, YOU'LL KNOW THE CLAIMS ARE REAL.

"NO ONE CAN WIN A WAR BY PULLING HIS OWN LEG AND YOU CAN TAKE IT FROM ME THAT THE FIFTH AIR FORCE HAS BEEN AND IS STILL WINNING."

AIR COMMODORE SCHERGER ADDS THAT THERE IS NO OTHER AMERICAN UNIT TO WHICH AUSTRALIA OWES SO MUCH.

WW654APW NM

MEXICO CITY,DEC.19-(AP)-THE SPANISH REPUBLICAN CORTES, WHICH WILL MEET HERE JANUARY 10 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FORMING A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE, OPENED OFFICES TODAY. EDUARDO FRAPOLLI, A MEMBER OF THE CORTES, IS IN CHARGE.

DIEGO MARTINEZ BARRIO, CORTES PRESIDENT, SAID HE WOULD MAKE HIS HEADQUARTERS IN THE OFFICE AND DEVOTE FULL TIME TO PREPARATION FOR THE MEETING. TODAY HE SENT FORMAL NOTICE OF THE SESSION TO CORTES MEMBERS, SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAN REPUBLICS AND EUROPE.

FJ1205ACW

MEXICO CITY, DEC. 19-(AP)-AT LEAST EIGHT MEXICAN AMBASSADORS OR MINISTERS ARE SCHEDULED TO RETURN HERE THIS MONTH FOR CONFERENCES.

THOSE ALREADY HERE OR REPORTED COMING INCLUDE CARLOS DARIO OJEDA, AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA; SALVADOR R.GUZMAN, EL SALVADOR; DR. FRANCISCO CASTILLO JAVERA, UNITED STATES; LUIS I.RODRIGUEZ, CHILE; JOSE MARIA DAVILA, BRAZIL; GEN.ANTONIO RIOS ZERTUCHE, FRANCE; ERNESTO SOTO REYES, PARAGUAY, AND VICENTE L.BENEITEZ, VENEZUELA.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE VISITS WAS A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION IN POLITICAL CIRCLES TODAY.

GM1151ACW

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DEC 2 1944

TORONTO, DEC. 19-(CP)-GLEN BANNERMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS, IN AN INTERVIEW TODAY SAID THAT IN ORDER TO MAKE ANY WORLDWIDE AGREEMENT AMONG THE NATIONS GUARANTEEING FREEDOM OF REPORTING AND EXCHANGE OF NEWS "IT WOULD APPEAR ESSENTIAL THAT THIS FREEDOM BE RECOGNIZED CONSTITUTIONALLY BY CANADA, GUARANTEEING TO NEWS SERVICES, THE PRESS AND RADIO BROADCASTING ALIKE THE RIGHT TO REPORT INCIDENTS AND EVENTS AS THEY HAPPEN."

BANNERMAN SAID HE WAS "VERY MUCH IN ACCORD WITH THE VIEWS" ON NEWS FREEDOM EXPRESSED IN A NATIONAL BROADCAST SUNDAY NIGHT BY SENATOR W.A.BUCHANAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN PRESS (CAPS TCP) AND EDITOR OF THE LETHBRIDGE HERALD.

BANNERMAN SAID HE HOPED THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PRESS, NEWS SERVICES AND RADIO BROADCASTERS, WOULD SEE FIT "TO ENACT AT AN EARLY DATE THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION TO INSURE THESE FREEDOMS."

SUCH ACTION "WOULD LEAVE NO DOUBT IN THE MINDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES" WHERE CANADA STANDS ON INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS CONCERNING FREEDOM OF NEWS."

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RW610PEW

NEW YORK, DEC.19-(AP)-THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION SAID TODAY THAT THE UNITED NATIONS DID NOT HAVE SHIPS ENOUGH TO "TRANSPORT ACROSS THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC ALL THE GOODS REQUESTED BY AREA COMMANDERS FOR MILITARY COMMANDERS, LET ALONE RELIEF GOODS."

NEVERTHELESS "THE COMING OF WINTER MAKES THE RELIEF PROBLEM SO URGENT THAT THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS MAY DECIDE TO INCREASE THE SHIPPING SPACE ASSIGNED TO RELIEF GOODS HEADED ABROAD," THE ASSOCIATION'S BULLETIN SAID.

"HERBERT H.LEHMAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF UNRRA, IS EXPECTED TO ADVOCATE THIS CHANGE BEFORE THE COMBINED SHIPPING BOARD WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES FROM EUROPE X X X. HUNGER AGGRAVATES THE DISCONTENT WHICH DISTURBS THE POLITICAL LIFE OF BELGIUM, ITALY AND GREECE AND THEREBY THREATENS MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS."

THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION LISTS 20,000 MEMBERS AND DESCRIBES ITS PURPOSE AS NON-PARTISAN PUBLIC EDUCATION.

WM1140PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 19-(AP)-BRIG. GEN. FRANK T.HINES, VETERANS ADMINISTRATOR, SAID TONIGHT THAT RETURNING VETERANS ALREADY ARE RECEIVING LOANS UNDER THE G.I. BILL OF RIGHTS FOR PURCHASING HOMES AND FARMS AND THIS WEEK WILL BEGIN RECEIVING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR ESTABLISHING SMALL BUSINESSES.

SPEAKING AT AN AMERICAN LEGION DINNER, GENERAL HINES SAID: "NO PIECE OF LEGISLATION HAS BEEN SO DIFFICULT TO PLACE IN OPERATION."

REGULATIONS GOVERNING ISSUANCE OF SMALL BUSINESS LOANS WILL BE ISSUED THURSDAY, HE SAID.

GENERAL HINES SAID THAT MORE THAN 300,000 VETERANS OF WORLD WAR TWO ARE ON THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION PENSION ROLLS AND THAT MORE THAN 112,000 "HAVE PASSED THROUGH THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL ALONE."

THE DINNER WAS IN HONOR OF THE LEGION'S NATIONAL COMMANDER, EDWARD N.SCHEIBERLING.

TA1243AEW

WASHINGTON, DEC 19-(AP)-THE JAPANESE CAME UP WITH THE "COCONUT BOMB" DURING THE INVASION OF LEYTE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THIS WAS DISCLOSED BY COL. ALLAN L. FELDMAN OF (1004 REGESTER AVE.) BALTIMORE, WHO TOOK PART IN THE INVASION.

THE "BOMB," HE TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE AT THE PENTAGON, WAS INGENIOUS BUT NOT VERY EFFECTIVE. IT WAS FASHIONED FROM A HOLLOWED COCONUT, INTO WHICH THE JAPANESE PUT A HAND GRENADE AND PICRIC ACID.

THE JAPANESE SEALED UP THE COCONUT WITH WAX, THEN LOOPED A CORD AROUND IT AND HURLED THE COCONUT AT AMERICAN TROOP CONCENTRATIONS. IT MADE A "TERRIFIC" EXPLOSION, BUT CAUSED LITTLE DAMAGE, FELDMAN SAID.

SU644AEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.19-(AP)-GEORGE MESSERSMITH, UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, CONFERRED FOR AN HOUR WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TODAY ON "PENDING MATTERS OF UNITED STATES-MEXICAN RELATIONS."

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THE AMBASSADOR, WHO HAD NOT SEEN THE PRESIDENT IN MONTHS, SAID HE WAS LEAVING THURSDAY TO RETURN TO MEXICO CITY. HE TOLD REPORTERS HE EXPECTS TO REMAIN THERE FOR SOME TIME.

ASKED ABOUT MEXICO'S PLAN FOR A MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE AMERICAN REPUBLICE, MESSERSMITH REPLIED THERE WAS CONSTANT CONSULTATION AMONG THE GOVERNMENTS REGARDING SUCH A MEETING.

AB224PEW

WASHINGTON.DEC.19-(AP)-MAJ.GEN.ROBERT T. (CO)

[illegible] WAS ASSUMED COMMAND OF THE 45TH INFANTRY DIVISION IN EUROPE, THE WAR DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY.

GENERAL FREDERICK WAS BORN IN SAN FRANCISCO ON MARCH 14, 1907, AND HIS WIFE LIVES AT 5801 33RD ST., NW, WASHINGTON.

[illegible] POINT GRADUATE, HE WAS COMMISSIONED IN 1928, BECAME A BRIGADIER GENERAL IN JANUARY, 1944, AND WAS PROMOTED TO THE TEMPORARY RANK OF MAJOR GENERAL IN AUGUST, 1944.

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HE HOLDS THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS FOR HEROISM IN ITALY AND THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL FOR A SPECIAL OPERATIONAL MISSION ON KISKA IN THE ALEUTIANS.

ATTACHED TO THE GENERAL STAFF IN WASHINGTON AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR, HE SERVED IN NORTH AFRICA AND LATER IN ITALY AND WAS SLIGHTLY

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WOUNDED. LAST AUGUST HE WAS NAMED COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE FIRST AIRBORNE TASK FORCE IN SOUTHERN FRANCE.

WASHINGTON, DEC 19-(AP)-TIN CAN SALVAGE MAY HAVE TO BE CONTINUED FOR A TIME AFTER PEACE COMES, WHILE DEMAND FOR WASTE PAPER WILL REMAIN HIGH UNTIL JAPAN IS DEFEATED.

PREDICTING THIS TODAY, THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION SAID ALSO THAT THE SALVAGE DRIVES FOR USED FATS AND IRON AND STEEL ARE ALSO "STILL FAR FROM FINISHED."

IN CONTRAST, FOUR OTHER COLLECTION CAMPAIGNS HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED SINCE THE PASSING OF PRESSING NEEDS FOR SCRAP RUBBER, ALUMINUM, DISCARDED SILK AND NYLON HOSIERY, AND OLD CLOTHING.

ONE OTHER PROGRAM--COLLECTION OF OLD RAGS--CONTINUES, BUT "WITH NO SPECIAL NATIONAL EMPHASIS."

SU646AEW

CHICAGO,DEC.19-(AP)-DIRECTORS OF THE POLISH-AMERICAN CONGRESS VOTED TODAY TO CALL AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S SUPREME COUNCIL IN WASHINGTON JAN. 11 TO ACT ON WHAT THEY CALLED PREMIER CHURCHILL'S WILLINGNESS "TO CONDEMN MILLIONS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE OF POLAND" INTO "THE SPHERE OF THE RUSSIAN ORBIT WITH ITS ABHORRENT COMMUNISM X X X."

CHARLES ROZMAREK, PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS, WHICH CLAIMS 6,000,000 MEMBERS, SAID THE DIRECTORS VOTED TO REAFFIRM THE GROUP'S PREVIOUS STAND THAT THE ATLANTIC CHARTER AND FOUR FREEDOMS ENUNCIATED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL MUST OBTAIN IN SETTLEMENT OF THE RUSSIAN-POLISH BOUNDARY DISPUTE.

"WHEN CHURCHILL STATED THAT EASTERN POLAND, WHICH EMBRACES A POPULATION OF 13 MILLION PEOPLE, 'IS A GREAT GIFT WHICH THE POLES HAVE TO GIVE TO RUSSIA,' HE CONFESSED TO THE WORLD HIS IMPOTENCY TO DEAL WITH AN ALLY TURNED AGGRESSOR," ROZMAREK SAID IN A STATEMENT.

"AMERICA, AS THE TORCH-BEARER OF LIBERTY," HIS STATEMENT CONTINUED, "CANNOT SUPPORT ANY POLICY, WHICH IN THE RUSSIAN INTERPRETATION, WOULD ENCOURAGE THE SOVIET UNION TO SEIZE LAND AND MEN IT DOES NOT NEED. X X X THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE A MORE CLARIFYING ANALYSIS OF THEIR GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY THAN ANY HERETOFORE GIVEN." X X X

FY1206ACW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (160)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (TUE)

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: MOPPED UP IN WURM AND MULLENDORF; CLEARED BEECK, NORTHWEST OF GEILENKIRCHEN.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: STROVE TO STABILIZE FRONT AS GERMAN COUNTER-OFFENSIVE DENTED LINES ON 60 MILE FRONT INSIDE BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG; SENT PATROLS ACROSS ROER RIVER AT DUREN.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: DROVE TO EAST SIDE OF DILLINGEN; GAINED IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: DROVE TO EAST SIDE OF DILLINGEN; GAINED IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: CAPTURED TWO VILLAGES IN PALATINATE, TWO MILES SINDIE GERMANY.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: LINE UNCHANGED.

--BASH--

U.S. DIVISIONS

14TH ARMORED (7TH ARMY): BATTLED STIFF OPPOSITION NORTH OF WISSEMBOURG.

35TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): MADE SLIGHT GAINS IN SAAR BASIN.

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45TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): MET HEAVY PILLBOX FIRE TWO MILES INSIDE REICH.

79TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): PROBED BEYOND BERG, EIGHT MILES FROM KARLSRUHE.

83RD INFANTRY (1ST ARMY): SENT PATROLS ACROSS ROER RIVER AT DUREN.

90TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): DROVE TO EAST SIDE OF DILLINGEN.

95TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): GAINED IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

103D INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): PENETRATED FOUR MILES INSIDE GERMANY.

TA855PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: CAPTURED WURM AND MULLENDORF, CLEARED BEECK, NORTHWEST OF GEILENKIRCHEN; WEATHERED FIERCE GERMAN ARTILLERY AND V-BOMB BARRAGE.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE DENTED LINES AT LEAST 15 MILES IN TWO DAYS; ENEMY ARMOR DROVE WEDGE 20 MILES INSIDE BELGIUM; VON RUNDSTEDT THREW MEN AND SUPPLIES INTO DESPERATE BID, BUT ROER RIVER FRONT PRESSURE CONTINUED.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: DROVE TO EAST SIDE OF DILLINGEN, MADE GAINS IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: CAPTURED TWO VILLAGES IN PALATINATE, TWO MILES INSIDE GERMANY.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: FRONT UNCHANGED.

--DASH--
U.S. DIVISIONS
14TH ARMORED (7TH ARMY): BATTLED STIFF OPPOSITION NORTH OF WISSEMBOU
35TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): MADE SLIGHT GAINS IN SAAR BASIN.
45TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): MET HEAVY PILLBOX FIRE TWO MILES INSIDE REICH.
79TH INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): PROBED BEYOND BERG, EIGHT MILES FROM KARLSRUHE.
90TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): DROVE TO EAST SIDE OF DILLINGEN.
95TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY): GAINED IN SAARLAUTERN SUBURBS.
103D INFANTRY (7TH ARMY): PENETRATED FOUR MILES INSIDE GERMANY.
83RD DIVISION (FIRST ARMY): SENT PATROLS ACROSS ROER AT DUREN.
MT1252PEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1 -- WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2 -- RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3 -- HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).
4 -- ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).
FW557AEW DEC 20 1944

UNDATED JAP-MINDORO
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
JAPANESE IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS ASSERTED TODAY THAT TWO ALLIED WARSHIPS AND TWO TRANSPORTS WERE SUNK OFF MINDORO ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPI SUNDAY AND MONDAY (TOKYO TIME). TWO OTHER TRANSPORTS WERE "HEAVILY DAMAGED AND SET ABLAZE" BY ATTACKING NIPPONESE AIRCRAFT, THE TOKYO COMMUNIQUE SAID.
THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, IDENTIFIED THE WARSHIPS AS CRUISERS OR DESTROYERS.
THE ENEMY REPORT WAS WHOLY UNCONFIRMED BY ALLIED SOURCES, LIKE PREVIOUS JAPANESE BROADCASTS WHICH TOLD OF "WRECKAGES OF SUNKEN AMERICAN WARSHIPS AND TRANSPORTS" NEAR THE AMERICAN BEACHHEAD AT SAN JOSE ON MINDORO.
WW229APW NM

UNDATED B29S (PRECEDE WASHINGTON) (340)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
CHINA-BASED B29S BOMBED KYUSHU ISLAND INDUSTRIAL TARGETS TODAY IN ANOTHER SUPERFORTRESS BLOW AT THE ROOTS OF JAPAN'S VANISHING AIRPOWER.
A JAPANESE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE SAID 30 OR 40 SUPERFORTRESSES ATTACKED OMURA WHOSE BIG AIRCRAFT FACTORY HAS BEEN THE TARGET OF THREE PREVIOUS B29 RAIDS.
THE FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT IN WASHINGTON SAID MERELY THAT A "MEDIUM FORCE" OF SUPERFORTS FROM CHINA ATTACKED INDUSTRIAL TARGETS ON KYUSHU, SOUTHERNMOST OF THE MAIN ISLANDS OF JAPAN, LESS THAN 24 HOURS AFTER RAIDING HANKOW.
BRIG.GEN. HAYWOOD HANSELL, JR., REPORTED SIMULTANELUSLY THAT HIS SAIPAN-BASED B29S HEAVILY DAMAGED THE MITSUBISHI COMPANY'S BIG KOKUKI AIRCRAFT FACTORY IN YESTERDAY'S ATTACK ON NAGOYA ON HONSHU ISLAND.
MANY DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED ON THE FACTORY, THE BOMBERS' PRIMARY TARGET, HANSEL SAID, AND "DAMAGE TO THE PLANT IS CLEARLY EXTENSIVE." PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWED THE PRECISION BOMB PATTERN SWEPT FROM EDGE OF NAGOYA BAY HARBOR DIRECTLY ACROSS THE PLANT. AT LEAST 22 DIRECT HITS WERE MADE IN THE TARGET AREA BY ONE ELEMENT ALONE.
KOKUKI FACTORY IS ABOUT SEVEN MILES FROM MITSUBISHI'S HATSUDOKI AIRCRAFT PLANT WHICH WAS HEAVILY HIT DEC. 13.
YESTERDAY'S BOMBARDMENT, CARRIED OUT BY PRECISION INSTRUMENTS THROUGH A HEAVY OVERCAST, ALSO SET FIRE TO A NAGOYA SHIPYARD AND PROBABLY KNOCKED OUT THE CITY'S POWER PLANT.
THE WAR DEPARTMENT SAID ALL SUPERFORTS--TOTALLING PERHAPS 200--RETURNED FROM THE DOUBLE STRIKE AT NAGOYA AND HANKOW.
THE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE CLAIMED 13 SUPERFORTS WERE DEFINITELY SHOT DOWN OVER NAGOYA, FOUR PROBABLY AND 20 DAMAGED. IT MADE NO IMMEDIATE CLAIM OF DAMAGE IN TODAY'S OMURA RAID BUT INDICATED SUCH A STATEMENT WAS COMING AFTER INVESTIGATION OF "WAR RESULTS ACHIEVED" BY INTERCEPTORS.
JAPAN'S GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED DOMEI NEWS AGENCY SAID SEVERAL OTHER B29S WERE OVER NORTHWESTERN KYUSHU AND SOUTHERN HONSHU TODAY, APPARENTLY ON RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS.
THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID "TWO OR THREE"SUPERFORTS "RAIDED" YAMAGUCHI PREFECTURE ON THE SOUTHERN TIP OF HONSHU AND THE SOOBAN AREA BETWEEN OMURA AND HONSHU ISLAND. IT SAID THEY "DID NOT DROP ANY BOMBS" AND "FLED TOWARD THE SEA" AFTER "BOLD INTERCEPTION BY OUR AIR DEFENSE UNITS".
ALL RAIDERS, TOKYO SAID, CAME FROM CHENGTU AIRBASE IN WESTERN CHINA.
WW439APW NM

UNDATED TOKYO B29S (120) DEC 20 1944
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
BETWEEN 30 AND 40 CHINA-BASED SUPERFORTS BOMBED THE CITY OF OMURA TODAY IN A CONTINUING ATTACK ON JAPAN'S AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY, A NIPPONESE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE REPORTED.
IT WAS THE FIFTH REPORTED ATTACK ON THE CITY'S INDUSTRIAL TAGETS, WHICH INCLUDE AN AIRCRAFT FACTORY. THE FIRST ATTACK ON THE CITY ON WESTERN KYUSHU WAS MADE JULY 17, THE LAST PREVIOUS NOV. 11.
THE COMMUNIQUE, AS RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, MADE NO ASSERTION THAT ANY B29S WERE SHOT DOWN BUT INDICATED SUCH A CLAIM WOULD BE MADE LATER.
IT DID CLAIM THAT 17 SUPERFORTS WERE SHOT DOWN IN YESTERDAY'S RAID ON NAGOYA AIRCRAFT PLANTS AND AT LEAST 20 OTHERS WERE DAMAGED. ORIGINALLY TOKYO DID NOT LIST ANY B29S AS DESTROYED IN THIS ATTACK.
(EDITORS--THE ABOVE MAY BE BRACKETED INTO WASHINGTON'S SUPERFORT STORY).
WW227APW

SUB INTRO UNDATED JAPANESE RAIDS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
TOKYO RADIO ACKNOWLEDGED LAST NIGHT A B-29 RAID REPORTED EARLIER BY THE 20TH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AT WASHINGTON ON SHANGHAI, CHINA, SAYING IT WAS MADE TUESDAY AT MIDDAY (CHINESE TIME) BY MORE THAN 10 SUPERFORTRESSES OVER A FOUR HOUR PERIOD.
THE ENEMY BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, CONTAINED NO REPORT ON THE DAMAGE. HEADQUARTERS OF THE 20TH SAID THE RAID, WHICH ALSO TOOK IN NANKING, HIT DOCKS AND ENGINEERING WORKS.
TOKYO RADIO SAID THE SHANGHAI STRIKE BEGAN AT 10:20 A.M. TUESDAY AND WAS DELIVERED FROM HIGH ALTITUDE
NAGOYA, JAPANESE AIRCRAFT MANUFACTURING CITY HARD HIT BY B-29 SUPERFORTRESSES YESTERDAY AND LAST WEDNESDAY, HAS BEEN PLACED UNDER A RIGID NIGHTLY AIR RAID ALERT, THE NIPPONESE RADIO SAID.
A "STATE OF PRECAUTION" WILL EXIST FROM SUNSET TO MIDNIGHT AND A "STATE OF AIR RAID" FROM MIDNIGHT TO DAWN, SAID THE DOMESTIC BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FCC.
THE BROADCAST ADDED THAT MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN JAPAN'S CENTRAL AREAS HAD INSTRUCTED THE NIPPONESE PUBLIC ON "HOW TO AVOID OR MINIMIZE LOSSES DUE TO INCENDIARY BOMBS, AND IN THE USE OF WATER FOR FIRE FIGHTING."
TOKYO OFFICIALS, SAID THE BROADCAST, HAVE DECIDED TO EVACUATE SEVERAL MORE SUBURBS OF THE JAPANESE CAPITAL.

30. 24 — 21407

15 NAZI DIVISIONS SLASHING INTO BELGIUM THROUGH BREACH IN FIRST ARMY'S LINES; OFFENSIVE GAINING IN FURY, ALLIES SAY

DEC 211944

Germans Hurl Fresh Troops Into Advance

By NEDVILLE NORDNESS

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris., Dec. 20.—(AP)—The gigantic German counteroffensive is "the big thing" and is increasing steadily in fury, Supreme Headquarters said late tonight in lifting the blackout of news relating to the savage fighting on the U. S. First army front.

Fourteen to fifteen German divisions—of which five or six are Panzer (armored) divisions—are swarming into the breach of the First army's lines in Belgium and Luxembourg, it was disclosed.

Today fresh infantry waves were fighting behind the armored units which first smashed through the American positions last Sunday and headquarters said the German advances had made considerable progress with more to be expected.

Plans are being made to stem the onslaught, it was stated, but the feeling at this headquarters was that the situation would not be restored this week—or even next week.

Appallingly bad weather today kept Allied air forces on the ground, thus eliminating support which the American troops sorely needed. No heavy bombers could leave their British bases and not a single fighter-bomber got into the air during the day to help the hard-pressed doughboys.

Veteran Nazi Units

Some of the Panzer units spearheading the German drive are first class fighters, veterans of units which faced the Allies at Caen, it was disclosed. They have been reorganized and refitted for this do-or-die German counteroffensive and now are fresh and physically fit.

The Germans infantry divisions are mostly made up of volks grenadiers, Hitler's home guard.

(If at full strength, as seems likely for this carefully prepared German thrust, armored divisions each would number about 10,000 men and infantry divisions up to 15,000, making a total force of up to 200,000 in the first phases of the German assault. The extent of the new enemy forces which dispatches today said were swinging into action was not yet known.)

The fighting was intense and casualties heavy for both sides as the battle swirled through its fourth day on a front of approximately 60 miles.

The initial impetus of the German surge, which penetrated to a distance of 20 miles or more into Belgium in its first day and a half appeared to have been checked in the Stavelot sector by Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' grimy doughboys, but farther to the south the situation remains fluid and the enemy continued to pound deeper into American positions.

Recapture Some Towns

Stavelot, four miles southwest of Malmedy and in the sector where the Germans threw the heaviest weight of their assault, was held tonight by American troops who drove the Nazis from the town street by street. Monschau, on the German side of the border 16 miles southeast of Aachen, also was recaptured by the Americans. Other local successes were reported, although no effort was made to disguise the continuing seriousness of the situation or to indicate that the full force of the German drive had slackened.

The gravity of the German offensive was fully realized at headquarters. But there also was reason to believe that Field Marshal Von Runstedt, in risking all his resources in this surprise assault, might also be laying himself open for a defeat so decisive as to shorten the war if this bold strategy failed.

The Germans are expending vast reserves in their attack and in the end the Allies' immense store of equipment and manpower may turn the Nazi high command's big fling into its last.

Monschau, German town at the extreme northern end of the enemy's assault, was recaptured by counter-attacking Yank troops, who surrounded and presumably seized Nazi forces who had fought into the town. Monschau, 16 miles southeast of Aachen, was the jump-off point for a short-lived American attack last week.

Front dispatches, released in detail through censorship for the first time, disclosed that the main German drive is being made in the region of Stavelot, a key Belgian town 20 miles from the German frontier. Previously it had been known only that the drive had reached this area, and it had not been clear whether this was the scene of the principal push.

Fighting raged today in and around Stavelot, where Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' Doughboys, backed by anti-tank guns, beat back four savage German attacks todey.

Stavelot, four miles southwest of Malmedy and on a main invasion route into the heart of Belgium, was reached by the Nazis in the first 36 hours of their bold surprise thrust, but battering rams of armor and infantry had not succeeded in dislodging its grim Yank defenders.

Three times today the Germans hurled everything at the battered town, striking under cover of clinging fog and mist, but each time they were flung back. Tonight the embattled doughboys were reported driving the Nazis from the town street by street in bitter fighting.

American tanks and tank destroyers were smashing at the side of the enemy salient just south of Stavelot and were reported to have made some progress.

Associated Press field correspondents said the enemy offensive was being likened to the final do-or-die punch thrown by the Germans in 1918, which had some initial success but later collapsed. An American officer declared confidently that if the present drive is crushed "the war can be won right here."

Censorship Relaxed

Relaxing its rigid censorship on news of the fighting, Allied headquarters disclosed that the enemy's great Christmas offensive smashed into Belgium and Luxembourg at four points and that by Monday noon the "initial impetus" had carried the Nazi columns from five to 20 miles inside the two countries.

While there still was no delineation of the jagged and fluid fighting front tonight, it was announced that Stavelot remained in American hands, as well as St. Vith and Echternach, two other focal points of the enemy offensive. Several pockets of Americans were reported to have been surrounded near St. Vith, four miles inside Belgium and 10 miles south of Malmedy.

Fast units of "Wildcat" German armor were reported striking boldly through the First army's lines and by-passing numerous towns still held by American forces. These columns—some using captured U. S. Sherman tanks—obviously were trying desperately to seal off big American dumps and thus replenish their own dwindling supplies.

Among 724 German prisoners taken in the first 24 hours of the attack were several hundred parachute troops who were dropped behind the American lines in an effort to disrupt communications, headquarters said. There was an unconfirmed report that some Nazi dead and prisoners were wearing civilian clothes.

Antwerp Goal?

The German prisoners were extremely confident that the offensive would win the war in short order and predicted that Antwerp would be taken within a few days.

(The German radio declared that 10,000 American prisoners had been seized, 200 tanks destroyed or captured and 124 Allied planes shot down since the attack began.)

Low clouds and thick fog continued to deprive the Americans of air support as the great battle approached its climax. German robot bombs, however, fell in unending showers on American positions and rear areas.

Kenneth Dixon of the Associated Press said Hodges' doughboys, hastily dug-in against the assault, were giving everything they've got" and were managing to hold or turn aside some of the Germans' deepest thrusts, but added that "the situation certainly has not improved in the past 24 hours—to say the least."

The main German onslaught was disclosed today to have started across the Belgian border in the vicinity of the village of Honsfeld, two miles inside Belgium and 27 miles southeast of Aachen. Nazi armor then split into two fast-moving columns, with one veering northeast of Malmedy into the vicinity of Butgenbach and the second

Heavy Battles Rage At St. Vith And Malmedy In Belgium

DEC 21 1944

LONG

Paris, Dec. 20 (AP)—United States 1st Army troops have blunted one powerful German drive that lunged twenty miles into Belgium to Stavelot, and recaptured Monschau, a German town seventeen miles to the northeast.

Other American units clung to points three miles from St. Vith, another key Belgian road hub eleven miles southeast of Stavelot, and farther south doughboy forces were being mustered to halt still another penetration that struck across the north tip of Luxembourg, a front-line dispatch said.

The initial impetus of the armor-led Nazi counteroffensive had been checked, although the front was still unstabilized tonight.

Nazis Within 22 Miles Of Liege

The Nazi smash to the vicinity of Stavelot had carried within 22 miles of Liege and bore one of the sharpest dangers to the 1st Army front.

Monschau is at the upper edge of the Nazis' breakthrough corridor.

Heavy battles apparently still raged around Stavelot, St. Vith and Malmedy, five miles northeast of Stavelot—the three biggest road hubs in Belgium's eastern bulge.

A dispatch from the front said Monschau, sixteen miles southeast of Aachen, was retaken after German units that entered the town were surrounded. Monschau was a focal point of one of four German drives.

Yanks Pocketed At Two Places

Stavelot and St. Vith, where some American troops were pocketed, at last reports were still in United States hands.

While the German assault had lost its first speed, there was no reason to suppose the Nazis had not made still further gains beyond their four initial penetrations of five to twenty miles into Belgium and Luxembourg.

But by now Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges's armor and infantry had been thrown into the breach and the Germans were running into a stiffer battle every hour.

[A CBS front-line broadcast reported "the first straight indication that at some points the tide of battle is beginning to change in our favor." The broadcast said that "at several points the Germans made no progress today, and one of the German spearheads was pushed back several thousand yards by one of our veteran divisions."]

Nazi Infantry Following Up Armor

The Germans were pouring infantry in behind the armored columns that penetrated 1st Army lines.

One field dispatch, though, said the 1st Army's situation had been officially termed "definitely better" already last night. It said the American flanks above and below the four-pronged Nazi offensive had begun to harden. American tanks and tank destroyers struck in from these sides.

Supreme Allied headquarters disclosed that by Monday noon the Germans had driven five to twenty miles into Belgium and Luxembourg.

Nazis Trying To Capture Supplies

Field dispatches said that one of the middle columns of the Germans' four was farthest out front and had even outdone the one that reached Stavelot.

The Nazi mechanized forces were making a supreme effort to cut in behind 1st Army supply dumps and capture material that they sorely need. So far, however, they have captured very little, an Army spokesman said.

This officer asserted that the Germans had drained men and armor from other sectors to make their "very bold move." Therefore, he said, if their present counteroffensive is crushed, "the war can be won right here."

Americans repulsed numerous German attacks on the eastern end of the northern flank, two of them before dawn today east of Malmedy "in the corridor where infantry first met the main force of the enemy onslaught," said AP Correspondent William Boni.

Some German Units Surrounded

Some German units which crossed into Luxembourg in the neighborhood of Echternach have been surrounded.

A deluge of flying bombs accompanied the German blows.

United States troops still hold some key towns and pockets in the area through which the Germans have passed.

The Germans were running into increasingly dense defenses thrown together by the 1st Army.

American anti-aircraft gunners claimed more than 200 German planes shot down in three days.

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Nazis Report 10,000 Prisoners

[The German high command declared today that more than 10,000 prisoners had been taken in its drive, and said spearheads were still advancing. The Berlin communiqué said 200 American tanks had been destroyed or captured and 124 Allied planes shot down.

["A large part of enemy bases left behind the front were cleaned up," the broadcast communiqué added. "Fighting ensued at many points with single groups of enemy reserves which had been hurriedly drawn up and immediately brought into action."

[The communiqué said German long-range weapons were firing on Liege and Antwerp. American pressure in the Aachen and Saar areas has decreased, it said.]

Germans Using Every Weapon

The partial lifting of the Allied news blackout gave the first official disclosure of the depth and danger of the Nazis' smash, made with all the power of their arsenal—rested on troops, tanks, planes, V-weapons, parachutists and amphibious vehicles.

Dispatches from the front, however, declared Hodges had slammed in both infantry and armor in attempts to stem the onslaught.

In fluid, confused battle, some doughboys fought until they were overrun in their foxholes by tanks. German parachute troopers seized one American hospital, but doughboys rewon it, freeing the captives.

Two Nazi Pincers Drives

One strong German column struck across the border from near Honsfeld—27 miles southeast of Aachen—and then split. One part of it veered to the vicinity of Butgenbach, eight miles northeast of Malmedy. The other part jabbed on to Stavelot, five miles southwest of Malmedy.

The second Nazi drive was a pincers thrust on the important road hub of St. Vith, four miles inside Belgium and about twelve miles below Malmedy. One jaw of this pincers reached Maspelt, four miles south of St. Vith.

Nazis Being Checked

The main German drive was being checked east of St. Vith.

Farther south, the Germans drove out of the Ardennes Forest into Luxembourg on both sides of the border town of Echternach. But, up to Monday noon, they had not gained as much ground in this attack, nor had they taken Echternach. The deepest penetration in this sector was to near Consdorf, five miles southwest of Echternach. Bypassed Americans held grimly to their pockets.

The fourth Nazi penetration was in the Monschau Forest area north of Malmedy.

Perhaps 500 Nazi Chutists

The Germans tried to disrupt the 1st Army's rear communications by dropping parachute troops—perhaps 500—in the crossroad areas west of Monschau. At last reports these and other sealed-off Germans were being mopped up, and the Nazis were almost back to the line from which they started the thrust there.

Dispatches today from both British-Canadian and United States 9th Army headquarters said Nazi patrols had suddenly thrust into Allied lines in the Geilenkirchen area—some 35 miles above the northernmost German push — and heavy mortar fire crashed onto Allied positions.

[Whether this heralded a new Nazi assault in this area, where once the British 2d and United States 9th armies had their junction point or was simply intended to prevent the Allies from moving reinforcements south was not apparent.]

Some German movements were sighted across the Roer River from the 9th Army front.

Nazi Moves On 9th's Front

A 9th Army dispatch said Ger-

stabbing directly west toward Stavelot.

Second Nazi drive was a pincer thrust upon the important highway town of St. Vith, four miles inside Belgium and some 12 miles south of Malmedy. Some American troops were cut off by this drive, but these Yanks still were holding out in scattered pockets and were barring St. Vith to the enemy. Enemy armor had carried within three miles of St. Vith, which is 10 miles southwest of Honsfeld, and one claw of the pincers cut in as far as Maspelt, four miles southeast of St. Vith.

Southern Push Gains Less

Farther south the Germans drove out of Ardennes Forest into Luxembourg on either side of the border town of Echternach, but this push appared to have gained less ground than those to the north and the enemy at last report had not taken Echternach itself.

The greatest German penetration in this sector was in the vicinity of Comsdorf, 5 miles southwest of Echternach. This push also bypassed pockets of American troops, who were reported holding out.

Near the center of the Western front Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army captured 40 more pillboxes and fortified houses in the Saarlautern area for a two-day total of 176, and seized a heavily fortified position in the Gersheim area, 6½ miles northeast of Saareguemines.

A strong Nazi infantry and tank counterattack knocked one of Patton's regiments back in Rheinheim Forest, 3½ miles northeast of Sarreguemies.

30. 24— 21409

man prisoners were extremely confident about the offensive beating into United States 1st Army lines. Buoyed by propaganda, some said this was only the beginning, and that Antwerp would fall in a few days.

Despite foul weather, German armor and truck convoys moving into the Belgium and Luxembourg wedges were hammered by fighter bombers and by a powerful force of British and American heavy bombers yesterday.

Co-ordination of the RAF and United States Air Forces in tactical support of the 1st Army was described as "never better." The British had the dual task of preventing some of the German planes from getting into the battle area and of disrupting Nazi transport.

Evidence Of Purpose

Evidence continued to accumulate that Field Marshal von Rundstedt had not launched the German smash merely to gain time or upset plans for an Allied offensive but was really trying to crack the Western front.

The continued unstinted use of German planes in spite of costly losses, the concentrations of armor and motor transport and the appearance in the line of certain crack German forces known to have been in reserve for a "last ditch" defense of the Reich seemed to indicate Rundstedt's purpose.

One dispatch from the front said the main German effort had been fairly well channelized and contained on its flanks but that some units were still advancing into Belgium.

Another dispatch from Belgium said the Nazis appeared to be unable to widen materially the bases of their two penetration triangles, but the points of those triangles were pushing deeper into Belgium.

DEATH TOLL HIGH AS YANKS BATTLE TO HALT GERMANS

Both Americans and Germans Suffering Heavy Losses in Fighting.

INDIAN STYLE WAR

Pea Soup Fog Aiding Germans, Keeping Allied Airforce on Ground.

By WES GALLAGHER

IN THE STAVELOT SECTOR, Belgium, Dec. 20 — (AP) American troops engaged in trying to stem the German break-through are suffering a big battle price in men and material, but are making the enemy also pay a fearful cost in blood and munitions for his great western front counter-offensive.

Along this sector of the front the German advance has been stemmed and broken and was hurled back this morning when the Germans launched a series of violent attacks at points on a 20-mile front. These blows failed in piles of broken bodies and twisted metal.

One veteran American unit knocked out eight Panther and Tiger tanks in two hours this morning. Farther south, however, the German Panzer advance was showing the professional punch the Nazis exhibited in 1940.

As various units fought their way back to this sector through the German lines, it was beginning to be possible to piece together a picture of the early fighting.

One infantry unit returned to American lines in bits and pieces, but its losses were amazingly small considering that the group claimed to have killed 1,200 Germans. The unit had lost much of its equipment, except for rifles and bazookas.

Another badly-mauled American formation, which bore the full fury of the Nazi assault, claimed to have stopped 60 German tanks in three days. But it, too, had lost a great deal of its artillery and motorized equipment.

Try All Tricks

The Nazi troops are using every trick ever tried during this war. There have been several authenticated cases in the last 48 hours where the Germans used the old trick of waving a white flag like they were going to surrender and then advancing near the American lines to a favorable position, dropping down and opening fire.

Several miles to the south the Germans operated four American Sherman tanks, calling GI's to come up close for support and then opening fire on them with machine-guns.

The weather has been almost as much an enemy to the Allies as the Germans. It is apparent that Field Marshal von Rundstedt picked the time for his attack to coincide with a run of bad weather. Today the weather along the entire front is appalling. A pea soup fog which was almost turned to sleet by low temperatures, clung close to the ground. Automobiles had to drive with their headlights turned on at noon and the roads were slippery from the fog and slimy mud.

It is impossible for the Allied air arm to operate. But two clear days might change the complexion of the battle.

In this weird hell of fog and mud and mountains one of the oddest battles is being fought several miles behind the lines by an infantry force led by Lt. Col. Elisha Peckam of Narragansett, R. I.

"This is a regular Indian war," he said. "My men have a look behind every tree and creep through the woods like Indians to hunt out German paratroopers."

Peckham's forces surrounded 200 last night and attacked this morning, but in the fog the paratroopers escaped despite considerable losses.

"They were getting hungry and running out of ammunition," Peckham said. "We will get them all. We just have to keep chasing them. We rescued 23 of our GI's from a laundry the paratroopers had captured."

Peckham's executive officer, Maj. Samuel Carter of North Attleboro, Mass., said a good number of the German paratroopers had overshot their landings and were found hanging in trees, some with their legs broken.

Peckham said this particular group of paratroopers was from a "new crop." "They all are around 21, in good health and full of fight," he said.

Anti-Aircraft Units' Story

A typical experience of some of the units overrun by the Germans was that of an anti-aircraft outfit which landed in France on D-day and has been fighting ever since.

After being overrun and having to flee in trucks without their equipment, the flak crews organized salvage parties and crept back under machine-gun and artillery fire to salvage some of their guns.

"We got out several half-tracks, but the machine-gun fire drove us away. We were operating ahead of what is now the front line," declared Lieut. John Conroy, New York city.

The unit's chaplain, Lieut. Fred Steen, standing in ankle deep mud with GI's crowded all around him, told how the outfit was originally overrun.

Lost Christmas Packages

"The first we knew we heard shooting and saw German tanks coming down the main street of the town where we were quartered. The colonel crowded us into trucks and we took off. Some of the trucks went up one street while tanks came down another.

"I had a lot of Christmas packages from my congregation and I didn't open them and now the Germans have them. The next time I get a package it's going to be opened on the spot."

Corporal Warren Holden, of Florence, Ore., a bearded GI from the same outfit, was saved because a lieutenant insisted he save the lieutenant's bedding roll.

Hide In Cellar

"I was just putting on my shoes when I heard a burp gun and I finished dressing in a hurry. I was stopped by the lieutenant who insisted I go back and get his bedroll, so I turned around and hurried to his house. I was lucky I did because later I found out that Tiger tanks were coming down the street I was going to take."

Holden had no sooner got in the house and started hunting for the bedroll when another tank came down the street and the rest of the GI's jumped out of the truck and dived into the cellar of the house.

Americans Halt Four Nazi Tries To Get Stavelot

Drive Foe From Key Belgian Town Street by Street in Bitter Three-Day Battle

By Hal Boyle

DEC 21 1944

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS HOLDING STAVELOT, Belgium, Dec. 20 (AP).—American Doughboys, backed by anti-tank guns, repulsed four strong German attacks today as the Nazis tried with armor and infantry to punch into this key townj, one of the chief funnels into Belgium for their offensive hordes.

Their repeated thrusts climaxed a three-day battle, during which Americans thrown into the line to stem the breach torn by German armor drove the Nazis from the village street by street in a bitter struggle.

Surprised by the speed and power of the American counter-blow, the Germans have been trying ever since with every bullet and shell they can throw to gain control of Stavelot, twenty-five miles southwest of Aachen.

Four miles they struck through clinging white mists that filled the whole valley, and four times they were hurled back.

Two-Day Battle on Streets

The following dispatch was filed by Mr. Boyle Tuesday:

A BELGIAN TOWN RETAKEN FROM THE GERMANS, Dec. 19 (Delayed) (AP).—A colonel who fought the Germans all the way from Normandy, slashed one tentacle from Adolf Hitler's advancing forces today after a two-day battle fought in the streets of this small Belgian town.

"They may try to hit us again, but we have knocked them back four times in a row now and I think they may want to take a little time out," said Colonel W. M. Johnson, of Missoula, Mont., whose idea of relaxing after forty-eight hours without sleep was to visit a front line command post.

Outside, a small Belgian tank destroyer banged away at an enemy supply column, and over the next ridge Johnson's doughboys slowly were cleaning the Nazis from the last houses on the fringe of the town.

Thirty-six hours ago the Germans held the whole village, which squats across a roadway they would like to continue using. In flushing the Germans out the colonel's men killed scores of enemy troops and knocked out eleven tanks during repeated armored attacks by the Germans.

"We got here after a forty-eight-hour march," he said.

Hits Enemy at Once

He arrived at the scene of ruin and terror faced with the difficult military problem of fighting in unfamiliar country against an enemy of undetermined strength. The last few miles to the town were lined with thousands of flaming gasoline cans which American supply troops had fired rather than permit the German tanks to capture.

The colonel closed at once with the enemy. By noon his men were taking the first head-on series of German counter-attacks.

"Just a few minutes ago they tried for the fourth time," the colonel related. "You know they're stubborn. But we started dropping artillery shells among their tanks and that broke it up quickly. Each time they attacked with about ten tanks—just little counter-attacks."

The colonel said the Germans used "very little artillery, but plenty of mortar and direct tank fire besides small-arms weapons."

"One thing that pleased us," he said, "was the reaction of the Belgian civilians as we rolled into town. You could tell most of them were glad to see us.

"Last night the Germans tried one of their oldest ruses—to get across the line in captured American vehicles. They attempted to ride over in three American half-tracks and some jeeps and again this morning in three jeeps. We got them all. They were wearing German Army uniforms, although riding in our vehicles.

"During the battle we also retook an abandoned American evacuation hospital and found dress uniforms and Christmas presents. The Germans had been too busy to loot the hospital."

The battalion which spearheaded the American thrust back into the town was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Robert E. Frankland, of Jackson, Tenn., whose outfit also was the first to pierce the Siegfried line in one sector.

This battle, only one action along a fluid battlefield many miles long, has not in itself played a major role in slowing the Nazi offensive toward the Meuse River, but it certainly put a brake on the German advance in its own limited sector.

NEWS BLACKOUT WILL BE LIFTED BY TOMORROW

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, Paris, Dec. 20.—(AP) As protests poured in from almost all the Allied world over the suppression of news of German gains on the Western front, Supreme Headquarters tonight pulled the curtain aside partly and promised a bigger view of the situation tomorrow.

The positions of the German and Allied armies will in the future be made public once daily, it was announced—after a sufficient time lag to make sure the enemy will reap no benefit from the information.

This time lag is expected to be between 24 and 48 hours. Tomorrow's promised disclosures, therefore, will be of positions as they stood yesterday or today.

The Supreme Headquarters answer to critics of the news blackout has been that it was imposed on the basis of opinions of generals directing the fight and that the situation was so fluid that information of the whereabouts of German troops, even if it were days late, might help the enemy.

George H. Lyon, OWI representative at Supreme Headquarters, said tonight that he had been trying for 48 hours to get the army to let the people know what was happening on the battlefield, but without much success.

"In my opinion, the army is making a bigger mistake than it did in the Patton case (the incident of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's slapping a soldier in Sicily)," Lyon said.

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"It is following a head-in-the-sand policy, It could tell a great deal more without giving any information to the Germans."

Lyon said he was leaving for Washington Friday and would continue his campaign against news suppression there. He joined war correspondents at last night's press conference in protesting against the blackout.

"Everybody in the World knows this story and is going to print it," he said. "It has leaked over 40 acres. x x x . You say we can't tell the Germans this because they may not know it. The Germans' record in this war is that they have shown themselves to be pretty good soldiers and I think they know what went on Sunday afternoon.

"It seems to me not only foolish, but that it will make us all seem stupid if we don't tell the story. If you continue, then you make them imagine things are worse than they are x x x . I think everyone else in the wold except SHAEF correspondents are permitted to tell the story."

Flyer Says Nazi Trucks Jam Roads Behind Drive

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 20 (AP)—The roads immediately behind the German attacking front are lined bumper to bumper with enemy transport of every description, defended by unbelievable quantities of anti-aircraft

guns massed especially for this offensive, a United States 9th Air Force flyer said tonight.

The flyer, Capt. Kenneth Dahlberg, of St. Louis, shot down four Messerschmitt 109's yesterday in a furious dogfight just west of Prum.

The German pilots, in contrast with their cautious behaviour of recent months, are aggressive and continue to bore in, he said.

Patch's Troops Repulse Westwall Counter-Attack

Germans Step Up Fire All Along Sector Held by 7th Army

WITH U. S. 7TH ARMY IN GERMANY, Dec. 20 (AP).—Lieutenant General Alexander M. Patch's doughboys beat off a small, sharp German counter-attack among the pillboxes of the Westwall today, where strong resistance stalled American progress into the Reich.

The assault, launched by 150 Nazi infantrymen supported by seven tanks, was aimed at a hill northwest of Wissembourg. The enemy meanwhile stepped up its fire all along this sector of the front, where 7th Army troops already have destroyed at least twenty Westwall pillboxes.

Bitter house-to-house resistance and heavy shellfire forced the Yanks to withdraw from Bundenthal, which is two miles inside the German border northwest of Wissembourg. Farther east along the Rhine, enemy troops also infiltrated back into Berg, after American troops had passed through.

German patrols are continually filtering across the Rhine at night north of Strasbourg in an effort to locate our artillery sites and troop dispositions.

On the left flank, in the Bitche area, the enemy was cleared from two Maginot forts, Simserhof and Schiesseck, but both were under heavy German fire from Westwall positions farther north. In one sector the Westwall American infantry penetrated the network of dragon's teeth fortifications and was cut off for ten hours, not by encirclement, but by furious enemy fire.

German troops are making an equally stubborn stand in the Colmar-Mulhouse salient to the south, where Henrich Himmler is reported master-minding a series of punches against Allied lines. The Germans recaptured Sigolsheim, northwest of Colmar.

U.S. RESERVES USED, REPORT

Germans Claim Capture Of 10,000 Americans

London, Dec 20 (AP)—The German radio claimed tonight that "several" Allied divisions had been rushed from the Aachen and Saar fronts to check Marshal Karl Gerd von Runstedt's counteroffensive and boasted that "according to incomplete data, three to four American divisions either have been destroyed or badly mauled."

The German daily war communiqué claimed that 10,000 prisoners had been taken in the Nazi counteroffensive.

American tactical reserves thrown in on the right wing of Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st Army have been engaged and beaten "in very heavy battles" during the last two days, Berlin claimed.

Aachen, Saar Drives Halted

While giving the names of no towns, the Germans said their Ardennes drive was "ahead of schedule and going strong" in its fourth day. They claimed that German losses were "less than anticipated." The broadcasts said that the drain of reinforcements from the Aachen and Saar sectors had forced the Americans to halt attacks on those fronts.

The German communiqué said that in addition to 10,000 prisoners taken, a total of 200 tanks had been knocked out and 124 Allied warplanes destroyed in combat by the German Air Force.

The communiqué withheld the names of any places overrun by the Nazis but DNB reported dislodging of American troops from the town of Kesternich on the Monschau-Vossenack road.

"Spearhead Advancing"

The high command said American strong points overrun by the Germans "were cleaned up and the attacking spearheads advanced."

The Germans said Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges was rushing reserves into the United States 1st Army front and they were being "immediately brought into action."

The Berlin radio claimed the German Air Force was "very active" despite unfavorable weather, adding that "whenever there was the slightest chance German fighters and bombers went up to support their ground forces."

U.S. Resistance Broken

DNB declared: "German tank and infantry divisions still were advancing swiftly along the whole offensive sector. American troops offered some resistance, which was broken and smashed. The number of prisoners is mounting steadily. The Germans are speedily exploiting their gains."

Berlin emphasized that the German high command enjoyed the advantage of having perfect knowledge of the areas of operation, explaining "they can use all the possibilities of the quickly changing situation in their favor."

To Keep Initiative, Boast

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, German military commentator, discussing the offensive, declared:

"The German command for the last weeks and months only put into the field the number of soldiers necessary to prevent a major Allied breakthrough. We knew very well that the greatest concentration of troops and machines would be needed on the decisive sector.

"In any case, the battle which was started by the German attack has not by far reached its climax yet. New and bitter battles will be fought and the first offensive phase will be quickly followed by other momentous operations. German leadership and German troops are firmly resolved not to yield the newly gained initiative to the enemy again.

"The uncertainty of the Allied news services is significant, because today they are violently guessing as to our strategic plan, our operative aims, the strength and length of the German offensive front."

Drive Halts Allied Attacks: Berlin

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Berlin radio declared today that the German counteroffensive in Belgium and Luxembourg already had paid dividends by compelling the Allies to halt attacks on other sectors, but said military security precluded full details on the Nazi drive.

The broadcast quoted Adolf Hitler's newspaper, the *Volkischer Beobachter*, as saying:

"It is certain we are only at the beginning of heavier fighting. The German people, educated by the advances and retreats of this war, view the situation coldbloodedly, realistically and callously. But there is joy in everyone's eye. We are advancing again."

NEW YORKER LIVES THROUGH MASSACRE

With the American First Army, Dec. 19 (Delayed) (A. P.).—The story of German brutality in slaughtering nearly 150 American prisoners in cold blood Sunday afternoon near Malmedy, Belgium, has fired First Army troops with a new measure of hate as they face the Nazi counter-offensive.

Since it first came out, the story has been verified by four more doughboys who somehow survived and separately straggled back to their own lines. These men were:

Pfc. Peter Piscatelli of New York city, Pfc. L. M. Burney, Truman, Ark.; Private Samuel Dodyns, Sandusky, Ohio, and Private Roy B. Anderson, Austin, Ind.

"We were just standing there all bunched up," Private Piscatelli said. "It started when a German tank man fired a pistol into the crowd. He fired again and then all the Germans—the whole gang of them—opened up. They fired their machine guns and mowed our men down. I dropped flat on the ground with my back to them so they wouldn't see me blink. They kept up the firing for about a half hour."

Capt. Marvin R. Denzel of 36 Garden street, West Englewood, N. J., who was one of the first to hear the story from survivors, said: "We'd heard about such things, but kept thinking, 'It can't happen here.' Now we know better."

The official account given out by First Army Headquarters tonight said that the cries and moans of the wounded only brought more shots from the Germans. It said that the first man who made a break for safety was followed by from twenty to twenty-five others, but only fifteen managed to escape.

He Went Out After Tomatoes, But He Got Some Nazis

By Harold V. Boyle

With the American 2d Infantry Division in Germany, Dec. 9 [AP—*Delayed*]—It all started in a tomato patch.

The brawny artillery corporal only wanted to pick a few fresh tomatoes—but one thing led to another and before he was through he had knocked out a Nazi pillbox, machine guns, and a heavy flak gun.

And Joseph Martino did it all with captured German weapons.

The corporal, a 25-year old, 200-pounder, who used to play high-school football and drive a truck back in New Haven, Conn., was no stranger to heroism. He wears the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

But He Wanted Tomatoes

But this day Martino, chief of an artillery observation party, wanted tomatoes, not medals.

He lay with a group of infantry soldiers held up by Germans defending the pillbox strong point. Near by, a lone civilian calmly picked tomatoes, oblivious of personal danger.

Martino could stand it no longer: "If a civilian can pick those tomatoes, I can, too," he said.

And he did. He wormed forward, picked what he wanted and got back safely. Waiting for him with a grin was the battalion commander, Lieut. Col. John M. Hightower, of Las Cruces, N.M.

As Martino started to crawl back to pick some more, Hightower called jokingly. "Why can't you get that flak gun instead?"

"I can do that, too," Martino called back as he disappeared into some bushes. He proved his boast.

He Got Some Help

One doughboy and another artillery man gamely volunteered to help him.

They had to cross a main highway and a high stone wall before they could get at the enemy emplacement. This wall had blocked the artillery, infantry and armed reconnaissance cars. Concentrated fire from the German guns made the highway impassable.

Martino took a chance. He rolled a length of abandoned tile pipe across highway. A rattling burst of enemy bullets and flak shattered it instantly. One of Martino's helpers then decided to drop out of the party.

Martino and his remaining comrade dashed quickly across the road and plunged into the ditch before the enemy could cut loose again.

Mine Exploded

Martino landed in a mine field and one mine exploded.

That experience convinced the other soldier it was useless to try to go on. He stayed in the ditch. Not Martino.

He sighted his first Nazi soldier near the gun emplacement. He was 50 yards away. Martino had only a German pistol, and that was a risky range. So when he found a dead German in a ditch, he took his rifle.

"I was lucky—it was loaded," said the corporal. "I fired, and then there was another good Nazi—a dead one."

Then Two More

Protected by an embankment, Martino quickly covered the 50 yards to the body of the man he had shot and stripped him of two German grenades. He pulled out the pins and dropped the grenades on the enemy gun crews, killing two more men.

The Nazis had enough of this wild one-man army. Five came out shouting *Kamerad!* Moving up now, the Americans took twenty more prisoners and mopped up the area.

'Nazis Slaying Belgians'

New York, Dec. 20 — Substantiated reports of the murder of civilians by Germans overrunning Belgian villages in the current counteroffensive have been received, Richard C. Hottelet, CBS correspondent, said today in a broadcast from the 1st Army front. "There is no pretense here of conquest," he said. "It is a last desperate blow to inflict pain and get revenge."

Yule And Bullets

With the United States 7th Army in Germany, Dec. 19 [AP—*Delayed*]—A large sign in a battalion command post of the 45th Division bears this reminder of the approaching Yule season:

"Six more shooting days until Christmas."

Virginia General Leads Drive

In Germany, Dec. 20 (AP)—Brig. Gen. Albert Cowper Smith, of Warrenton, Va., is commanding the United States 14th Armored Division, one of the American outfits hacking into the Siegried Line on the 7th Army front, it was disclosed today.

French Leftists May Merge

Socialists and Communists Name Group to Study a Union

PARIS, Dec. 19 (Delayed) (AP).—A possible merger of France's two largest Left Wing parties was forecast today when a bi-partisan Socialist - Communist committee appointed a commission to study ways and means to effect a union.

The committee adopted resolutions urging joint action on a program embracing a speedy purge of Vichyites from public posts, nationalization of key industries and energetic conduct of the war.

ATTEMPT ON FRANCO CITED

French Paper Says 2 Assassins in Madrid Missed

PARIS, Dec. 20 (AP)—The newspaper Aurore reported in a dispatch from the Spanish frontier today that Generalissimo Francisco Franco and Minister of Justice Eduardo Aunos had narrowly escaped an assassination attempt in Madrid on Sunday.

The newspaper said that two persons who had just left Spain reported that shots had been fired at General Franco's car and the chauffeur had been wounded. The account said that the Generalissimo and the Minister had escaped harm and the assailants had fled.

RUSSIANS TAKE 13 MORE TOWNS

Reds Gain Up To 5 Miles In Drive Toward Losonc

London, *Thursday*, Dec. 21 (AP)—The Red Army in advances up to

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5 miles in southern Czechoslovakia yesterday captured thirteen towns and cracked and outflanked the Germans' strong Slana River line in a drive aimed toward the citadel of Losonc.

The Moscow comuniqué last night and a supplemental elaboration this morning said nothing of the encircling thrust against Kassa, where latest unofficial reports from Moscow had Soviet forces preparing for attacks on the Torysa (Tarca) River fortifications 2 miles outside that communications center.

Rail Junction Town Menaced

Moscow announced, however, that about a battalion (500) Germans were killed in the day's fighting on the front 45 to 60 miles southwest of Kassa and that the Russians were closely threatening the railway junction town of Rimaszombat from the south and east.

Chief of the day's captures was the town of Tornala, 13 miles east of Rimaszombat and a strong point of enemy defenses on the east bank of the Slana River. While the Russians had not yet crossed the Slana, which flows from north to south, they outflanked it on the west by crossing the eastward-flowing Rimava River.

Captured towns included Batka, 6 miles east of Rimaszombat, and Janovcs, only 3 miles southeast. Rimaszombat lies but 17 miles east of Losonc. Russian forces Tuesday reached up from the south about the same distance from Losonc and were rapidly expanding their holdings in Czechoslovakia just north of the Hungarian border.

41,244 Prisoners In 41 Days

Wednesday night's brief communiqué, announcing the drive toward Losonc from the east, said 1,010 German and Hungarian troops were captured Tuesday in that area and that over the whole front Tuesday twelve German tanks were destroyed. In 41 days, the Russian 2d Ukraine Army on that front has taken 41,244 prisoners.

While the communiqué was silent regarding other fronts, Moscow dispatches said Soviet shells were bursting among the fortifications of Kassa. The Paris radio reported that the Russians had taken Kassa, but this was not confirmed anywhere and seemed premature in view of the extensive defenses the Germans have erected around that anchor of their line.

German Units Fight Fiercely

Other Red forces advancing up the Hernad Valley sought to isolate the German garrison at Kassa from the southwest.

German units continued to fight fiercely to maintain their grip on eastern Slovakian communications which run through Kassa, but growing defection among Hungarian troops weakened the entire sector.

Advanced Red troops were reported within easy artillery range of Kassa, which controls railroads running west through Slovakia and north to German supply bases in Poland. The city, situated at the foot of the low Tatra Mountains, has a mixed population of Slovaks and Hungarians, which before the war numbered approximately 84,000.

Steady progress was maintained by co-ordinated infantry thrusts of formations from the commands of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky and Gen. Ivan Petrov, arrayed east, southeast, south and southwest of the city.

The fall of Kassa might oust the Germans from eastern Slovakia and make it impossible for them to form another line before they reach the approaches to Bratislava, the threshold to Vienna.

Malinovsky menaces the Nazi right flank for more than 70 miles along the southern border of Czechoslovakia.

Little fresh news of other sectors of the Hungarian theater reached here. Budapest remained under close siege, and there were hints that the Russians were preparing to cut the German escape route northwest from the Hungarian capital. Unofficial reports said the single electric railway connecting Budapest with Vienna was under continuous shellfire, but there was no verification from Moscow.

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REDS CLOSE IN ON NAZI ANCHOR

Four Columns Converging on Czecho-Slovak Bastion.

Moscow, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Four Red Army columns were converging in heavy attacks today on the city of Kassa, anchor of the entire German defense system in the mountains of eastern Czecho-Slovakia.

[BBC, in a broadcast heard by NBC, reported Moscow dispatches as saying that Russian forces have broken through almost to the outskirts of Kassa and Soviet guns are shelling the fortifications.]

Advanced forces already were reported within easy artillery range of the old highland provincial center, whose mixed Slovak-Hungarian population before the war totaled about 84,000.

A communique last night announced fall of the village of Senya, only nine miles to the south. Other Soviet columns were boring in from the southwest, southeast and east. Field dispatches reported steady progress.

On the southwest the main German highway-rail escape route was cut. Other routes leading through the mountains of middle Slovakia are reported continually harassed by patriot bands.

8-mile Advances.

The drive for the coveted town was a co-ordinated effort of two powerful Russian forces—Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's second Ukrainian and Gen. Ivan Petrov's Fourth Ukrainian Army.

The converging columns gained as much as eight miles yesterday, battering their way through strong German fortifications set up in the forested mountains. The drive on Kassa was part of general advances on a front of more than eighty miles above the southern borders of Slovakia and in northern Hungary. The border was crossed at many new points.

Twenty-four towns on the approaches to Kassa fell yesterday.

The highway and rail escape routes for the Germans were cut as the Russians swung across the border twenty miles southwest of Kassa, capturing the railway station of Turnava and the adjacent highway town of Turna.

Under the impact of the Russian drive Hungarian troops were reputed steadily deserting, although they are mixed in with German units and many of their officers have been replaced by trusted Nazis.

The communique made no mention of the continuing siege of Budapest.

Jan Masaryk Criticized By Russian Magazine

Moscow, Dec. 20 (AP)—The magazine, *War and the Working Class* criticized Jan Masaryk, Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Government, today for writing about a future Czecho-Polish alliance.

The Soviet magazine was displeased by an article which Masaryk wrote for the weekly publication, *The Nation* in the United States.

"Mr. Masaryk thinks a confederation would protect the Czechs and Poles from aggression," *War and the Working Classes* said. "But small countries alone or joined together are not in a position to resist German robber imperialism. Salvation was only brought to the Czech and Polish people by the Red Army. . . .

"Masaryk said Czechoslovakia could rescue itself by its own efforts," it continued. "By this he means a Czecho-Polish confederation. One cannoa congratulate Masaryk upon such protection against aggression."

Red Star On Isolation GroupInU.S.

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Moscow, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Russian Army newspaper *Red Star* said today German agents were attempting, "through reactionary circles in the United States and other countries," to block the formation of an international peace organization and were preparing for a third world war.

The article also said the Germans were seeking to stir up controversies among the Allies over the question of Germany's future.

"In the past few days the Hitlerites have pointed with unconcealed pleasure at the activity of the isolationist elements in the United States who already have started agitation against participation by the United States in a world organization of international security," the article said.

Bugbear Of Bolshevism

"The Hitlerites resort to their favorite method to frighten public opinion with 'Bolshevist danger' and 'European chaos' in case the Allied postwar plans are realized. This is the argument of the Hearst press . . ."

Red Star said the Dumbarton Oaks plan was "very elastic and includes the possibilities of further improvement" and that the Soviet Union was interested in converting it into a "real instrument of international security."

press.

"The Hitlerites watch carefully for American reaction to European developments, especially those events which might threaten the unity of the Allies. But they are not much comforted. A majority of the American press acts ardently in behalf of the consolidation of cooperation between all the Allies and urges realization of the Dumbarton Oaks decisions as soon as possible.

"Dumbarton Oaks took into consideration the errors made by the victorious powers after the first World War. It is very elastic and includes possibilities of further improvement.

Real Security Aim

"The Soviet Union, just as other peace-loving nations, is interested in the conversion of the future organization of peace into a real instrument of international security. The conclusion of the Soviet-French treaty occurred at the moment the German Fascist leaders began to make certain political preparations for aiding Germany for a third world war.

"The struggle of German imperialism against French-Soviet rapprochement always has been a part of the preparation of German aggression."

On the same page *Red Star* printed the statement by United States Secretary of State Stettinius that the Russian - French pact was not contradictory to postwar security plans.

Red Star Attacks U.S. Isolationists

Moscow, Dec. 20 (AP)—*Red Star* charged today that "reactionary circles" in the United States were furthering German plans to block organization of international security and to prepare a third world war.

"In the past few days the Hitlerites have pointed with unconcealed pleasure at the activity of isolationist elements in the United States who already have started agitation against participation of the United States in, the world organization of international security," said the Red Army newspaper.

"The Hitlerites resort to their favorite method to frighten public opinion with 'Bolshevist danger' and 'European chaos' in case the Allies' postwar plans are realized. This is the argument of the Hearst press . . ."

Red Star said the Dumbarton Oaks plan was "very elastic and includes the possibilities of further improvement" and that the Soviet Union was interested in converting it into a "real instrument of international security."

Stettinius View on Poles Is Publicized by Russia

Lublin Sympathizers Welcome It as Aid to Quick Action

MOSCOW, Dec. 20 (AP).—The Russian press and radio gave wide distribution today to Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius's statement that America is not opposed to border settlements through mutual agreement before the end of the war.

Polish political elements here favoring an immediate understanding with the Soviet Union on a common frontier found support in the stand.

Mr. Stettinius's pledge of American assistance if needed in population transfers was particularly welcomed by sympathizers of the Lublin Polish Committee of National Liberation, which has propoesd that Poland annex German territory as far west as the Oder River and East Prussia south of Konigsberg. The Lublin committee envisages the expulsion of all Germans from this area and their resettlement within the post-war Reich.

these matters.

His plea was entered only a few hours after Churchill, in grim reference to "this dangerous and momentous phase of the war," maintained that Britain, Ruesia and the United States were in "entire agreement about the general aims which bind our alliance," but admitted that "whether there is complete agreement on every aspect of these matters is another question altogether."

Churchill quickly side-stepped argument over whether the accord among the Allies could be applied to "spheres of influence."

One member pointedly asked him whether "he did not agree that there is a danger in implementation of proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks conference if certain powers assign themselves spheres of influence and other powers are not brought into cooperation during the war."

"I think that is a topic that obviously I should not attempt to deal with now," replied Churchill.

Still Censure Move

It was against this background of underlying concern for smoothly harmonious inter-Allied relations that Eden went to bat for his chief and, with a detailed, stand-pat defense of the Churchill government's steps in Greece, at

'British Bayonets Will Not Impose King on Greeks,' Eden Tells Commons

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By ALEX SINGLETON

LONDON, Dec. 20.—(AP) Assuring the House of Commons that Britain's bayonets would not impose a king on the Greeks, Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden tonight eased political controversy over Britain's armed intervention after reports of differences among the three big Allied powers had received partial confirmation from Prime Minister Churchill himself.

Eden, apparently giving up hope for an immediate meeting of the Big Three but bent on finding a method of eliminating future misunderstandings, pleaded for re-establishment of quarterly meetings "between the foreign secretaries of the great powers as we used to have to deal with some of last temporarily stilled demand of some left-wing la[illegible]mbers for a vote of censure.

The House rose long after dusk tonight in agreement that it would adjourn tomorrow until Jan. 15.

These were the main points of Eden's explanation of the Greek situation:

1. There was "no question" of Britain's armed intervention in Greece "without consulting our Allies."

2. "We could perhaps have been consured for not having intervened in Athens on behalf of law and order at an earlier date."

3. Britain is "seeking nothing for ourselves in Greece—neither strategic advantage nor economic advantage nor any other advantage of that kind at all."

4. If we had not taken this action there would have been mass starvation all over Greece and members of the Parliament would have come to the government and said, 'what are you doing about all this?'"

5. "We are not trying to impose a right-wing or a left-wing government. All we wish is that the ship should keep an even keel."

6. Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, "refused the help of right-wing organizations against the ELAS and has disarmed them."

7. The British government is not against a regency in Greece. It was, in fact, the British ambassador in Athens who first suggested a regency."

8. "The only criticism that could have been made is that we ought to have brought contingents of the others (Allies) with us as well."

9. Britain is not trying to "impose a king with British bayonets on the Greek People."

10. He and Churchill persuaded King George of Greece to remain in Britain because "we were perfectly conscious that his arrival (in Greece) might be the cause of political controversy which he wants to avoid."

Churchill left the job of pleading the government's case on Greece almost entirely to Eden, entering only in the preliminary sparring that led up to the formal debate.

The Prime Minister had agreed to the necessity for the debate only reluctantly, but apparently was persuaded against his earlier insistence that he would permit it at this time only on the issue of confidence in his coalition government.

Only his severest critics wanted the government to stand or fall on the Greek issue.

Labor leader Arthur Greenwood, admitting his party wanted no vote of censure on the issue, chided Churchill on his "schoolmaster role," mourned the premier's "mistake" and maintained that Britain would "lose her good name" in Europe if she went into each liberated country "as a sort of Gestapo."

The sharpest criticism came from Laborite Aneurin Bevan in a demand for a vote of censure to show that the government's policies were only those of "Tories" and another demand that King George's communications with Athens be cut off to prevent his "intriguing" with his Greek ministers.

Eden stated frankly that the government did not foresee that matters in Greece would turn out as they did "and in a fashion that all of us deeply deplore."

He said that Britain and the Greek government of Premier George Papandreou had obtained from leaders of the ELAS and EAM (National Liberation Front Party) agreement that all guerrilla forces in Greece would be under the National Liberation government and under Scobie's command, that guerrilla leaders would forbid their units to make any attempt to take the law into their own hands and that a national union of all forces would be formed in the interests of the common struggle against the Germans.

The violation of this accord is what led to the trife in Athens, he said.

"We shall use all means at our disposal," he declared, "to try to bring this conflict to an end and to insure that this conflict is not made the excuse for a lasting vendetta either of the right against the left or the left against the right when the conflict is over."

Eden said that Britain's aim in Greece is "to maintain law and order, to establish a Greek government broadly representative of all opinion, including EAM, and to enable that government to establish its authority in all Greece."

The first task, he added, was to get relief and food to the Greek people and the second was to organize free and fair elections. The government wishes to remove British troops from Greece as soon as possible and asks only that order be established "so that the people shall be fed with supplies, the greater part of which we collected with great pains."

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Churchill, Eden Stand Firm On Greek Policy

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—Under bitter attack, Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden stood pat in Commons today on Britain's armed intervention in Greece, but Eden urged the quick re-establishment of face-to-face contact among the Foreign Ministers of Britain, Russia and the United States to deal with such problems.

Churchill, opening the debate, admitted that "whether there is complete agreement on every aspect of these matters is a another question altogether" after declaring that there was complete harmony of "general aims" among Britain, Russia and the United States.

Commons was thrown into confusion as shouts came from all sides attacking King George of Greece.

Laborite's Criticism

Dr. Haden Guest, Laborite, asserted, "It is not worth spending the life or the wounding of one British soldier to defend the King's prerogative."

Replying to criticisms in which one Laborite shouted, "There may be civil war in Britain!", Eden said Britain's only error in Greece was in not taking the troops of her allies into that country along with her own.

He said there was no question of Britain's armed intervention in Greece "without consulting our allies."

The Government would "welcome quarterly meetings between the Foreign Secretaries of the great powers as they used to have before to deal with some of these matters," Eden said. "The Prime Minister and I have said over and over again that they would go anywhere."

"Spheres Of Influence"

He denied implications that British policy was dictated by spheres of influence, and said Britain was "seeking nothing for ourselves in Greece—neither strategic advantage, nor economic advantage or any other advantage of that kind at all."

Earlier, Churchill sidestepped the argument over whether the general British-Russian-American accord applied to reported spheres of influence in Europe, declaring this was a "dangerous and momentous stage of the war in which words must be carefully measured."

The British Government "is not against a regency in Greece," Eden said and declared that, so far as he was aware, King George II of Greece would take the advice of his ministers.

King Advised To Accept

Athens dispatches today, announcing that Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie had issued an ultimatum to the ELAS threatening to use all arms at his disposal by 9 A.M. tomorrow, said the Greek Government had advised the King to accept a regency.

"We want to bring this conflict to an end as speedily as possible by whatever means can be devised," the Foreign Secretary said.

"I do not know what other decision we could have taken but to go into Greece," Eden said. "We knew there was a risk but I still think the decision was right. . . . If we had not taken this action, there would have been mass starvation all over Greece."

Would Give Up Responsibilities

"Britain, he continued, "will be glad to hand over her responsibilities as soon as we can do so, consistently with our obligation."

He declared flatly that Britain was not trying to "impose the King, with British bayonets, on the Greek people."

It was the British Ambassador in Athens, he added, who first had put forward the idea of a regency.

Opening the full-dress debate, Arthur Greenwood, the Labor party floor leader, said "the Prime Minister has not handled this situation in the way in which it should have been handled."

Called A Test Case

Calling the situation in Greece a test case, he criticized the "tone and words" of Churchill, declaring he had tried to convey the impression that "everyone who was an EAM was a gangster."

But he avoided challenging the Government to a vote and conceded that, now that Britain had gone into Greece "with a perfectly good motive," she had "to see it through."

Laborite Aneurin Bevan touched off the first demonstration when he assailed the threat of General Scobie.

"Would Put House In Shame"

If that were carried out, Bevan warned, it would "put this House in a most shameful position."

"When the Germans were fighting in Greece we said that if Athens were bombed we would bomb Rome. The Germans did not bomb Athens, but we have bombed Athens," said Bevan, who is Churchill's bitterest critic in Commons.

Shouts of protest, however, greeted Bevan's assertion that "Ghurkas are being used in Greece because they are politically backward people and can be relied upon to fire upon the Greek people."

Eden cut in with:

"The overwhelming majority of our troops in Greece at this moment are white troops."

At this point the House broke into an uproar with some members accusing Bevan of raising "the color question."

"Sowing Seeds" Of Wars

Sir Percy Harris, Liberal, said there was "suspicion that the Government is playing the game of power politics and endeavoring to establish a sphere of influence."

"The real danger," he said, "is that all the Allies are maneuvering for position. We are sowing the seeds of future wars."

The first Conservative to swing into the debate, Captain Mott-Radclyffe, who fought with the Greeks against the Italians in 1940, drew cheers with a declaration that "the best service we can render is not to be violently partisan on either side."

Bevan described the opening speech of the leader of his own party, Greenwood, as "very moderate." If the Greek crisis was not solved by the time Commons returned after the Christmas recess, he warned, "Then if the Labor party itself does not put the vote of censure on the Government, some of us will have to make clear that they (the policies in liberated countries) are the policies of Tories alone and not of this House."

Fears Trouble In Britain

"There may be a civil war in Britain then," shouted Laborite Seymour Cocks, who led the last fight against the Churchill Government.

Opening debate on British policy in liberated lands, the Prime Minister said:

"We had a certain task thrown upon us and we are discharging it to the best of our ability."

He asserted that so far as the United States and Russia were concerned he had "not the slightest doubt that the complete and effective co-operation will go on in all aspects of the war."

Pressed as to whether there was "now complete co-operation and accord" between Britain, the United States and Russia on British policy in Greece, Churchill replied:

"The burden of attending to the troubles in Greece has fallen upon Great Britain and we have not so far been able to discharge this task without criticism even here at home, which has added to our difficulties.

"Need Close Association"

"The three great powers are in entire agreement upon the general aims which bind our alliance and we have every need to keep in the closest association in this dangerous and momentous phase of the war."

Before Churchill took the floor, Eden reviewed the requirements that Scobie had laid down to the ELAS forces to evacuate the province of Attica, to order all members in Athens and Piraeus to cease resistance, and to hand in their arms.

"General Scobie made it clear," said the Foreign Secretary, "that as soon as these requirements were fulfilled he would inform Field Marshal Alexander, who would concert the necessary steps to put an end to the present turmoil in Greece and to restore to all Greeks, whatever their opinions, the peaceful enjoyment of their democratic principles."

Says All Conditions Not Met

Eden said a committee of the EAM (National Liberation Front party) agreed on December 16 to withdraw the ELAS forces from Attica, but had not replied to the other conditions for an end of resistance and surrender of arms.

If the EAM accepts the terms of the armistice, Eden said, "then we shall do our best to ensure to the Greek people the government of their choice and free elections as easly as possible."

LONDON, Dec. 20 (AP)—The text of Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden's statement on Greece in the House of Commons today:

We could perhaps have been censured for not having interfered in Athens on behalf of law and order at an earlier date, but I refute the suggestion made by Mr. [William] Gallacher [Communist] that someone "whispered in the ear" of Papandreou [Greek Premier] to ban a demonstration. He gave the impression the British Minister had whispered, and that is quite untrue.

The European Advisory Commission was set up to agree on plans for the surrender terms of Germany and plans for the occupation of Germany and other enemy states. It was set up on our initiative.

Regarding the general machinery of international collaboration, there is nothing we should welcome more than closer machinery of collaboration than there is now.

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Consultation Is Invited

We would welcome quarterly meetings between the Foreign Secretaries of the great powers, such as we used to have before, to deal with some of these matters. The Prime Minister and I have said over and over again that we would go anywhere.

As to the decision to go into Greece, I do not know what other decision we could have taken in the circumstances. We knew there were risks, but I still think that the decision was right. Before we took that decision we did consult our United States allies. We did go there with their agreement. We did tell our decision also to our Soviet ally and they also approved that decision. There was no question of our having done this without having consulted our allies, or by a movement of our own.

The only criticism that could have been made is that we ought to have brought contingents of the others with us as well. The Government, I say quite frankly, did not foresee matters would turn out as they have done, and in a fashion all of us deeply deplore.

For reasons of operational security we did not, before we went to Greece, describe in detail all our plans and intentions, even to our Greek allies. We could not give them a clear answer to many appeals they were making to us to go into Greece. They saw developments and wanted us to drive elements of Germans out. We were unable to describe our plans because we did not want to reveal our military plans.

But as we drew near the date on which we did enter Greece, we did tell them of our plans to some extent and invited their collaboration in respect of the guerrilla bands in Greece.

Early Agreement Recalled

Two leaders, General Saraphis of the Elas and General Zervas of the Edes, were invited to come to Caserta and meet the Supreme Commander and there was drawn up an agreed formula between them, known as the Caserta Agreement. Items in this agreement do show the immense trouble taken to try to get an agreement between all parties, the Greek Government and guerrilla leaders, before we went into Greece at all.

It was agreed to by Mr. Papandreou, as Prime Minister of the Government of all parties, in the presence of Eam leaders, and signed by General Saraphis and General Zervas at a conference presided over by the Supreme Commander, Mediterranean Theatre, and by Greek guerrilla leaders.

The following decisions were recorded as having been accepted unanimously:

1. All guerrilla forces operating in Greece place themselves under orders of the Greek Government of National Unity. The Greek Government places these forces under the orders of General Scobie, who has been nominated by the Supreme Allied Command as the general officer commanding in Greece.

2. In accordance with a proclamation issued by the Greek Government, the guerrilla leaders declare they will forbid any attempt by any units under their command to take the law into their own hands. Such action will be treated as a crime and punished accordingly.

3. In Athens no action is to be taken except under orders of General Scobie. Security battalions are considered instruments of the enemy unless they surrender.

4. All Greek guerrilla forces, in order to put an end to past rivalries, declare they will form a national union to coordinate their activities in the best interests of the common struggle.

In accordance with the powers conferred on him by the Supreme Allied Commander, General Scobie issued operational orders concerning the spheres of various

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guerrilla forces. [One member asked for the date of this document and Mr. Eden replied Sept. 25.]

At the time the Greek Government was a Government of all parties. There was complete agreement between guerrilla leaders, and in so far as any document expressed agreement, that document did.

No Selfish Motives

Before the actual entry into Greece there was no issue that divided the Greek Ministers among themselves and no issue that divided us from any part of our Greek friends. What was our purpose in going to Greece? We seek nothing for ourselves in Greece. Neither strategic advantage nor economic advantage nor any other advantage of that kind at all. In this action we are taking we have no ulterior motive whatever. I don't know why some members should be always so eager to think that we have some sinister purpose.

Of course, it is true that we have an interest in the Mediterranean. That has never been denied by anyone.

But in respect of this action we took in Greece, we took it only in order to bring food and supplies to Greece because we know the position Greece would find herself in. If Greece was largely a self-supporting country and could provide her people with food, we certainly should not have gone in for this vast organization to try to provide food and supplies for the people of Greece.

If we could not get food in, there was no chance of the Greek people's escaping starvation or of their industries being restarted. Those are the reasons we went into Greece. No one can complain of that. We knew the risks because of disturbed conditions. If we had not done this, there would have been certain mass starvation all over Greece and we would have been asked why we did not do something to help our allies. UNRRA was coming in, but now unfortunately has had to pull out.

[Mr. Eden then gave the figures on one week's supply, ending Nov. 24, as an indication what the British had done in Greece in providing food and other supplies. He said that in Piraeus alone more than 20,000 tons of food were landed and at other places the total was nearly another 20,000 tons.]

Minimum Terms Given

Concerning the matter of terms for an armistice, what is the position? Elas forces undertook to obey General Scobie's orders as agreed.

He has asked that Elas ers in Athens and Piraeus must cease resistance and hand in their arms. It is limited to that area. He has not asked that Elas supporters outside who have withdrawn shall hand in their arms. I fear that is the minimum which must be there, because if arms are left in the hands of members of the public, many in civilian clothes in Athens, over a long period, even when this immediate emergency is over and political division arises, you will have this same thing happening again. I think these terms are the minimum. They apply only in that area.

We have not asked that dissolving of guerrilla bands outside Athens should be done otherwise than by agreement subsequent to the cessation of hostilities. There is no question of leaving security battalions in possession of their arms nor of any right-wing organization in Athens.

I ought to tell the House in fairness that General Scobie some little time ago refused assistance offered to him by a right-wing organization against Elas. General Scobie said these men offered to join with our forces against Elas and he refused and disarmed them. We desire that all should lay down their arms. We are not trying to impose right-wing or left-wing government.

All we wish is that the ship should be on an even keel. We wish that arms should be laid down and we are against reprisals by one side or the other after this event is over, and we shall do everything we can to stop them.

Scobie's New Warning

Aircraft today dropped leaflets containing a warning by General Scobie to civilians in and around Athens and in Piraeus that rebel guns still firing after 9 A. M. tomorrow will be attacked with all arms at his disposal. Guns have for some time been firing at the center of Athens and General Scobie now says he will attack them and he warns the civilian population to get out of the way of the guns.

I do not think that is at all the picture which Mr. Bevan [Laborite Aneurin Bevan] gave. I must say in justice to our commanders that I am absolutely convinced that they used every possible means they could to avoid unnecessary loss of life in this operation.

We were told again today that we were trying to impose a King on the Greek people. It is really not so. We all know the King is still in this country. It is on the advice of the Prime Minister and myself that the King is still here. Very likely he would have taken that decision on his own account. We were perfectly conscious that his arrival might be the cause of political controversy, which he wants to avoid.

That is not imposing a King with British bayonets on the Greek people. We are not against a regency and we were not throwing our weight against a regency.

I had not intended to reveal this but many hard things have been said about our Ambassador in Athens. The first suggestion for a regency was made by our Ambassador in Athens himself. When Mr. Macmillan [Harold Macmillan, British Minister of State in the Middle East] got out there he confirmed the judgment of the Ambassador.

As I understand his position, the King feels that before he can make a decision on a matter of this kind he must get recommendations from leaders of the parties in Greece. The King naturally will be guided by the advice of his Ministers. If this is the desire in Athens, then an expression of the desire can come back to the King.

Not Opposed to Regency

We are not opposed to a regency. I think the Greeks themselves and the leaders of the political parties have a right to express their own opinion, and should express it to the King. Then the King will make his decision on their advice.

I have said we have not the slightest objection to a regency if it is going to provide a solution; on that we must get advice from the Greeks themselves.

[Tom Driberg, Independent: "If the Government can give advice to the King about remaining in this country, cannot they advise him against sending messages to Greece in a form which is hardly likely to promote reconciliation?"]

I do not think that is a reasonable request.

[Dr. Haden Guest, Laborite: "Surely it is not worth spending the life or the wounding of one British soldier to defend the King's prerogative."]

Dr. Guest is most unfair. The King is behaving with concrete constitutional propriety. He has not gone to Greece at our request and his present decision is that he awaits the advice of his ministers and, so far as I am aware, he will take that advice. I have tried to avoid bringing controversy into this. We want to bring this present conflict to an end as speedily as possible by whatever means can be devised.

Relief Efforts Blocked

Apart from the tragic loss of life, we must bring it to an end because otherwise we cannot get supplies in, and there will be tragedy of starvation. With the help of the Red Cross, some supplies have been sent, but they are pitifully small. The population of 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 in Athens are faced with serious threat of starvation and disease. Most of the Greeks are in great need of supplies, which cannot reach them because of the disturbed conditions.

We shall use all means at our disposal to try to bring this conflict to an end and to insure that this conflict is not made the excuse for a lasting vendetta either of right against left or left against right when the conflict is over.

Our aim is to maintain law and order to establish a Greek Government broadly representative of all the opinion in Greece, including the Eam, and to enable the Government to establish its authority in all Greece. The first task of the Government will be to get relief going and food for their people. The second task will be to organize free and fair elections, and if our help is needed our help here will be available. And if our Allies will come and help, their help will be welcomed.

We wish to bring our troops away as soon as practicably possible. We only ask that order shall be established so that the people shall be fed with supplies, the greater part of which we collected with great pains.

This is an unhappy phase in Anglo-Greek relations. For more than 100 years our nations have been friends, though there have been incidents from time to time. I hope this chapter will soon be closed and that there will be once again that friendship in which we have taken pride and that the Greek people—all Greek people—and all our own will be united and friends together.

V-Bomb Speedup Expected

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—The British press warned today that it is possible the Germans may step up their flying-bomb attacks on Britain. New damage and casualties were caused yesterday and last night.

15TH AIR FORCE KEEPS UP RAIDS

Italy-Based Bombers Strike For Sixth Straight Day

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—Flying Fortress and Liberator bombers of the 15th Air Force, based in Italy, smashed at strategic targets in Czechoslovakia, Austria and Germany for the sixth straight day today, but bad weather strangled the Allied British-based fighters and bombers sorely needed to combat German armor in Belgium.

Thunderbolts of the 15th also strafed gun positions and rail lines in the Spezia-Genoa area, struck at the Padua-Mestre district in northern Italy and swung north to the Brenner Pass to cut the railroad at four places south of Trento.

Supply Warehouses Damaged

Several enemy supply warehouses on the Po River estuary also were damaged.

In the bomber raids on German-held territory farther north, Liberators struck near Pilsen, Czechoslovakia, using instruments to drop their loads through heavy clouds, without meeting enemy opposition.

The Fortresses and Liberators also used instruments to bomb the Regensburg area in Germany and Linz; Salzburg and Villach in Austria.

During the six-day offensive, the 15th has put approximately 1,000 planes in the air daily, has flown more than 6,000 sorties and hit targets as far away as upper Silesia and Poland. Its farthest target, Brux, is considerably more than 600 miles from its Italian bases.

Oil production targets at Brux in Czechoslovakia, as well as Blechhammer and Odertal in Silesia, Oswiecum in Poland and Linz in Austria have received steady pounding.

The *Luftwaffe* has offered opposition on only one day. That was Sunday when about 150 Nazi fighters swarmed up near Blechhammer and 48 of them were shot down.

3-Year Secret Is Out— Royal Palace Bombed

London, *Thursday*, Dec. 21 (AP)—A bomb crashed through the roof of Buckingham Palace and through the apartment of the Queen in the early days of the London *Blitz*, but failed to explode, it was disclosed today.

Eight men of the Palace Home Guard unit disposed of the 3-foot-long explosive.

King George yesterday personally inspected this Home Guard unit, every man of whom had kept the three-year secret of the palace bo

DEFENDS BOMBINGS

London, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Sir Archibald Sinclair, Air Minister, told the House of Commons today that "frankly it is not practical in attacking German targets" to provide airmen with instructions to avoid bombing cathedrals and other buildings of historic and artistic value. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, an Independent, asked why the system was workable in Italy and not in Germany.

Sinclair responded: "Because we are attacking German war industries and transport on large scale and it would be humbug for me to come to the House and say ——" His last words were lost in a chorus of cheers.

V-Weapons Seen Aid To Nazi Morale

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—A high-ranking neutral diplomat reported today that recent conversations with German officials and civilians indicated a substantial increase of morale in Germany, with a growing conviction that hopes for a negotiated peace had been strengthened since the advent of the V-weapons.

Although admitting skepticism, this source said German officials told him Hitler had disclosed to his generals that V-weapons up to No. 10 had been designed by Nazi scientists and were being produced on a mass scale.

"I was told," the informant added, "that Hitler explained to his generals if they could hold on until spring the V-weapons would turn the tide of the war."

He explained these German officials admitted that immediately after the attempt on Hitler's life and the purge that followed, Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt was convinced the war was lost and that the home front might crack at any minute.

"Hitler, I was told, called in his generals and went into great detail about the V-weapons, and, after several hours, apparently convinced Rundstedt the war was not lost, but that it could be so developed that a negotiated peace was not impossible," the diplomat said. "The German officials said Rundstedt was a changed man after that, once again taking heart."

Hundreds Of Nazis Riot At British Prison Camp

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—Hundreds of German officers rioted and thirteen escaped Monday night from a prison camp near Penkridge, Staffordshire, it was disclosed tonight.

The prisoners were believed to have been inspired by news of the German counteroffensive. All but one of those who escaped have been recaptured, although two got as far as Liverpool and were about to board a ship leaving England.

Atlantic Charter Search Continues

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—Spokesmen for the Admiralty and 10 Downing street said tonight they were unable immediately to identify or make available for interviews the radio operators President Roosevelt said had transmitted the memoranda of the Atlantic Charter from the battleship Prince of Wales.

The President told a press conference in Washington yesterday that the Atlantic Charter never had been drafted into a document, but existed as a series of memoranda which was turned over to radio operators for transmission at the time of his conference at sea with Prime Minister Churchill.

While one naval source said Churchill usually took along his own radio personnel when he went to sea, the Admiralty said the operators most likely were naval men. The Admiralty insisted, however, that queries as to their identity and whether they survived the subsequent sinking of the Prince of Wales must be submitted in writing.

A naval source said that if there is a copy of the charter memoranda it would be in the Admiralty archives.

Partisans Reported In Zagreb

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Swiss radio reported tonight without confirmation that Marshal Tito's Partisans had broken into Zagreb, main German-held center in Yugoslavia. Tito's communiqué said yesterday his forces were near Zagreb.

FRANCO-SOVIET PACT FAVORED

Eden Says Britain Welcomes It as New Link.

London, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Britain was kept advised throughout the negotiation of the new Franco-Russian pact and welcomed it as an "additional link between two European Allies," Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden announced today in the House of Commons. "It seems clear that there is therefore no question of any conflict between the Franco

Soviet treaty and the future world security organization which all parties are seeking to establish," he said. The treaty is similar to the Anglo-Russian treaty, he said.

Britain has turned back to the jurisdiction of Haile Selassie large areas of Ethiopia administered previously by British military authorities, Foreign Secretary Eden said in outlining a new Anglo-Ethiopian agreement.

"Sovereignty of the Emperor remains untouched by the new agreement," the Foreign Secretary told the House.

Mr. Eden also told the House that he had found no basis for statements that liberated countries were shunning UNRRA, adding that the whole question of giving immediate relief mainly was one of transportation. When asked if any difficulties had arisen with Yugoslav authorities over UNRRA, Mr. Eden said that arrangements currently were being discussed between the supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean and Yugoslav officials for sending relief "provided by Allied military authorities."

"This arrangement," Mr. Eden explained, "contemplates an early transfer to UNRRA of the responsibility of providing relief in accordance with the common wish of all concerned."

He also told the House that recent Jap successes in China constituted a "grave menace" to that country and that "everything in the power of the Allies will be done" to aid their Pacific war partner.

Offering the Chinese a new expression of confidence "in this fresh trial in their eighth year of war," Mr. Eden affirmed Britain's solidarity with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek "in measures which he and his able American colleagues are taking."

AMERICAN BEER FOR TOMMY ATKINS

London, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—British troops in India, who place beer second only to tea on their list of desires, are to get 1,920,000-quart bottles of American brew. The Earl of Munster, Under-Secretary of State for India and Burma, reported the order today in a white paper. Production in India has been increased more than 300 per cent, but this is not enough to meet the present ration of three bottles per man monthly.

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons that steps were being taken to increase the ration of cigarettes in the Asiatic theaters.

LONDON POLES MARKING TIME

See No Need for Haste on Frontier Pledge

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London, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—A feeling is growing in Polish circles here that there is no urgency for Poland's exiled Government to make a commitment on the frontier question, sources close to the Cabinet or Premier Tomasz Arciszewski said today. This view appeared to be general among Polish officials, who apparently have reached a point where they believe there is little left for them to salvage.

The Government's officially stated view is that there be a "free and independent Poland," but what Premier Arciszewski intends to propose regarding territorial changes is left to speculation. The Premier, in a statement issued by the Polish telegraph agency, said:

"We consider the statement by Mr. Stettinius (United States Secretary of State) as a confirmation of the United States' attitude with regard to Soviet intentions toward Poland. This attitude has already been previously stated by authoritative American quarters, and also has been previously known to the Polish Government.

"The Polish Government are glad to welcome the emphasis again laid by Stettinius on the necessity of respecting the principle of mutual agreement among members of the United Nations in important matters of future post-war settlement. It is, of course, understood that mutual agreement is an agreement only when and if it is a voluntary one."

Reuter Head Backs Free-Press Plan

London, Dec. 20 (AP)—Pledging the support of his organization for an "honesty in news between nations" program, Christopher Chancellor, general manager of Reuter, asserted today that a world-wide system of free news agencies would do much to make permanent the coming peace.

Writing in the Christmas issue of *World's Press News*, Britain's foremost newspaper trade magazine, Chancellor praised a freedom-in-international news plan sponsored by Kent Cooper, executive director of the Associated Press.

Three World Agencies

He named the Associated Press, the United Press and Reuter as the only organizations which could be termed "world news agencies," and said all three "have pledged themselves to work for the establishment of certain standards in the international news business."

"The three world news agencies," he said, "are the most potent factors today in keeping the news streams of the world clear. They feed news to the newspapers in every country on the globe.

"A world-wide system of free news agencies—independent, impartial, reporting the news of their own countries and the rest of the world with no other motive than to supply the truth—can do much to insure the permanence of the coming peace."

Definition Of Term

Chancellor said an effort was now under way to establish a definition of the term "news agency," adding that "it should be an honorable term with a closely defined meaning." Many propaganda agencies were masquerading under this title, he said.

Asserting that a world news agency must report objectively and eschew nationalism he said of Reuter that "we are not purveyors of British news; news cannot be British or American—it is an international commodity and the aim of Reuter is to be a clearing house for truth."

British Army Dismisses Officer in Triangle Case

He Had Arranged With A.T.S. Woman to Bear His Child

LONDON, Dec. 20 (AP).—Lieutenant Herbert Leak, twenty-nine years old, has been dismissed from the British Army as a result of his arrangement with an Auxiliary Territorial Service woman to become the mother of his child, it was announced today. The charge was "improper association."

The dismissal was ordered by a court martial which last month heard Leak testify that his wife, who was unable to have a child, suggested that he enter relations with Private Betty MacFarlane, a telephone operator in his anti-aircraft battery. Leak said that Private MacFarlane, whose husband is serving overseas, had volunteered to bear a child for him and that they had relations but once.

Mrs. Leak, confirming this testimony, said she had been looking after the A. T. S. woman, who was dismissed because of pregnancy.

Briton Likens Yank Voices to Tin Whistles

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London, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Criticisms of "Hollywood conceptions of life" and praise of the British "quality of voice which makes English sound like a flute against the American tin whistle" were heard today in a Commons discussion of British versus American films in world markets.

Major Henry Adam Proctor declared, "We have been for many years in this country getting a very raw deal from American producers, and the whole of the American film industry has dealt very harshly with products made in this country.

"This is due," he said, "to the fact that financiers in the industry, and especially American controllers, see to it that the English film will not be a competitor with American production. We are equal to the Americans in direction, script, writers, and actors, and we have that peculiar quality of voice which makes English sound like a flute against the American tin whistle."

Discussing an amendment to a quota order which would increase moderately the number of British films, Ellis Smith said he believed the Board of Trade "too pessimistic about future prospects for the British film industry."

"The world cannot run on Hollywood conceptions of life," he continued. "I am concerned about the effect of many films from Hollywood on the lives of our young people."

Earl Winterton declared, "I view with some alarm the way in which films of alleged educational character come from America."

He said it was not good for children to be shown films when they cannot understand the language.

Americans And Nazis Battle Bitterly In Tossignan Area

Rome, Dec. 20 (AP)—American forces south of Bologna are engaged in bitter fighting with German troops in the Tossignan area, while Polish and Indian troops have virtually wiped out all enemy resistance south of Senio River on the eastern end of the Italian battle front, the Allied command reported today.

American patrols which slipped into Tossignan reported that heavy barricades had been erected in all of the streets of the town, and that strong Nazi patrols guarded all roads in the vicinity.

Limited Gains North Of Faenza

Operations of the Polish and Indian troops of the 8th Army ended two weeks of stubborn fighting by the Nazis to hold their positions in the Senio area.

Northeast of Faenza other British 8th Army forces made limited gains against a 9-mile-wide German salient bulging into Allied lines between captured Faenza and Bagnacavallo. The Germans have concentrated a large force of troops and much artillery and mortar equipment in the area and were grimly holding on to their positions on the west bank of the Lamone River.

In The Adriatic Sector

A number of prisoners were taken in the area as Nazis struggled to extricate their forces from the bulge which is threatened by two flanking movements—one from British troops in Faenza and another from other 8th Army troops six miles west of the town.

Along the Adriatic coast, British patrols penetrated deeply into Nazi lines toward Valli di Comacchio Bay north of Ravenna. A number of prisoners were taken.

Allied forces pushing westward from Ravenna were closing in on Bagnacavallo, 10 miles distant.

Fighter-bombers of the Allied Mediterranean Air Force attacked enemy positions and gun emplacements in northwestern Italy during the day in support of the ground operations, the communiqué said.

Allies Clear Senio Area

Rome, Dec. 20 (AP)—Polish and Indian troops of the 8th Army have virtually cleared all enemy forces from the area south of the Senio River and west of the main Bologna-Rimini highway, where the Nazis have been putting up a stubborn fight for two weeks, Allied headquarters announced today.

Strong German resistance held other 8th Army units to limited gains north and northeast of Faenza. Headquarters disclosed last night that a savage enemy counterattack in that area had forced Allied troops to fall back to the northern edge of the highway city.

Hold Nine-Mile Salient

The Germans still hold a nine-mile-wide salient between Faenza and Bagnacavallo to the north.

On the 5th Army front in the mountains below Bologna there were no appreciable changes in position, the communique said.

Heavy bombers of the United States 15th Air Force attacked oil refineries yesterday in Germany and rail yards in Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia.

Sforza Rejects Washington Post

Rome, Dec. 20 (AP)—Count Carlo Sforza, who was disapproved by Britain as Foreign Minister of the Italian Government, declined today an offer by Premier Ivanoe Bonomi to appoint him Ambassador to the United States.

"I would be too greatly displeased if I became the cause of new discussions," Sforza said in refusing, although he said his "first impulse" had been to accept "because the moving memory of the three years I passed there in the service of Italian liberty gave me the certainty of being useful to our country."

CLARE LUCE STAYS BEHIND IN ITALY

Bari, Italy, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Members of the United States House Military Affairs Committee were en route home today by plane after a twenty-five-day tour of the battlefronts.

Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R.-Conn.), who had been suffering from ear trouble induced by air travel—remained behind. She said she might spend Christmas with the frontline troops.

Representative J. Parnell Thomas (R.-N. J.) said that he plans to suggest that certain American newspapers print editions in Paris and Rome to give the doughboys more news of home and to present the United States more adequately to the liberated countries. Representative Charles H. Elston (R.-Ohio) said he favored this project provided paper is available.

SCOBIE ULTIMATUM ISSUED IN ATHENS

BARBER

Cease Firing Or Face All-Out Attack Today, ELAS Warned

30·24— 21415

Athens, Dec. 20 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, announced tonight that as of 9 A.M. tomorrow any ELAS batteries still firing in Athens and Piraeus will be attacked "with all the arms at my disposal," and warned civilians to put 500 yards between themselves and leftist gun positions.

Jean Rallis, the pro-Nazi former Premier who escaped from the Averoff prison two days ago after ELAS guns pounded the buildings for twelve hours, was arrested tonight.

In leaflets captioned "Urgent Warning" and dropped from RAF planes, the British commander announced that he intends to use machine guns, rocket weapons, bombs, land artillery, mortars and naval bombardment on an all-out scale in an effort to silence insurgent guns which have been active for ten days.

Political Developments Hinted

Earlier there had been signs of an impending political development when men using megaphones in some ELAS-held areas announced that regular leftist forces soon would withdraw from Athens and Attica, and that only reserve troops would surrender their arms.

There also was an announcement that "there will follow certain political developments which will insure the liberties and rights of the Greek people."

Informed quarters believe this may be taken as a leftist move to prepare the public for ELAS acceptance of British terms. In this connection it was understood that mediators had been notified by leftist leaders to stand by and be ready to take their answer to Scobie.

King George's Reply Awaited

The British commander's leaflet warning followed capture of RAF headquarters northeast of Athens by ELAS fighters who overran the station after a gun and dynamite assault. A British broadcast reported that "a relief column arrived too late to save the headquarters, but managed to save a big proportion of the men."

Meanwhile, the people of Greece awaited announcement of a reply from King George II in London to learn whether he will accept a recommendation that the nation's leadership be turned over to the regency of Archbishop Damaskinos.

Signed Only By Premier

It was stated tonight that Premier George Papandreou sent a telegram advising the King to accept the regency of the Archbishop over his own signature and members of his Cabinet were not signers of the message.

Some of the Cabinet members, particularly the Rightists and Royalists, are inclined to agree with the Minister of the Mercantile Marine, Peter Rallis (not related to the quisling Premier), who told the foreign press tonight that the present situation did not warrant "such radical measure as setting up a regency."

Apparently Rallis has sent previous telegrams to the King advising him against a regency.

Thus, even in Papandreou's Government there is dissension, for the Liberal ministers favor a regency of the Archbishop.

The attitude of the Rightist Ministers of the coalition Government is that the Communists should be opposed in whatever stand they take and that setting up a regency would be regarded by the Leftists as a sign of weakness in the Papandreou Government, a further concession in a situation which they think has arisen as a result of making too many concessions already.

Government observers are reported to believe that if the monarch agrees to the recommendation of the Archbishop's regency, which has been made to him also by the elderly Greek Liberal leader, Themostikles Sophoulis, that Gen. Nicholas Plastiras probably will become commander in chief of the Greek forces.

Svolos Reported For Truce

A source who has proved consistently reliable, more reliable than most of Papandreou's ministers, reported, meanwhile, that Alexander Svolos, of the EAM, former Minister of Finance, visited ELAS headquarters this afternoon to exert his influence in favor of accepting Scobie's truce conditions.

Svolos seemed convinced, this source said, that a letter from the ELAS command would reach Scobie tonight or tomorrow.

The Communist newspaper *Rizospastis* claimed two other prisoners who fled Averoff prison with Jean Rallis during the siege had been captured and put to death. It was reported they were Gen. George Bacos, former Minister of National Defense, and George Pirounakis, Minister of Supplies during the German occupation.

The rearrest of Rallis by Greek civil police in the home of friends in the fashionable Kolonaki district was uneventful. The former Premier seemed none the worse for his adventures during the ELAS siege of the prison and afterward.

He had sent word that he was willing to surrender after being at large and the object of widespread search for 48 hours.

Although he had a day's growth of beard and his hat was pulled down over his face, it was noted that his monocle was still securely screwed in his eye.

Attack Threat To ELAS

Rome, Dec. 20 (AP)—Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the United States 15th Air Force struck today for the sixth successive day against strategic targets in Czechoslovakia, Austria and Germany.

Athens, Dec. 20 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, announced his determination tonight to carry the fight to ELAS forces and warned civilians in Athens that Leftist guns firing upon the city after 9 A.M. tomorrow would be attacked "with all arms at my disposal."

[A BBC broadcast quoted Scobie as saying the ELAS would be attacked with aircraft, naval guns and rocket weapons as well as other forces.]

Scobie's proclamation followed the fall of British RAF headquarters after a gun-dynamite assault by ELAS forces.

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Rallis Still Free

The pro-Nazi former Premier, Jean Rallis, who fled Averoff prison two days ago, after twelve hours of a heavy ELAS siege, remained at large, despite a widespread search.

But the Communist paper *Rizospastis* said two others of the escaped prisoners, Gen. George Bacos, former Minister of National Defense, and George Pirounakis, Minister of Supplies during the German occupation, had been captured and executed.

Regency Anticipated

Impending political developments largely dominated the scene, however, with the probability of an early acceptance of Archbishop Damaskinos as regent.

A telegram from Premier George Papandreou's Cabinet to King George II in London recommended that the rule be turned over to Damaskinos as regent. Themistokles Sophoulis, elderly Greek statesman, sent a similar message, and the assent of the King was awaited.

British In Two New Drives In Burma Gain 15 To 18 Miles

D. GROVER

Calcutta, Dec. 20 (AP)—British troops opening up two new drives in Burma have slashed 15 and 18 miles, respectively, through Japanese defenses under strong Allied air support, front dispatches disclosed today.

One column advanced 18 miles southeast from the Gawlaik sector to the vicinity of Pyingaing against negligible enemy resistance. This force is striking east from the Kaleymo area south of Tiddim in the Chin Hills.

A second force is driving south from the town of Pinlebu in the hills between the upper Chindwin river and the Irrawaddy. It has advanced 15 miles toward the road-hub town of Shwebo, which is 140 miles northwest of Mandalay.

Within 35 Miles Of Akyab

Meanwhile, two more villages have been occupied in widely scattered sectors of the jungle war zone, and advance patrols on the Arakan coastal plain are now within 35 miles of the port of Akyab, said a communiqué issued at Southeast Asia Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon.

Along the West Burma coast, West African units of the British 14th Army have occupied Kandaung, six miles southwest of Buthedaung in the Mayu Hills, and troops of the British 36th Division, operating in the Gangaw range west of the Irrawaddy river, have taken Kanbaung, 12 miles south of Indaw, the communiqué said.

In the northern combat area near Bhamo, American units of Brig. Gen. John P. Willey's task force engaged in a strong patrol action near Tonkwa, 120 miles north of Mandalay.

British patrols have reached a point 8 miles east of Shwegyin, in the Indaw-Katha region and, west of the Chindwin River, Lushai scouts—natives of a mountainous district of Assam—killed a party of Japanese 30 miles south of Kalewa in the Chin Hills, the headquarters announcement said.

Allied Air Activity

United States 7th Bomber Group heavies and 10th Air Force fighters yesterday attacked Japanese Army headquarters and the station at Maymyo on the Mandalay-Lashio railroad. Other Allied planes bombed an enemy troop concentration and started many fires in a village near Pinlebu.

The communiqué added that medium bombers caused large oil fires near Magwe, on the Rangoon-Mandalay railway, while escorting fighters strafed river craft on the Irrawaddy.

Bombers heavily raided the main Japanese supply base at Taungup, on the coast below Akyab.

NEW GAINS IN BURMA

Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Allied patrols advancing down the West Burma coast toward the important Japanese base of Akyab have reached positions more than twenty-one miles southeast of Maungdaw, a southeast Asia communique said today. West African troops have occupied Kandaung, six miles southwest of Buthedaung.

In the northern combat area American units of the Mars Task Force engaged in a strong patrol action near Tonkwa, and troops of the Thirty-sixth British Devision occupied Kanbaung, twelve miles south of Inbaw.

Japs Face Aerial Flame-Bomb

Myitkyina, North Burma, Dec. 20 (AP)—The United States 10th Air Force is using a new, homemade flamebomb against the Japanese in Burma. It is a fighter plane belly-tank, filled with the same liquid used in flame throwers, which spreads sheets of flame over wide areas.

JAP HONG KONG SHIPPING HIT

MOOSA

Allied Bombers Block Burma Road With Landslides

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Chungking, Dec. 20 (AP)—The stepped-up air offensive over China's scattered battlefronts overshadowed ground activities tonight as Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer's headquarters announced successful raids on Japanese shipping at Hong Kong and blocking of the Burma Road by landslides started by United States bombs.

Speedy P-51 fighter planes of Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's 14th Air Force have swept over Hong Kong's water front and sunk one large enemy tanker and probably a Japanese destroyer and two large freighters. They also destroyed two enemy fighters in the air and three on the ground at near-by Kaitak airdrome.

Hankow Still Burning

In western China, P-38 fighter-bombers attacked sections of the Burma road near the town of Wanting on the China-Burma border yesterday causing landslides which made the road impassable.

A P-51 pilot swept over the important Japanese base at Hankow on a reconnaissance mission yesterday and found the city still burning from the fierce Monday daylight attack by 20th Bomber Command Superfortresses and planes of the 14th Air Force and the Chinese-American Composite Wing.

This pilot destroyed a Japanese bomber over the Hankow airdrome and an enemy fighter when he was intercepted by four planes. While returning to base, he was intercepted by twelve enemy fighters over the Wuchang airfield, southeast of Hankow. He destroyed one and returned safely.

13 Planes Bagged At Hankow

Mustang pilots destroyed thirteen Japanese planes during the big Hankow raid and seven others probably were destroyed or badly damaged. Yesterday, pilots of the Chinese-American Wing bombed the Pengpu railyards northwest of Nanking, and at Hwaiyuan, 15 miles to the west, they destroyed three locomotives.

In the ground fighting in South Central China, Chinese forces driving southeastward along the Kwangsi-Kweichow railroad continued to attack Japanese positions outside Hochih and made slight gains against determined enemy resistance, the Chinese high command said.

Yank Flyers Bomb Ships At Hong Kong

Chungking, Dec. 20 (AP)—A large Japanese tanker was sunk and an enemy destroyer and two large freighters were probably sunk in a bombing attack by P-51's yesterday at Hong Kong, Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer's headquarters announced today.

The Mustangs destroyed two enemy fighters in combat over near-by Maitak airdrome, the communiqué said. Three Japanese planes caught on the runways were also destroyed and one was damaged.

Hankow Still Afire

The pilot of a Mustang in a dawn reconnaissance flight found Hankow still burning from the fierce attack Monday by Superfortresses and P-51's. He destroyed an enemy bomber over the Hankow airfield and knocked down one of four Japanese planes that attacked him.

Thirteen Japanese planes were destroyed by Mustangs in the Monday raid on Hankow, and seven others were probably destroyed or badly damaged.

CHUNGKING, China, Dec. 20 (AP)—Chinese troops, advancing southeastward along the Kwangsi-Kweichow railway, continued attacking Japanese positions outside Hochih, making slight gains, the Chinese High Command announced today.

Japanese units offered determined resistance. Earlier it was announced that the Chinese had taken Pushan, an important height west of Hochih.

In western China American P-38 fighter bombers attacked sections of the Burma Road near Wanting on the China-Burma border yesterday, causing landslides that made the road impassable, Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer's headquarters announced tonight.

An American communiqué said the first revised totals from the United States Fourteenth Air Force raid, Dec. 18, on Hankow disclosed that forty-two enemy aircraft were destroyed, of which twenty-one were shot down in combat. The remainder were destroyed on the ground. Twenty-four probably were destroyed and twenty-two were damaged. Five American aircraft were missing.

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Jap Airbase Blasted.

A United States Fighter Base in Western China, Dec. 19 (Delayed)—(A. P.).—Brig.-Gen. Russell S. Randall's Mustangs, flying in support of the Superfortresses of the Twentieth Bomber Command, destroyed thirteen Japanese planes and probably destroyed or damaged seven others in the raid Monday on enemy installations in the Hankow area, a check today showed. Reconnaissance photographs showed huge fires burning through Hankow's docks and warehouses, believed jammed with material for Japanese troops in China and the Philippines.

China Denies U.S. Threat

Chungking, Dec. 20 (AP)—Foreign Minister T. V. Soong denied today that the United States had threatened, after the recall of Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell from the China theater, to withdraw its establishment in China, including the United

States 14th Air Force.

"In practice," he said, "I've never found anybody wishing to cut off his nose to spite his face."

"See Eye To Eye"

The Foreign Minister in an interview avoided a direct answer to the question whether the United States ever had requested or demanded the appointment of an American as commander in chief of the Chinese armies.

"On all such matters we see eye to eye," said Soong, who is Acting Premier. "Such questions would be decided purely on grounds of military expediency."

Silent On Negotiations

Questioned about negotiations with the Chinese Communists in the north, Soong declined to disclose what stage had been reached.

Soong said he had no information concerning the plans of Mrs Chiang Kai-shek, but "as soon as she has recovered I'm sure she will return to China" from the United States.

JAP'S YAMASHITA LINE SMASHED BY YANKS ON LEYTE

HUTCHESON

Enemy No Longer 'Capable of Integrated Defense' Says MacArthur.

DEC 21 1944

PINCER TIGHTENED

Additional 1,541 Japanese Dead Counted by Advancing Americans.

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Thursday, Dec. 21—(AP) The battle of Leyte island is "rapidly drawing to an end," Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today, announcing the complete destruction of the once-powerful Japanese Yamashita line on the northwest shoulder of the island.

The scattered enemy defenders' last group supply route was lost when Yanks surg- th up the single corridor roa n Ormoc, overran Libongao w a road forks off to the Nipponese supply port of Palompon.

The enemy's "cohesion is now completely broken," the communique said, "and he is no longer capable of an integrated defense."

Small remnants of the Japanese forces have been broken into isolated groups and are able to resist only temporarily and at isolated points.

Scattered Japanese forces are fleeing toward Palompon on Leyte's northwest coast, the only port remaining in enemy hands.

Pincers Tightens

Destruction of the Yamashita line in the Ormoc corridor was accomplished when the 77th division, New York's own, advanced four miles north from Valencia, Japanese headquarters whose seizure was announced Wednesday, and took a road junction at the same time the First Cavalry division drove south from Lonoy.

The cavalry seized Kanango and approached to within a mile of the 77th, completing the deadly squeeze play on the Japanese.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported counting another 1,541 Japanese dead Wednesday.

The enemy also has lost six months supplies to the onrushing Doughboys, making his supply problem more crucial.

The Japanese now are "incapable of an integrated defense" and able to resist only temporarily at isolated points, the communique said.

There was no enemy ground opposition on Mindoro which American forces reinvaded without resistance last week. It was the fifth consecutive day in which no Mindoro opposition had been reported.

The enemy continued air harassing of the Americans on Mindoro, and lost nine planes by anti-aircraft fire, including five bagged by P-T boat gunners.

Arms And Food Seized

The huge stockpile of supplies seized on northwest Leyte by the Americans included artillery weapons, a vast store of small arms ammunition, many machine guns and grenades, about a ton of land mines and great quantities of food.

Explaining destruction of the Yamashita Line, a headquarters spokesman said the so-called line was a series of defensive positions extending up the Ormoc highway and flanking the mountains. Capture of those positions constituted elimination of the line, the spokesman said.

Pressure From North Continued

The 32d American Division continued its pressure from the north. The main Japanese resistance was west of the Ormoc highway, but it was not integrated.

American planes ranged far and wide again, damaging or destroying four freighters and six barges, and plastering enemy airdromes with bombs. Three American planes were lost in the operations.

Japanese installations, including supply dumps, airfields and bivouacs, were hit from Amboina to northern Halmahera in the Moluccas, and, on Timor, the Fuiloro airdrome was blasted and runways cratered.

Capture of Valencia, the enemy headquarters about midway up the corridor from Ormoc, and piercing of the defense line at Lonoy, six miles north of Valencia, were reported by headquarters Wednesday.

The 77th Infantry division—New York's own—took Valencia in a wide flanking movement after advancing north from Ormoc. They left the highway somewhere below Valencia for their wide swing westward, thus leaving a body of Japanese isolated south of Valencia.

The First Cavalry Division, which had been probing southward through the mountains on the east side of the corridor, knifed into the Yamashita line at Lonoy. This operation severed the line, trapping enemy forces south and north of Lonoy.

Bearing down from the north was the 32nd Infantry Division, exerting pressure on the Nipponese segregated north of Lonoy. It was believed that this enemy force represented the largest element of organized resistance in the corridor. There was no indication of its size.

Yank liberation forces on Mindoro, 225 airline miles northwest of Leyte and within a half hour's flight of Manila, expanded their positions on that newly invaded island without enemy interference. Wednesday's communique reported for the fourth consecutive day that enemy ground resistance had failed to develop. It had been negligible to the landings, nearly a week ago.

[A Tokyo broadcast heard in San Francisco by NBC said Nipponese air units were attacking a 30-ship Allied convoy off San Jose. There was no claim that any of the vessels had been sunk or damaged.]

Yanks Closing Trap on Leyte

Capture Jap Headquarters Town of Valencia, Roll Up Remnants of Yamashita Line.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Converging American forces after seizing the Jap headquarters town of Valencia, together with an air field intact, drove forward north and south today in an effort to tighten a noose around the largest organized enemy force still fighting on west Leyte Island.

Seizure of Valencia, about eight miles north of the strategic American-held port of Ormoc, was disclosed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today. As the Seventy-seventh Division smashed into the city, the First (dismounted) Cavalry swung in a flanking drive from the direction of Carigara Bay and captured Lonoy, six miles north of Valencia.

Valencia Airfield in Use.

In so doing, they cut behind a strong Jap force already pinned down by the Thirty-second Division, and thus the enemy troops of unestimated number were entrapped between the two American divisions.

The Seventy-seventh already has placed the Valencia airfield in use, and it is providing another base for American planes which have been harassing Jap shipping and supply columns in a campaign of attrition.

After capturing Valencia the Seventy-seventh pressed northward, and Gen. MacArthur said it was "rolling up" remnants of the once-powerful Yamashita Line which has been cut to bits by the Americans in the last few days.

Jap casualties continue high, Gen. MacArthur reporting that an additional 1,484 enemy dead were found abandoned Monday. Twenty-two Japs were captured.

Mindoro Yanks Still Gain.

Valencia was the headquarters of Gen. Sosaki Suzuki, directing Jap operations on Leyte. There was no indication where he and his staff had fled; pernaps to Palompon on Leyte's west coast, the sole port now remaining in Jap hands.

American troops continued to operate without ground interference on Mindoro, northwest of Leyte, which they invaded last Friday. Gen. MacArthur reported that thirteen Jap planes attacking American positions on Mindoro were shot down, with the loss of one American fighter.

American fighters and bombers continued their sweeps, and in a series of actions accounted for forty-seven enemy planes. One Nipponese freighter was sunk and five damaged. Three enemy barges were destroyed.

Pfc. And Horse

Leyte, Philippines, Dec. 5 [*AP—Delayed*]—Pfc. Marion West, former cowboy and rodeo star of Weed, N.M., wrangled himself a captured Japanese horse to become the first mounted military policeman on Leyte.

West, on a looted saddle, now gallops past jeeps and other mechanized equipment to unjam traffic jams.

Iwo Jima And Marcus Raided

United States Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 20 (*AP*)—American bombers struck Monday at Iwo Jima and Marcus islands, chief bases for Japanese attacks on the Superfortress airfield on Saipan, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The 100-ton bomb attack on Iwo Jima by the Marianas-based Liberators, escorted by Lightning fighters, was the 12th consecutive daily strike against the small island on the B-29 road to Tokyo and the 15th blow of the month. The Lightnings shot down one enemy plane and strafed ground targets.

Liberators of the Strategic Air Force had hit Iwo Jima, only 750 miles south of Tokyo, on the previous day, starting fires among installations and on the airstrip.

Marcus Airstrip Bombed

The attack on Marcus Island, 727 miles northeast of Saipan, was the first since December 12. The principal target was the airstrip.

The Liberators weathered moderate anti-aircraft fire, and all returned safely, the communiqué said.

Fighters and bombers of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing and Fleet Air Wing 2 attacked Maloelap atoll Monday, in one of the heaviest in many months of neutralizing raids against bypassed enemy positions in the Marshalls.

Marine Corsairs bombed and strafed storage areas on Babelthuap Island in the Palaus also on Monday.

NIMITZ AND FRASER CONFER IN PACIFIC

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander in chief of the new British Pacific Fleet, conferred today with Admiral Chester N. Nimitz, commander of the United States Pacific fleet, on plans to extend the sea and air blockade of Japan.

The conferences began some days ago, but just have been disclosed. It recently was reported from Melbourne that Fraser's fleet alone was capable of challenging the entire Japanese fleet.

It was considered possible that British battleships and carriers will work in direct conjunction with the powerful United States Pacific Fleet. Australian warship units joined the United States Seventh Fleet in operations which covered Gen. Douglas MacArthur's return to the Philippines last October while carrier planes of the United States Third Fleet blocked off enemy air and naval interference between the Philippines and Japan.

High Army Officers Fly From Alaska To Hawaii

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Alaskan Department Headquarters, Anchorage, Alaska, Dec. 20 (*AP*)—Lieut. Gen. Delos Emmons, Alaskan Department commander, disclosed today that the first land-based overwater flight from the Aleutian Islands to Hawaii was made recently by an army Liberator, with Maj. Gen. Davenport Johnson, 11th Air Force commander, as pilot.

The plane bore other high-ranking officers who attended Pacific strategy conference with Admiral Chester Nimitz.

The plane took off from Adak, in the Aleutians, and made the trip in thirteen hours.

3 B-29's Bomb Tokyo, Setting Fires In City

HAVILAND

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 20 [*AP—Via Navy Radio*]—Three Saipan-based Superfortresses bombed Tokyo before dawn today.

They found all of Honshu, the main island of Japan, blacked out in expectation of the return of B-29's on nightly flights to report the weather over Japan. Two B-29's bombed Nagoya early yesterday, some twelve hours after the second major Superfortress raid on that city.

The first of today's Tokyo attacks by Superfortresses was commanded by Lieut. Wilfred N. Lind, of Minneapolis, which struck at 2.06 A.M.

Saw Ten Blasts

The crew saw ten bomb blasts, followed by fires covering a large square area.

Anti-aircraft was meager and two night fighters that came up kept their distance.

Nine minutes later, Capt. Harold F. Schramm, of Coral Gables, Fla., saw fires in the industrial area. He released his bombload and started thirteen new blazes of medium size. He said he saw a few searchlights and six bursts of flak, but no fighters.

Bomb Bay Doors Stuck

The third B-29, commanded by Lieut. Everett P. Abar, of Concord, N.H., got over Tokyo and found the bombbay doors stuck and all guns inoperative. In the meager anti-aircraft fire Abar saw a few phosphorous bombs, the first reported dropped over Tokyo by defending Japanese planes. He finally got the doors open and bombed a small island down the coast. Night fighters attacked his plane 20 to 30 times. Their tracers came in from all directions but none got close to the defenseless Superfortress.

The previous night a B-29 under the command of Lieut. Harold E. Sargent, of Waymart, Pa., bombed Nagoya's suburb of Shimonoshiki, three miles southwest of that city, touching off a large explosion, with blue-green flames roaring to 1,000 feet.

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Cuba Urged to Break Ties

HAVANA, Dec. 20 (*AP*).—Twenty-two members of the Cuban Congress presented to the government last night a resolution urging that it break relations with Spain on the ground that the Franco regime is "undemocratic."

30. 24 — 21+17

CANADIAN LEADERS FOR NEWS FREEDOM

4 Major Party Heads Approve Inclusion of Clause in World Peace Treaties

OTTAWA, Dec. 20 (AP)—Approval by the Canadian Parliament of inclusion of a freedom-of-news clause in world peace treaties appeared certain today on the basis of statements to The Canadian Press by the leaders of the four major parties in the House of Commons.

From a high source it was indicated that Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberal party, might make a declaration in favor of world freedom of news when he speaks in the annual debate on foreign affairs early next year. This would open up the subject, which would then be touched upon by the other party leaders who usually speak in the debate.

In a statement today Mr. King said the matter of protecting news freedom by international compact "is receiving carfeul attention from the Government" and is also being examined by other Allied Governments.

The other three leaders — John Bracken, Progressive Conservative; M. J. Coldwell, Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, and John Blackmore, Social Credit — went emphatically on record as in favor of news freedom being written into the peace treaties.

The leaders' statements followed the Sunday broadcast by Senator W. A. Buchanan, President of The Canadian Press, calling on Parliament to declare for a freedom-of-news clause in the peace treaties.

News Freedom Backed By 4 Canadian Leaders

Ottawa, Dec. 20 (AP)—National leaders of the four major political parties in Canada hold that world-wide freedom of exchange of news is essential to the well being of mankind, they made known in statements to the Canadian Press, released today.

Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King, leader of the Liberal party, said protection of news freedom by international compact "is receiving careful attention from the Government."

Statements Solicited

John Bracken, leader of the Progressive Conservative party; M. J. Coldwell, leader of the C.C.F. party, and John Blackmore, leader of the New Democracy party, went emphatically on record for news freedom being written into the peace treaties.

The leaders' statements were solicited in order to ascertain parliamentary opinion on freedom of news.

Prime Minister King, expressing a hope for early removal of wartime censorship, said:

"I believe that freedom of exchange of international news is essential for informed opinion on international affairs and that this is indispensable to the maintenance of peace. I . . . trust that in the postworld no government will attempt to insulate its people against the free flow of news into and from its national boundaries.

"I believe, too, that all who are interested in the freedom of news should give careful consideration to the importance of equal transmission facilities."

Pope Addresses War Sufferers

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New York, Dec. 20 (AP)—A special Christmas message from Pope Pius XIII to prisoners of war, internees, refugees and all "who are suffering from this prolonged conflict" was broadcast last night by the Vatican radio.

The text of the message, as broadcast in German, French, Italian and Polish, follows:

"To our beloved sons, prisoners, internees and refugees, and to all who are suffering from this prolonged conflict, and who on all paths of this world continue on their way, suffering, mourning and weeping: May the Savior of mankind grant you strength—He who giveth freedom after agony so long endured, He the only and Omnipotent Regenerator of downtrodden humanity.

"The message of peace—sent forth anew unto a sorely tried world—the message of peace proclaimed by the angels on the fields of Bethlehem will be to you a sure omen for the approaching end of your sufferings and a harbinger of life renewed and rejuvenated through fertile works of charity and goodness. That all this may find fulfilment, we extend to you, as a token of Divine mercy, our Apostolic benediction."

Jap Admiral Nagumo 'Enrolled Among Gods'

San Francisco, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Tokyo radio said tonight that Buddhist funeral rites were held in the Japanese capital today for Admiral Chuichi Nagumo, killed last July on Saipan Island, where he commanded Nipponese forces, and his spirit "was eternally enrolled among the gods."

The funeral oration, said the home broadcast recorded by the FCC, was delivered by Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai. Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, of the Supreme War Council, acted as chairman.

Nagumo was the admiral who led the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

New U. S.-Ecuadorian Treaty Under Discussion

Economic and Military Pact to Safeguard Panama Canal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—The United States and Ecuador are now discussing terms of a military-financial agreement looking toward mutual co-operation between the two countries in both spheres during the present and post-war eras.

The agreement would be designed to assure the United States continued use of Ecuador's air and naval bases at Salinas and on the Galapagos Islands for the defense of the Panama Canal and the continent.

In return, the United States would grant Ecuador a $15,000,000 loan for port construction, agricultural development work, additional road building and other projects.

This loan would be in addition to one already agreed to by the United States Export-Import Bank for $5,000,000 for road building purposes and for much needed improvements in the water supply system of Guayaquil, Ecuador's principal port and city.

Galo Plaza, Ecuadorean Ambassador to Washington, is now in Quito and is said to be discussing the proposed agreement in great detail with the government.

Congressmen Back from Warfront Will Confer with Stimson Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 — (AP) Congressmen inspecting the American battlefronts in Europe "found things in excellent condition," Rep. Costello (D.-Calif.) said tonight.

"Morale is very high," reported the Californian who is acting chairman of the group which alighted at the national airport tonight after four weeks abroad. "They are doing an exceptionally fine job."

The congressmen, members of a sub-committee of the House Military committee, declined generally to talk for publication pending a conference tomorrow with War Secretary Stimson and army officials.

Those reached agreed, however, with a statement of one of their number that "there is nothing startling to report."

Costello said there appeared to be no critical shortage of supplies, although commanders in the battle zones "naturally would like to have more of everything, especially artillery and ammunition."

"They opened the books and showed us everything," said another member.

Fifteen of the 17 who left Washington last month returned, leaving two of their group in Europe.

Rep. Merritt (D.-N. Y.) was stricken with pneumonia and remained in Paris while Clare Boothe Luce (R.-Conn.) was in Florence, Italy. Half a dozen of the group were suffering from severe colds.

Roosevelt Receives New Cuban Envoy

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—President Roosevelt today received the credentials of the new Cuban Ambassador, Senor Dr. Don Guillermo Belt, and an invitation to "spend his next vacation in Cuba."

The Ambassador told reporters with a smile that it was "a military secret" whether the President would accept the invitation.

3 More Libertys for Greece

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—The War Shipping Administration said today it had approved a request of the Greek government for the allocation of three more Liberty ships. This makes a total of ten Libertys allocated to the Greeks. The vessels will be chartered to the Greek government, registered under the Greek flag, then chartered to the W. S. A. for operation with Greek crews. Actual ownership of the vessels remains vested in the United States.

Army Planes Will Begin Carrying Civilians Jan. 1

State Department Certification Required of Passengers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—The War Department announced today that the air transport command on Jan. 1 will begin carrying civilians on a limited basis. Fares will be comparable to commercial air line rates.

Before civilian passengers will be permitted to use A. T. C. planes, the Department said, the State Department must certify their trips are in the nation's interest.

Civilians will not be carried, the Department emphasized, in cases where their transportation will interfere with or delay the movement of military personnel or cargo, nor will they be accepted as passengers when commercial facilities are available.

NAVY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—The Navy Department announced today the names of 266 casualties in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard which makes a total of 79,408 casualties reported by the Navy since Pearl Harbor. Of this total 30,494 are reported dead, 35,130 wounded, 9,298 missing and 4,486 prisoners of war. Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

AIR ACCORD PUT UP TO CONGRESS

Washington, Dec. 20 (A. P.).—It will be up to the new Congress to implement the agreements reached at the recent international aviation conference in Chicago. This announcement was made today by Senator Connally, (D.-Tex.) after the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, of which he is chairman, had conferred behind closed doors with Undersecretary of State James C. Grew.

Senator Connally told a news conference: "The committee and Mr. Grew agreed there would be nothing done about making interim administrative agreements onthis matter until early in January when Congress is back and we can consider it at length."

There were reports of sharp discussion within the committee as to whether ultimate action should take the form of a treaty, which would require a two-thirds Senate majority for ratification, or of an executive agreement, which could be approved by a simple majority of both houses.

Senator Connally himself took the stand that any international undertaking which imposes a continuing obligation on the United States should be considered in treaty form.

Under the agreements reached at Chicago, an international civil aviation organization would be established and means provided under which nations might exchange air privileges.

ARMY THEFTS STIR CONGRESS

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Probe Urged In Hijacking Of Gas, Food In Europe

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—Reports that thefts of gasoline and food from supply lines has been a serious problem for American armies in Europe brought talk today of a congressional investigation.

Both Senate and House committees evinced interest in press dispatches saying pilfering of supplies reached such proportions at one time as to menace military operations, but had since been curbed.

Dispatches have told of instances of American soldiers selling supplies and of gangsters "hijacking" them for resale on the black market.

Committee To Report

Representative Thomas (D. Texas), acting chairman of the House Military Committee, said the question of an inquiry probably would hinge on reports brought back by a subcommittee which has been inspecting battlefront conditions.

Members of the group returned here tonight by air and Acting Chairman Costello (D., Cal.) said they found "things in excellent condition." He said there appeared to be no critical supply shortages.

Members generally declined comment pending a conference tomorrow with War Department officials.

"The committee members who toured Europe probably will have some information on this subject when they return," Thomas said.

Today, however, the War Department said it had no information on the extent of pilfering or hijacking, referring all queries to the European theater. It said it had no information indicating lack of supplies had hampered the Allied defense against the current German counteroffensive.

Chairman Mead (D., N.Y.) disclosed two members of the Senate War Investigating Committee are going to North Africa after Christmas and intend to discuss the pilfering problem with army authorities there.

Senators Burton (R., Ohio) and Tunnell (D., Del.) will make the trip.

Thefts In North Africa Cited

Mead said the principal purpose of the Burton-Tunnell expedition will be to check on the "cleanup" after the North African campaign but that they would look into the pilfering problem, which also was present in North Africa.

He said the committee had no present intention of investigating the situation in Europe but that any recommendations Burton and Tunnell brought back would be passed on to the proper authorities.

At recent hearings by Mead's committee, Col. Fred C. Foy, director of purchases for the Army Service Forces, acknowledged that shortly after the landings in Europe as high as 30 per cent of some cigarette shipments into that area had gone astray.

Foy said stringent action by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower had held losses to not more than ten per cent in any subsequent instance.

Gas Hijacked In Paris

A delayed Paris dispatch, dated December 4, by Wade Werner, Associated Press correspondent, said gasoline had been "hijacked" at the point of a gun in Paris streets and that thefts of supplies at one time "reached a point where black-market operators got almost a bigger share of some trainloads than did the front-line troops."

Such losses have been cut down to "manageable proportions," Werner added, by new military police battalions.

As long ago as September, the Army Provost Marshal's office in Paris announced arrest of 27 American soldiers in a campaign against black-market operations.

One soldier truck driver, accused of selling a load of gasoline, was found to have 51,000 francs on his person.

In October the Army newspaper

Stars and Stripes quoted a supply officer at the Normandy base section as saying pipelines and truck convoys bound for the front were being looted of thousands of gallons of gasoline and tons of rations.

Roosevelt Gives Yule Greeting To All in Service

Military Chieftains Also Send Messages to Men on Behalf of the Nation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—President Roosevelt and members of the high command sent Christmas greetings today to men and women of the armed forces throughout the world.

"On behalf of a grateful nation," said Mr. Roosevelt's message, "I send to the men and women of our armed forces everywhere warm and confident good wishes this fourth Christmas of war. On Christmas Day, more than on any other day, we remember you with pride and with humility, with anguish and with joy. We shall keep on remembering you all the days of our lives.

"It is therefore with solemn pride that I salute those who stand in the forefront of the struggle to bring back to a suffering world the way of life symbolized by the spirit of Christmas."

In another message addressed to ill and wounded fighters, the President said:

"With a deep personal sense o obligation I welcome the privileg of sending to you this Christma Day a message of admiration an affection. You have given of you blood and health to restore t Christmas its meaning and t make the spirit of Christmas gen uinely prevail throughout th world.

"It takes courage to fight on battle front and it takes courag to fight from a hospital bed. W would not cheapen your hours o heroism by wishing you a 'Merr Christmas,' but we wish you t know that we are with you i spirit, in comradeship and in faith.'

Military leaders, including Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal, General George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, and Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific commander in chief, also sent Christmas messages to service personnel throughout the world.

Mr. Stimson expressed the "admiration of a grateful nation for your courage and fortitude." General Marshall sent the nation's thanks "for the victories of recent months, for the magnificent work and sacrifices of the men in the field."

Mr. Forrestal said, "Your efforts have brought us all nearer to the day of victory—to the day when we shall again know 'Peace on earth.'"

And Admiral Nimitz said, "We may look forward to this New Year assured that it will see new and more powerful blows dealt the enemy and that it will bring us closer to victory and peace. . . . That is the priceless gift you are earning for your loved ones."

Admiral Ernest J. King, Navy commander in chief, in another Christmas message, said it was unnecessary to detail progress fighting men have made during the last year—"you have fulfilled every expectation. Our enemies are harassed on all fronts," he continued.

"While we are all pleased with our successes to date, we must be realistic about the future. We hope next Christmas may be celebrated in peace; but if not, I am confident that you will continue your efforts to achieve complete victory as early as may be."

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Army on Air Christmas Eve

Greetings from Soldiers in Battle Areas To Be Heard Over N. B. C.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP).—Christmas greetings from service men and women around the world will be brought to the home folks on the Army radio hour Christmas Eve. The broadcast, over National Broadcasting Company stations, will carry greetings from soldiers in the Arctic Circle, the South Pacific, China, Germany, the United States and many other countries. Wounded men will broadcast from the Christmas-bedecked hospital train in the United States.

An attempt will be made to pick up the voice of the only American on Norfolk Island in the South Pacific. He is Technical Sergeant Wilbur V. Lynam, of Rensselaer, Ind., who operates the Army airways communication system transmitter there.

STETTINIUS TELLS DEPARTMENT PLANS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20—(AP) Secretary of State Stettinius made public today his plan for tightening administration and speeding up his department's work.

At the same time, he disclosed that he is going to make more changes and ask Congress for increased appropriations so he can enlarge the department.

The organization was made public just after Under-Secretary Joseph C. Grew and four new assistant secretaries took the oath of office in an unusual and informal mass ceremony.

The word Stettinius and his new aides kept repeating when they spoke of the changes was teamwork—reflected in the reorganization chart which eliminated divided responsibility and places all the work under what Stettinius called his eight generals in the field.

These are:

Legal advisor Green H. Hackworth, assistant secretary William L. Clayton in charge of economic affairs, assistant secretary Dean Acheson for Congressional relations and international conferences, assistant secretary James C. Dunn in charge of political affairs outside the western hemisphere, assistant secretary Nelson A. Rockefeller in charge of American Republic affairs, special assistant Leo Pasvolsky in charge of international organization and security affairs, assistant secretary Archibald MacLeish in charge of public and cultural relations, and assistant secretary Julius C. Holmes in charge of administration.

Holmes, who now is in Paris cleaning up his job as assistant to General Eisenhower, will return and take the oath next month.

Two new aides were appointed. Charles E. Bohlen now the department's top Russian expert who accompanied President Roosevelt to Teheran and Cordell Hull to Moscow, will have the new job of liaison officer with the White House.

Stettinius also brought Wilder Foote over from the foreign economics administration as an assistant. While he has no direct charted connection with press relations, Foote is expected to play an important part in Stettinius public relations.

Stettinius Hints New Changes

In Bureau

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—Secretary Stettinius unveiled his modernized State Department setup today as his hard-won team of new assistants was sworn in.

In the reorganization crossing lines of responsibility were cleared away and the Under Secretary, Joseph C. Grew, was relieved of detail jobs. Stettinius and Grew will work together as a unit.

More Changes Hinted

The Secretary told reporters it was his aim to bring the best qualified men in America into the department and to make it the best possible arm of the Government to cope with difficult tasks ahead. Further changes are in prospect, he indicated.

Throughout his explanation of how departmental machinery has been revamped the teamwork theme was constantly emphasized.

Grew and four assistant secretaries were sworn in by Associate Justice Stanley Reed of the Supreme Court after a battle in the Senate over their appointments. The fight ended last night after President Roosevelt insisted they were the men he wanted for the jobs.

Holmes Still In Paris

One of the five new assistant secretaries was absent from today's ceremony. He is Brig. Gen. Julius C. Holmes, who is now in Paris finishing up his job as deputy to General Eisenhower. He will return here January 15, Stettinius said.

In a formal statement dealing with the reorganization, Stettinius said:

"No stone will be left unturned to make the department strong and fully equipped to discharge its responsibilities in the future."

Today's changes, he added, "should not be considered as a final answer to the department's needs."

New Funds Proposed

"Further improvements which will require additional executive personnel and increased appropriations still remain before us," he said.

He noted that during the past year 190 executives were added to the department, which he called a "considerable infusion of new blood."

Stettinius also disclosed the appointment of Avra Warren, Ambassador to Panama, as director of the Office of American Republic Affairs under Assistant Secretary Nelson Rockefeller, replacing Norman Armour, who has been named Ambassador to Spain.

Pasvolsky Remains

Leo Pasvolsky was continued as special assistant to the Secretary and put in charge of a consolidated office to deal with postwar problems and the organization of a world-security agency.

The reorganization provides for what Stettinius called eight generals in the field. These are the offices of the six asistant secretaries, including Dean Acheson, in charge of congressional relations and international conferences, and the offices of Pasvolsky and Legal Adviser Green H. Hackworth.

All the work of the department was put under these men with exception of five special asssistants to Stettinius and four advisers and consultants carried over.

Army Rejects Offer From Retiring WASPs

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Army Air Forces has turned down an offer from disbanding WASPs of the 6th Ferrying Squadron at Long Beach, Cal., to continue flying service for $1 a year.

The air forces said the offer was appreciated but that enough men pilots are available to carry on the ferrying operations which the women civilian pilots had been performing.

Air forces headquarters said it had not received a similar offer from WASPs at New Castle, Del., but that they would get the same reply.

MALONEY IS HEAD OF COMMITTEE TO SPEED CONGRESS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 — (AP) A special joint committee of senators and representatives set out today to lift Congress out of the snuff-box-and-wig era.

Its aim is to transfrom the lawmaking group into a modern, smooth-working organization.

"But please don't call it streamlining," pleaded Senator Maloney (D.-Conn.), named chairman at today's organizing session. "I don't like that word."

Creation of the committee, long advocated by Maloney and Rep. Monroney (D.-Okla.), was one of the last acts of the 78th Congress which adjourned yesterday. Monroney, a tall, youngish, former newspaper man, was named vice chairman.

As its first move, the committee of 12 decided to send out a circular letter to all their colleagues suggestions for improvement of the present cumbersome machinery.

They will procede slowly and cautiously, though. Both Houses are jealous of their traditional duties and perquisites. Certainly, it is agreed, there will be no such drastic recommendations as abrogation of seniority rules which determines committee chairmanships, or of the right of the Senate to indulge in unlimited debate.

The concurrent resolution which set up the committee directs it to make "a full and complete" study of the organization and operation of Congress and to recommend improvements designed to strengthen Congress, simplify its operations and improve its relationship with other branches of the government.

The study will include—but will not be limited to—the organization and operation of both Houses and the relationships between them, the employment and pay of personnel by the members and the various committes, and the structure and relationships between those committees.

DEC 21944

One thing most of the members want is more adequate staffing of committees by experts in the subjects which come under their respective jurisdictions. Many lawmakers belong to six or more committees, and cannot be familiar personally with every detail of legislation that comes before them.

A request for billions of dollars, for instance, may come to one of the appropriations committees. The members must rely in the main, on the testimony of the people who want the appropriation. They have no definite assurance that it is not too large or, for that matter, large enough.

"It actually costs more to run the bureau of Indian Affairs in the department of the interior than it does to finance all the operations of Congress," Maloney tells his friends.

"This is perfectly ridiculous. By spending a reasonable sum to give our committees the expert assistance they should have, we could save the taxpayers millions—maybe billions of dollars."

Left Of Center Puzzles D.C.

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—President Roosevelt, on past performance, may well leave zigzag tracks in trying to guide his Administration slightly left of center.

In the future, he told a news conference yesterday, he is going right along edging to the left, just as he said he had been doing for 11½ years.

How far left and right he may swing in the process of holding to a general path challenged the imagination of Washington prophets.

Imprint Of Liberalism

It is on the basis of past performances that the tacking and veering may be expected. For, while the New Deal unquestionably bears an imprint of liberalism in most American minds, it also has had moments when it impressed those minds otherwise.

It attempted a revolutionary reorganization of the Supreme Court. It tried to purge Congress of men the President labeled too conservative.

It instituted broad social changes—wage-hour regulation, deposit insurance, social security, work relief.

Previous Zigzagging

Yet it put or retained in office—and here is where some of the zigzagging came in during the past—men like Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones, a wealthy Texas financier, and moneyed Joseph P. Kennedy, who served in various capacities, including a tour as Ambassador to London.

And, at the moment, Roosevelt has just won what was in many respects the strangest tiff he ever had with Congress.

Aligned against him were down-the-line New Deal senators, fighting his nominations for half a dozen top men in the State Department.

Called Too Conservative

The reason they fought was that they considered the appointees as a group too conservative, too much the representatives of big business or Wall Street.

Bearing some of these seemingly paradoxical factors in mind, politicians, economists and diplomats now are trying to define "left of center" and to apply the definition to events at home and in international affairs.

Politicos and economists would like to know exactly in what direction Roosevelt may move to convert America from war to peace—whether there will be amazing in-

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novations paralleling those brought to bear against the depression of the 30's.

Coming Parleys Eyed

Diplomats would like an idea of the precise route he will follow in forthcoming talks with Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin and in parleys that finally shape the peace.

They would like to know whether he will resist resolutely any power or territorial grabs by Allied nations, whether he will uphold steadfastly the right of small countries to determine their own governments and have a say in what their boundaries shall be.

Urges Study Of Revenues

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—A Republican tax-study committee today urged an immediate "critical examination" of all Federal revenues to help Congress prepare for a postwar tax program.

'44 SPENDING HITS NEW HIGH

Consumers To Pay 97 Billions For Goods And Services

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—American consumers are ringing up a new spending record this year.

The Commerce Department estimated today that $97,000,000,000 will have been spent for goods and services in 1944. That's six per cent bigger than last year. It's more than half again as big as 1939 spending, which totaled $61,700,000,000.

There's a war on. But the department said enough civilian goods were produced in 1944 to satisfy most consumer wants. There were "some inconveniences but no hardships."

Increase In Quantity

Rising prices account for some of the increased spending, but not all. The actual quantity of goods and services bought this year has been somewhat larger than in 1943.

Civilians spent $2,000,000,000 more for food than they did last year, even though prices averaged slightly less than in 1943, according to the Commerce Department report.

Less Durable Goods

The consumers laid down nine per cent more money for clothes than in 1943, but since there was a seven per cent rise in prices, the quantity was little changed.

As for durable goods, like furniture and autos, the quantity sold was ten per cent less than last year. But consumers spent about the same for the goods, because of price rises. Furniture, especially, got more expensive, said the department, but even with higher prices, less money was spent for furniture.

It was increasingly harder to buy some items in 1944, such as radios and low-priced children's clothing. Such items either weren't being made, or were produced in insufficient volume and stocks were getting low.

There were "temporary shortages" in certain other items, like high-grade meats and cigarettes.

Note On Christmas Buying

"The unprecedented Christmas buying of the last quarter of the year may seriously deplete stocks of many items such as men's and women's underwear, rayon hose, and men's shirts," says the report.

Consumer spending for service continued to rise during 1944, but not quite so fast as in the other war years. Most of the increase was the result of higher prices—notably for domestic help.

Also, "while the quantity of services increased slightly over the war period, the quality deteriorated steadily and substantially."

WINTER WHEAT PROSPECTS GOOD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 — (AP) The nation may be headed for another billion bushel wheat harvest in 1945.

The Agriculture department reported today that the winter wheat crop has gotten off to such a favorable start this fall that harvest next summer may total 761,591,000 bushels.

This estimate was determined, the department said, from factors now measurable, such as the reported condition of the crops as of December 1, and rainfall and temperatures to date.

To be added to the winter wheat is production from spring wheat seeded next spring. While no estimate of spring wheat production can be made at this time, officials said a 300,000,000-bushel crop was possible.

A billion bushels would be more than ample to meet expected needs during the 1945-46 season. Next year's production will be supplemented by reserves from this year now are expected to total about 400,000,000 bushels next July 1.

This year's harvest gave 764,073,000 bushels of winter wheat and 314,574,000 of spring wheat—a total 1,078,647,000 to top all records.

ELECTION QUIZ INDICTS KAMP

House Group To Hear Gallup In Spending Inquiry

Washington, Dec. 20 (AP)—A grand jury indicted Joseph P. Kamp today on charges of failing to produce records of the Constitutional Education League, Inc., for a House committee investigating 1944 political campaign spending.

The indictment of the New Yorker was returned as the Campaign Expenditures Committee concluded its inquiry into another organization—the American Democratic National Committee—and announced it will meet informally next week to hear Dr. George C. Gallup, conductor of the Gallup polls.

List Of Donations Required

Kamp, acting chairman of the Constitutional Educational League, was indicted for alleged failure to produce records showing the league's contributions of $100 or more, a report required of all political campaign organizations.

He appeared before the committee September 20 but withheld the records on his contention the organization is not a partisan political group. The committee cited him for contempt.

Chairman Anderson (D., N.M.) said Gallup would appear before the committee next week at his own request.

His appearance will supplement a recent examination by committee investigators of the Gallup poll methods of sampling pre-election voting sentiment.

O'Connor Before Committee

John J. O'Connor, executive director of the American Democratic National Committee, active in the recent campaign, appeared before the congressional committee today for an inquiry into the finances of that organization.

Chairman Anderson said O'Connor was called in because the committee did not regard his campaign financial statement sufficiently detailed to meet legal requirements.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY MEASURE SIGNED, PRAISED BY FDR

DEC 21 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP) President Roosevelt signed today a bill authorizing a $1,673,250,000 federal contribution toward a $3,173,250,000 three-year postwar highway program.

And, in an accompanying statement he praised Congress for having made possible advance planning of "needed facilities on a sound basis." Mr. Roosevelt added:

"Now it becomes a challenge to the states, counties and cities which must originate the specific projects and get the program ready for construction after the war ends.

"It is likewise a notice to the 44 state legislatures which convene in 1945 that the highway program will require their prompt and vigorous attention."

States would supply $1,500,000,000 on a 50-50 matching basis to become eligible for the larger share of the federal money authorized by the bill.

The federal cash still has to be appropriated, however.

Mr. Roosevelt noted that the legislation made several important changes in national policy for highway development. He commented on the authority for designation by state and federal governments of an inter-regional highway network.

He said the measure also "gives practical recognition to the transportation problem of our cities by extending federal aid to projects in urban areas which will reduce traffic congestion and accidents."

The President, observed additionally, that substantial authorizations were included for farm-to-market roads serving rural populations and that funds were authorized on a matching basis with the states for beginning, at least, "the huge task of replacing or rebuilding the main roads on our federal-aid system which are being worn out by the heavy burden of wartime traffic."

FILM EXTORTION APPEALS DENIED

NEW YORK, Dec. 20 — (AP) The convictions of seven men charged with attempting to extort more than $1,000,000 from the motion picture industry under threats "to close every theater in the United States" was upheld today by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Six of the defendants, sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and fined $10,000 each, had been described by the government as members of the old Al Capone gang in Chicago. The seventh was a former Newark, N. J., labor official, who was sentenced to seven years and fined $10,000.

They were Louis Campagna, 44, Philip D'Andrea, 52, Francis Maritote, 50, Charles Gioe, 39, Paul De Lucia, 46, and John Rosselli, 39, all of Chicago, and Luis Kaufman, 50 former business agent of the Newark local of the International Alliance of Theatrial Stage Employes (A.F.L.).

"The evidence connected all the accused with the undertaking," the court's opinion said. "They were a ruthless and grasping crew of blackmailers. The crime struck at the very heart of civilized society."

The court said the fabric of the government's case "was woven out of the testimony of two accomplices, William Bioff and George E. Browne."

Browne, a former president of the I.A.T.S.E., and Bioff a West Coast labor racketeer, now are serving prison sentences on extortion charges.

The opinion said that Bioff and Browne were minor union leaders in Chicago in 1935 when they began to extort money from independent film exhibitors. The Chicago defendants demanded a share of the spoils and succeeded in having Browne elected president of the union, the court said.

STRIKE IS APPROVED BY N. Y. OPERATORS

NEW YORK, Dec. 20—(AP) Officials of local 101, Federation of Long Lines Telephone workers, Independent, announced tonight a majority of the 6,000 long distance operators in New York had voted to strike if the War Labor Board fails to approve a $5 weekly wage increase.

In compliance with the Smith-Connally act, officials said, the strike would not go into effect before 30 days.

Operators favoring the strike handle only interstate calls. They do not include local or intrastate operators, who would not be effected.

Former Minister Arrested By FBI as German Spy Aide

DEC 21 1944

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 20.—(AP) A former New Jersey minister, whose name and address in secret ink allegedly were found on a German saboteur who landed from a submarine on the Atlantic coast two years ago, was held in $30,000 bail here today at arraignment on charges of violating the sabotage, censorship and foreign agents statutes.

The arrest of Emil Ludwig Krepper, 60, Newark, was announced earlier today simultaneously at Washington by the Department of Justice and at Newark by acting U. S. Attorney Thorn Lord.

The Justice department said Krepper had been instructed to establish himself in this country as a contact for German spies, and his arrest was the climax of more than two years of investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation from a clue—a white pocket handkerchief—found on one of the eight German saboteurs who landed from a submarine in June, 1942.

The handkerchief, the Justice department said, contained the words, "Pas. (Pastor) Krepper, Route 2, Rahway, New Jersey," and an unsuccessful attempt to locate Krepper through the message was made by one of the saboteurs caught in New York.

One indictment alleges Krepper conspired with Walter Kappe, identified by the FBI as a director of the Nazi Sabotage school in Berlin, and his wife, Bertha Krepper, "to injure, interfere with and obstruct the national defense of the United States," and "to use a code and other devices" to conceal messages from censorship.

A second indictment charges that about December 19, 1941, Krepper sent a code message, "which was intended to be delivered to the enemies of the United States in Germany."

The third bill charges the ex-minister acted as a German agent without notifying the secretary of state.

Federal authorities said the conspiracy was to be carried out by Krepper who was to establish himself as a United States citizen and then provide lodging and other facilities for Nazi secret agents, keeping in touch meanwhile with his wife and Kappe in Germany.

Krepper received a regular salary from the German government which made payments to his wife in Berlin, Federal authorities said.

Secrecy Lifted On Gadget For Training Bombardiers

(Cincinnati, Dec. 20 (AP)—The Army Air Forces lifted secrecy today from a revolutionary method of training its air crews—a gadget which, employing a Norden bombsight, a strip of film and a mirror, enables a bombardier to simulate almost any situation of combat.

The device, known as the A-6 Bomber Trainer and brought into production only four months ago, already is in use in may of the AAF's bombardier schools and in addition, overseas, is the means of giving fighter and bomber crews up-to-the minute previews of their run to any scheduled target, on the basis of "spot" reconnaissance

photos.

Brainchild Of Army Major

The trainer is designed primarily to prepare AAF airmen for using the Norden bombsight. The brainchild of Major Eduard McKaba, of the Midland (Texas) Army flying school, it can simulate bombing missions with a wide variety of targets.

Briefly, it is to the bombardier what the link trainer is to the pilot, a portable, life-size model of a bomber nose complete with bomb-rack controls, switches and instruments.

A moving terrain area recorded on film is projected upward through a small hole in a 6-by-8-foot screen—placed below the bomber—onto an overhead mirror and back to the screen where, thus enlarged, it "unrolls" to the bombardier exactly as would the earth, were he flying over it.

Speed Co-Ordination

The direction of the terrain's travey is co-ordinated with the position of the bomber at any speed from 125 to 250 miles an hour and at altitudes from 2,000 to 20,000 feet. Such outside influences as engine noise, temperature and drift can be introduced, the latter for its effect not alone upon the course of the "plane" but upon the "bombs" as they fall.

The bombs are represented by a series of tiny lights to the left of the bombardier as he crouches over his bombsight. The "bombs" are releasable, as they would be aloft, singly, "in train" or in salvo.

Hits Are Recorded

So complete is the simulation that hits are recorded by tiny pin points of flashing light on the screen below. Thus the student bombardier can check his marksmanship, with the aid of his instructor who can halt the strip at any time to point out errors of calculation or judgment. Indicative of the A-6's precise operation, these lights show up only after an interval of seconds corresponding to the time it would require a real bomb to fall from the assumed altitude.

The A-6 was described by Paul C. Rodgers, president of Burton-Rodgers, Inc., its manufacturer here, as the first device of its kind.

WASPS IN OFFER TO FERRY PLANES

NEW CASTLE, Del., Dec. 20—(AP) The Wasps are disbanding today, but Mrs. Betty Gillies, squadron leader of the 2nd ferrying group, new castle army air base, and her 42 charges volunteered their services to the government to ferry planes within the United States for $1 a year.

"There is still a terrific job to do," Mrs. Gillies said. "We will have to be replaced by boys who should be overseas."

The woman's airforce service pilots disband under an Oct. 3 order by Gen. Henry H. Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air forces.

"We have sent telegrams to the President, to General Marshall and the press," Mrs. Gillies said "offering our services."

Mrs. Gillies said she understands the 6th group at Long Beach, Calif., has made a similar offer but that she does not know the plans of the other two groups, the 5th at Dallas, Tex., and the 4th at Romulus, Mich.

AWAIT U.S. MOVE IN STORE STRIKE

Pickets Continue Activity in Montgomery-Ward Dispute.

DETROIT, Dec. 20. — (AP) Strikers at four Montgomery-Ward stores in the Detroit area ended another day on picket lines today with both strikers and management awaiting Federal intervention in the 12-day-old dispute.

Reports from Washington indicated that Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson was engaged in a lengthy meeting with members of the War Labor Board WLB referred the strike to Vinson Monday after the company had declined to accept WLB edicts to settle the dispute.

A question of union jurisdiction was injected into the Detroit situation today when an AFL spokesman wrote to President Roosevelt asserting that the Retail Clerks Union (AFL) had a majority of workers at two of the four stores.

The claim was promptly denied by officials of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store employes, CIO, who declared they won an election at the four stores two years ago to determine a bargaining agency.

CIO officials said the strike was called after the company declined to accept WLB edicts that it grant wage increases, back pay, seniority provisions and maintenance of membership clauses to its workers.

The Ward company said the "real issue arises from a WLB attempt to impose upon Ward's a closed shop in the form of maintenance of membership."

Unscathed Veteran Wounds Self

ARNETT, Okla., Dec. 20 (AP).—After two years of Mediterranean fighting in which he didn't receive a scratch, Sergeant Johnnie Trujillo came home on furlough, went hunting—and shot himself in the foot.

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ADD LONDON XX THEATERS

CHURCHILL, IN A REFERENCE TO WOMEN ENGAGED IN SOCIAL AND ENTERTAINMENT WORK, SAID ALSO THAT "STEPS ARE NOW BEING TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE MORE BRITISH WOMEN, BOTH THOSE RESIDENT IN INDIA NOW AND VOLUNTEERS FROM HOME, TO UNDERTAKE THIS IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE WELFARE OF THE TROOPS."

DEC 211944 KA921AEW

ADD LONDON XX GERMANY

THOSE WHO FAILED TO ESCAPE CONTINUED THEIR DISORDERS ALL TUESDAY NIGHT, TAUNTING GUARDS AND BEATING ON WALLS UNTIL DAWN, WHEN THE GUARDS FORCED THEM BACK TO WORK AT BAYONET POINT.

B113 LONDON- (CHERCHEN) fx MOSCOW

WITH THE FALL OF KASSA APPARENTLY IMMINENT, SLOVAK PATRIOTS AMONG ITS INHABITANTS WERE THREATENED WITH A LAST-MINUTE SURGE OF NAZI TERROR. THE CITY WAS BELIEVED CERTAIN TO BECOME THE TEMPORARY HEADQUARTERS OF THE SLOVAK NATIONAL COUNCIL AFTER ITS LIBERATION.

PATRIOT MILITARY FORCES DISPERSED INTO THE TATRA MOUNTAINS BY THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE IN OCTOBER WERE KNOWN TO BE EXCITEDLY AWAITING NEWS OF FURTHER RUSSIAN ADVANCES NORTHWEST OF MISKOLC IN HUNGARY TOWARD THE SLOVAK RAIL JUNCTION TOWN OF LOSONC AND NORTH FROM THE IPOLY RIVER BEND TOWARD THEIR LOST HEADQUARTERS AT BANSKA BYSTRICA, IN CENTRAL SLOVAKIA.

UNSEASONABLE RAIN AND MUD HAMPERED THE RED ARMY MOVEMENTS, HOWEVER. ONLY ON THE TATRA MOUNTAIN PEAK WAS THE TERRAIN FROZEN AND COVERED WITH SNOW.

THE TOLL OF PRISONERS IN THE KASSA DRIVE SINCE DEC. 16 WAS REPORTED TO BE 2,500 TODAY, WHILE MALINOVSKY'S STRIKE NORTHWEST OF MISKOLC NETTED 1,600 PRISONERS IN A SINGLE DAY DEC. 18.

UX328PEW

LONDON, DEC. 20-(AP)-A BOMBER FLYING FROM GERMANY HAS DELIVERED A CARGO OF FOOD TO 16,000 NAZI TROOPS WHO HAVE BEEN ISOLA ON THE CHANNEL ISLANDS SINCE THE INVASION OF THE CONTINENT JUNE 6, THE GERMAN RADIO SAID TODAY.

A PILOT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, "IT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN FIVE MON THAT GUERNSEY, ONE OF THE MAIN ISLANDS, HAD BEEN VISITED BY GERMAN PILOTS. MORALE ON THE ISLAND WAS EXCELLENT ALTHOUGH THE GARRISON HAS SINCE JUNE 6 BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE FATHERLAND ONLY BY RADIO.

TA1058PEW

LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC. 21-(AP)-THE MOSCOW RADIO A

EARLY TODAY THAT LAZAR M. KAGANOVICH HAD BEEN APPOINTED DEPUT

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF PEOPLE'S COMMISSARS OF THE U.S.S.R

LT. GEN. IVAN M. KHKH KOVALEV WAS APPOINTED COMMUN

COMMISSAR, SUCCEEDING KAGANOVICH.

PKL KABISCHKES 00110 826P

30. 24— 21421

LONDON, DEC. 20-(AP)-A T.. L OF 258,849 WAR-DAMAGED HOUSES IN THE CITY'S CIVIL DEFENSE REGION HAVE BEEN REPAIRED SUFFICIENTLY TO BE "TOLERABLY COMFORTABLE FOR THE WINTER," SIR MALCOLM TRUSTRAM EVE, LONDON'S REPAIR CHIEF, ANNOUNCED TODAY. HE SAID THE ARMY OF REPAIR WORKERS NOW TOTALLED 132,100.

KA959AEW

LONDON, DEC. 20-(AP)-A BRITISH COURT MARTIAL ANNOUNCED TODAY THE DISMISSAL FROM SERVICE OF LT. HERBERT LEAK, 29, WHO ACKNOWLEDGE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH AN ATS PRIVATE TO HAVE A CHILD BECAUSE HIS OWN WIFE WAS UNABLE TO BEAR CHILDREN.

LEAK TESTIFIED THAT HIS WIFE HAD AGREED TO THE PLAN. HE DENIED ANY IMPROPER ASSOCIATION AND STATED HE HAD INTIMATE RELATIONS ONLY ONCE WITH THE ATS PRIVATE, WHOSE HUSBAND IS NOW SERVING OVERS

GH415PEW

LONDON, ONT., DEC.20-(AP)-AN AGREEMENT TO PIPE 5,000,000,000 CUBIC FEET OF NATURAL GAS YEARLY FROM THE UNITED STATES INTO WESTERN ONTARIO IS CONTINGENT UPON THE UNION GAS CO. AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES RECEIVING ENOUGH REVENUE TO CARRY OUT THE CONTRACT AND UPON PERMISSION OF U.S. AUTHORITIES, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

T.WEIR, GENERAL MANAGER OF UNION GAS, SAID IN A STATEMENT THAT THE CITY GAS CO. OF LONDON AND THE WINDSOR GAS CO. THAT THE PLAN WOULD PUT GAS BACK INTO 10,500 HOMES WHICH CONVERTED TO OTHER FUELS AFTER THE WAR STARTED.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSAL NOW ARE BEING PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO THE MUNICIPALITIES CONCERNED. SEVENTY MILES OF PIPELINE, INCLUDING A PORTION UNDER THE DETROIT RIVER, WOULD HAVE TO BE BUILT.

B143PEW

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ADD SHAEF (TUCKER) ** SAID

THE ALL-OUT NATURE OF THE GERMAN AIR SUPPORT AND THE VAST QUANTITIES OF LIGHT AND HEAVY ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPONS SHOWED THE TREMENDOUS GERMAN WILL TO WIN THE PRESENT BATTLE AT ANY COST, HE SAID.

DAHLBERG'S FOUR VOCTORIES, WHICH BROUGHT HIS TOTAL TO 15 1/2, CAME WHEN HE WAS ON A MISSION TO DIVEBOMB COMMAND POSTS OF TWO GERMAN ARMORED DIVISIONS.

"TWELVE OF US STARTED OUT BUT WE GOT JUMPED BY MORE THAN 40 MESSERSCHMITTS AND HAD TO DROP OUR BOMBS IN ORDER TO FIGHT," HE SAID.

"I'D LIKE TO SAY RIGHT NOW THAT THE LUFTWAFFE WAS SUCCESSFUL, BECAUSE IT PREVENTED US FROM CARRYING OUT OUR BOMBING MISSION. YOU CAN'T MANEUVER A FIGHTER IF YOU'RE CARRYING BOMBS, SO WE HAD TO DUMP THEM OR GET SHOT DOWN.

"FOUR OF OUR FIGHTERS NEVER GOT INTO THE SCRAP BECAUSE OUR FORMATION WAS BROKEN UP BY THE INTENSE GERMAN FLAK. EIGHT OF US WHO DID GET INTO THE FIGHT KNOCKED DOWN NINE GERMANS."

ASKED IF HE MIGHT HAVE JETTISONED HIS BOMBS ON THE AMERICAN LINES, HE SAID, "FROM THE AMOUNT OF FLAK WE WERE CATCHING I AM SURE THEY WEREN'T OUR OWN PEOPLE DOWN THERE."

DY837PEW

ADD SHAEF (HORDNESS) ** SAARLEGUEMIES

THE GERMANS THREW IN SHARP COUNTERATTACKS ON THE AMERICAN SEVENTH ARMY FORCING THE AMERICANS TO WITHDRAW FROM BUNDENTHAL, TWO MILES INSIDE GERMANY NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG, UNDER HEAVY SHELLFIRE. THE AMERICANS HAD ENTERED BUNDENTHAL THREE DAYS PREVIOUSLY.

THE GERMANS ALSO INFILTRATED BACK INTO BERG AFTER THE AMERICANS HAD PASSED THROUGH.

TO THE SOUTH ON THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY FRONT THE GERMANS RETOOK SIGOLSHIEM, NORTHWEST OF COLMAR, FRANCE, AFTER THE FRENCH HAD REPELLED A COUNTERATTACK AT AMMERSCHWIHR, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

SOME 35,000 GERMANS IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE POCKET WEST OF THE RHINE WERE BELIEVED TO BE FIGHTING UNDER PERSONAL COMMAND OF HEINRICH HIMMLER.

DEC 211944

TA754PEW

ADD PARIS — (LONG) ** BELGIUM.

STILL A THIRD DISPATCH REPORTED THAT VETERAN AMERICAN INFANTRY IN BITTER FIGHTING HALTED THE NAZI ADVANCE IN AN AREA SOUTH OF MONSCHAU. THIS ENGAGEMENT APPARENTLY TOOK PLACE NEAR THE NORTHERN END OF THE ENEMY ATTACK ZONE--THE END WHERE THE GERMANS ARE PRESENTING THEIR GREATEST FLANKING THREAT TO AACHEN.

THE SITUATION SOUTHWARD ALONG THE TTACK ZONE, WHICH EXTENDS TO HE AREA OF THE LUXEMBOURG BORDER CITY OF ECHTERNACH, WAS VARIOUSLY ESCRIBED AS BEING IN A FLUID OR SEMI-FLUID STATE. BELGIAN REFUGEES OVED TOWARD THE REAR ALONG THE ROADS AS LONG LINES OF MERICAN GUNS AND TANKS HURRIED UP TO THE LINES.

IN THE FIGHTING IN THE SECTOR BELOW MONSCHAU "SOME GALLANT DOUGHBOYS TOOD FAST IN THEIR FOXHOLES AND LET THEMSELVES ACTUALLY BE RUN OVER Y NAZI TANK WITHOUT RETREATING," A FRONT DISPATCH SAID.

GERMAN TANK COLUMNS WERE STOPPED AND HURLED BACK IN THAT AREA AND T LEAST SIX ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS WERE REPULSED. GERMAN INFANTRY UFFERED HEAVY LOSSES AND CROWDED AID STATIONS SHOWED THAT AMERICAN OSSES ALSO HAD BEEN HEAVY. THE STABILIZATION OF THIS PORTION OF THE RONT WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY AMERICAN TROOPS WHICH WENT DOWN THE OADS UNTIL THEY MET THE GERMANS AND THEN SLUGGED IT OUT.

(A BERLIN DISPATCH TO A SWISS NEWSPAPER SAID THE GERMAN HIGH OMMAND HAS INCREASED THE STRENGTH OF ITS WESTERN OFFENSIVE IN A IGANTIC EFFORT TO RE-TAKE AACHEN AND DRIVE ALLIED FORCES ROM GERMAN SOIL).

BOTH GERMAN AND ALLIED HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING SILENCE
N THE EXACT STATUS OF THE FIGHTING. ALLIED HEADQUARTERS HAS
ROMISED THAT A FULL AND TRUTHFUL ACCOUNT OF THE REVERSE ON THE FIRST
RMY FRONT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE PUBLIC AT THE EARLIEST MOMENT CON-
ISTENT WITH MILITARY SECURITY.

AN EMERGENCY CALL LATE YESTERDAY BROUGHT A BIG FORCE OF U.S.
LYING FORTRESSES AND BRITISH LANCASTERS FROM BRITISH FIELDS. THESE
LANES SPREAD 2,000 TONS OF FRAGMENTATION AND HIGH EXPLOSIVE BOMBS ON
AIL AND ROAD JUNCTIONS IMMEDIATELY BEHIND THE
TTACKING NAZI FORCES.

TO THE NORTH THE FIRST ARMY SENT PATROLS ACROSS THE ROER RIVER
NTO THE NAZI STRONGHOLD OF DUREN, 20 MILES FROM COLOGNE.

GERMAN RESISTANCE STIFFENED MARKEDLY ALL ALONG THE SIEGFRIED LINE
ROM LUXEMBOURG TO SWITZERLAND AND IT APPEARED THAT THE ALLIED WINTER
FFENSIVE HAD BEEN FOUGHT TO A TEMPORARY STANDSTILL.

THE AMERICAN THIRD ARMY'S 90TH DIVISION CLEARED OUT FOUR PILLBOXES
ND A MACHINEGUN TOWER IN DILLINGEN IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE SAAR
ASIN.

SMALL GAINS NEAR BITCHE WERE MADE BY U. S. SEVENTH ARMY TROOPS,
HO ENGAGED IN HEAVY FIGHTING BEFORE THEY TOOK FORT SIMERSHOFF.
EAVY ACTION NOW IS IN PROGRESS IN THE FIGHT FOR FORT SCHIESSECK.

FARTHER TO THE EAST TWO STRONG ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS WERE REPULSED
N THE WISSEMBOURG GAP AND GERMAN TROOPS MADE AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT
O EXPLORE SEVENTH ARMY POSITIONS WEST OF THE RHINE AT SELTZ.

GESTAPO CHIEF HEINRICH HIMMLER PERSONALLY IS DIRECTING THE GERMANS
N THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE POCKET AND ON THE ALSACE PLAIN AND IS URGING
HEM TO RESIST AS STRONGLY AS POSSIBLE TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON THE
IEGFRIED LINE TO THE NORTH, REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE SEVENTH ARMY
AID.

THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY CAPTURED AMMERSCHWIHR, FOUR MILES NORTHWEST
F COLMAR, AND TURNED BACK AN AIR SUPPORTED COUNTERATTACK NORTH OF
HAT TOWN.

BZ&FW423AEW

DEC 211944

FIRST LEAD GALLAGHER'S EYEWITNESS

BY WES GALLAGHER

IN THE STAVELOT SECTOR, BELGIUM, 11:30 P.M., DEC. 20-(AP)-AMERICAN TROOPS BEARING THE BRUNT OF AN ATTEACK BY AT LEAST 13 GERMAN DIVISION ARE SUFFERING AND INFLICTING THEIR GREATEST SINGLE-BATTLE LOSSES OF THE WAR ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

THIS NORTHERN FLANK HELD FIRM TODAY AS A NEW SERIES OF GEMAN TANK AND INFANTRY ATTACKS SHATTERED IN BLOODY WAVES VAINLY TRYING TO BREACH THE POSITIONS HELD BY THE AMERICAN VETERANS.

TO THE SOUTH, HOWEVER, ELEMENTS OF FIVE GERMAN ARMORED DIVISIONS AND EIGHT INFANTRY DIVISIONS SURGED FORWARD IN NEW ADVANCES, WITH THE END NOT IN SIGHT.

MORE AMERICAN TROOPS ARE INVOLVED IN THIS STRUGGLE THAN IN ANY SINGLE BATTLE OF THE WAR. THEY ARE OPPOSED BY THE MOST POWERFUL PUNCHING FORCE THEY HAVE YET ENCOUNTERED. THE PRICE ON BOTH SIDES IS HEAVY.

THE STRUGGLE THUS FAR DWARFS THE TWO OTHER MAIN AMERICAN SETBACKS, AT KASSERINE PASS IN NORTH AFRICA AND AT THE RAPIDO RIVER IN ITALY.

ALONG THIS SECTOR X X X SECOND RAPH.

ADD IN STAVELOT SECTOR-GALLAGHER-XX HOUSE

"ANYWAY, BEFORE WE WERE KNOCKED OUT WE GOT 23 JERRY PLANES AND WOULD HAVE GOTTEN MORE," ADDED CAPT. SPENCER CALDERWOOD OF LOGAN, UTAH.

WHILE HOLDEN AND THE OTHERS WATCHED, THE TIGERS RUMBLED BY. ONE BLASTED THE TRUCK AND KNOCKED THE TOP OFF THE HOUSE, BUT THE CELLA WAS SAFE. FOR THE REST OF THE DAY, THE GI'S PEERED OUT OF THE CELLAR WINDOW WHILE TANKS AND GERMAN HALF-TRACKS ROLLED BY. THAT NIGHT THEY MADE A RUN FOR IT AND REACHED THE AMERICAN LINES.

OTHERS INCLUDED IN THE FLAK BATTALION THAT ESCAPED WERE CPL. EUGENE EVRAGE, TUCUMCARI, N.M.; PVT. FELIX GUAJARDO, SANTA MONICA, CALIF.; PVT. WALLACE MINNICK, 829 WEST 50TH STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIF.; SGT. B. ROSEN, PLAINSFIELD, N.J.; PVT. WILLIAM WOOD, HOPEDALE, MASS.; CPL. EVERETT GRAY, 1430 MALLORY COURT, NORFOLK, VA.; CPL. THEODORE MCCRACY, 5455 CAMILE AVE, OAKLAND, CALIF.

ALSO PVT. DONALD NUVILL, GRAND HAVEN, MICH.; PVT. MILTON GORDON, 5820 SEVENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D.C.; SGT. EARL MCCLAREN, ATKIN, ARK.; CPL. KEMSEY BELL, LEETONIA, O.; PVT. DONALD SNYDERBUN, 3827 EAST 147TH STREET, CLEVELAND, O.; SGT. WILL ONVERSTITCH, BIG ROCK, ILL.; PVT. SHELBY BOYLE, 188 CORLA AVENUE, LOUISVILLE, KY.; SGT. CARL NORGARD, BENNINGTON, NEB.; SGT. RUSSELL MCCLAIN, HOPE, ARK.; PVT. RAYMOND WILSON, WESTWOOD, CALIF.; SGT. HARRY BOYLE, GLENDALE, CALIF.; AND SGT. GLEN HART, LEWISTON, IDA.

PVT. MILO COWAN, 39-YEAR-OLD COOK FROM LONG BEACH, CALIF., DESCRIBED THE EXODUS BY SAYING, "THEY CAME IN THE BACK DOOR WITH THEIR BURP GUNS GOING AND WE WENT OUT THE FRONT RUNNING."

LT. COL. HOWARD ST.CLAIR OF BECKLEY, VA., ESTIMATED THAT 60 GERMAN TANKS WERE KNOCKED OUT, MOSTLY BY BAZOOKAS, IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF FIGHTING IN HIS SECTOR.

MD700PEW

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, DEC. 20-(AP)-SUPREME HEADQUARTERS PARTLY LIFTED TODAY THE SECURITY NEWS BLACKOUT ON PROGRESS OF THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE U.S. FIRST ARMY LINE, AND THE FULL ACCOUNT OF REVERSES ON THAT FRONT HAS BEEN PROMISED THE PUBLIC AT THE EARLIEST MOMENT CONSISTENT WITH MILITARY SECURITY.

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HEADQUARTERS PERMITTED THE DISCLOSURE THAT THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE HAD PENETRATED FIVE TO 20 MILES INTO THE AMERICAN LINES IN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG UP TO NOON MONDAY.

LAST NIGHT HEADQUARTERS, IN RESPONSE TO PROTESTS OF AMERICAN AND BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS, SAID THE BLACKOUT WOULD BE LIFTED WHEN GEN. COURTNEY H.HODGES, U.S. FIRST ARMY COMMANDER, AGREED THAT ALLIED DISCLOSURES WOULD NOT GIVE THE GERMANS INFORMATION ON THE EXTENT AND LOCATION OF THEIR PENETRATIONS, ON WHICH THEY THEMSELVES MIGHT NOT HAVE DEFINITE INFORMATION.

CORRESPONDENTS HAD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT, AT LEAST, OF THE FIRST DAY'S DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NAZI DRIVE. THEY CONTENDED IT WAS UNLIKELY THE GERMAN COMMAND WAS NOT NOW FULLY AWARE OF ITS SUNDAY GAINS.

KA938AEW

30. 24 — 21423

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES,

PARIS, DEC. 20-(AP)-COL. TERRILLE PRICE OF THE CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICER CORPS SAID TODAY HE EXPECTED NO REPRISALS AGAINST GERMAN CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICIALS IN GERMAN TOWNS REOCCUPIED BY THE ENEMY SINCE THEIR COUNTEROFFENSIVE BEGAN.

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GERMAN
HE SAID CERTAIN PERSONNEL, INCLUDING DOCTORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, ALWAYS REMAINED IN OCCUPIED COMMUNITIES TO MEET THE URGENT NEEDS OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION AND HE DID NOT THINK THE GERMANS WOULD REGARD THEM AS TRAITORS FOR HAVING CONTINUED TO FUNCTION UNDER ALLIED MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

THIS VIEW WAS QUALIFIED BY TECH. SGT. [redacted] ARTHUR F. ALTREE, [redacted] 8029 SOUTH ESSEX AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILL., WHO IS WORKING WITH PRICE AND WHO SAID THAT MOST OF THE TOWNS OCCUPIED BY THE ALLIES HAD BEEN EVACUATED BY THE GERMANS EXCEPT FOR A SMALL PERCENTAGE WHO [redacted] HID IN CELLARS AND REFUSED TO LEAVE.

FALL BACK WITH THE GERMAN ARMIES,

ALTREE
[redacted] SAID MANY OF THE CIVILIANS WHO EVADED EVACUATION WERE CATHOLIC. HE COULD NOT SAY WHAT THE GERMAN ATTITUDE WOULD BE TOWARD THOSE WHO HAD REFUSED [redacted] TO OBEY ORDERS TO FALL BACK WITH THE RETREATING GERMAN ARMIES.

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MK/0163O/UP-220PCW

BY KENNETH L.DIXON (200)
WITH THE U.S. NINTH ARMY, DEC. 20-(AP)-SHELTERED FROM ALLIED AIR POWER BY STORMY SKIES, THE GERMANS HAVE SHOVED ARMORED PENETRATIONS DEEP ALONG SOME POINTS OF A 60-MILE FRONT AND HAVE MANAGED TO CONSOLIDATE THE BASES OF THEIR MAIN THRUSTS.

BY GIVING EVERYTHING THEY HAD, EMBATTLED DOUGHBOYS, HASTILY DUG IN BEFORE THE STEELY ENEMY SPEERHEADS, MANAGED TO HOLD OR TURN ASIDE SOME OF THE DEEPEST THRUSTS.

THE SITUATION HAS CERTAINLY NOT IMPROVED IN THE PAST 24 HOURS, HOWEVER, AT LEAST ON THE U.S. FIRST ARMY FRONT. THE NINTH ARMY FRONT REMAINS MOSTLY QUIET EXCEPT FOR ARTILLERY FIRE.

THREE ALLIED TACTICAL AIR COMMANDS, POISED TO HELP FURTHER PROGRESS OF THE GERMAN PANZERS, MANAGED TO FLY 900 SORTIES TUESDAY--FAR BELOW THEIR NORMAL SCALE--AS THE WEATHER TO PLAY INTO GERMAN HANDS. ALLIED SORTIES TODAY WERE FEW AND INEFFECTUAL AS A LOW CEILING AND POOR VISIBILITY PERSISTED.

THE GERMAN AIR FORCE ALSO WAS LARGELY IMMOBILIZED YESTERDAY A. TODAY, AND THERE WAS A BREATHING SPELL FROM THE GERMAN BUZZBOMBS AND ANOTHER NEW WEAPON TODAY.

ON THE FIRST ARMY FRONT THE ENEMY CONTINUED, HOWEVER, TO EMPLOY CRACK ARMORED UNITS AND ELITE INFANTRY TO GIVE THE SHARPEST POSSIBLE POINT TO THE PENETRATIONS.

TA957PEW

BY DON WHITEHEAD (210)
WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY IN GERMANY, OCT. 8-(DELAYED BY CENSOR)-(AP)-EVEN BEFORE THE ATTEMPT ON HITLER'S LIFE LAST JULY THERE WAS GROWING CONCERN AMONG THE NAZIS OVER LARGE-SCALE CORRUPTION WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE GERMAN ARMY WHICH IT WAS BELIEVED MIGHT UNDERMINE CIVILIAN MORALE AND HAVE "DECISIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE OUTCOME OF THE WAR."

THIS WAS LEARNED FROM TWO CAPTURED ENEMY DOCUMENTS WHICH REFLECTED ENEMY CONCERN OVER DISAFFECTION WITHIN THE ARMY AND ALARM OVER THE HIGH RATE OF OFFICER CASUALTIES WHICH UP TO JAN. 20, 1944, TOTALLED 113,069--INCLUDING 33 GENERALS KILLED, 39 WOUNDED AND 25 LISTED AS MISSING.

BOTH DOCUMENTS GAVE A REVEALING PICTURE OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH THE NAZIS ARE FACING IN TRYING TO FIND COMPETENT AND TRUSTWORTHY OFFICER MATERIAL. SINCE THESE DOCUMENTS WERE WRITTEN THE PROBLEM IS EVEN MORE ACUTE BECAUSE OF THE NUMBER OF OFFICERS CAPTURED OR KILLED BY THE ALLIES IN THE DRIVE THROUGH FRANCE, BELGIUM AND HOLLAND.

THE FIRST DOCUMENT WAS COMPILED FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND THE SECOND DISCLOSED SOME OF THE CONCLUSIONS REACHED.

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL CONCLUDED "PARTICULAR CONCERN IS AT PRESENT FELT OVER CASES OF CORRUPTION ON THE LARGEST SCALE EXTENDING INTO THE HIGHEST RANKS. SUCH CASES ARE APT TO INFLUENCE THE ATTITUDE AND MORALE OF THE PEOPLE AND HAVE DECISIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE OUTCOME OF THE WAR.

"ALL CASES OF CORRUPTION WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE A CENTRAL COURT IN BERLIN EVEN FOR MEMBERS OF FORCES IN THE FIELD."

TA1047PEW

BY KENNETH L.DIXON (240)
WITH THE U.S. NINTH ARMY IN GERMANY, DEC. 20-(AP)-THE MAJOR ENEMY PENETRATION OF ALLIED LINES ON THE WESTERN FRONT WAS MADE IN THE EIFFEL FOREST AND THE BELGIAN BORDER ALSO WAS CROSSED AT CONSDORF NEAR ECHTERNACHT.

SOME OF THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY ELEMENTS WERE SURROUNDED.

NEWSMEN NOW ARE PERMITTED BY CENSORSHIP TO REPORT ALSO THAT ENEMY ARMORED ATTACKS WITHIN THREE MILES OF ST. VITH IN BELGIUM COMPLETED A PINCERS MOVEMENT WHICH SUCCEEDED IN CUTTING OFF OTHER YANK TROOPS, WHILE THE ENEMY ALSO REACHED MAASPELT TO THE SOUTH.

ALONG THE ENTIRE FIRST ARMY FRONT AFFECTED BY THE PENETRATIONS, THE SITUATION WAS BOTH CONFUSED AND SERIOUS.

WHILE THERE WAS ONLY SMALL LOCALIZED GROUND ACTIVITY ON THE CENTER OF THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY FRONT, GERMAN POWER CONTINUED BUILDING UP MILES BEHIND THE ENEMY'S PENETRATIONS INTO BELGIUM. THE LARGEST ENEMY GAINS WERE SAID TO BE 18 TO 20 MILES WEST OF THE BORDER IN THE VICINITY OF STAVELOT.

THE VERY FACT THAT A SPOT NEWS TIME-LAG POLICY HAS BEEN IMPOSED ON FIELD CENSORS BY HIGHER AUTHORITIES TESTIFIES SUFFICIENTLY TO THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION, BUT SINCE SOME FACTS HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO GO THROUGH THERE IS INDICATION OF IMPROVEMENT.

PRESUMABLY STORIES SUMMARIZING THE FIRST ARMY FRONT SITUATION ARE BEING WRITTEN AT REAR HEADQUARTERS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE NEWSMEN THERE ARE UNABLE TO CHECK THE SITUATION THEMSELVES AND MUST ACCEPT WHAT IS TOLD THEM WITHOUT BEING POSITIVE THEY ARE GETTING ACCURATE INFORMATION.

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GH532PEW

BY WADE WERNER (150)
METZ, DEC 20-(AP)-THE MECHANIZED WAR THAT SWEPT ACROSS THIS GION OF FRANCE LEFT ITS MARK ON FIELDS, FARMS AND PASTURES AS WELL UPON CITIES AND TOWNS.

APPROXIMATELY A MONTH HAS ELAPSED SINCE MOST OF THE DEPARTMENT MOSELLE, OF WHICH METZ IS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER, WAS LIBERATED OM THE GERMANS. BUT CROPS ARE ROTTING IN MANY FIELDS FROM WHICH NES HAVE NOT YET BEEN REMOVED.

MANY THOUSANDS OF HORSES, COWS, SHEEP AND OTHER LIVESTOCK WERE LLED BY SHELLFIRE. THEIR CARCASSES, STREWN OVER THE FIELDS AND ADSIDES, STILL ARE A FAMILIAR FEATURE OF THE LANDSCAPE. RUINED RM BUILDINGS ADD TO THE PICTURE OF DESOLATION.

ARMY CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICERS ESTIMATE THAT IN ORDER TO RESTORE RICULTURE IN THE MOSELLE DEPARTMENT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO BRING CK TO THE LAND ABOUT 120,000 FARMERS--OR FIND SUBSTITUTES FOR EM.

THIS FIGURE INCLUDES 100,000 EVACUATED TO THE INTERIOR OF FRANCE ND 20,000 TAKEN INTO GERMANY.

AT LEAST 100,000 HEAD OF LIVESTOCK MUST BE BROUGHT IN IF THE FARMS RE TO RESUME THE FUNCTION OF FEEDING THE CITIES AND TOWNS IN THIS REA.

BZ630AEW

AT A U. S. FIGHTERBOMBER BASE, HOLLAND, DEC. 20-(AP)-WHEN THE NGINE WENT DEAD AT 11,000 FEET THE THUNDERBOLT PILOTED BY LT. BERT GOFF, OGDEN AVE., ASHLAND, N.J., CRASHED INTO THE SECOND FLOOR F A BRICK HOUSE AND THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED:

THE WINGS AND TAIL, CLIPPED OFF THE PLANE, WERE FOUND LYING UTSIDE THE HOUSE.

THE ENGINE BROKE OFF, PLUNGED THROUGH TO THE FIRST FLOOR AMID A SHOWER OF BRICKS FROM THE COLLAPSING WALLS, BADLY SCARING AN OLD ADY SITTING DOWNSTAIRS. SHE WAS UNHARMED.

ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF THE PLANE--AND GOFF--REMAINED ON THE SECOND LOOR.

PVT. CLIFTON PLASTER, PATRICK SPRINGS, VA., A U.S. AMBULANCE RIVER WHO WAS PASSING BY, FOUND GOFF SITTING IN THE COCKPIT WITH A RICK IN HIS LAP, STUNNED BUT UNSCRATCHED. THE DRIVER PULLED HIM OUT F THE WRECKAGE WHICH HAD STARTED TO BURN.

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BACK AT THE BASE A SHORT TIME LATER GOFF PRONOUNCED HIMSELF "OKAY, BUT A LITTLE STIFF FROM THE BUMP," AND TOLD HIS STORY.

HE SAID HE SIGHTED A BATTLE BETWEEN A BUNCH OF LIGHTNINGS AND MESSERSCHMITTS EAST OF AACHEN AND STARTED TO JOIN THE FRAY.

"BUT, USING FULL MANIFOLD PRESSURE I BLEW A CYLINDER AND THE ENGINE CUT OUT. I STARTED TO BAIL OUT BUT BEING CLOSE TO THE ENEMY'S LINES I DECIDED TO RIDE THE SHIP IN. I TRIED TO LAND IN AN OPEN FIELD BUT I OVERSHOT IT, CLIPPED THE TOP OFF SOME TREES AND CAME DOWN IN THE HOUSE.

"SURE WAS THE CLOSEST I EVER CAME TO THE PEARLY GATES. IF I HAD SEEN SUCH A NARROW ESCAPE IN THE MOVIES I WOULD HAVE SAID 'IMPOSSIBLE'!"

WJ1030PEW

BY JOSEPH DYNAN (320)
PARIS, DEC. 20-(AP)-THE FRENCH CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY TODAY PREPARED TO OPEN DEBATE ON THE FRENCH-SOVIET ALLIANCE AMID AUTHORITATIVE REPORTS THAT THE MOSCOW CONFEREES HAD AGREED ON MUTUAL SUPPORT IN PROJECTED AMPUTATIONS OF GERMAN TERRITORY ON BOTH THE EAST AND WEST

IN EVENTUAL PEACE SETTLEMENTS.

ASSEMBLY MEMBERS WHO HEARD FOREIGN MINISTER GEORGES BIDAULT'S REPORT ON THE TREATY IN A CLOSED SESSION OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE YESTERDAY SAID FRANCE CONSENTED TO RETRACING OF THE SOVIET-POLISH FRONTIER ALONG THE CURZON LINE AND GIVING TO POLAND GERMAN TERRITORIES EAST OF THE ODER IN COMPENSATION FOR TERRITORY SHE WOULD LOSE TO RUSSIA ON THE EAST.

RUSSIA, IN TURN, THEY SAID, PROMISED TO SUPPORT FRENCH CLAIMS TO THE RHINELAND AND RUHR INDUSTRIAL BASIN IN WESTERN GERMAN. THIS TERRITORY, ACCORDING TO THE MOST PREVALENT FRENCH VIEW, SHOULD BE CUT OFF FROM THE REICH AND SET UP AS AN INDEPENDENT STATE UNDER FRENCH AND BELGIAN SUZERAINTY.

MEANWHILE, THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TURNED DOWN A MOTION BY LOUIS SAILLANT, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL RESISTANCE COUNCIL, PROVIDING THAT FRANCE PROPOSE A SIMILAR ALLIANCE WITH BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES. THE COMMITTEE SAID THE MOMENT WAS NOT OPPORTUNE.

BIDAULT SAID, ACCORDING TO THE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, THAT THE RUSSIANS WANTED THE FRENCH TO SUBSCRIBE TO A TRI-PARTITE TREATY WITH BRITAIN AND THE SOVIET UNION, BUT THAT GEN. DE GAULLE HAD INSISTED ON A SEPARATE PACT. BIDAULT WAS QUOTED AS SAYING DE GAULLE PROMISED TO NEGOTIATE A FRENCH-BRITISH ACCORD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER HIS RETURN TO PARIS.

THE FRENCH DELEGATION, CITING FRANCE'S HISTORICAL INTERESTS IN THE BALKANS, RAISED THE QUESTION OF A GREEK SETTLEMENT. PREMIER STALIN, HOWEVER, REPLIED THAT THIS WAS OF MORE INTEREST TO BRITAIN, WHILE MOSCOW WAS OVERSEEING EVENTS IN BULGARIA AND ROMANIA, IT WAS REPORTED.

DE GAULLE IS EXPECTED TO MAKE A STATEMENT TO THE ASSEMBLY REGARDING THE TREATY TOMORROW. IT IS BELIEVED CERTAIN THE ALLIANCE WILL RECEIVE ASSEMBLY APPROVAL.

TA950PEW

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(220) PARIS DEC 20-(AP)-A GROUP OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS WHO SAW THE SIGHTS OF PARIS ON AN AFTERNOON TOUR ARRANGED BY THE RED CROSS AGREED THAT THE CITY WAS PRETTY MUCH AS THEY IMAGINED IT WOULD BE.

SOME WERE JUST BACK FROM THE FIGHTING FRONTS ON 48-HOUR PASSES.

LT.COL.RED OVERTON, 122 WOODMONT ST., NASHVILLE, TENN., SAID THE SWEEPING VIEWS AND WIDE OPEN SPACES REMINDED HIM CHIEFLY OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

SGT.MURRAY FAUPEL, 605 FAIRVIEW AVE., FREDERICK, MD., SAID "I CERTAINLY WISH MY WIFE WAS HERE TO SEE IT." HE SAID HE TRIED TO TAKE PICTURES TO SEND BACK TO HER, BUT COULDN'T BECAUSE OF A HEAVY MIST. FAUPEL FORMERLY TAUGHT BIOLOGY IN THE FREDERICK HIGH SCHOOL.

SGT.BOB PETERSON, OF CROOKSTON, MINN., FRESH FROM THE SEVENTH ARMY FRONT, SAID HE WAS IN PARIS ONCE BEFORE "BUT I PASSED THROUGH IT IN A

30. 24 — 2425

FREIGHT CAR AND DIDN'T SEE MUCH."

OTHERS ON THE TOUR WERE SGT.JEMAL MASSAD, DICKINSON, N.D., PVT.LOWELL DALTON, CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO., FROM THE SEVENTH, AND PVT. GEORGE BAUM, OF SAVANNAH, MO., ON A SHORT LEAVE FROM THE FIRST.

ALL WERE DELIGHTED WHEN MARCEL YACKI, A SORT OF DISTRICT MAYOR IN MONTMARTE, BOARDED THE BUS AND GAVE THEM A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WELCOME IN FRENCH.

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WAC PVT.BEATRICE WARNER, 700 TAYLOR ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., FOLLOWED HIM PRETTY WELL WITH GUIDEBOOK FRENCH.

MRS.RUTH MEAD, OF 5529 EVERETT ST., CHICAGO, WENT ON THE TOUR TO PASS SOME TIME WHILE AWAITING ORDERS TO GO INTO THE FIELD. DURING THE MORNING SHE HAD GONE SHOPPING FOR A GIANT CHRISTMAS TREE FOR THE PARIS SOLDIERS' CLUB.

PARIS, DEC.20-(AP)-- THE FRENCH PRESS REPORTED TODAY THAT TWO FOREIGNERS --A SWISS AND AN ITALIAN -- HAD BEEN SENTENCED TO DEA BY SPECIAL FRENCH COURTS AFTER BEING CONVICTED OF COLLUSION WITH THE GE

THE SWISS WAS CONVICTED BY A COURT AT CHALON-SUR-SAONE OF SERVING AS AN INTERPRETER FOR THE NAZIS AND PARTICIPATING IN FORAYS AGAINST THE MAQUIS, THE ACCOUNTS SAID. THE ITALIAN WAS SENTENCED AT DIGNE FOR ALLEGEDLY DENOUNCING FOUR MAQUIS LEADERS.

APL DYNANS 02355--JA-- 241A

MOSCOW, DEC. 20-(AP)-THE IRANIAN OIL CONCESSIONS ISSUE WAS DRAGGED IN THE OPEN AGAIN TODAY BY THE SOVIET MAGAZINE WAR AND THE WORKING CLASS, WHICH COMPLAINED OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION BY "THE TEHRAN REACTIONARY CLIQUE."

"THE SOVIET UNION WANTS TO HELP THE OIL INDUSTRY OF IRAN AND DOES NOT PLOT AGAINST HER NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AT ALL," THE ARTICLE SAID.

THE MAGAZINE SAID THERE WERE ULTERIOR MOTIVES BEHIND THE LAW PASSED BY THE MAJLIS (IRANIAN PARLIAMENT) DEC. 2 FORBIDDING OIL NEGOTIATIONS WITH ANY FOREIGN POWERS.

IT SAID THE LAW, PASSED WITH "UNPRECEDENTED HASTE," SHOWED THAT STATEMENTS BY IRANIAN AUTHORITIES THAT THEY MERELY WANTED TO POSTPONE SIGNING CONCESSIONS UNTIL AFTER THE WAR WERE "HYPOCRITICAL AND UNFAIR" AND THAT THE TRUE AIM WAS TO PROTECT "THE MONOPOLY HOLDING ACTIVE CONCESSIONS."

ASSERTING THAT BRITISH, AMERICAN AND DUTCH COMPANIES HAD NEGOTIATED FOR IRANIAN OIL CONCESSIONS SINCE 1923, THE ARTICLE DECLARED:

"AT PRESENT, THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN PRESS TRY TO REPRESENT THE HISTORY OF IRANIAN OIL NEGOTIATIONS AS IF THESE WERE STARTED BY THE SOVIET SIDE WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES. BUT IT CAN BE SEEN THAT THE INITIATIVE WAS TAKEN BY AMERICAN AND BRITISH COMPANIES AND NEGOTIATIONS WERE CARRIED ON WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS CLEAR THAT THE POLICY OF FORMER PREMIER SAED'S GOVERNMENT TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION WAS DISCRIMINATORY."

(A REPORT FROM TEHRAN THIS WEEK SAID THAT THE NEW IRANIAN GOVERNMENT HAD PROPOSED TO THE SOVIET UNION THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE STARTED FOR THE SALE OF IRANIAN OIL TO RUSSIA BY IRANIAN-OWNED FIRMS.)

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EJ515PEW

ROME, DEC. 20-(AP)-TECH.SGT. MILTON C. LEHMAN, 5464 DARLINGTON ROAD, PITTSBURGH, PA., A CORRESPONDENT FOR THE ARMY NEWSPAPER STARS AND STRIPES, WAS AWARDED THE LEGION OF MERIT TODAY FOR LEADING THE GROUP OF SOLDIERS WHO PUT OUT THE FIRST EDITION OF THE PAPER IN ROME THE MORNING THE CITY WAS LIBERATED JUNE 5.

FIFTH THOUSAND COPIES WERE DISTRIBUTED TO FRONT LINE TROOPS THAT DAY.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY BRIG.GEN.THORBURN K. BROWN, COMMANDER OF THE ROME AREA.

THE CITATION SAID ISSUANCE OF THE STARS AND STRIPES THAT MORNING WAS ONE OF THE JOURNALISTIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE YEAR. LEHMAN GAINED HIS NEWSPAPER EXPERIENCE AFTER JOINING THE ARMY.

ASSISTING LEHMAN WERE JACK RAYMOND OF NEW YORK; PAUL GREEN, BROOKLYN; WADE JONES, HAMPTON, VA., AND GEORGE DORSEY, LOS ANGELES, CALIF., ALL FRONTLINE CORRESPONDENTS FOR STARS AND STRIPES.

BROWN PRESENTED THE DSC TO PVT. WILLIAM OTT, INFANTRYMAN FROM MOUNT HEALTRY, OHIO FOR KILLING FOUR GERMANS AND WIPING OUT A MACHINEGUN NEST NEAR ORATORIO LAST JULY.

THE SOLDIER'S MEDAL WAS PRESENTED TO T/5 NATHANIEL T. ~~ACKERLY,~~ DENVER, COLO., FOR PREVENTING THE EXPLOSION OF 1,200 GALLONS OF GASOLINE LAST OCTOBER BY PUTTING OUT A FIRE ALTHOUGH HE WAS SEVERELY BURNED.

UX1250PEW

ROME, DEC. 20-(AP)-THE ~~XX~~ ITALIAN CABINET, ADOPTING MEASURE FOR ECONOMIC IMPROVEMENT OF SICILY, RESOLVED TODAY TO COMBAT THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT ON THE ISLAND AND APPEALED TO SICILIANS TO OPPOSE ATTEMPTS TO SEPARATE ~~XXX~~ THEM FROM "THE GREAT ITALIAN FAMILY."

THE CABINET'S DECLARATION SAID THAT THE RECENT CONSCRIPTIO RIOTS IN SICILY AS WELL AS SEPARATIST DEMONSTRATIONS TENDED TO "ERASE THE PAGES WHICH HEROIC GARIBALDIAN SICILY WROTE IN THE PERIOD OF ITALIAN UNIFICATION."

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THE ECONOMIC MEASURES IT ADOPTED RAISED TO 150,000,000 LIR THE FUND FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND CREATED CREDIT FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

SIMILAR MEASURES WERE ADOPTED FOR SARDINIA.

RC/01705/MP-210PEW

ALGIERS, DEC.19 (DELAYED)-(AP)--A FRENCH MILITARY TRIBUNAL ~~XXXXXXX~~ TODAY SENTENCED FOUR ALLEGED VICHYITES TO 20 YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOLLOWING THEIR CONVICTION ON CHARGES OF TREASON DURING THE NORTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

A FIFTH WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ABSENTIA.

MK 01730--JA-- 431A

ADD CHUNGKING-(MUDSA) XX SAID

IN A STATEMENT EARLIER TODAY FOREIGN MINISTER T.V.SOONG DENIED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD THREATENED TO WITHDRAW ITS PERSONNEL FROM THE CHINA THEATER FOLLOWING THE RECALL OF GEN.JOSEPH W.STILWELL.

"IN PRACTICE," HE SAID, "I'VE NEVER FOUND ANYBODY WISHING TO CUT OFF HIS NOSE TO SPITE HIS FACE."

THE FOREIGN MINISTER AVOIDED GIVING A DIRECT ANSWER WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE UNITED STATES EVER HAD REQUESTED OR DEMANDED THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMERICAN AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF CHINESE ARMIES.

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SUSS4PEW

Y CLYDE A.FARNSWORTH

U.S. 14TH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN CHINA, DEC. 19-(DELAYED)-AP)-AJ.GEN.CLAIRE L.CHENNAULT SAID TODAY MONDAY'S RAID ON HANKOW BY UPERFORTRESSES AND LIGHTER BOMBERS WHICH DROPPED MORE THAN 600 TONS F INCENDIARIES AND EXPLOSIVES PROBABLY WAS THE GREATEST SINGLE ERIAL BLOW EVER STRUCK THE JAPANESE ANYWHERE.

THE 14TH AIR FORCE COMMANDER SAID IT CERTAINLY WAS THE HEAVIEST UN EVER MADE AGAINST THE JAPANESE IN CONTINENTAL OPERATIONS. HE ECLARED IT NOT ONLY MARKED A TURN IN THE STRATEGY OF THE AIR WAR IN HINA, BUT WAS A SUPREME EXAMPLE OF THE COMMAND TEAM-PLAY UNDER THE EW CHINA THEATER SETUP.

EXPRESSING HIS VIEWS IN AN INTERVIEW, CHENNAULT SAID PLANS FOR HE ATTACK WERE DRAWN UP BY MAJ.GEN.ALBERT C.WEDEMEYER, AMERICAN OMMANDER IN CHINA. EXECUTION FELL TO THE 14TH AIR FORCE AND THE OTH BOMBER COMMAND.

CHENNAULT SAID HANKOW HAD BEEN THE HUB OF THE JAPANESE EFFORT FOR HE LAST SIX YEARS. HE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT THE BOMBING WOULD AVE AN "APPRECIABLE EFFECT" ON THE PRESENT JAPANESE CAMPAIGN IN OUTH CHINA, BUT SAID IT WOULD NOT STOP IT.

"I THINK WE HURT THEM BADLY YESTERDAY," HE DECLARED. "I AM SORRY T HAD TO BE A CHINESE CITY, BUT WE TRIED TO SPARE THE CIVILIAN OPULATION AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE."

THE COUNT OF ENEMY PLANES WRECKED STILL IS INCOMPLETE OWING O THE DIFFICULTIES OF OBSERVATION, BUT LATEST TOTALS SHOW 42 DESTROYED OF WHICH 21 WERE KNOCKED DOWN IN AIR COMBAT; 24 PROBABLY DESTROYED OF WHICH SIX WERE SHOT FROM THE AIR, AND 22 DAMAGED, INCLUDING NINE IN THE AIR. THE 14TH'S LOSSES WERE FOUR FIGHTERS MISSING. CHENNAULT SAID ALL OF THE B-29S RETURNED SAFELY TO THEIR BASE.

DESPITE THE GREAT DIVERSION OF ITS STRENGTH TO THE HANKOW ATTACK THE 14TH ALSO STRUCK ELSEWHERE AT JAPANESE COLUMNS IN THE LUNG RIVER VALLEY IN SUPPORT OF CHINESE GROUND FORCES FIGHTING ALONG THE KWANGSI-KWEICHOW BORDER. RIVER SHIPPING ALONG THE FRENCH INDO-CHINA BORDER ALSO WAS STRAFED.

WD237PEW

BY CHARLES A. GRUMICH

A B-29 BASE IN CHINA,Dec. 21-AP ** The U.S. 20th Bomber command sent a medium force of superfortresses on a long mission today to Japan and Eastern occupied China,where the B-29's dropped firebombs and explosives on previously attacked targets at Omura,Shanghai and Nanking.

This mission came within a few hours after the incendiary blow on Hankow.

Omura,where a Japanese naval plane victory was bombed in earlier missions,was obscured by an overcast and instrument bombing was used

Favorable results were known to have been obtained on the Shanghai docksides and storage areas and the Nanking railway installations. There was good visibility at both places.

The superfortresses undertook the long run over land and sea several hours after completing a raid upon Hankow,where they dropped a mixed cargo of explosivies and incendieries.

Over Shangai the Japanese again resorted unsuccessfully to the use of sulphurous smokebombs,dropped by a formation of high-flying fighters. One such bomb exploded near a B-29 named "Superstitious Aloysius"

Among those aboard "Superstitious Aloysius" were 1st Lt. Shellie Green, 24,co-pilot from Sarasota,Fla. who was on his 11th mission,and 1st Lt. Edwin Mann,26,flight engineer from 2191 Erie St.,North Kansas City,Mo., who was flying on his 20th mission.

Mann said the bomb exploded near the wing and he thought some burning substance hit the plane and rolled off.

Flight officer Joe D. Herbert,25,Dublin,Texas,was among the fliers participating in the Omura raid. It was his third visit to that target.

J.P. 750AEW

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BY VERN HAUGLAND

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, DEC 20-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-LT.EDWARD W.CUTLER, COMMANDER OF A B-29 WHICH WAS MAKING A WEATHER STRIKE ON NAGOYA, TOLD TODAY HOW THE ONE-TIME BAD BOY OF HIS OUTFIT HELPED SAVE THE LIVES OF AT LEAST FOUR CREW MEMBERS WHEN THEY WERE THREATENED WITH SUFFOCATION AT HIGH ALTITUDE.

THE PURPOSE OF THESE WEATHER STRIKES IS TO REPORT TO HOME BASE (SAIPAN) THE WEATHER ENCOUNTERED AND TO CARRY A BOMB-LOAD, FREQUENTLY CONSISTING OF INCENDIARIES, TO THE TARGET AREA.

LT.CUTLER, OF (121B HUNTING TERRACE APTS.) ALEXANDRIA, VA., SAID THAT ON THE NIGHT OF DECEMBER 18-19 THE HERO OF HIS OUTFIT WAS HIS RIGHT GUNNER SGT.ROBERT W.WYMAN EL CAJON, CALIF., "WHOM I HAD CRITICIZED SEVERELY FOR LAZINESS WHILE IN TRAINING AND WHO, WHEN THREATENED WITH BEING WASHED OUT, IMMEDIATELY CHANGED AND BECAME ONE OF THE BEST LADS IN THE OUTFIT."

AS THE PLANE (NAMED "BOBBYSOX" FOR HIS WIFE), APPROACHED HONSHU, THE LEFT GUN BLISTER UNACCOUNTABLY BLEW OUT WITHOUT WARNING THROWING THE LEFT GUNNER CPL.ELMER HENDERSHOT OF FAIRMONT, W.VA., AGAINST THE BLISTER. HENDERSHOT SAVED HIMSELF FROM BEING BLOWN OUT BY HOLDING ON TO A WIRE AND CATCHING HIS FEET IN THE WINDOW LIPS.

THE PLANE BECAME DEPRESSURIZED INSTANTLY EASING THE SUCTION FORCE BUT HENDERSHOT'S OXYGEN HOSE WAS PARTLY RIPPED FROM THE CONNECTION.

"HENDERSHOT STARTED TO CRAWL BACK INTO THE PLANE AND THEN WHEN WYMAN SAW THE TROUBLE," SAID LT.CUTLER, "HE REMOVED HIS OWN OXYGEN MASK AND PULLED HENDERSHOT BACK TO HIS STATION AND GAVE HIM AN OXYGEN BOTTLE.

"MEANWHILE, HE PHONED ME THAT EVERYTHING WAS OKAY AND TO GO AHEAD OVER THE TARGET.

"I SENT MY WEATHER OBSERVER LT.PAUL RABINOWITZ OF YONKERS, N.Y., BACK TO HELP HENDERSHOT. RABINOWITZ PASSED OUT WHEN THE OXYGEN BOTTLE HOSE FELL OUT AND WYMAN AGAIN LEFT HIS OWN EQUIPMENT AND REPLACED THE HOSE AND GOT RABINOWITZ ON HISFEET.

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ADD OTTAWA - XX TREATIES

COINCIDENT WITH THE LEADERS' STATEMENTS, CHRISTOPHER CHANCELLOR, GENERAL MANAGER OF REUTERS, PLEDGED THE SUPPORT OF HIS ORGANIZATION FOR AN "HONESTY-IN-NEWS-BETWEEN-NATIONS" PROGRAM AND PRAISED THE FREEDOM-IN-INTERNATIONAL-NEWS PLAN OF KENT COOPER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.#

REPLACED THE HOSE AND GOT RADIO[illegible]

"MEANWHILE HENDERSHOT FAINTED WHEN THE OXYGEN BOTTLE PRESSURE FELL. WYMAN PUT HENDERSHOT'S HOSE BACK ON THE OXYGEN CONNECTION AGAIN AND FIXED RABINOWITZ' HOSE CONNECTION.

"HENDERSHOT, HALF-CONSCIOUS, PULLED THE HOSE OUT AND PICKED UP A FLASHLIGHT AND SUCKED ON IT THINKING IT WAS A HOSE AND THEN TURNED THE OXYGEN ON SO HARD IT BLEW HIS HEAD AWAY FROM THE HOSE. HE GROPED FOR THE HANDLE AND FROZE HIS HAND. THE TEMPERATURE WAS NOW 50 BELOW.

"ELECTRICAL SPECIALIST CPL.HAROLD W.LAPLANTE (1217 HARDING PARK) BRONX, N.Y., HEARD WHAT WAS GOING ON AND BROUGHT A MASK INTO THE GUNNER'S COMPARTMENT BUT HE FAINTED WHEN THE OXYGEN BOTTLE GAVE OUT. WYMAN REVIVED HIM.

"WYMAN, AFTER THE THIRD TRIP AWAY FROM HIS OWN MASK, WAS PRETTY SHAKY AND HE PHONED ME SAYING WE HAD BETTER TURN BACK.

"MEANWHILE CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER SGT.RALPH L.GROTE OF ABERDEEN, S.D., WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO COULD MAN HIS GUNS AND HE REMAINED AT HIS POST WATCHING FOR FIGHTERS.

"I WENT BACK TO SEE WHAT THE SITUATION WAS ANF FOUND THE TUNNEL BETWEEN THE FLIGHT DECK AND THE GUNNERS' COMPARTMENT FILLED WITH DEBRIS WHICH WAS PULLED OFF THE WALLS BY THE TERRIFIC SUCTION.

"IT WAS HARD TO GET THROUGH AND I WAS SHORT OF OXYGEN WHEN I STAGGERED INTO THE GUNNERS' COMPARTMENT AND POINTED TO MY MOUTH.

"WYMAN STUCK THE HOSE IN MY MOUTH AND REVIVED ME.

"I RETURNED TO MY POST AND DROPPED DOWN. MY INDICATED AIR SPEED WAS 325 MILES AN HOUR."

FLIGHT ENGINEER LT.S.O.ERICKSON (ROUTE 1 BOX 17) STANCHFIELD, MINN., ESTIMATED THE PLANE'S ACTUAL SPEED WAS 700 MILES AN HOUR DROPPING 6,000 FEET PER MINUTE.

THE CREW WAS OKAY WHEN THE LOWER ALTITUDE WAS REACHED.

OTHERS IN THE PLANE WERE LTS.WILLIAM R.ANDERSON, FORT BENTON, MONT., CO-PILOT; DONALD D.JULIN, (1922 MEADOW ST.) MCKEESPORT, PA., NAVIGATOR; JACK B.BISANZ (2218 ATKINS AVE.), LAKEWOOD, OHIO, BOMBARDIER; T/SGT.MITCHELL DREW JR., (518 SILVER BEACH AVE.) DAYTONA BEACH, FLA., RADIO, AND SGT.BOB C. GRAY TULSA, OKLA., TAILGUNNER.

GG1140ACW NM

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO, DEC 20-(AP)-T[illegible] FIRST MEMBER OF THE WAVES TO VISIT PUERTO RICO OFFICIALLY, LT.I.h.WADSWORTH OF BEVERLEY HILLS, CALIF., ARRIVED HERE TODAY TO SURVEY FACILITIES IN PREPARATION FOR ASSIGNMENT OF OTHER WAVES TO THIS AREA. LIEUTENANT WADSWORTH FORMERLY WAS STATINED AT WASHINGTON, D.C., AND AT SMITH AND HUNTER COLLEGES.

DY954PEW

CIUDAD TRUJILLO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, DEC. 20--(AP)--[illegible]

GARCIA GODOY, MINISTER OF HEALTH, WAS APPOINTED DOMINICAN AMBASSADOR

WASHINGTON TODAY. HE FORMERLY SERVED IN A DIPLOMATIC CAPACITY IN WASHINGTON.

LAP OCC 239P

LAST SEPTEMBER. ADD OTTAWA XX FACILITIES

THIS RESOLUTION SAID:

"THIS BOARD EXPRESSES ITS BELIEF IN THE WORLD-WIDE RIGHT OF INTERCHANGE OF NEWS BY NEWS-GATHERING AND DISTRIBUTING AGENCIES, WHETHER INDIVIDUAL OR ASSOCIATE, AND IN THE RIGHT OF FREE ACCESS TO NEWS SOURCES BY ANY NEWSPAPER OF ANY COUNTRY; AND THAT THESE RIGHTS SHOULD BE PROTECTED BY INTERNATIONAL COMPACT."

MR.BRACKEN SAID: "DEMOCRATIC NATIONS THE WORLD OVER WILL FACE A GRAVE AND MENACING CRISIS IF THE PEACE DOES NOT BRING WITH IT A GUARANTEE OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS--AN UNLIMITED GUARANTEE WRITTEN INTO THE PEACE TREATIES IN LANGUAGE THAT WILL NOT PERMIT OF QUIBBLE OR MISINTERPRETATION. THERE MUST BE EVERY ASSURANCE THAT THERE WILL BE NO INTERNATIONAL BARRIERS TO THE FREE DISSEMINATION OF NEWS."

"I BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD ARE ENTITLED TO FACTUAL NEWS OF EVENTS WHEREVER THEY OCCUR," SAID MR.COLDWELL. "I HOPE THAT AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT MAY BE REACHED TO ENSURE THE DISSEMINATION OF CORRECT AND UNBIASED NEWS SERVICE ON A WORLD-WIDE SCALE. ACCURATE NEWS AND FREE DISCUSSION ARE AMONG THE FOUNDATIONS OF DEMOCRACY."

MR.BLACKMORE SAID HE WAS "WHOLLY BEHIND ANY MOVE TO ENSURE THE FREE EXCHANGE OF NEWS AND FREEDOM OF THE PRESS GENERALLY."

IN A NATIONAL BROADCAST SUNDAY, SENATOR W.A.BUCHANAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN PRESS, CALLED ON PARLIAMENT TO DECLARE FOR A FREEDOM-OF-NEWS CLAUSE IN THE PEACE TREATIES.

YESTERDAY IN TORONTO, GLEN BANNERMAN, PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS, EXPRESSED APPROVAL OF SENATOR BUCHANAN'S STAND.

DN524AEW

OTTAWA DEC 20-(AP)-THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED TODAY TH[illegible] FLYING OFFICER RICHARD WALLACE GILKEY, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING ON ACTIVE SERVICE, NOW IS PRESUMED DEAD. HIS WIFE LIVES AT 93 BROADMOOR AVE., SAN ANSELMO, CALIF.

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KK417AEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 20-(AP)-LT. GEN. BREHON B.SOMERVELL, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE ARMY SERVICE FORCES, SAID TONIGHT THAT "ONE OF THE MAJOR, IF NOT THE MAJOR, ADVANTAGES THAT WE HAVE OVER THE JAPANESE IN THE SUCCESSIVE CONQUESTS OF THE ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC IS OUR ABILITY TO MAKE THOSE ISLANDS INTO MAJOR MILITARY BASES."

SOMERVELL TOLD THE METROPOLITAN SECTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS THAT THE ARMY HAD BUILT INSTALLATIONS VALUED AT MORE THAN $11,000,000,000 AND HAD TRAINED 700,000 ENGINEER TROOPS, OF WHICH MORE THAN 500,000 WERE OVERSEAS.

HE SAID THAT THE ALBERT CANAL IN BELGIUM, BADLY DAMAGED BY THE GERMANS, HAD BEEN REPAIRED AND WAS IN USE AND THAT MORE THAN 130 AIRFIELDS HAD BEEN CONSTRUCTED IN FRANCE.

TA1043PEW

(ADVANCE) (WX)' NEW YORK, DEC.20-(AP)-LT.GEN.BREHON SOMERVELL SAID TONIGHT THAT WAR DEVELOPMENTS OF THE ARMY ENGINEERS AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISE "WILL DO MUCH FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ENGINEERING SCIENCE IN THE YEARS AHEAD."

THE COMMANDER OF THE ARMY SERVICE FORCES REVIEWED THE WAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE ARMY ENGINEERS IN A SPEECH TO THE METROPOLITAN SECTION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.

"TO BE SURE, IN THE ARMY WE HAVE BEEN CONFRONTED WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS FOR WHICH WE HAD TO PROVIDE DEFINITE SOLUTION," SOMERVELL SAID. 'MANY OF THE CONDITIONS OF WARFARE ARE FORTUNATELY ABSENT FROM MOST PEACETIME ENDEAVORS. HOW FAR OUR SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT ACHIEVEMENTS WILL BE USEFUL IN CIVILIAN ENDEAVOR MUST AWAIT LATER DETERMINATION."

ONE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS CITED WAS THAT OF PORTABLE PIPELINES FOR THE MOVEMENT OF GASOLINE AND OTHER PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.

"THESE PIPELINES PASSED THE ACID TEST OF BATTLE IN NORTH AFRICA AND HAVE BEEN A VITAL FACTOR IN OUR ADVANCE ACROSS FRANCE," HE SAID. "IN NORTH AFRICA THEY WERE LAID AT THE RATE OF 20 MILES A DAY; IN FRANCE THIS RATE WAS CONSIDERABLY EXCEEDED."

RESTORATION OF THE ALBERT CANAL IN BELGIUM AND HOLLAND AFTER ITS WRECKING BY THE GERMANS, REBUILDING OF A FRENCH RAILROAD LINE IN 48 HOURS TO PROVIDE A MILITARY SUPPLY LINE AND REHABILITATION OF THE PORT OF CHERBOURG WERE LISTED AS THE ENGINEERS' GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS IN EUROPE.

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"IT IS IN THE PACIFIC, HOWEVER, THAT THE ENGINEERS HAVE FACED THEIR GREATEST CHALLENGES," GENERAL SOMERVELL DECLARED.

"IT SEEMS TO ME THAT ONE OF THE MAJOR, IF NOT THE MAJOR ADVANTAGES THAT WE HAVE OVER THE JAPANESE IN THE SUCCESSIVE CONQUEST OF THE ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC IS OUR ABILITY TO MAKE THESE ISLANDS INTO MAJOR MILITARY BASES. WITH OUR CONSTRUCTION TROOPS, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT AND MODERN CONSTRUCTION METHODS WE CAN AND DO MA AN ISLAND OR A KEY POINT ON THE COAST OF NEW GUINEA CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING A MUCH SUPERIOR FORCE AND A MAJOR BASE FOR FUTURE ATTACKS

X X X X

"WHAT HAS SO FAR BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IS OUTSTANDING. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO CLOSE WITH A WORD OF WARNING. THE JOB IS BY NO MEANS FINISHED. PLENTY OF HARD WORK, PLENTY OF FIGHTING STILL LIES AHEAD OF US BEFORE THE ULTIMATE VICTORY IN THIS WAR IS WON. AS THE TEMPO OF THE WAR INCREASES, THE TROOPS OVERSEAS DEMAND MORE AND MORE FROM US HERE IN THE UNITED STATES. THE PRODUCTION OF THE NECESSARY TOOLS FOR FINAL VICTORY IS FAR FROM AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT. WE NEED MORE PRODUCTION. WE'LL NEED IT DOWN TO THE VERY END. BUT NO MATTER WHAT THE EMERGENCY IN THIS COUNTRY, MILITARY OR CIVIL, THE ENGINEERS HAVE ALWAYS COME THROUGH. THEY WILL COME THROUGH IN THIS ONE."

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 8:15 P.M. EASTERN WAR TIME, TONIGHT, WEDNESDAY, DEC.20)

LT546PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 20-(AP)-A PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER AND A RABBI, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A 12,000-MILE TOUR OF ALASKAN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS, SAID TODAY THERE WAS "DECIDEDLY LESS" RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS BIAS AMONG FIGHTING MEN THAN AT HOME.

THE CLERGYMEN, THE REV. THEODORE C. SPEERS, MODERATOR OF THE NEW YORK PRESBYTERY, AND RABBI WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM. PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF REFORM RABBIS OF NEW YORK, MADE THE STATEMENT DURING AN INTERVIEW AT HEADQUARTERS OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIAN AND JEWS.

SPEERS ADDED: "NO ONE COULD BE LONG AMONG THESE MEN WITHOUT BEING MADE AWARE OF A GROWING RESTIVENESS AND INDIGNATION AT THE NEWS OF STRIKES AND THE REPORTS OF HIGH WAGES AND LUXURY SPENDING THAT GET THROUGH TO THEM."

"THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND STRIKES," ROSENBLUM ASSERTED, "THE SLOWNESS WITH WHICH BOND DRIVES ARE PUT OVER, NOR THE SUDDEN OPTIMISMS WHICH MAKE PEOPLE BELIEVE THE WAR WITH GERMANY WILL BE OVER THE NEXT WEEK OR THE NEXT MONTH."

BOTH DECLARED THAT THE MEN THEY SPOKE TO FELT THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN A NATIONAL SERVICE ACT AND LABOR DRAFT FOR EQUALITY OF SACRIFICE.

THE TWO MEN MADE THE TRIP WITH A PRIEST, THE REV. EDWARD CARDINAL, OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY, CHICAGO. THEY HELD MEETINGS AMONG SERVICEMEN AND AS A THREE-DENOMINATIONAL TEAM SPOKE FOR THE NEED OF UNITY IN THE POSTWAR WORLD.

FATHER CARDINAL WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND THE INTERVIEW BECAUSE OF TEACHING DUTIES.

FD108PEW

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WASHINGTON, DEC 20-(AP)-A REPORTER'S SEARCH FOR A FEATURE STORY THREE WEEKS AGO HAS NOW DEVELOPED INTO THE DISCLOSURE BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT THAT THE ATLANTIC CHARTER DOES NOT EXIST AS A FORMAL DOCUMENT.

THE REPORTER, TOM REEDY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, WROTE ON NOV. 28 THAT NOBODY THEN AT THE WHITE HOUSE, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS OR THE STATE DEPARTMENT SEEMED AT ALL SURE WHERE THE CHARTER WAS.

REEDY SUGGESTED AN AD IN THE "LOST AND FOUND" COLUMN.

SENATOR CHANDLER (D-KY) READ THE STORY AND RAISED THE QUESTION IN THE SENATE.

MR. ROOSEVELT HELD HIS FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE SINCE NOV. 27 YESTERDAY AND TOLD INQUIRING REPORTERS THAT THE NEAREST THING TO AN ORIGINAL PROBABLY WAS IN THE HANDS OF RADIO OPERATORS WHO TRANSMITTED THE CHARTER TERMS FROM A 1941 ROOSEVELT-CHURCHILL MEETING IN THE ATLANTIC.

IT WAS COMPOSED BY SCRIBBLES BY VARIOUS PERSONS, THE PRESIDENT SAID, AND NOBODY EVER SIGNED IT.

A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS QUOTING THE COMPOSITE TEXT AND RELEASING IT WAS SIGNED "FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT" AND "WINSTON S. CHURCHILL."

MR. ROOSEVELT SAID HE STILL STANDS BY THE CHARTER PRINCIPLES. THESE, AS RELEASED, INCLUDED THE RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLES TO CHOOSE THEIR OWN FORMS OF GOVERNMENT AND TO BE SUBJECTED TO NO UNDESIRED BOUNDARY CHANGES.

FEATUREMAN REEDY HAS AN ANGLE: IF WASHINGTON EVER GETS BOTHERED BY ROBOT BOMBS, THEY WON'T HAVE TO TAKE THE ATLANTIC CHARTER OUT AND HIDE IT.

SU616AEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.20-(AP)-BELIEF THAT THE AMERICAN-MEXICAN WATER TREATY WILL BE RATIFIED BY SUBSTANTIAL MARGIN WAS EXPRESSED TODAY BY CHAIRMAN CONNALLY (D-TEX) OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

AFTER A MEETING WITH GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH, AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, CONNALLY TOLD REPORTERS:

"I HAD A VERY SATISFACTORY CONFERENCE WITH MR. MESSERSMITH RELATION TO THE MEXICO-UNITED STATES WATER TREATY ON WHICH HEARINGS HAVE BEEN SET BEFORE THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE FOR JANUARY 22."

"THE TREATY IS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT TO BOTH MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT IT WILL BE RATIFIED BY THE SENATE BY A VERY SUBSTANTIAL VOTE. FULL AND COMPLETE HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE TREATY AND ALL PARTIES AND INTEREST WILL BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD."

THE TREATY PROVIDES FOR A DIVISION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES OF THE WATERS OF THE COLORADO AND TIAJUANA RIVERS AND THE RIO GRANDE. IT HAS MET OBJECTION FROM CALIFORNIA ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT WOULD GIVE MEXICO PART OF THE COLORADO'S FLOW ON WHICH THE STATE COUNTED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

THE PACT ALSO PROVIDES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THREE DAMS ON THE RIO GRANDE TO INSURE ADEQUATE WATER FOR IRRIGATING FARMS IN TEXAS AND MEXICO ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER.

AB302PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.20-(AP)-THE WASHINGTON POST TODAY DEPLORED THE FAILURE OF THE BIG THREE TO ARRANGE ANOTHER MEETING AND SAID TH A GOOD MANY THINGS ARE SUFFERING BECAUSE OF IT.

"ONE IS THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER," THE PEPER EXPLAINED, "TO THE POLITICAL SETTLEMENTS THAT ARE NOW UNDER WAY. THIS WAS TO BE DONE NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO. BUT THE BIG THREE SEEM TO HAVE BEEN CONTENT TO LET THIS NECESSARY WORK STAND OVER TILI A MORE CONVENIENT SEASON. THIS X X X IS DANGEROUS PROCRASTINATION. FORCES ARE AT WORK WHICH ARE SEEKING TO UNDERMINE THE CHARTER AS AN ANCHOR TO WHICH HUMANITY HAS CLUNG AS THE SAFEGUARD OF JUSTICE. MESSRS ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL SEEM TO BE FORGETTING THAT THE MEMORANDA WHICH THEY JOTTED DOWN IN THE MIDSUMMER OF 1941 AND TO WHICH TH WARRING ALLIES HAVE GIVEN ALLEGIANCE HAVE BEEN IMPRINTED IN THE HEAR OF MANKIND."

"THE ATLANTIC CHARTER CAME ALONG AS A DYNAMIC TO OPPOSE THE DYNAMIC OF THESE NEW ORDERS (JAPO-HITLERISM). IT CONVEYED THE SUGGESTION OF COUNTER REVOLUTION, AND IT IS ONLY BY COUNTERREVOLUTION THAT REVOLUTION CAN BE SUPPRESSED.

"THE DOMINATING SPIRIT OF THE ATLANTIC CHARTER IS CONCERNED NOT WITH SELF-DETERMINATION BUT WITH THE RECOGNITION OF THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF ALL PEOPLES LIVING TOGETHER IN PEACE AND JUSTICE. THIS SHOULD BE REAFFIRMED BY THE BIG THREE WITHOUT ANY DELAY. ANY FURTHER PROCRASTINATION IS BOUND TO MAKE THE ATLANTIC CHARTER THE WEAPON OF THE FORCES OF REACTION."

MN854PEW DEC 21 1944

WASHINGTON,DEC.21--THE WASHINGTON POST TODAY APPLAUDED THE PROTEST OF THE WAR CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE AGAINST THE NEWS BLACKOUT.

REFERRING TO THE CORRESPONDENTS, THE PAPER SAID "THEY DON'T WANT NEWS THAT WILL BE USEFUL TO THE ENEMY, BUT IT IS FANTASTIC TO SUGGEST THAT THE SCOPE OF THE GERMAN ADVANCE IS NOT ALREADY KNOWN TO THE GERMANS. WHY, THEN, SHOULD THE DETAILS BE WITHHELD?

"THERE IS NO REASON OTHER THAN THE ARMY'S UNWILLINGNESS TO TRUST THE PEOPLE IN TIME OF ADVERSITY WITH ANY INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE GENERAL IDEA OF THE ROUGH WEATHER OUR ARMS MAY ENCOUNTER. THROUGHOUT THE WAR WE HAVE PROTESTED THIS ATTITUDE OF MIND. IT IS AN INSULT TO AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE, THE WAY TO PREVENT A PEOPLE'S PEACE FROM COMING OUT OF A PEOPLE'S WAR. HOW THE ARMY CAN EXPECT A NATION TO KEEP FULLY MOBILISED WITHOUT AT THE SAME TIME TAKING THE PEOPLE INTO THE ARMY'S CONFIDENCE IS A MYSTERY WHICH WE LEAVE TO THE PSYCHOLOGISTS."

THE PAPER CONTINUED THAT THE "SAME BLACKOUT" HAS CONTINUED "ON DIPLOMATIC MATTERS THAT ARE NOW PRODUCING RESULTS. HUSH-HUSH LEADS TO SUSPICION AND WHEN THINGS CAN NO LONGER BE CONCEALED, THE RECOIL IS UPON THE HEADS OF THE POLICYMAKERS, FOR THE FACTS TURN OUT TO BE INDIGESTIBLE. THIS IS NOW THE CASE WITH THE POLITIC ARRANGEMENTS IN EUROPE.

REFERRING TO THE ALLEGED ESTABLISHMENT OF SPHERES OF INFLUENCE IN EUROPE, THE POST CONCLUDED, "NOT AN INKLING OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS CAN BE DISCERNED IN THE COLORLESS COMMUNIQUES ISSUED B THE BIG THREE."

EG948PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.20-(AP)-VISIONS OF INCREASINGLY POWERFUL AND MORE FARFLUNG STRIKES AGAINST THE JAPANESE WERE SEEN HERE TODAY THEY RESULTED FROM THE CONFERENCES IN HOLOLULU BETWEEN ADMIRAL SIR BRUCE FRASER, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE BRITISH PACIFIC FLEET, AND ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET NIMITZ, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE AMERICAN PACIFIC FLEET AND PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE PRESENT GERMAN OFFENSIVE ON THE EUROPEAN WESTERN FRONT, OPINION HERE IS THERE WILL BE NO LESSENING OF EFFORT IN THE PACIFIC. INSTEAD, THIS LATTER IS BELIEVED TO BE ON THE EVE OF STILL GREATER INTENSITY OVER AN EVER LARGER AREA, BOTH LAND AND SEA.

NAVAL AND MILITARY CHIEFS HERE DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE FRASER-NIMITZ MEETING BUT IT WAS ADMITTED GRAND STRATEGY FOR COORDINATED ANGLO-AMERICAN EFFORTS TO DEFEAT JAPAN WAS ITS OBJECTIVE. MOVES IN THIS DIRECTION WERE EXPECTED TO BECOME EVIDENT QUICKLY FOLLOWING THE HONOLULU MEETING OF THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN NAVAL LEADERS.

VH608PEW DEC 21 1944

WASHINGTON,DEC.20-(AP)-SHARPENED UNITED STATES ATTENTION TO RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION WAS DEMONSTRATED TODAY BY ELEVATION OF CHARLES E.BOHLEN, FORMER CHIEF OF THE DIVISION OF EASTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, TO ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHOWED THAT DIRECTION OF THE OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND THE DIVISION OF BRITISH COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS REMAINED UNCHANGED UNDER H.FREEMAN MATTHEWS AND THEODORE ACHILLES.

BOHLEN, HOWEVER, WAS MOVED UP FROM DIRECTION OF THE RUSSIAN DIVISION TO BECOME FIRST ASSISTANT TO SECRETARY OF STATE STETTINIUS. BOHLEN, WHO SERVED AS SECRETARY OF EMBASSY IN MOSCOW AND INTERPRETED FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AT TEHERAN, WAS ALSO APPOINTED LIAISON OFFICER WITH THE WHITE HOUSE.

LT320PEW

WASHINGTON--(AP)--WASHINGTON WONDERED TODAY WHO WON IN THE LATEST ANGLO-AMERICAN DECLARATIONS ON POLAND--THE LONDON OR THE LUBLIN POLES.

IN SPITE OF THE CONDITIONS IN THE AMERICAN STATEMENT, IT ALMOST LOOKED LIKE LUBLIN, AND INDIRECTLY, MOTHER RUSSIA.

DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES HERE POINTED TO BRITAIN'S STATEMENT ADMITTING

DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES [illegible]

THE NEED TO PARTITION POLAND AS THE REAL CRUX IN THE MATTER. BRITA AND THE U.S. TOGETHER HAD BEEN BACKING THE ANTI-PARTITION LONDON POLES OVER THE LONG PRECIOUS MONTHS OF BATTLE. THE U.S., IT WAS FELT, TOOK THE BRITISH LEAD.

ALMOST BY CUE, STETTINIUS DECLARED AMERICAN AGREEMENT TO THE PROPOSED WESTWARD CHANGE OF POLAND'S BORDERS: EASTWARD TO THE OLD CURZON LINE, WESTWARD PROPORTIONATELY OVERLAPPING PREWAR GERMANY.

ALL THIS, AGREED THE AMERICANS, "IF A MUTUAL AGREEMENT IS REACHED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED."

POLES HERE AND IN LONDON WHOOPED IT UP FOR JOY. AMBASSADOR JAN CIECHANOWSKI RUSHED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, PROFUSELY THANKED STETTINIUS FOR DECLARING THAT THE UNITED STATES "STANDS UNEQUIVOCALLY" FOR A FREE, INDEPENDENT POLAND.

WASHINGTON OBSERVERS LOOKED AT THE WORDS AND THE RESULTS AND WONDERED JUST WHAT THE LONDON-SEATED POLES WERE SO CHEERFUL ABOUT. EVERYTHING THEY GET IS "CONDITIONAL"; EVERYTHING THE LUBLIN POLES GET IS "SUBSTANTIAL."

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STILL THE LONDON POLES CHEERED.

WELL-VERSED IN DIPLOMATIC DECLARATIONS, EMBASSY SOURCES HERE WONDERED--AND DECIDED TO WAIT AND SEE.

ONE SURE LOSER SEEMED TO BE THOSE STILL LEFT COUNTING ON THE ATLANTIC CHARTER.

EUROPEAN DIPLOMATS WENT AROUND WASHINGTON SECRETLY EXPRESSING THE FEELING THAT THE LATEST MOVES WOULD BE INTERPRETED IN THEI OWN COUNTRIES AS "ATLANTIC CHARTER BANKRUPTCY."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, TONGUE-IN-CHEEK, SAID THAT THE ATLANTIC CHARTER DIDN'T EXIST. NO FORMAL DOCUMENT HAD EVER BEEN DRAWN UP. THE 1941 CHURCHILL-ROOSEVELT MEETING SIMPLY PRODUCED A SIGNED DECLARATION FOR RELEASE BY THE PRESS AND RADIO OF THE WORLD VOILA!

IN A CITY OF "DOUBLE-TALK" AND SHRUGGING SHOULDERS, WASHINGTON OFFICIALS KEPT WONDERING--AND WAITING TO SEE.

MAYBE SOON, THE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE WOULD START IN POLAND, NOW THAT LUBLIN HAD GOTTEN WHAT IT WANTED. BUT WHO COULD TELL--ABOUT ANYTHING?

LT214PEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: GERMANS STEP UP MORTAR FIRE, PATROL ACTIVITY IN APPARENT EFFORT TO KEEP ALLIES BUSY AND PREVENT THEM FROM REINFORCING FIRST ARMY FRONT.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: LINE ALONG ROER RIVER GENERALLY UNCHANGED.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: HEADQUARTERS LIFTS NEW BLACKOUT, DISCLOSES GERMANS HAVE HURLED 14 TO 15 DIVISIONS INTO ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE WHICH IS INCREASING STEADILY IN FURY; ENEMY POURS FRESH INFANTRY FORCES INTO BREACH IN YANK LINES IN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG; NAZI PENETRATIONS FIVE TO 20 MILES DEEP AND FURTHER GAINS EXPECTED.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: DOUGHBOYS CAPTURE 40 PILLBOXES IN SAARLAUTERN AREA; MOST OF DILLENGEN CLEARED OF ENEMY.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS FORCE AMERICANS TO WITHDRAW FROM BUNDENTHAL, TWO MILES INSIDE GERMANY NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: GERMANS RETAKE SIGOLSHEIM, NORTHWEST OF COLMA FRANCE, AFTER FRENCH REPEL COUNTERATTACK AT AMMERSCHWIR, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

--DASH--

U.S. DIVISION

FIFTH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY): GAINED NORTH AND EAST OF SAARLAUTERN.

90TH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY) CLEARED ALL BUT EAST FRINGE OF DILLINGEN.

TA1243AEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: HEAVY MORTAR FIRE, SUDDEN PATROL ACTIVITY, INDICATE GERMAN ATTEMPT TO KEEP SECTOR BUSY, PREVENT REINFORCEMENTS FROM MOVING SOUTH.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: LINE ALONG ROER RIVER UNCHANGED.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: HEADQUARTERS DISCLOSED GERMAN TANKS, INFANTRY PENETRATED FIVE TO 20 MILES INTO AMERICAN LINES IN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG AT FOUR PLACES UP TO MONDAY NOON. AMERICANS APPEARED TO BE HOLDING FLANKS OF COUNTEROFFENSIVE WHICH MAY BE GERMAN ALL-OUT ATTEMPT TO CRACK WESTERN FRONT.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: CLEARED ALL BUT EAST FRINGE OF DILLINGEN; MADE GAINS IN SAARLAUTERN AREA.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: THREW BACK TWO STRONG COUNTERTHRUSTS NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: CAPTURED AMMERSCHWIHR, FOUR MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND TURNED BACK AIR-SUPPORTED COUNTERATTACK NORTH OF AMMERSCHWIHR.

-DASH-

U.S. DIVISIONS

FIFTH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY): GAINED NORTH AND EAST OF SAARLAUTERN.

90TH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY): CLEARED ALL BUT EAST FRINGE OF DILLINGEN

DN821AEW

MUNDATED B29S
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE INTERCEPTOR PLANES, ACCORDING TO THE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY, DAMAGED "AT LEAST THREE" OF THE AMERICAN CHINA-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES WHICH ATTACKED KYUSHU YESTERDAY. THE CLAIM WAS NOT CONFIRMED BY ALLIED SOURCES.

DOMEI ADDED THAT THE B-29 ATTACK ON SHANGHAI, YESTERDAY, WAS MADE FROM A "HIGH ALTITUDE" BY "MORE THAN 10" SUPERFORTRESSES AND THAT IT LASTED MORE THAN FOUR HOURS.

(20TH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS SAID THAT DOCKS AND ENGINEERING WORKS AT BOTH SHANGHAI AND NANKING WERE BOMBED VISUALLY WITH "GOOD TO EXCELLENT" RESULTS. FIVE JAPANESE PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN, THREE PROBABLY DESTROYED AND NINE DAMAGED).

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WHICH INTERCEPTED THE BROADCAST ABOUT SHANGHAI, HAS NOT YET INTERCEPTED ANY REPORT ON THE B-29 RAID ON NANKING.

WW611APW NM

UNDATED TOKYO
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE NAZI TRANSOCEAN NEWS AGENCY SAID TODAY THAT THREE MARIANAS-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES DROPPED INCENDIARY BOMBS ON TOKYO LAST NIGHT.

THE BOMBS CAUSED "SMALL FIRES" THE TRANSOCEAN DISPATCH INTERCEPTE BY FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID, BUT THEY "WERE QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED." IT ADDED THAT "DAMAGE WAS SLIGHTLY."

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE ALLIED CONFIRMATION OF SUCH A RAID.

WW546APW NM

UNDATED JAPANESE DIET
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE JAPANESE DIET WILL BE ASKED TO SEEK TIGHTENING OF AIR DEFENS WHEN IT CONVENES ITS 86TH SESSION SUNDAY, THE TOKYO RADIO SAID TODAY IN A BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISS
A RESOLUTION, THE BROADCAST SAID, WILL URGE "A BSSIC SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEMS OF EVACUATION ANI AIR RAIDS" AND WILL CALL UPON THE DIET TO "REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT" TO CARRY OUT RAID DEFENSE MEASURES "MORE VIGOROUSLY."
ANOTHER RESOLUTION, ALSO PREPARED BY THE IMPERIAL RULE ASSISTANC POLITICAL SOCIETY, INNER POLITICAL GROUP OF THE IMPERIAL RULE ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION, JAPAN'S TOTALITARIAN POLITICAL PARTY, WILL REQUEST ESTABLISHMENT OF "A FIRM NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR THE UNIFICATION OF POLITICS AND PEOPLE."
THE BROADCAST SAID THE RESOLUTIONS WOULD BE OFFERED AT THE "DECISIVE BATTLES DIET SESSION."
DV924PCW

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--FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DEC. 20, 1940--PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SETS UP OFFICE OF PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT TO SPEED MATERIAL AID "SHORT OF WAR" FOR BRITAIN AND ALLIES; WILLIAM S. KNUDSEN NAMED DIRECTOR AND SIDNEY HILLMAN ASSOCI DIRECTOR.
ORDER FOR SIXTY 10,000-TON SHIPS PLACED BY BRITAIN IN AMERICAN SHIPYARDS.
FRENCH SUBMARINE SFAX TORPEDOED AND SUNK OFF CASABLANCA.
FW548AEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
Y THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
-- WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
-- RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
-- HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).
-- ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).
FW549AEW

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GERMANS SMASH 32 MILES THROUGH BELGIUM, CUT VITAL ALLIED HIGHWAY SOUTH OF LIEGE

Biggest Battle Of War Raging On West Front

NORDNEWS

DEC 22 1944

PARIS, Dec. 21.—(AP) The unchecked German Winter offensive rolled 32 miles through Belgium and slashed a vital Allied highway 18 miles south of the Belgian fortress of Liege in what was described today as the greatest battle involving American or British troops in this war.

A second and equally menacing drive swung southwestward and rumbled three-fourths of the way across the tiny duchy of Luxembourg to a point 48 miles from Sedan at the French frontier. Vanguards were 10 miles from the Belgian road center of Bastogne.

Only on the flanks in Luxembourg on the south and in the Malmedy-Stavelot sector on the north had the German advance been halted. One enemy armored spearhead, the bulk of a panzer division, was being ground to bits in a trap of steel near Stavelot.

Big Drive Continues

The initiative remained definitely in the hands of the enemy. Supreme headquarters, reporting German advanced positions as of noon Tuesday, gave no hint that the drives had spent their momentum.

Many American formations have been badly mauled, supplies have been consumed and lost, and the Doughboys in the trenches see in the German drive a reverse which may prolong the war many months.

One American counterblow on the north narrowed by nine miles the 55-mile wide neck of the German bulge into Belgium and Luxembourg.

The valiant fight of the Doughboys, a U. S. First army staff officer declared, had bought time in which countermeasures to check the German rush could be prepared.

(A German broadcast, declaring five Allied divisions had been com-

30. 24 — 21433

YANKS BLOCK DRIVE IN NORTHERN SECTOR

But Enemy Still Gains to South and West—Liege Highway Cut—Americans Tighten Gap at Foe's Rear.

Paris, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's armor and infantry had driven thirty-five miles westward into Belgium to a point about fourteen miles south of the fortress of Liege up to noon Tuesday, it was disclosed at Supreme Headquarters today.

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But veteran First Army formations, rushed up to the northern flank of the deep German salient, stopped the Germans cold today in their effort to push northward, and badly mauled large tank units in a heavy engagement.

Other American forces, hurried into action along the German north flank at Monschau, chopped nine miles into the base of the German salient.

[Late this afternoon the Associated Press declared in a dispatch from London that heavy Lancaster bombers of the Royal Air Force, escorted by fighters of the Ninth United States Air Force, today battered the German West Wall garrison town and railway center of Trier. Well inside the German border, Trier is twenty-six miles northeast of the city of Luxembourg, and is a main supply point supporting the German offensive. This news was considered important, giving a hint that the weather, which for days has grounded the Allied air forces, is at least breaking up.]

Nazi Drive Is Fanning Out.

Meanwhile, the German drive was reported fanning out south and west of St. Vith, farther south, in the most potent threat. This drive appeared directed toward Sedan, scene of the Germans' 1940 breakthrough which ended disastriously for the Allies at Dunkirk.

Coupled with this drive were advances by two Nazi columns, three-fourths of the way across Luxembourg.

One column, as of noon Tuesday, had carried four miles from the frontier town of Vianden to just ea[st] Wiltz, ten miles east of Bastogne and forty-eight miles northeast of Sedan. Wiltz is twenty-eight miles north of the city of Luxembourg. The other was in the vicinity of Clervaux, seven miles northeast of Wiltz.

Nazis Cut Two Deep Wedges.

Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's massive winter rush across Allied lines of communication had developed into two deep wedges as massive formations of from five to six armored divisions and eight to nine infantry divisions poured into a wide breach under the concealment of fog and cloud.

The deepest German thrust was fourteen miles west of Malmedy. where tank columns cut the Liege-Bastogne-Arlon road Tuesday and reached the village of Werbomont. The other was the thrust to Wiltz in Luxembourg on the same day.

The second deep wedge had been driven three fourths of the way across Luxembourg. This drive farther south seemed to be directed toward Sedan, scene of the 1940 breakthrough.

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That Was At Noon On Tuesday

This drive carried fourteen miles from the frontier town of Vianden to just east of Wiltz, ten miles east of Bastogne and 48 miles northeast of Sedan. Wiltz is 28 miles north of the city of Luxembourg. A parallel German column was in the vicinity of Clervaux, seven miles northeast of Wiltz.

Those were the positions at noon Tuesday.

Supreme headquarters still did not permit up-to-the-hour disclosures of German positions, and field dispatches quoted "good authority" on the 1st Army front as saying the German drive was not likely to be checked this week although the northernmost prong of the German attack had been stemmed.

Fog Cuts Visibility To Fifty Yards

First Army reinforcements rushed to the scene by Lieut. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges since Saturday, when the German offensive began, had succeeded in stopping any northward push from the line running through the American-held towns of Monschau, Butgenbach, Malmedy and Stavelot, front-line reports said.

But the German drive was reported turning south and west of St. Vith, farther south, in the most potent threat.

American tank destroyers going into the attack in a fog that limited visibility to 50 yards fought a great engagement today outside Stavelot, and smashed the efforts of

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pletely amashed and that seven others were in retreat, asserted the "steamroller offensive" was driving toward the Meuse valley, which is some 35 miles west of advanced enemy positions reported today.

(One Berlin military commentator said the Third army had rushed up into southern Luxembourg.)

Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt had hurled up to 15 divisions—probably more than 150,000 men—including five or six armored divisions, into this desperate offensive which was badly upsetting the Allied time-table for the conquest of Germany.

V-Bombs Blast U. S. Lines

V-bombs rained down on Allied positions and rear base areas, a slackening of the main drives was interpreted in late dispatches as only pauses for regrouping and fresh blows, and uneasiness had spread among civilians all the way back to the Belgian capital.

Fog shrouded the front, keeping Allied air might aground. Only one sortie was attempted. RAF Lancasters blasted the German west front garrison and railway town of Trier back of the Luxembourg front.

The powerful northward drive, traveling 30 miles in three and a half days, reached the hamlet of Habiemont, 18 miles south of civilian-evacuated Liege, Supreme headquarters said.

A report from British-Canadian headquarters declared a German armored column had reached Werbomont, about two miles farther west and astride the all-important lateral highway leading from Liege to Bastogne, four miles inside Belgium west of the Luxembourg frontier.

The German communique, claiming a total bag of 20,000 prisoners, asserted that this highway had been cut "on a broad front" in a push through the Ardennes forest, and that American supply columns had been caught "and rolled over by German tanks." It claimed 136 American tanks were destroyed.

The broad Luxembourg push threatened to become as serious as the thrust across Belgium.

(The Federal Communications Commission reported that the radio in the Duchy's capital city of Luxembourg, which went off the air yesterday, did not begin its scheduled broadcast period today. Advanced German columns last were reported about 14 miles from the city.)

By Tuesday noon the Germans who entered Luxembourg near the northeast border town of Vianden had fought 12 miles west to a point just east of Wiltz and to near Clervaux, seven miles to the northeast.

Wiltz is less than 48 miles northeast of Sedan, where a breakthrough in 1940 unhinged the Maginot Line, and is 10 miles west of the key road center of Bastogne.

Included in the German forces were veterans of Normandy, who took a mauling at Caen and since had been regrouped and refitted.

Reports from the front said that some Germans, presumably English-speaking, had been caught in American uniforms—a violation of international law which subjects them to death before a firing squad.

More Paratroopers Dropped

More paratroopers were dropped well behind the American lines and were adding to the difficulties of American attempts to form up for the counterblows that must be dealt to check the German rush.

Fields crawled with German armor and roads were jammed with German transport, moving under cover of the fog in the sort of soupy weather on which the German high command obviously relied when it mapped the surprise counteroffensive.

The Germans appeared to be throwing everything in men and weapons into this push.

What it amounted to was perhaps a battle to the death of the German army, but it was being fought on the fields of the enemy's choosing.

For security reasons, Supreme headquarters was giving the ground situation on the U. S. First army front only once daily with a 48-hour time lag.

On both flanks American resistance had stiffened, and Associated Press Correspondent Hal V. Boyle told of a battle to the death outside Stavelot with a trapped German force of 60 tanks and 200 vehicles.

Yanks Blow Up Bridges

A bridge across Ambleve river was blown by American engineers to prevent retreat or supply and then, fighting through dense fog, the Americans turned their anti-tank guns on the trapped forces.

Thirty tanks were knocked out along with at least 50 vehicles, and Boyle said the survivors were "turning in churning circles of ruin." American artillery shattered an attempt today to come to the relief of this force.

Large German armored infantry forces also were encircled by Doughboys who climbed miles across the snow-topped forested ridges and knifed through the enemy's exposed flank.

Reinforced elements of Lt. Gen. Courtney T. Hodges' First army had stemmed the northward thrust and were [illegible]g along the northern flank [illegible]e running through Malmedy and Stavelot.

Fierce fighting was raging for Malmedy, five miles northeast of Stavelot, but the Doughboys still controlled the town.

On the extreme northern flank, American forces who rewon Monschau regained several nearby villages, including Rocherath, nine miles to the southeast, which cut the base of the German bulge in Belgium and Luxembourg to 46 miles.

On the southern flank, 46 miles south of Monschau, American forces still held the Luxembourg border town of Echternach, and at last reports they no longer were surrounded.

A German thrust southwest of Echternach had made some progress beyond Consdorf, which is 14 miles northeast of the little Duchy's capital.

A German pincer attack on American forces cut off at St. Vith, 10 miles southeast of Malmedy, had made little progress up to noon Tuesday.

Yanks Battle Fiercely

A First army staff officer said the American troops had fought magnificently through the first six days of the German counter-offensive, had blocked one enemy thrust, stemmed another and had gained invaluable time in which to marshal forces against the deepest enemy penetrations.

On the Third army front, the Americans after nearly two weeks of bruising battle drove the last German from the heavily-fortified city of Dillingen in the western Saarland.

German resistance was rising, however, on the U. S. Seventh army front to the east. The Americans were forced to withdraw from Nieder-Schletternbach, five miles northwest of Wissembourg, and from Bundenthal, a mile and a half east.

At the eastern end of the front, the Americans were approaching Buchelberg, strongly-defended base in a clearing in Bien Wald forest.

German resistance still was savage in southern Alsace, where the French were able to make only limited gains five miles northwest of Colmar.

German armor to break through and rescue the remnants of 60 Nazi tanks trapped near the embattled village.

Nazis Use Captured U.S. Tanks

Blazing round after round, the Americans destroyed five American Sherman tanks and a tank-destroyer that had been captured and manned by the Germans.

"We have destroyed approximately 30 of their 60 tanks and knocked out about 50 of 200 supply vehicles caught with them," the commander there reported.

The new German attack, made on the fourth successive day they have attempted to rescue the trapped tank outfit, was made less than two miles southeast of Malmedy, the funnel through which the Kaiser poured his armies toward Liege in August, 1914.

At the same time other veteran American units swung into positions along the northern flank of the Nazi salient.

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Yanks Drive Nine Miles Into One Wedge

An important success was reported from the strengthened north wall along the German salient.

Americans who had already recaptured Monschau in Germany drove nine miles southward and captured Rocherath and several near-by villages in an attack that cut the neck of the German salient down to 46 miles. It had been 55.

Nevertheless, the German drive by Tuesday noon had proceeded westward and reached Hoyemont, fourteen miles west of Malmedy and ten miles beyond Stavelot.

More German parachutists were dropped Monday night, this time in the area just south of Hoyemont.

Nieder Schlettenbach Lost

St. Vith, bypassed by the Germans, was still in American hands at noon Tuesday, as was Echternach on the Luxembourg border to the southeast.

Echternach was reported no longer completely surrounded, although the Germans had gained more ground in the Consdorf area to the southwest.

Meanwhile furious fire from the Siegfried Line's pillboxes, thickly overgrown by underbrush in the six years since their construction, drove 7th Army Americans out of Nieder Schlettenbach, five miles northwest of Wissembourg in the sector north of Strasbourg.

Patch's Men Gain Farther East

Nieder Schlettenbach, entered four days ago, is a mile and a half east of Bundenthal, from which the Americans withdrew yesterday.

Farther east, however, Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's doughboys approached Buchelberg, three miles north of Lauterbourg on the Palatinate border, and neared the halfway mark in their progress through the Bienwald Forest.

The Germans' Own Claims

[The German communiqué declared today that besides cutting the Liege-Bastogne highway, the Nazis had taken 20,000 prisoners in their offensive. The highway from Liege to Bastogne was cut "on a broad front," the communiqué said, without specifying where.

["Enemy supply columns moving toward the Meuse River were caught up with and overtaken by German tanks. Freshly brought-up American units were split up into single groups and did not succeed in checking our advance," the broadcast communique said.

[Advance German units have "penetrated into the Ardennes," it added.

"136 Tanks Knocked Out"

[Americans in the Schnee Eifel Forest in Germany, "far behind the front, were either wiped out or taken prisoner yesterday. Seven thousand Americans were captured," the communique asserted.

["In yesterday's fighting, 43 tanks and armored vehicles as well as 50 guns were captured and 136 tanks were knocked out."

[Elsewhere on the Western front, Allied attacks continued without success, it added.]

Planes Entirely Grounded

The low clouds and fog for the second day kept Allied air forces on the ground and robbed Hodges's army of its best chance of pulling down the German offensive to a complete halt immediately.

With the fields crawling with German armor and roads jammed with German transport, the weather was a tragedy for Allied air power. Only six Allied planes got off the ground yesterday.

3d Army Clears Dillingen

South of the 1st Army sector, the 3d Army of Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., hacked deeper into the Siegfried Line after penetrating its primary defenses by finally clearing the Germans out of all Dillingen, three miles north of Saarlautern.

The 7th Army, in slow going, drove the Germans out of two Maginot Line forts — Simserhoff and Schiesseck, one and two miles west of Bitche—and hammered at Siegfried Line defenses in the Wissembourg Gap near the Rhine after penetrating seven lines of dragon's teeth.

The French in the Vosges advanced a mile south of Lake Noir, thirteen miles west of Calmar, and reached Les Hautes Huttes.

Nazi Power Called Surprise

The stand of the Germans all along these other fronts had stiffened surprisingly, considering the fury they had concentrated in their new drive, and apparently was intended to tie up Allied forces that might otherwise be shifted to the Belgium-Luxembourg sector.

Considerable Nazi movement was observed around Linnich and Lindern, north of the 1st Army sector. Rundstedt was throwing in everything he had—from five to six armored divisions specially trained for the breakthrough task to Volksgrenadiers—reported to make up the bulk of the eight or nine infantry divisions following the *Panzers*.

Eisenhower Schedule Ruined?

There was a feeling at Allied headquarters that it might be days before the assault could be brought to a stop and weeks before the damage could be repaired, with General Eisenhower's winter offensive schedule torn to shreds.

While it may be the death battle of the German army, coming out into the open in a last blaze of offensive power, the Germans were making it one of the bloodiest struggles of the whole war for both sides.

Nazis Mass More Armor

In a single area due east of Butgenbach, ground and air forces knocked out 28 tanks before the weather closed in. But Rundstedt's armor was still out in strength and operating in groups of 20 and 30.

Fresh massings of armor for new attacks on key objectives were reported this morning.

The Germans intensified their use of V-bombs against Belgian targets to interfere with American supply and reinforcement movements, but the main weight of this barrage fell on Belgian civilians.

Setback Is Americans' Greatest

Despite the American reverse—already the greatest suffered in two years of fighting in Europe and Africa—there was some tendency among military men to welcome the German attack. A belief prevailed that "This was it"—the big battle that could eventually lead to final victory.

There was no doubt that the Germans were expending vast reserves, and a defeat of the attacking forces could be so decisive as to shorten the war materially.

Masses Of Nazi Transport

An American flyer said last night that the roads just behind the German front were lined virtually bumper to bumper with Nazi transport of every description. Unbelievable numbers of anti-aircraft guns, apparently massed especially for this offensive, guard the German supply lines, he said.

The pea-soup fog that clung close to the ground and kept Allied bombers down made things so dark that vehicle lights had to be used at noon.

AMERICANS CRUSHING TRAPPED NAZI FORCE

30 Out of 60 Tanks Wiped Out in Vise—German Onslaught Believed to Have Passed Its Crest in Northern Sector.

DEC 221944

By HAL BOYLE.

Outside Stavelot, Belgium, Dec. 21, 2:30 P. M. (A. P.).—American tank destroyers today smashed repeated attempts by German armor to break through and rescue remnants of a Nazi force of sixty tanks trapped near this embattled village.

Letting go with blazing round after round through a thick mist, the anti-tank gunners destroyed five captured American Sherman tanks manned by German crews which were spearheading a fresh drive to crash through the American positions between Stavelot and Malmedy.

The new attack was launched about a mile and a quarter southeast of Malmedy, the funnel through which the Germans poured their armies toward the great city of Liege in August, 1914.

Chopping Trapped Force to Bits.

Before the Nazis retreated, the American artillery had shattered their columns and killed scores of their infantry who had counted on the fog to enable them to surprise the American outposts.

In addition to capturing five tanks, the American anti-tank gunners knocked out one of their own tank destroyers that had fallen into German hands.

As the enemy tried frantically for the fourth straight day to battle through to the rescue of the large panzer force bottled up near Stavelot, American infantry and tank units continued methodically to cut this trapped enemy outfit to pieces.

"We have destroyed about thirty of their sixty tanks and have knocked out about fifty of 200 supply vehicles caught with them," said Lieut.-Col. Steward L. Hall of 125 Lincoln avenue, Newark, N. J.

trymen who climbed miles across snow-topped and forest-crowned ridges to knife through to the enemy's exposed flank. They swept down from the northern hills and opened fire on Nazi columns that were fighting savagely but could find no way to escape.

Yanks Catch Enemy's Flank.

Large forces of German armored infantry also were being reduced in close-range battles by American infan-

The Germans attempted to pull back through Stavelot and across the Ambleve River. But this route had been closed two nights ago when Capt. James Rice of Richmond, Cal., and fourteen of his combat engineers blew up the only bridge across the turbulent stream in this sector. Thus the Germans were trapped by the river on the south and east, by an impassable terrain on the north and by the American defenses on the west. The surrounded units, representing a big part of an armored division, were rushing about in churning circles of ruin.

Nazis Try to Use Swimmers.

"They are still trying to send infantry swimmers across the river near Stavelot and trying to win a bridgehead so they can build another bridge, but our [illegible]

troops are shooting them in the water," said Col. Hall.

The Germans moved tanks and infantry into the Malmedy area last night, but were driven out by crack American infantry divisions, Col. Hall continued, adding: "They attacked from the same general area today and managed in the mist and fog to penetrate in small strength to a position in the vicinity of Malmedy. They overran one platoon of our infantry and some anti-tank guns—using captured American tanks. But our artillery and tank destroyers were reported to have driven off the attack by 1 P. M.

"They have been accumulating American equipment and uniforms for some time, and some Germans were specially trained to use this equipment. The Nazis feel this gives them the advantage of surprise."

Sees Enemy Push Past Its Crest.

Col. Hall emphasized the advantage to the Germans of the continuing bad weather. Even artillery Cub spotting planes which can fly in snow and sleet were held on the ground by today's fog.

"In this fog the enemy can move his armor almost to the front line before we can see him," he said. "This enables him to mass his forces and have local superiority at a selected point. But we are killing Germans, and that is the way to end the war."

The bottling up of this northern tentacle of the German offensive began when an American infantry outfit, rushing hurriedly into position, collided four nights ago with the then most advanced German armored column at a small village near Stavelot. Next day the Nazis attacked and drove the Americans back two miles. That was the highwater mark of the enemy drive in this northern sector.

The Americans then braced and counter-attacked and drove the Germans out of the small village where they had originally met.

Stavelot, a town of 5,100 inhabitants built around a Benedictine Abbey founded in A. D. 651, lies in a picturesque wooded ridge country. Nearby Malmedy, with a population of 5,300, was originally part of an independent territory of Malmedy-Stavelot, but fell to Prussia in 1815. Malmedy was awarded to Belgium in 1920, but the population is still strongly Germanic. Today it is guarded by American guns.

How They Blew Up Bridge.

The bridge across the Ambleve which Capt. Rice and his combat engineers blew up, trapping the German tank force, was built in 1770—a stone arch having a span of sixty feet in the clear.

"We had never had to destroy a bridge before because we never knew before what it was to be on the defensive," Capt. Rice said. He used a half-ton of dynamite in destroying the structure.

"We went down to inspect the bridge during the afternoon," he said. "While we were looking it over the Germans opened up on us with tanks and machine-guns, and I had to crawl around a corner so fast I lost my helmet. It was too hot a place to work in by daylight."

So Capt. Rice assembled his men just before dark, loaded them on a dynamite truck, drove to the last corner before the bridge and parked until Nazi observers in the hills beyond the river no longer could see the area.

"When it was completely black we carried fifty-pound boxes three blocks down the street," he went on. "There was a lot of glass and debris in the street. To keep the Nazis from hearing any noise we had artillery throw a smoke shell into the town twice a minute for fifteen minutes. The smoke also gave us further cover.

"By the time the last shell landed we had the dynamite in place. We set four thirty-second fuses. We only needed one, but we wanted to be certain it would go off. Then we pulled the fuse igniters and ran like hell down the street.

A Beautiful Explosion.

"After we had run one block and dived into a building, that bridge blew up like a Roman candle. It was a beautiful explosion—knocked out windows for three blocks.

"Stores on one side of the bridge crumbled like a landslide out into the streets and made a perfect roadblock—and also we had a thirty-foot gap in that bridge. No Jerry tank can broad-jump that far.

"As the bridge blew up the Germans awoke and for twenty minutes they plastered the whole area with tank and machine-gun fire."

Capt. Rice said his men were glum on the way back.

"As soon as the bridge blew up they all started cussing," he said. "They figured that when we start kicking the Jerries back into Germany somebody will give us the job of putting that bridge back together again."

Those who helped destroy the span included Sergt. Harry Harriman of Elizabeth, N. J.; Private Edwin Hess a medi, of Richmond Hill, Queens, and Private Gino D. Lanno of Vineland, N. J. Company B.

They started firing before the Germans reached midstream. More than 50 per cent of the attackers never reached this side. Those that did soon were disposed of.

The enemy tried a new trick of

U.S. Forces Have 'Good Hunting' As Nazis Seek to Cross River

DIXON

BEYOND STAVELOT, Belgium, Dec. 21.—(AP) A lot of courageous guys who perished while attacking across rivers all the way from the Volturno in Italy to the Moselle have been avenged here on the bloody banks of a fast flowing mountain stream named the L'Ambleve.

All along this northern flank of the enemy's armored thrust into Belgium, the Yanks are doing more than holding the line to keep it from spreading. Fighting through fog, snow and mud, they are cutting down crack German tanks and infantrymen by the hundreds and are braced to cut down more.

But the river crossing gang didn't get a chance to reverse the old story of such crossings throughout the war. This time they waited on the opposite bank and literally slaughtered the attackers while they still were splashing in midstream.

"Good hunting" was the grim report a battalion sent back to headquarters after more than 24 hours of using every type of ammunition available, and good hunting it was.

L'Ambleve runs between Stavelot and Malmedy and the cold, clear stream still forms the front tonight on this little sector of the German flank. The only enemy troops on this side of that cold river some 20 to 50 yards wide are dead, wounded or captured Germans.

It was the night before last when crack enemy troops first tried to storm across the stream. On the opposite bank lay a unit which made bloody crossings of such streams as the Vire, Seine, Maas and the Wurm since coming overseas.

"Always before they laid on the other side and cut us down," said Maj. Warren C. Giles, of Athens, Tenn. "This time we laid and waited. It was like shooting ducks off a pond."

Up there where Capt. Robert L. Spiker, of Morgantown, W. Va., had Company B poised waiting, it was not quite that simple. Fog lay heavy on the river banks so the boys hugged the water's edge and waited. The first thrust came at striking farther down but once again was thrown back. It was daylight then and Capt. Spiker—"a rugged little guy," according to Lt. Grover C. Twiner, of Natchez, Miss.—pulled Company B back from the bank to give them a wider sweep for their weapons.

Again and again through yesterday and last night, the enemy diehards tried crossings. But Company B boys—the same gang that cracked a heavily defended sector of the Siegfried Line Oct. 3—did not intend to give ground.

They pulled heavy weapons up to a point overlooking the crossing site. Underfoot there was deep mud and snow. Sometimes the fog dimmed targets down below but then the riflemen handled the situation alone. They used most of their carbine ammunition and yelled for more. Until it came they fitted grenade throwers to their rifle barrels and hurled grenades in the midst of the attacking Germans.

The Yanks threw everything down on the Germans — mortars, machine-gun fire and they even called in a nearby artillery unit. If the fog sometimes impaired their aim, it also concealed them from the river crossers—just as it did for the luckless 36th division boys at the Rapido river in Italy almost a year ago.

"We burned out machine-guns on them, even some rifles," said Lt. Twiner, "but still some got across the river. They piled up on this side. During pauses the boys mopped out areas where a few managed to get across. Then they got set for the next time. Hell, they even used bazookas on the Germans when we ran out of other kinds of ammunition."

As he spoke, another report came into the command post. It was "still good hunting."

Bridge Built In 1770 Blasted To Slow Foe

Stavelot, Belgium, Dec. 20 [AP—*Delayed*]—The Belgians built the bridge in 1770, the Germans crossed it three days ago in their offensive and last night fifteen American combat engineers blew it up—a job which was a big factor in halting the Nazi forward thrust in this sector.

The bridge was a 60-foot brick and stone span over the Ambleve River.

It was the first bridge ever blown up by Capt. James Rice and his men.

"We went down to inspect the bridge during the afternoon," Rice said. "While we were looking it over the Germans opened up on us. It was too hot a place to work in by daylight."

So Rice assembled his men just before dark, loaded them on a dynamite truck, drove to the last corner before the bridge and parked until Nazi observers no longer could see the area.

Smoke Shells Laid Down

"When it was completely black we carried 50-pound boxes three blocks down the street," said Rice. "There was a lot of glass and debris in the street. We had artillery throw a smoke shell into the town twice a minute for fifteen minutes.

"By the time the last shell landed we had the dynamite in place.

"Then we pulled the fuse igniters and ran like hell down the street.

"Like Roman Candle"

"After we had run one block and dived into a building, that bridge blew up like a roman candle.

"Stores on one side of the bridge crumbled like a landslide out into the streets and made a perfect road block—and also we had a 30-foot gap in that bridge.

"As the bridge blew up the Germans awoke and for twenty minutes they plastered the whole area with tank and machine-gun fire."

GREATEST BATTLE OF WAR REACHES CRITICAL PERIOD

GALLAGHER

WITH AMERICAN ARMIES IN GERMANY, Dec. 21 — (AP) The bloody, boiling struggle now in progress on the U. S. First army front is the greatest single battle in which either American or British troops have been involved during this war and the initiative still is definitely in the hands of Field Marshall Karl Gerd von Rundstedt.

This immense battle is constantly growing in size, with both sides throwing in tens of thousands of men every few hours, but the fighting still is largely being played to von Rundstedt's tune.

Stopped on Flanks

Only on the flanks in Luxembourg in the south and the Malmedy-Stavelot front in the north has the German advance been halted.

It is going to be a black Christmas on the Western Front whether or not the drive is checked. Many formations have been badly mauled, supplies have been used up and lost, and the Doughboys in the trenches see in the German drive a feat of arms which may delay the end of the war many months.

It seems apparent that the American armies have been outgeneralled but not outfought in the first days of this attack. Individually and collectively, the junior officers and fighting men in precarious positions have risen to surprising heights.

There undoubtedly are multiple reasons for the American setback and it is going to take weeks and perhaps months to assess them truly. It was not due, however, to any shortage of men and material in the broad sense.

The Allies have a superiority in men and materials along the Western Front and no instance has come to light to date where the defeat of any particular unit was caused by running out of ammunition or personnel shortage within the unit.

The Germans had superiority at the point of attack and picked the place for the assault with care and cunning. Such superiority is always essential for a successful attack and is a fundamental of warfare. It is up to the opposing armies to dope out ahead of time the German intentions and to take all reasonable precautions to meet them.

Reaches Critical Period

Hard fighting Doughboys and tank crews were striving mightily today to take the initiative away from the Germans and in some sectors were succeeding, but von Rundstedt's offensive bulged deep into Belgium and the fierce struggle reached the critical period.

Von Rundstedt is committing more of his reinforcements to spur on his drive, and it remains to be seen whether the German offensive will be halted or break out afresh.

If the offensive grinds to a halt in the face of the furious Doughboy defense, the battle will pass from the crucial into a new phase where Gen. Eisenhower can take steps to regain the initiative.

The weather continued to perform like a life-long member of the Waffen SS (Elite Guard), with a thick fog hugging ground level and nullifying Allied air superiority.

Although surrounded for four days, some American formations still are fighting hard in the St. Vith area, four miles from the Belgian-German frontier, while enemy armored columns race around them.

A slight lifting of the censorship blackout allowed disclosure that the Germans had reached Habiemont, 30 miles into Belgium a few miles southwest of Spa.

Other spots permitted to be mentioned as German penetration points were Wiltz and Clervaux about three-fourths of the way across northern Luxembourg, and Consdorf, five miles inside the little Duchy to the southeast.

NAZI BROADCAST CLAIMS 20,000 U.S. PRISONERS TAKEN

R. WHEELER

LONDON, Dec. 21—(AP) The German High command announced today that counter-attacking Axis troops pouring into Belgium had cut the great Liege-Hastogne highway "on a broad bront" nearly 30 miles west of the Reich frontier, and that a bag of 7,000 American prisoners taken Wednesday had swelled the total to more than 20,000.

The Germans did not say where they had cut the Liege-Bastogne north-south highway, but a dispatch from British-Canadian Western Front headquarters said the Germans had reached Werbomont, on that highway 11 miles west of Stavelot and approximately 30 miles west of the German frontier. Werbomont is 18 miles south of Liege and 65 miles southeast of Brussels.

Tear Gap in Line

With restrained enthusiasm and cautious warnings of the danger of American flanking attacks on the big German salient, Berlin radio accounts said the Germans had torn a 62-mile-wide gap in the center of the Allied Western front and that "through this breach German panzer assault wedges are streaming toward the Meuse" river, 35 miles west of the Liege-Bastogne highway.

The Nazi high command communique said American supply columns "moving off toward the Meuse were caught up and rolled over by German tanks."

"Freshly brought up American formations were split into individual groups without the enemy being able to halt our advance," it added.

In Wednesday's fighting the Germans said their troops destroyed 136 American tanks and captured 43 tanks and armored vehicles and 50 guns.

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, Transocean news agency correspondent, said "enemy efforts to check the German advance in the Ardennes forest by means of rashly-flung-in motorized units has so far not resulted in establishment of a coherent front able to stop us."

DNB agency quoted a German military spokesman as saying that Nazi forces had completely crossed the northern part of Luxembourg, south of the Stavelot-Werbomont sector, and that "the fighting takes place mainly on Belgian soil."

Another German propaganda broadcast claimed that four American infantry divisions and two American tank divisions had been mauled or destroyed "mainly in vary fierce fighting on the northern sector," and declared that Allied reserves being rushed into the area were being smashed by fast German tank formations and motorized infantry.

Drive Toward Liege

Perhaps implying that the fortress city of Liege is one of the German objectives, Sertorius commented, "it is interesting to note that the German communique only mentions London and Antwerp being subjected to our long range (V-2 rocket bombs) fire while on the previous day Liege also was on that list."

Sertorius said the Allies now were attempting to thrust against both flanks of the German penetration, from the Aachen area on the north and from northern Lorraine on the south.

A German foreign office spokesman was quoted as observing that "the first phase of the German Winter offensive now is gradually being superseded by a second, with coming battles of attrition between two enemy armies equipped with the best and most modern weapons."

The Nazi commentator Ernst Von Hammer boasted that the German army was in a position to match the Western front offensive with a strong drive in the east.

"The German offensive in the west, launched by well-equipped forces so far held in reserve, has not the slightest influence on the fighting in the east," he stated in one Berlin broadcast.

"The German Eastern armies are in position to come out with some surprises here as well. The Russian large-scale offensives have been reckoned with for the last few months and the necessary steps have been taken."

German Communique.

London, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—The German High Command declared today that Nazi spearheads had cut the Liege-Bastogne highway, which runs twelve miles west of Stavelot, and taken 20,000 prisoners in this week's offensive.

It was cut "on a broad front," the bulletin said, without specifying where the road was crossed. A penetration to Stavelot, twenty miles inside Belgium, has been the deepest announced by the Allies.

"Enemy supply columns moving toward the Meuse River were caught up with and overtaken by German tanks. Freshly brought up American units were split up into single groups and did not succeed in checking our advance," the broadcast communique said.

Advanced German units have "penetrated into the Ardennes," it added.

Americans in the Schnee Eifel Forest in Germany "far behind the front were either wiped out or taken prisoners yesterday. Seven thousand Americans were captured," the bulletin asserted.

Some German Failures

WITH THE UNITED STATES 1ST ARMY, Dec. 21 (AP).—The valiant troops of the 1st Army, fighting the Germans at every turn since the enemy offensive started, have provided invaluable time in which to marshal necessary forces against the deepest penetration of the American lines, a staff officer said today.

The initial onrush of the Germans has been slowed down during the last twenty-four hours along a part of Lieutenant General Courtney H. Hodges's 1st Army front.

There is every likelihood that the enemy drive already has lost valuable time and in at least two instances has fallen short of immediate objectives.

One was the failure to seize the key highway network in the area south of Monschau and another was the failure to capture any of the American gasoline dumps. Both were necessary to a successful execution of the German campaign.

Because of the fuel shortage in the Reich and the failure to seize American gasoline, during the last two days German tanks repeatedly have been found abandoned by roadsides—stalled only because of lack of gasoline.

There was another failure in the mission of some 500 paratroopers. They dropped in the woods adjacent to a vital road junction at night and expected to find armor linking up with them within forty-eight hours at the most. Instead, they sat in the woods five days until they got disgusted and decided to fight their way back to the German lines. A few were captured early, and the rest now are surrounded and being eliminated.

7th Army Forced Back Across River

With U.S. 7th Army in Germany, Dec. 21 (AP)—Seventh Army troops biting into the Siegfried defenses, pillbox by pillbox, have run up against the fiercest resistance since they jumped off November 13.

Fire from the Siegfried Line forced an American withdrawal today from Nieder-Schlettenbach, 5 miles northwest of Wissembourg, to the west bank of the Lauter River.

The town, entered four days ago, is a mile and a half east of Bundenthal, from which the 7th withdrew yesterday.

Three tank-supported counter-attacks were beaten off overnight south of Reisdorf, which is less than two miles east of Neider-Schlettenbach.

Approaching Buchelberg

At the eastern end of the front, the Americans are approaching Buchelberg, a strongly defended village in a clearing of the Bienwald.

One division in the thickly wooded Haardt Mountains just west of the Wissembourg Gap into the Saar and Palatinate were able to seize only 17 pillboxes in the last 36 hours.

The pillboxes are strongly constructed and cleverly placed to catch the attackers in crossfire and they are being attacked with concrete-piercing shells.

15 To 20 Miles Deep

The Siegfried Line in this sector is in three belts totaling 15 to 20 miles in depth.

Along the forward edge at which the 7th is hacking are anti-tank obstacles—dragon's teeth of concrete, curved steel rails, ditches—with mine fields supporting obstacles. The general plan is to canalize movement to the strongest positions.

Snow has added to the difficulties of the Haardt Mountain fighting. Some troops are in combat above the clouds in the snow-swept mountains.

Two American Hospitals Overrun By Germans

A Belgian Village, Dec. 19 [AP—*Delayed*]—A major in the Medical Corps said today two American hospitals had been overrun by the German advance.

"In the first one we got our patients and our own people out all right, but we lost all our equipment," he said. "We don't know what happened to the second hospital the Germans took. So far no one has come back. We just don't know yet."

Some medics were in the line of 50 men which one German armored column ordered into a field and then machine gunned, he said.

The major, who could hear German guns booming in the distant hills, ordered all his own "walking cases"—men with sore throats, colds, upset stomachs and jangled nerves—out of the fighting zone in readiness for the arrival of wounded.

Pay Roll Officer Keeps a Jump Ahead of Nazis

Takes $1,400 to Town Held by Foe, but G. I.s Save Him and the Cash, Too

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN LUXEMBURG, Dec. 21 (AP).—Delivering the company pay roll is ordinarily a routine job, but not when a surprise German counter-offensive is on.

Lieutenant Richard McConnell, of Ithaca, N. Y., headed for a village northeast of Luxemburg last Saturday with about $1,400 in francs, not knowing that the Germans had launched a large-scale offensive a few hours before and had overrun the town to which he was going.

He found the village streets deserted. There were shots from the buildings. He leaped from one side of the jeep and his driver jumped from the other. But in every building he ran into he found Germans. So, like a sensible man, he surrendered with his bulging cash bag.

The German sergeant in charge of the detail which captured him was interested in the money. But when McConnell explained what it was for, the German, evidently with a German's habitual respect for rank, handed the bag back.

Then the sergeant decided to march McConnell back down the street to a German lieutenant. But he made an unfortunate choice of routes, since the street led right past the hotel which was the only sizable building still held by Americans in the town.

Lieutenant Joe Miller, of West Haven, Conn., one of the officers in the hotel with about thirty-five men, described the scene from then on like this:

"We saw eight Krauts coming down the street with Lieutenant McConnell in front. We knew if we fired haphazardly they probably would shoot him. But the men inside the building began calling softly to each other, 'I'll take the first one closest to him,' 'I'll take the next one' and so on.

"Then the men opened up and on the first volley we killed six of the eight. McConnell and the two Germans hit the ditch and then ran into a small shed near our hotel. Unfortunately for the Germans, they picked a shed where we had some men and a tommygun. Our men killed one of them and wounded the other, while the lieutenant made his way into our hotel with all the cash."

Eisenhower's Christmas Greetings To Services

General Eisenhower's Advanced Command Post, Dec. 21 (AP)—General Eisenhower extended personal Christmas greetings today to men representing the American, British, Canadian and French armies, the United States and British navies, the American Army Air Force and the RAF.

The American representatives included Sergt. Charles Helferich, a tankman, of New York city; Driver T/5 Troy Lofties, of Ardmore, Okla., and Boatswain's Mate 1/c Daniel Scrima, of Pittsburgh, of the Navy.

MP's Nab 4 Nazi Saboteurs In Jeep

Somewhere in Belgium, Dec. 21 (AP)—Six alert military policemen today captured four German soldiers in American uniforms who were driving a jeep loaded with enough dynamite a blow up a strategic bridge and handicap seriously the movement of United States armored columns up to stop the German breakthrough.

The sextet was praised by the brigadier general commanding this area and were recommended promptly by their commander, Capt. Eugene Halliday, of Tacoma, Wash., for the Bronze Star.

The four would-be saboteurs—three lieutenants and one sergeant—will be shot as spies. One is a native of Brooklyn, N.Y.

LONG UNDERWEAR SAVES THE DAY

With the Second Infantry Division Inside the Siegfried Line, Dec. 13 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Caught without snowcapes by an early winter storm, one group of ingenious doughboys camouflaged their dark, drab uniforms by donning long white woolen underwear. It hid them from snipers.

"We painted our helmets white and put on oversize underwear drawers and shirts over our regular uniforms," said Corporal John K. Smith of Louisville, Ky.

mantled fusilage on the second floor of a brick Dutch house. The wings and tail were on the ground outside. The engine was on the floor below, beside a seated, very frightened old lady.

Before telling how it happened, this is to inform Lieut. Goff's home town neighbors on Ogden avenue, Ashland, N. J., that the pilot, whom a passing American ambulance driver found sitting in his cockpit with a brick in his lap and a dazed look on his face, is "O. K., but a little stiff from the bump," in his own words.

The old lady is O. K. too, but her house isn't.

It started two miles above ground east of Aachen, where Lieut. Goff spotted a free-for-all between a group of Lightnings and Messerschmitts. The airman decided to bring his Thunderbolt into the fray, maybe too enthusiastically.

"But, using full manifold pressure, I blew a cylinder, and the engine cut out. I started to bail out, but, being close to the enemy's lines, I decided to ride the ship in. I tried to land in an open field but I overshot it, clipped the top off some trees and came down on the house.

"Sure was the closest I ever came to the pearly gates. If I had seen such a narrow escape in the movies I would have said 'Impossible!'"

The house walls mainly collapsed but the floors stayed up, long enough for Private Clifton Plaster of Patrick Springs, Va., driving past in a providential ambulance, to get there and lift Lieut. Goff out of the wreckage, which had, meanwhile, caught on fire.

Jersey Flyer Makes Perfect Landing---in House

A U. S. Air Base, Holland, Dec 21 (A. P.).—One minute Lieut Robert Goff was flying in a plane. The next he was sitting in a dis-

30.24 — 21437

French-Soviet Pact Approved

Paris, Dec. 21 (AP)—France is determined to help form a world peace organization in which she expects the United States to take the leading role, Gen. Charles de Gaulle told the Consultative Assembly today at the conclusion of debate on the new French-Soviet alliance.

Following a statement from de Gaulle, chief of the provisional government, on the recent negotiations leading to the signing of the twenty-year alliance, the Assembly approved the pact which now is ready for ratification by the French Cabinet.

Security Body Essential

"France cannot conceive a victory without a world security organization nor without an alliance with London," de Gaulle said. "A real international organization is necessary and in this organization who could be first in rank if not the United States, whose efforts in the western theater and in the Pacific are enormous?" he added.

Earlier, Foreign Minister Georges Bidault said France intends to help mount guard on the Rhine after the war to keep the Rhineland and Ruhr industries out of German hands. He also declared the French nation intends to help Poland expand westward into Silesia and East Prussia.

Means Of Mutual Defense

The Minister, who signed the pact for France, asserted that the Franco-Soviet accord would be a means of mutual defense and added that the Russians and French had agreed to territorial revisions in both the east and the west.

"We agreed to the acquisition by Poland of East Prussia and Silesia," he said. "This concession corresponds in our way of thinking to territories in which Poland would be persuaded to abandon."

This apparently was a reference to Russia's proposed acquisition of former Polish territory up to the Curzon Line. During the conferences at Moscow, the French, traditional protagonists of the Poles, promised to support the Russian case for the old Curzon Line, according to reports received here.

Bidault said the Rhineland question was for all the Allies to work out within the European Advisory Commission, but "it is certain that it will be our forces and those of other liberated countries which will stand watch on the Rhine."

"The industries of the Ruhr Valley," he said, "will no longer work for the Prussian war machine, but first of all for reconstruction of the damages caused by Germany."

The Minister did not specify whether France wanted these industries under French or international supervision. He implied that the Russians would support the French claim to sovereignty over, or occupation of, the left bank of the Rhine. Reports on the Moscow conferences have said that the French desire to establish a separate state under French protection embracing roughly both banks of the Rhine.

New Papal Nuncio to France

PARIS, Dec. 21 (AP).—The Vatican has appointed Mgr. Angelo Roncoli Papal Nuncio to France, replacing Mgr. Valerio Valeri, nuncio to the Vichy regime, the Foreign Office announced today. Mgr. Roncoli, who was nuncio to Ankara, is expected to arrive here Jan. 1.

French Public Warned Of Fifth Columnists

Paris, Dec. 21 (AP)—French military authorities issued a warning today to the population against German fifth columnists and saboteurs dressed in Allied uniforms and carrying Allied identity cards.

The warning said infiltrations of such Nazis already had occurred along the Luxembourg front and declared, "the French public is placed on guard against them."

Herald Tribune Back In Paris

Paris, Friday, Dec. 22 (AP)—The European edition of the New York *Herald Tribune* resumed publication today after a lapse of four and a half years.

Deat's Chief Aide Gets 5 Years

Paris, Dec. 21 (AP)—Georges Albertini, 33, former chief of staff to Marcel Deat, Minister of State in the Vichy Cabinet, was given a five-year prison term today for collusion with the enemy. The throng in the Palais de Justice courtroom cheered the verdict.

RUSSIAN FORCES NEAR BIG RAILWAY CENTER OF LOSONC

HERCHER

Nazis Report Reds Open New Thrust to Take Besieged Budapest.

THREATEN OUTSKIRTS

Powerful Soviet Army Sweeps Ahead in Drive Through Slovakia.

DEC 221944

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 22—(AP) Russian forces yesterday drove to within 14 miles east of the big Slovak rail city of Losonc (Lucenec) as Berlin announced that 100,000 Soviet troops had hacked out gains southwest of Budapest in a new offensive aimed at taking that besieged capital from the rear and opening the most direct invasion route to Vienna.

Moscow did not confirm the new drive which Berlin said was launched by ten rifle divisions of Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army on a 40-mile front between Lake Balaton and the west bank of the Danube after nearly two weeks of intense Red army preparation.

Reds Threaten Outskirts

Tolbukhin's forces, already linked with Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army elements within 14 miles of Budapest's southwestern outskirts, were threatening the big junction city of Szekesfehervar, Berlin disclosed. They last were reported within six miles of that bastion guarding the invasion highway through the Bakony mountains.

In southern Czechoslovakia Malinovsky's northern wing, capturing prisoners at the rate of more than 1,000 daily, seized 30 more localities, including the eight-way road and rail center of Rimaszombat (Rimavska Sobota), on the Kassa-Losonc highway 16 miles northeast of Losonc.

At Rimaszombat the Russians were 16 miles inside Central Slovakia, and in a position to drive northward into the mountainous interior in an effort to cut off German garrisons based on the East Slovakian stronghold of Kassa, 63 miles to the northeast.

Feled (Feledince), five miles southwest of Rimaszombat, and a junction on the Kassa-Losonc railway, also fell to the Russians who pushed on three miles and seized Hodejov, 14 miles from Losonc.

In northern Hungary other units captured 50 localities, crossing the Matra and Bukk mountain ranges on a winding 50-mile front southeast of Losonc, and gaining up to 12 miles from previously reported positions.

Reds Free Railway

They freed a railway running from Eger across the Bukk range to the Miskolc-Losonc line, seized half of another spur line jutting southward from Banreve on the Slovak border with the capture of Odz, and left the Germans only two means of escaping from a narrowing bulge along the border.

These escape routes were along the Hatvan-Losonc railway from menaced Kisterenye, 23 miles southeast of Losonc, and along the Tarna river from the area of Petervasara, a road junction 11 miles east of Kisterenye.

The Russians were only one mile south of Kisterenye junction after capturing the village om Maconka, and were three miles south of Petervasara with the capture of Terpes. Tarnalelesz, four miles northeast of Petervasara, also fell to the Soviet Alpine units.

At the top end of this mountain front the Russians took Hangony, only a mile from the Slovak frontier and seven miles southeast of captured Feled.

Moscow said Malinovsky's troops took 1,490 more German and Hungarian prisoners Wednesday, making an announced total of 42,734 in the last 42 days.

Only a 35-mile arc remains to be closed on the western side of two-thirds encircled Budapest.

The German High command communique said the resumed offensive was supported by "many bombers," adding that "bitter fighting is in progress."

Red Pressure Mounts

The German army bulletin also reported that Russian "pressure is mounting" northwest of Budapest between the big Danube bend and the southern frontier of invaded western Slovakia—another avenue of invasion toward Vienna, Austrian capital.

Below Budapest the Russians were reaching for the vital supply lines behind the Hungarian capital. The big immediate objective, Szekesfehervar, is 32 miles southwest of Budapest, and last big obstacle to Russian troops before the little Hungarian plain leading to Vienna.

Beyond Szekesfehervar lies a network of highways and rail lines funnelling into the Danube gate on the Austrian frontier. Skekesfehervar is only 72 miles from the Austrian frontier and 15 miles southeast of Vienna.

One Nazi commentator said that strong Russian formations also were preparing to cross Lake Balaton to the Tihany peninsula in an effort to crush the Szekesfehervar garrison from the rear. The peninsula, on the west bank of the lake near its center, reaches to less than a mile from the eastern side.

"The Germans so far have been able to weaken the enemy assault by concentrated artillery fire," the Berlin radio said, but it declared that nevertheless penetrations of the German lines were made, "some" of which were sealed off.

"The Germans launched a strong counter-attack with tanks and assault artillery which forced the Russians to regroup," the broadcast continued. "So far the enemy has not engaged any motorized troops."

New Red Drive In Hungary Reported

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—The Berlin radio reported today "the Russians have launched their long-expected offensive between Balaton Lake and the Danube" in Hungary.

The broadcast declared ten Russian rifle divisions were thrown in the attack and that the Germans had launched a strong counter-attack with tanks and artillery, "which forced the Russians to regroup."

Such a drive apparently would be aimed at completing encirclement of Budapest by thrusting up west of the city.

Berlin acknowledged some "local penetrations," but said they had been sealed off.

DEC 221944

Two Strongholds Menaced.

Moscow, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—The Red Army pushed the Germans back on a 125-mile front in southern Slovakia today and battled with battered Nazi garrisons on the outskirts of the strongholds of Kassa and Rimaszombat.

Soviet columns last night were on three sides of both these heavily defended southeastern Slovakian towns which control highways and railways connecting with direct routes to Bratislava, Vienna and Prague to the west.

In advances up to five miles, a communique said, the Russians captured thirteen towns in the Rimaszombat area in a drive aimed at the key citadel of Losonc, seventeen miles westward. Chief of them was Tornala, thirteen miles east of Rimaszombat and a strongpoint of formidable enemy defenses on the east bank of the Slana River.

Latest reports had Soviet forces preparing a climactic attack on the Torysa River fortifications two miles outside Kassa.

Reds Gain in Danube Bend.

Front reports said the great battle raging further to the west, north of the Danube bend, was going favorably for Red Army troops struggling for other routes westward toward Bratislava and Vienna.

The German High Command was reported throwing in large numbers of reserves and new air units in an effort to check the Soviet push, which threatened to spill out across the Danube and block escape routes from beleaguered Budapest.

The southeastern Slovakia Soviet drive appeared almost certain of throwing the Nazis out of Kassa and Rimaszombat within the next few days. Capitulation of the towns would loose the Nazi hold from a huge segment of eastern Slovakia, if not all of it.

An Izvestia report from the Slovakian battlefront said hard winter weather had set in. Ski men—both German and Russian—were taking a more active part in the fighting.

In forty-one days, the war bulletin said, the Russian Second Ukraine Army has taken 41,244 prisoners in fighting along the Hungarian-Slovak border.

RAILWAYS CHIEF OUSTED BY REDS

Moscow, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—L. M. Kaganovich was relieved of his post as Commissar of Railways and Communications today and Ivan V. Kovalev was named as his successor. Kaganovich was appointed vice-chairman of the council of people's commissars.

The order of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet announcing the changes did not say whether Kaganovich would lose his place as a member of the powerful Politburo, but the move was generally regarded as a demotion.

Kaganovich, who was 51 years old last month, had been Commissar of Railways since 1943. On Nov. 5, 1943, he was honored by being named a hero of Socialist labor. Previously he had been awarded the Order of Lenin.

Lublin Poles to Establish Provisional Rule Soon

London Regime Assailed as 'Outside the Pale'

MOSCOW, Dec. 21 (AP).—The semi-official Polish news agency Polpress reported today the National Council at Lublin soon would take action on "the unanimous demand of the Polish people" for conversion of the National Liberation Committee into a provisional government.

The agency quoted a Lublin newspaper story which said, "the people want to establish officially that no other authority can exist in Poland . . . The emigre government (in London) is outside the pale of any aspirations of the Polish people."

Tires Buried on Route Power New Soviet Truck

Car Invented Using No Rails, Trolley or Batteries

MOSCOW, Dec. 21 (AP).—Tass, the Soviet news agency, announced today the invention of a noiseless transport operating on a high-frequency current without a trolley, rails or storage batteries.

One such vehicle has operated successfully for a year in a Moscow machine factory, pulling a one-ton load along a roadway underlain with high frequency wires. (From this description it appeared the vehicle was equipped with some kind of induction motor.)

"The high-frequency vehicles are fed by a current emitted from wires laid underground," Tass said. "By means of a pickup frame an electrical motor mounted on the vehicle takes in the current, which is converted through an ordinary rectifying radio bulb from alternating into direct current.

"Soviet scientists expect that within a few years passenger cars and trucks powered by high frequency current will become an ordinary feature of urban life, supplanting less comfortable transport."

Stalin Marks Birthday But Without Fanfare

MOSCOW, Dec. 21 (AP).—Josef Vissarionovich Djugashvili, better known to the world as Premier Josef V. Stalin, celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday today with a complete absence of official fanfare.

Although the Soviet Union took no formal notice of the occasion, telegrams from all over the U. S. S. R., as well as from many of the world's capitals, poured into the Kremlin.

Neither press nor radio made any mention of the occasion, but, like Washington's Birthday in the United States, the date is known to every Russian.

[With one exception Stalin's birthday never has been an occasion of public observance, The United Press noted. In 1939 the Soviet newspapers devoted a special issue to the Premier's life and achievements and to tributes from close co-workers.]

BOMBERS STRIKE AT COLOGNE, BONN

Allied Planes Pound Trier, Weather Continues to Stall Attacks.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 21 — (AP) RAF heavy bombers struck into Germany last night in a twin blow against freightyards at Cologne and Bonn, on the Rhine 20 miles south, after other British Lancasters had made a daylight attack on the German railway town of Trier.

Weather continued bad and even the daylight raiders, which dropped an estimated 1,800 tons of bombs, were forced to use night bombing instruments to reach their targets through the heavy fog.

Fighters Hit Trier

U. S. Ninth air force fighters rose from their bases on the continent to accompany the 200 British heavyweights to Trier, 26 miles northeast of Luxembourg city. The Lancasters, essentially night attackers, returned home without loss.

U. S. Eighth air force Fortresses and Liberators — equipped for day bombing only — again were grounded as the British heavies took advantage of their night-raiding apparatus to brave the murky weather that has stopped almost all air support for Allied troops attempting to stem the German drive.

Meanwhile, Italian-based U. S. 15th air force heavy bombers hammered rail targets at Rosenheim, 35 miles southeast of Munich, rounding out seven straight days of blows at southern German communications.

The American heavies — also forced to bomb by instrument through the cloud cover — were from the same wing, commanded by Brig. Gen. Hugo P. Ruch, of New Providence, Pa., which has hit this area throughout the week to cut the flow of enemy troops and supplies, particularly those directed toward the Italian and Hungarian fronts.

Thunderbolts raided the Bologna battle sector and the Brenner Pass, cutting the Brenner feeder line south to Verona at two places.

U.S. Planes Hit Rail Targets At Rosenheim

London, Dec. 21 (AP) — United States 15th Air Force heavy bombers struck rail targets today at Rosenheim, 35 miles southeast of Munich, rounding out seven straight days of blows at southern German communications.

The Italy-based bombers were from the same wing, commanded by Brig. Gen. Hugo P. Rush, of New Providence, Pa., which has hit throughout the week to hamper the flow of enemy troops and supplies, especially toward the Italian and Hungarian fronts.

Thunderbolts raided the Bologna battle sector and Brenner Pass, cutting the Brenner feeder line south to Verona at two places.

London, Friday, Dec. 22 (AP). The Swedish radio reported today that "large numbers of foreign aircraft" passed over Swedish territory from the west to the east, indicating that German strongholds in the Baltic were under attack again.

Robots Continue To Batter England

London, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—The Germans continued to batter southern England with V-bombs last night while pressing their offensive on the western front. A Government announcement reported both casualties and damage.

BRITISH COMMONS RAPS GREEK KING IN HEATED DEBATE

LONDON, Dec. 21 — (AP) The chance that Britain may ask American-Russian aid in settling Greek political woes arose today along with a demand in Commons that the British government "invite" King George of Greece to remain here until his erstwhile subjects decide whether or not to take him back in to the fold.

Lord Samuel told the House Lords Britain probably would have to resort to some sort of "interallied action" to settle the Greek situation. He contended "there is no reason why Great Britain should be called upon to bear this burden alone."

The liberal leader's assertion came after a member of his party, Lord Faringdon, sharply assailing Britain's armed intervention, cautioned that "mutiny" may arise among British Tommies detailed to quell civil strife in Greece.

The Eton-educated Lord's contention, plus his claim that the British terms for peace in Greece were conditions of "surrender" rather than of armistice, drew a stern rebuke from Lord Samuel and cries of "monstrous" from his colleagues in the usually sedate and placid chamber.

But the Greek monarch remained on the pan in both Houses of Parliament.

In Commons, Tom Driberg (Independent) unsuccessfully sought government assurances that King George be asked "to state publicly that he has no intention of returning to Greece until after the question of monarchy has been settled by a free plebiscite." He contended that such a plebiscite "might be prejudiced" by the King's premature" return.

Deputy Prime Minister Clement P. Attlee refused however, to go beyond Eden's statement yesterday in which the foreign secretary said himself that he and Churchill had advised the King to stay in London on the grounds that return now might cause political disturbance.

In Commons the suggestion also was advanced that the British arrange a week's Christmas truce in the Greek fighting, drawing from Eden a quick quip: "Our object is not to stop it for a week but to obtain a final solution of this business."

Meanwhile creation of a United Nations commission to supervise elections in liberated lands was advocated by another member of Parliament on behalf of the government. Attlee said he could see "no advantage of a general commission," but that Britain would be willing to give some assistance to countries other than Greece "if asked."

Debate in the House of Lords was sharp. Lord Faringdon suggested that "the King of Greece did not deserve and was in fact an unsuitable recipient of the respect and authority with which the British government has invested him."

"I think there can be no possibility," he added, "that the King has hardly any personal support in Greece. The Greek people inevitably hold against him that it was he who brought in dictatorship in Greece and who maintained the dictator Metaxas in power."

Peer Warns Of Mutiny

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—Lord Faringdon, assailing Britian's intervention in Greece, declared today that mutiny might arise among British troops detailed to quell civil strife there.

Cries of "monstrous" greeted his statement in the House of Lords. Lord Faringdon once served on a committee to investigate Britian's nonintervention in the Spanish civil war.

"I should not be surprised," he told Lords, "if our commanders had not already met with cases of men who show the greatest unwillingness to fight the Greeks and who may have refused to bomb Athens.

Condemns Speech

"It may be this will go further and we shall have a mutiny among men in Greece and a refusal to fight the Greeks."

Lord Samuel asserted there would be "universal condemnation" of Faringdon's speech, and added: "Such language ought not to be used in this house." The leader of the Liberal party in Lords, Samuel declared: "I am sure that on further consideration Lord Faringdon will regret he has been betrayed into these remarks."

King Under Attack

Lord Samuel said Britain probably would have to resort to some "interallied action" to settle the Greek situation and asserted that "there is no reason why Great Britain should be called upon to bear this burden alone."

King George II of Greece came under attack in Lords after a similar flareup in Commons against him.

Faringdon suggested the King "did not deserve and was in fact the unsuitable recipient of the respect and authority with which the British Government have invested him."

Terms "Unacceptable"

"The Greek people," he said, "inevitably hold against him that it was he who brought in dictatorship in Greece and who maintained Dictator Metaxas in power."

Farindgon argued that the armistice conditions advanced in Athens by Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie were "clearly unacceptable."

"They are terms of surrender," he said. "I hope he may be directed to withdraw these terms and offer terms which are more acceptable."

In Commons the Government declined to give any assurance that the Greek King would be asked to remain in London until the Greeks decided whether they wanted him back.

Tom Dryberg, an Independent, asked Prime Minister Churchill whether he would invite the King "to state publicly that he has no intention of returning to Greece until after the question of the monarchy has been settled by a free plebiscite of the Greek people, and that he is willing, meanwhile, that a regent acceptable to all parties should be appointed."

Anwering for the Government Clement R. Attlee, Deputy Prime Minister, said he had nothing to add to the statement made yesterday by Foreign Secretary Eden.

Eden said the King was remaining in London on the advice of Churchill and himself. He revealed also that the British Government had taken the lead in advocating a regency.

Dryberg argued today there was danger that a plebiscite "might be prejudiced" by the premature return of the King.

This drew from Sir John Wardlaw Milne, Conservative, the retort that such a request from the British Government "would be a most unwarranted interference with affairs of the Greek people."

Shouts Of Protest

"We have interfered more than that," broke in Laborite Emmanuel Shinwell.

Shouts of protest arose when Edith Summerskill, Laborite, inquired whether "it is proposed that the wishes of one man—the King of Greece—shall be allowed to stand in the way of a settlement."

Laborite George Strauss broke in to ask: "Is this not the time when the British Government could interfere with very great benefit in the Greek situation?"

Despite the new outburst, Attlee declined amplification, saying that there had been "considerable opportunity for discussing these matters yesterday."

The British press, expressing satisfaction over Eden's explanation of British intervention in Greece, urged improved machinery for diplomatic collaboration between the three great powers. The *Times* warned:

"As defeat of Germany draws near—and the utmost attainable success of the enemy's present offensive could do no more than defer it—it would be idle to pretend that omens for future unity are all auspicious."

Need For Meetings Cited

Saying American opinion "belongs overwhelmingly to the universal school of thought," the *Times* asserted that "it is inclined too readily to condemn political regionalism as 'power politics' . . . and economic regionalism as 'discrimination.'"

The *Times* contended that "to strengthen and perfect machinery of collaboration through regular meetings of leading representatives, whether heads of government or foreign ministers, is a duty which can no longer be safely neglected."

Discussing steps in Greece, the Yorkshire *Post* commented: "We hope American and other critics will now see how far their emotions led them astray from facts."

M. P.'S CRITICIZE POLICY IN BALTIC

London, Dec. 21 A. P.).—Britain's policy toward the Baltic states came under attack from two Conservative members of the House of Commons today, but a foreign office under-secretary, George Hall, declined to agree with a contention that the people of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania had been left in the lurch. Sir Herbert Williams asked if Russia's absorption of those countries was "in conflict with the principles of the Atlantic Charter and our agreement with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics." He also asked the Government to explain "why we have left these peoples in the lurch."

"I don't know that it can be said that they have been left in the lurch," Mr. Hall replied. "Since 1940, no government in these territories has sought, or, indeed, been accorded, recognition by the Government."

He did not answer when another Conservative, Maurice Petherick, declared that the three Baltic countries had been under Russian domination for something under 100 years, and asked if "you will see to it that what is condemned in the case of Germany will not be condoned in the case of Russia."

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Typhus In Amsterdam

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—Underground sources in German-occupied Holland have informed the Netherlands Government here that a typhus epidemic has broken out in Amsterdam and is spreading rapidly, the official Netherlands news agency said today.

Ex-Fascist Minister Killed

London, Dec. 21 (AP)—Giuseppe Tassinari, 53, former Minister of Agriculture under Mussolini and member of the Fascist Grand Council, was killed when an Allied plane strafed his automobile near Lake Garda in northern Italy, the Berlin radio said today.

Ghandi Reported Gaining

London, *Friday*, Dec. 22 (AP)—Mohandus K. Gandhi, who has been suffering from influenza, was better today but still in a weak condition, the All-India radio reported.

100 LST'S IN BRITAIN HAVE CHRISTMAS TREES

A U. S. NAVY BASE IN ENGLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP) Each one of a hundred American LST's in this harbor was brightened tonight by a Christmas tree, complete with all the trimmings, donated by a grateful Englishwoman.

It's Mrs E. R. Barrows' way of saying "thank you" to the Fred Fitzgeralds of 1 Pendleton place, Lexington, Va. They have provided a home for her grandchildren, Nigel, 11, and Jennifer, 9, since the aerial battle of London. Mrs. Barrows' estate has an abundance of Christmas trees.

"My grandchildren write glowing tales every week of the splendid hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald and their neighbors," said Mrs. Barrows, a hearty woman in her fifties, "and I just couldn't resist this year trying to repay the Americans in some way for their kindness."

U. S. Flyers Aid Victims Of V-Bomb in England

15 Search Houses and Rescue Baby Buried in Debris

A U. S. 8TH AIR FORCE STATION, England, Dec. 21 (AP).—Fifteen American airmen divided into squads and went from house to house searching for injured and giving first aid in an English town recently when a V-bomb landed.

Lieutenant Ashley L. Hamory, of Peekskill, N. Y., found a baby completely covered with plaster. He bathed it carefully, made a boric solution and washed its eyes. The infant cried lustily for a few minutes, then went to sleep.

Corporal Leslie H. Maxwell jr., of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was chased out of one house by a hysterical woman wielding a broom, but the rest of the Americans met unfailing calmness and courtesy from the disaster victims.

SPANIARDS GET MORE 'GAS'

Monthly Ration in Madrid Goes From 5.25 Gallons to 6.6

MADRID, Dec. 21 (AP)—Madrid motorists received notice today of an increase in monthly gasoline rations from 5.25 gallons to 6.6 gallons (25 liters) beginning in January for those with average cars of six to ten horsepower.

While gasoline supplies to Spain have not increased since the Allies' petroleum embargo was lifted last June, the Government has improved its rationing system. Agricultural needs have decreased since harvest time.

Another official bulletin suspended for two more months the Government's order of Sept. 23 requiring foreigners employed in executive or technical capacities in companies concerned with public services to quit their jobs. The deadline for resignations was moved forward to Feb. 28, giving American employes in the Spanish telephone company two months' grace.

Yanks to Keep Jobs In Spain Till Feb. 28

Madrid, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—An official bulletin today suspended for two more months the Government's order of September 23 requiring foreigners employed in executive or technical capacities by public utility companies to quit their jobs. The deadline for resignations was moved forward to February 28, giving American employees of the Spanish Telephone Company two months' grace.

GERMANS MAKE 13 THRUSTS IN VAIN

Two Canadian Regiments Foil Foe's Attacks In Italy

Rome, Dec. 21 (AP)—Two Canadian regiments have thrown back thirteen German counterattacks within nine hours against their bridgehead across the Naviglio Canal, just north of Bagnacavallo and some fifteen miles inland from the Adriatic coast, it was announced today.

The two units—the Carleton and York Regiment and the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment—were congratulated by Lieut. Gen. Sir Richard L. McCreery, commander of the 8th Army.

"The fierceness of enemy resistance clearly shows the importance of the ground to the enemy," he said.

Upper Jaw Of Pincers

The Canadian bridgehead forms the upper jaw of an Allied pincers which threatens the enemy's entire Lamone River salient north of Faenza, and yesterday's tank-led Nazi attacks were of an almost desperate nature.

While the Canadians were hurling back the *Panzer* thrusts, New Zealand troops hammered a deep dent into the southern flank.

The "Kiwis"—old specialists in night attacks—lashed out in darkness and cleared the Germans from the east bank of the Senio River to a point three miles north of the Bologna-Rimini highway. They took over 100 prisoners.

Three Villages Seized

Other 8th Army troops crossed the Lamone River at two points near Ronco and seized the villages of Formellino, San Silvestro and San Piero Laguna just north of the highway.

The American 5th Army front stretching from southeast of Bologna to the Italian west coast remained relatively quiet, though there were many patrol clashes. It was disclosed that the American 751st Tank Battalion had destroyed more than 100 German Mark IV tanks since the start of the Italian campaign.

Allies In Italy Repulse Tanks

Rome, Dec. 21 (AP)—German forces are throwing heavy tank-led counterattacks against the Canadian bridgehead across the Canale Naviglio, northeast of Faenza, but the Canadians are holding fast despite the ferocity of the thrusts Allied headquarters said today.

There was sharp action in the sector last night, during which the Canadians took 40 prisoners.

Other 8th Army troops crossed the Lamone River at two points near Ronco, occupied Formellino, a half mile north of the Bologna-Rimini highway, and joined additional units north of Faenza in seizing San Silvestro and San Pietro Laguna.

River Bank Cleared

At the same time, New Zealanders cleared the east bank of the Senio River for three miles north of the highway.

South of the highway the action was confined to patrol operations.

The counterattacks at the Canale Naviglio bridgehead, north of Bagnacavallo, were blunted by two Canadian outfits—the Carleton and York Regiments—which smashed thirteen Nazi assaults in nine hours.

Praised By General

The Canadians received personal congratulations from Lieut. Gen. Sir Richard L. McCreery, commander of the 8th Army, for "capturing and holding the bridgehead against repeated infantry and tank counterattacks."

It was disclosed that the 751st Tank Battalion, commanded by Major C. J. Madden, Des Moines, Iowa, is in action on the Appennine front. This battalion has been in Italy since the start of the Italian campaign and has destroyed more than 100 German Mark IV tanks.

Wac Director Gets Legion of Merit

Rome, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—Major Dorothea Coleman of Kankakee, Ill., Wac director in the Mediterranean theater, received the Legion of Merit today for her work as air Wac staff director in Italy.

ELAS UNDER FIRE, ULTIMATUM ENDS

British Tanks and Rocket Planes Attack Greek Leftists.

ATHENS, Dec. 21 — (AP) British tanks and rocket-firing fighter planes shelled and strafed ELAS concentrations north of Athens today upon expiration of the 9 a.m. ultimatum in which Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie warned the Greek Leftists he would use every available weapon in an effort to restore order.

Sherman tanks climbed the high, monastary-topped Likabettus mountain, their 75-mm guns shelling and scattering ELAS groups around Averof prison and the military academy.

R.A.F. fighters pin-pointed other troublesome positions, and at Omonia Square tank-supported parachute troop patrols made a series of sorties.

A billet of the U. S. AAF Transport Command rocked with the concussion of shell blasts as the troops demolished a snipers' nest in the square, whose buildings are just behind the Cosmopolite hotel quarters of the American airmen.

It was not immediately clear how much effect Scobie's warning had on the ELAS forces. Nor was there any further word of political developments toward a truce.

A communique issued by Scobie's headquarters said:

"Progress continued to be made clearing insurgent forces from Athens and Piraeus. Prisoners and weapons were captured.

"In the remainder of Greece the situation remains unchanged. "The calling up of age groups by the Greek government decree for the national guard battalions of Athens is meeting an enthusiastic response."

BRITISH PLANES AND TANKS MOVE AGAINST GREEKS

Gen. Scobie Attacks After Ultimatum He Sent Leftists Expires.

Athens, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—The British opened a tank assault against ELAS concentrations today after expiration of an ultimatum from Lieut.-Gen. R. M. Scobie that the insurgents stop fighting. Rocket-firing fighter planes joined in the attack.

Sherman tanks climbed monastery-topped Likabettus Mountain and sent 75-mm shells crashing into ELAS positions around Averoff prison and the military academy.

Gen. Scobie's ultimatum, which expired at 9 A. M., had warned that any ELAS forces continuing to hold out would be attacked "with all the arms at my disposal."

At Omonia Square, tank-supported parachute troop patrols made a series of sorties, demolishing a sniper's nest and taking numerous prisoners.

The billet of the United States Air Force Transport Command rocked with the shell blasts as buildings behind the requisitioned Commopolite Hotel were plastered.

A routine communique issued by Scobie at noon said further prisoners and weapons had been captured and that progress had been made in clearing the ELAS troops, the militia of the EAM or National Liberation Front, from Athens and Piraeus.

[NBC quoted a Reuters dispatch to BBC today as saying this morning that British troops had cleared a third of Athens of ELAS militiamen.]

Jean Rallis, the pro-Nazi former Premier who escaped from the Averoff prison two days ago when the insurgents stormed the building, was recaptured last night.

A reply was awaited from King George II in London on whether he would accept or reject a suggestion that the nation's leadership be turned over to Archbishop Damaskinos as regent. It was stated last night that Premier George Papandreou had advised the King by message to accept such a regency. Some Cabinet members, however, are understood to oppose such a move.

Red Cross To Aid Troops Visiting Holy Land

Jerusalem, Dec. 21 (AP)—The American Red Cross has arranged to accommodate between 500 and 600 United States soldiers of all ranks from the Persian Gulf area, Egypt and other parts of the Middle East, visiting the Holy Land during Christmas leave, it was announced today.

The Red Cross planned to arrange for soldiers the opportunity to attend Christmas Eve services at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

BRITISH CAPTURE WUNTHO IN BURMA

CALCUTTA, Dec. 21—(AP) Remnants of three Japanese divisions fell back down the Myitkyina-Mandalay railway in Burma today, offering only slight opposition to pursuing British troops who occupied the rail town of Wuntho, 135 miles north of Mandalay.

The Japanese apparently were making a full withdrawal into southern Burma, it was stated in field dispatches received here at headquarters of the Allied land forces of southeast Asia.

To the east, near the China-Burma border, the 30th Chinese division in an encircling movement captured three villages about 30 miles north of Namhkan, where the Japanese are expected to make their last stand in defense of the old Burma road, it was announced in the daily communique issued at Southeast Asia command headquarters at Kandy, Ceylon.

The Japanese defended the three-village area furiously for more than a week, and an American observer highly praised the Chinese for their victory. Booty included 100 rifles, 15 machineguns and many carts of artillery ammunition. It was estimated that 200 Japanese were killed.

A field dispatch said there were indications that the branch road from Bhamo in Burma to the old Burma road might be opened soon. Small Japanese forces have been holding out in Bhamo for several weeks, but they are surrounded by Chinese troops and the town has been bypassed.

A unit of the American "Mars" task force operating in the broad valley north of Mandalay was reported to have killed 152 Japanese in a series of skirmishes since Dec. 9. American casualties were called "extremely light."

It was believed that the Japanese in that sector might attempt to establish a line near Shwebo, about 50 miles up the railroad from Mandalay.

Indian troops pushing down the Burma west coast were reported making good progress south of Maungdaw.

American and RAF planes continued to attack Japanese communications and troops over a wide area. Medium bombers yesterday destroyed a railway yard at Prinmana, a junction on the Mandalay-Rangoon line. One Allied craft was missing.

British Occupy 2 Burma Towns

Calcutta, Dec. 21 (AP)—British troops pushing down the Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad have occupied Wuntho, 135 miles north of Mandalay, and Nankan, fifteen miles farther northeast, while the Japanese continued an apparent withdrawal southward.

Field dispatches and a Southeast Asia Command communiqué told the details:

Remnants of three enemy divisions fell back into the broad valley running north from Mandalay, offering little opposition to the British.

Three Villages Taken

Farther east, the Chinese 30th Division captured three villages near the Bhamo-Nam Kham road, killing 200 Japanese. Nam Kham, 30 miles to the south, is the next largest town in the Chinese path, and the Japanese may make a last stand there to defend the old Burma road.

Indications were reported that the section of the Bhamo branch road to the old Burma road may soon be opened for strikes southward.

A field dispatch said one American infantry and artillery unit of the Mars Task Force fighting in North Burma near Tonkwa, 120 miles above Mandalay, had killed 152 Japanese in a series of skirmishes since December 9. American casualties were said to be extreme[illegible]t.

YANKS PLAN RAIDS ON JAPS IN CHINA

CHUNGKING, Dec. 21 — (AP) The Chungking radio broadcast insistent appeals to Chinese civilians today to evacuate Japanese-held cities along the China coast and elsewhere in advance of impending major blows by the American air force.

Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, U. S. chief of staff in the China theater, accompanied the appeal with an announcement that American planes would bomb every Japanese-held supply port on the China mainland with "the maximum tonnage of bombs and the greatest number of planes which can be obtained."

Chinese civilians also were urged to quit immediately the principal cities of Manchuria and Formosa and to avoid travel on any Japanese-controlled train, ship or motor vehicle. McClure said U. S. planes also would drop leaflets warning the Chinese that the air onslaught was coming.

It is hoped, McClure said, to continue combined raids such as the joint attack on Hankow by Superfortresses and by smaller planes of the 14th U. S. air force. He said joint American-Chinese staff meetings where being held frequently and that the war against the Japanese was proceeding with increased smoothness.

Today's Chinese high command bulletin said Chinese troops were still battering at the important railway town of Hochih, 95 miles west of Liuchow and 135 southeast of Kweiyang. Another Chinese force was said to have by-passed Hochih and reached the vicinity of Chinchengkiang, on the railway 15 miles farther east.

Since they began their counter-drive the reinforced Chinese had knocked the Japanese back approximately 75 miles from the high-water mark of the enemy's push up the Kweichow-Kwangsi railway toward Kweiyang and Chungking. More than 100 Japanese were reported killed yesterday.

Mustang fighters of the Chinese-American wing were giving the Chinese ground forces active support, bombing and strafing Japanese positions and transport in the Hochih area. Other Mustangs destroyed four locomotives yesterday on the Peiping-Hankow railway.

All-out Air War Ahead.

Chungking, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—American airmen will bomb every Japanese-held supply port on the China mainland with the maximum tonnage of bombs and the greatest possible number of planes, Major-Gen. Robert B. McClure, American chief of staff in the China theater, said today.

He told correspondents that the Americans hope to continue combined raids, such as the joint attack on Hankow by Superfortresses and planes of the Fourteenth United States Air Force and Chinese-American Composite Wing.

Gen. McClure also declared that Gen. Chen Cheng, the Chinese Minister of War, had given the Americans his support in a struggle to provide adequate food for the Chinese troops at the front. Among the reasons for the fine showing of the Chinese troops in Burma, he said, was the simple fact that they had had enough to eat.

Asked by a Chinese correspondent about the extent of American aid to China, he replied that from a military viewpoint it was the maximum that the United States can give at present.

Chinese Forces Near Hochih

Chungking, Dec. 21 (AP)—Chinese troops are closing on Hochih, important Kweichow-Kwangsi railway town 95 miles west of the fallen, former United States airbase of Liuchow, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

The Chinese were battering at the city yesterday, the high command said, and on the day before had slain more than 100 Japanese near the city.

Meanwhile, Chinese units which had bypassed Hochih on the south reached the vicinity of Chinchengkiang, on the railway fifteen miles further east.

In improving weather, the United States 14th Air Force was out in strength to support the Chinese advance. Supply lines all the way from Tungting Lake in northern Hunan province to Liuchow and northwestward along the Lung River Valley were lashed by American airmen. In the Hochih area of the Lung Valley, P-51's struck at enemy troop concentrations. Chinchengkiang also was bombed.

Wang Po-chun Dies In Chungking

New York, Dec. 21 (AP)—Wang Po-chun, 50, Chinese State Councilor and President of Great China University, died yesterday in Chungking, the Chungking radio reported today in a broadcast recorded by the FCC. Wang, born in Hsingyu, Kweichow, and educated in Japan, was Chinese Minister of Communications from 1928 to 1931.

Marine Court Team Bougainville Champ

(Basketball as it is played by American fighting lads in the South Pacific is described in this dispatch by Sgt. Jack Slocum, Marine combat correspondent, formerly of the New York Mirror.)

BOUGAINVILLE (delayed) — (AP) A Marine Air group, lone leatherneck representative in a league that consisted of 18 Army teams, recently completed its season with 48 victories out of 50 starts to win the basketball championship of Bougainville.

After receiving a plaque, emblematic of the title, the local quintet beat another Marine team which held the titles of Green island and Espiritu Santo, and now they claim the championship of the Solomon islands, New Hebrides group and Bismarck archipelago.

Basketball on Bougainville is a serious, difficult and sometimes dangerous pastime. The flattened dirt and coral courts have contributed numerous turned ankle patients to the sick bay. And on one occasion, the shelling of the Japs into our perimeter necessitated the calling of a game at the end of the first half.

Credit for the Marine team's victory is unanimously given to Cpl. Fred G. Campbell, 24, Herrin, Ill., player-manager with eight years of basketball experience. Campbell spent many hours training his players.

"Basketball out here is a ball-handler's game," Cpl. Campbell reports, "and is almost void of good dribbling. You can't dribble a ball in and out of gullies and through mud.

"There are not two similar backboards on the island and they range from wooden boards that are two feet square to banyan trees that feature grooves. On one such court we played all rebounds to the left and not once were they wrong.

"The customary leather ball used at home has proved itself useless out here. It rains nearly every evening and the game can proceed through the downpour when a rubber ball of the same dimensions is employed. Other than being a bit more springy, there is little difference.

"Perhaps the biggest change comes from our playing four eight minute quarters instead of 20-minute halves. No man alive could keep running for 20 minutes in this climate. We tried it once and didn't play for a week.

The marine championship squad includes: Pfc. Edward P. Jachim, New York Mills, N. Y.; Cpl. Ted Held, Appleton, Wis.; Cpl. Darrel Desbien, Damar, Kan.; Cpl. Alfred R. Anderson, St. Paul, Minn.; Cpl. Robert Altherr, Tipton, Ind.; Sgt. David Hanson, River Falls, Wis., and Staff Sgt. S. L. Smith, Kendallville, Ind.

Chinese-American Team Salvages Bogged B-29

A SUPERFORTRESS BASE IN WESTERN CHINA—(AP) Salvage of a B-29 bogged on an unused airstrip only 17 miles from the Japanese lines along the Yellow river brought a demonstration of teamplay between Chinese and Americans.

In the first night raid on Nagasaki, the Superfortress ran into navigational and weather difficulties and barely made the strip which was so soft the plane was stuck in a deep hole.

For 13 days, Chinese forces guarded the strip while Flying Tigers ranged overhead, bagging 36 enemy planes in the covering operations.

Meanwhile, Chinese and Americans worked together to bring in gasoline and repair material for the airstrip. Chinese crews buried 4,500 railway ties on the strip to form 300 feet of hard surface and filled holes with rock.

The plane was stripped of all possible removable equipment and four of her crew flew it back to home base after repairs had been made by American units.

All operations were carried forward almost under the noses of the Japanese and preparations were made for complete destruction of the plane in case enemy patrols broke through.

Capt. Stanley Brown, the pilot, made the emergency landing with two motors out from enemy action over the Nagasaki target. He was uncertain when he landed whether he was in friendly territory.

YANK PLANES.

USING FIELD ON MINDORO

MacArthur Also Reports Closing Of Pincers On Japs On Levte

Superfortresses bomb Jap plane plant at Mukden.....*Page* 4

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Friday*, Dec. 22 (AP). American fighter planes are flying against the Japanese from a newly constructed airdrome on Mindoro Island, less than 150 miles from Manila, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today.

The announcement that the new field on Mindoro's southwest coast is in use marked attainment of the primary objective in the landing on the island a week ago today.

11 Jap Planes Shot Down

Its importance, both to the Americans and the Japanese, was demonstrated as the enemy sent 29 planes against installations there Wednesday. Eleven of the raiders were downed in fierce aerial combat with American Lightnings and Thunderbolts. One American fighter plane was lost.

[In a broadcast from the Philippines, George Folster, of NBC, said the Mindoro air bases pose a greater menace to the Japanese than those on Leyte because the heavy rains which have hampered Yank flyers on Leyte are not so prevalent on the western side of the Philippines.]

The communiqué also announced that the 10th and 24th Army Corps, in a nutcracker move, have formed a junction in the Ormoc corridor on Leyte.

North And South Drives Meet

Closing of a so-called "pincers" on the northwest coast, means that the 1st American Cavalry Division from the north and the 77th Infantry Division from the south have joined their advance units. The Japanese, particularly on the east side of the road, were striving desperately to keep a gap open so they could slip through to the west in the direction of Palompon, their remaining escape port.

But the Nipponese were well scattered. While there is still stiff fighting ahead by isolated pockets, their destruction continues. An additional 2,032 enemy dead were counted in the Ormoc corridor Wednesday.

A 6,000-ton freighter transport was set afire by Catalina flying boats off Mindoro's northwest coast.

Attack Luzon Targets

American fighter planes, continuing their attacks on Luzon Island targets, smacked Batangas, damaging three planes parked on the airdrome and barges in the Batangas river.

United States air patrols swept widely over Japanese-dominated islands of the western Pacific from the Philippines southward to Timor and New Guinea, sinking or damaging several small ships, barges and luggers, bombing airdromes and other enemy installations.

New Ireland was attacked heavily in one of these operations. Dive bombers dropped 54 tons of explosives on buildings at Kavieng and another 57 tons on airdromes, supply facilities and troop concentrations on the Gazelle Peninsula of New Britain, and at Bougainville, in the Solomon Islands.

The end of the battle for Leyte—first major Philippine island invaded by American liberation forces—was imminent.

It was this fight which Japanese militarists viewed as "the decisive battle for our homeland," the Tokyo radio and Japanese Domei news agency said more than a month ago.

Japs Boasted of Victory

Japan's toughest general—Tomoyuki Yamashita, conqueror of Malaya and Singapore—was then appointed commander in the Philippines. He boasted he would demand "unconditional surrender" from Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

MacArthur gave him a reply in his Thursday communique, saying the fall of Leyte was rapidly approaching. Yamashita's forces on the island were cut into isolated remnants, able to resist only tem-

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porarily. Their defenses in the Ormoc corridor were completely destroyed. The capture of the highway junction of Libungao snapped any hope of being supplied through the west coast port of Palompon.

Other Yank liberation forces continued without enemy ground resistance their conquest of Mindoro island, separated from the main island of Luzon by the narrow Verde passage. Enemy air resistance constituting the only opposition since the landings a week ago, was declining.

American air power ranged out over the northern Philippines and off-shore areas in support of the Mindoro operation. Heavy bombers blasted Legaspi, northwest of Mindoro, starting large fires and causing explosions.

A long range patrol attacked a Japanese convoy in the south China sea 300 miles west of Manila, said Friday's communique. A medium sized freighter-transport was damaged by direct hits.

Line Formed At Great Cost

Lieut. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, who boasted that his success at Singapore would be repeated on Leyte against MacArthur, had formed that line at heavy cost with reinforcements landed from bomb-blasted convoys before the loss of Ormoc.

Yamashita's "cohesion now is completely broken and he is no longer capable of an integrated defense," today's communiqué said.

"The small remnants of his forces, divided into isolated groups, are able to resist temporarily only at independent points.

"Scattered elements are fleeing toward Palompon in an endeavor to reach the northwest coast of Leyte."

Libongao Captured

Libongao, where the Palompon road feeds into the corridor, was seized by the United States 77th Infantry Division, captors of Ormoc. A mile to the north, dismounted 1st Cavalry Division troops captured Kanango in a three-mile push south from Lonoy. Some of the enemy's isolated groups are squeezed between the 1st Cavalry and the 32d Infantry Division further north.

The demoralized Japanese abandoned sufficient artillery, small arms ammunition, machine guns, grenades, land mines and food stores to have served them for six months.

The Japanese, who try to conceal the extent of their losses by carrying away their dead, abandoned 1,541 "during the day," the communiqué said.

Enemy Lost 90,000

Enemy losses in the Leyte campaign, including more than 30,000 drowned at sea in aerial destruction of reinforcement convoys, recently were placed by headquarters at close to 90,000.

A Japanese convoy far to the west of Manila was spotted by a single patrol bomber which damaged a 6,000-ton freighter-transport.

[Clearing the path for more B-29 raids on Japan—those attacks, MacArthur has said, are diverting enemy airpower from the Philippines—Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced at Pearl Harbor a 100-ton bombing of Iwo Jima.

[That enemy base in the Volcano Islands, midway between Tokyo and the B-29 bases on Saipan, was pounded Monday (United States time) by escorted Liberators. Lightnings shot down one enemy plane.

[It was the twelfth straight day Iwo Jima has been hit and the fifteenth time this month. Also on Monday, Liberators raided Marcus Island, a base from which the B-29s can be spotted while flying to Tokyo.]

U.S. Conquest Of Leyte Is Almost Completed

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 21 (AP)—American conquest of rugged Leyte Island—the outcome "will decide the fate of the Greater East War," Japan's Premier Koiso said December 12—neared accomplishment today.

"The battle is rapidly drawing to an end," announced Gen. Douglas MacArthur two months and a day after he returned to the Philippines October 20 with amphibious forces, landing on Leyte's east coast.

Situation On Mindoro

On Mindoro Island—"There was no enemy ground activity and his air action was light," today's communiqué said. Nine raiding planes were downed.

[Tokyo radio said the Yanks had sought to cover reverses on Leyte by the invasion of Mindoro].

Disaster was depicted for the Nipponese on mountainous northwest Leyte. That decisive battlefield is crossed north and south by a single corridor road from Pinamopoan to Ormoc and linked by a supplementary road to the west coast at Palompon.

Two American divisions slashing south from Pinamopoan and a third pushing north from Ormoc have fought to within a mile of a juncture along the corridor road, "thus completing destruction of the Yamashita line."

NEW BRITAIN MARINE FIRST ASHORE ON LEYTE

LEYTE, Philippine Islands, (undated)—(AP) A dispatch by Captain Earl J. Wilson, a Marine corps public relations officer, reports that Major General Ralph J. Mitchell of New Britain, Conn., was the first Marine airman ashore in the Philippines after General MacArthur's invasion.

General Mitchell arrived during the early phases of the Leyte landing and served as operations officer of the combined air activities at Leyte field for the first several days after it passed into American hands.

AMERICAN BOMBERS HIT MARIANAS, VOLCANOS

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 21—(AP) Japanese bases from the Palau to Iwo Jima, 750 miles south of Tokyo, were hit by American bombs Tuesday, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

For the 13th consecutive day, Liberators of the strategic airforce made the Marianas-to-Volcano islands run to blast the airstrip and installations on Iwo Jima.

Marine corps Avenger Torpedo planes attacked Yap, 322 miles northeast of American-occupied Peleliu island in the Palaus. Marine fighters destroyed a number of enemy small craft at Sorsorol islands, southwest of the Palaus, and bombed and strafed storage areas on bypassed Babelthuap island.

Isolated Rota island, north of Guam, and Japanese holdings in the Marshall islands received aerial poundings Tuesday, Nimitz communique said.

15 Superforts Raid Iwo Jima

San Francisco, Dec. 21 (AP)—Radio Tokyo said today that Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands, 750 miles south of Tokyo, was raided Wednesday (Japanese time) by fifteen Superfortresses accompanied by Lightnings. This is the thirteenth consecutive day raid.

Almost simultaneously, Radio Tokyo reported a raid by British planes on Sabang, on the northwest tip of Japanese-held Sumatra. The planes, said Radio Tokyo, were "probably carrier-based."

The broadcast, intercepted by the Federal Communications Commission, claimed that two Lightnings were shot down over Iwo Jima. The broadcast was not confirmed by Allied sources.

Army Supply Ship Lost

Headquarters Alaskan Department, Dec. 21 (AP)—Army authorities said today no lives were lost when a storm forced abandonment of an army supply ship of 3,700 tons off Cold Bay, Alaska, December 15. Efforts to salvage the vessel are being made.

Yugoslavs Take Town Southwest Of Belgrade

New York, Dec. 21 (AP)—Yugoslav Partisan forces of Marshal Tito have captured the Drina River town of Zvornik after many days of bitter fighting, the new Yugoslav Telegraph Service said today. Zvornik is approximately 80 miles southwest of Belgrade.

The dispatch, recorded here, quoted a Partisan communiqué as saying Yugoslav units had crossed the flooded Drina with ferry boats and overcome "strong fortified German lines on both banks of the Drina."

POPE IN BROADCAST TO WAR PRISONERS

Pope Pius XII broadcast a special Christmas message last night to prisoners of war, internees and refugees and "all who are suffering from this prolonged conflict."

The text of the message, as broadcast by the Vatican radio in German, French, Italian and Polish and recorded by the FCC, follows:

"To our beloved sons, prisoners, internees and refugees, and to all who are suffering from this prolonged conflict, and who on all paths of this world continue on their way, suffering, mourning and weeping: May the Saviour of mankind grant you strength—He Who giveth freedom after agony so long endured, He the only and omnipotent Regenerator of downtrodden humanity.

"The message of peace—sent forth anew unto a sorely tried world—the message of peace proclaimed by the angels on the fields of Bethlehem, will be to you a sure omen of the approaching end of your suffering and a harbinger of life renewed and rejuvenated through fertile works of charity and goodness. That all this may find fulfillment, we extend to you, as a token of divine mercy, our apostolic benediction."

Great Jap Tunnel Nearing Completion

The Japanese Domei News Agency said today that a mile-long tunnel connecting the main Japanese island of Honshu with Kyushu to the south will be completed by December 30, according to the Associated Press. The Domei report, monitored by the Federal Communications Commission, stated that work on the tunnel began May, 1938.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 21, 1940—British planes raid Berlin, Germans bomb Liverpool. United States tanker Charles Pratt, carrying 5,000,000 gallons of oil sunk in Atlantic off Africa by German submarine. German Foreign Office says Britain's Minister of Shipping is "inciting America to a warlike act" by suggesting the United States assign to Britain the German and Italian ships tied up in American harbors.

B-29'S ATTACK MUKDEN PLANT

China-Based Bombers Strike At Aircraft Factory

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Superfortresses, fighting through "moderate to strong" air opposition, today bombed a Japanese aircraft plant at Mukden, Manchuria—the third enemy airplane factory to be blasted this week.

In the air battle, two of the force of about 60 B-29's were lost and 33 enemy fighters were hit. Crewmen reported on their return to China bases that fifteen enemy planes certainly were destroyed, seven probably destroyed and eleven others damaged.

Bomb By Visual Method

A War Department communiqué said the Superfortresses used visual bombing methods and "struck the target with good results."

"The weather was clear, but haze and smoke obscured part of the bombing results from the B-29 crews," it was added. "The enemy's anti-aircraft fire was meager.

The Japanese radio reported that B-29's also bombed Dairen, principal port of the enemy's Manchurian puppet state, but there was no mention of this in the American communiqué.

Radio Tokyo said three or four Saipan-based B-29's flew over Honshu, main Japanese island, last night and early today but did "absolutely no damage." It also belatedly reported that Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands, was bombed by about fifteen Superfortresses on Wednesday.

Third Major Raid In Week

Today's Mukden raid was the third major one by China-based B-29's this week. On Monday, they hit Hankow, China. On Tuesday they bombed an aircraft plant at Omura, Japan. Saipan-based Superfortresses bombed still another Japanese aircraft factory at Nagoya, Japan, Monday.

An indication that the problem of getting gasoline in quantity to China bases has been pretty well solved was seen in the fact that the China-based B-29's are now able to carry out raids with such frequency. It was disclosed some time ago that a pipeline had been completed from bases in India to a point in northern Burma, thereby shortening the haul for planes which have flown gasoline into China. There has been no disclosure as to whether this pipeline has been extended.

B-29 Force Hits Airplane Plant In Manchuria

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Superfortresses hit a Japanese aircraft plant in Mukden, Manchurio, today with "good results" although two of the big B-29s were lost.

Fifteen enemy planes were destroyed, seven probably destroyed and eleven damaged in the combat with the enemy airforce which a 20th Air Force communique said put up opposition "moderate to strong."

Plane Plant Is Target

Target of the attack, the communique said, was the Manchuria Airplane Company.

The B-29's used visual bombing.

The communiqué said the planes hit Mukden in "substantial force," indicating that up to 60 craft participated.

30 Planes, Japs Say

Enemy broadcasts placed the size of the raiding force at about 30 planes and said the bombers were over both the Mukden and Darien areas for more than 50 minutes.

The Japanese radio also said three or four Superforts flew over Honshu, Japanese home island, last night and early today but caused "absolutely no damage."

First Attack Since Dec. 7

In the 20th Bomber Command's last attack against Mukden on December 7 the giant planes netted their biggest bag of enemy aircraft. Sixty-three Japanese planes were shot down or damaged when the Superforts bombed an aircraft plant and other military objectives at Mukden.

This encountered "from weak to strong" air opposition and resulted in "unobserved to excellent bombing results," a communiqué said. Three B-29's were lost in the earlier raid.

Many Steel Works

Manchuria—Japan's "arsenal of greater East Asia—has many important steel works, shipyards and other war industries. Producing such vital raw materials as steel and coal, Manchuria has sizable stockpiles of petroleum, rubber, tin and other recently looted wealth for the Japanese armies.

Today's smash coincided with the Chungking radio's assertion that a great American aerial offensive is to be launched against Japan. This forecast came two days after the record 1,000-ton bomb smash at Japanese installations at Hankow, China, and the second major Superfort raid against Nagoya, Nipponese industrial center.

NAZI OFFENSIVE CAUSES RESURVEY OF ARMS OUTPUT

WPB Chairman Krug Predicts Greatly Increased Demands on Production.

STIMSON CONFIDENT

Claims War May Be Shortened Should the German Attack Fail.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP) Germany's powerful counter-offensive led government officials tonight to resurvey arms production plans on the basis that heavy fighting may continue in Europe for a year or longer.

Against this dark possibility, however, Secretary of War Stimson set another—the possibility that the war may be "definitely shortened" if the Nazi effort can be crushed.

Increase in Arms Output

But even if the Stimson-foreseen possibility should prove true, it appeared certain that the present rate of arms production must be stepped up because of the enormous losses of materiel in the current heavy fighting. This would mean further delay in increasing production of civilian goods.

WPB Chairman J. A. Krug told a news conference that "greatly increased demands on production" would result from the Nazi counterthrust.

"If General Eisenhower had been able to break through the West wall promptly, the equipment we had under procurement would have been sufficient," he said.

"He hasn't been able to, and it looks as if it may take quite a long time. We must get ready to fight the kind of war we've been fighting in the last two months for the next year or as long as it takes."

Stimson, at his news conference, strongly implied that he expects the German lunge to fall short. The Secretary compared it with the desperate drives of the same enemy in 1918 which were beaten and followed quickly by the war's end.

With little to lose, he said, the Nazi High command chose to gamble some of its troops "rather than await the inevitable end of a slow defensive." The possibility exists, he conceded, that the counteroffensive might develop so as to gain for the Germans "a few months extension of time" before they are called "to an accounting for the misery they have inflicted upon the world."

Stimson said that Allied countermeasures against the German drive naturally are under way, but declined to give details on grounds of military security. He appealed for "restraint and patience at a moment when the stakes are high."

He expressed the "utmost confidence" in General Eisenhower, Supreme Allied commander, and his aides.

To the Krug and Stimson observations, Rep. Costello (D-Calif.) added his view that Germany may be able to lash back again and again. Costello headed a group of House Military committeemen who returned last night from a long inspection of European fronts.

While there is no question of ultimate Allied victory, it will not "come quickly," Costello told reporters, adding "we saw no indication anywhere that Germany is on the verge of cracking."

Krug said it appeared that it might be necessary to re-equip Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges' First army which has borne the brunt of the Nazi offensive, and announced restoration of part of the last aircraft production cut-back.

Revision of the 1945 aircraft program now calls for an output of 78,227 planes, a boost of 2,617 over the last reported goal.

While Army and Navy fighters account for most of the increase, Krug said the already steep schedule for B-29 Superfortresses was "increased significantly" for the war against Japan.

"It is quite possible that further increases over those announced today may result from studies of reports currently coming in from the battlefronts," he added.

Krug reported "very favorable progress" in meeting the critical military programs including big guns and shells and heavy trucks and tires, but reported these new developments on the production front:

1. Tire producers have been asked to report by Jan. 2 how much each can absorb of a desired military tire increase of six million tires a year. What the industry cannot handle, Krug said, will be thrown into a new plant—or more than one plant—to be built for the purpose.

2. New plant facilities apparently will have to be built to make high-tenacity rayon cord and carbon black, as part of the tire expansion.

3. A "rather drastic order" will be issued in the next few days, requiring cotton yarn producers to deliver their output to manufacturers of cotton duck for tents. This in turn may affect adversely those tire makers who are using cotton cord.

Five of WPB's top officials will leave for Europe shortly, the chairman announced, to survey military needs. They are Harold Boeschenstein, operations vice chairman; William Y. Elliott, vice chairman for civilian supply; James Folger, vice chairman for field operations; Joseph D. Keenan, vice chairman for labor production, and Maury Maverick, vice chairman for smaller war plants.

Krug appealed to management and labor to prevent, if possible, a lapse of munitions production in the approaching holidays. Christmas is "the official holiday," Krug said, and the effect on output would be serious if workers laid off on both Christmas and New Year's and the Sundays preceding those holidays.

Production Increase Seen

Samuel W. Anderson, vice chairman of the War Production board, said it is not yet clear just what new production demands will develop from the heavy expenditures of war materials in the current fighting.

But armament problems "as difficult as the ones we have now" are certain, Anderson told a news conference, adding:

"The present military situation in Europe will come back and hit us between the eyes in various ways, at present unknown."

Anderson is the official who signed the recent order freezing production of civilian goods at present levels.

"The purpose of the freeze is to see that rising civilian production does not interfere with urgent munitions output," he said. "I haven't any idea how long it will last, or how long we will have critical shortages in war materials."

Anderson explained that the freeze will not be allowed to prevent increases in vitally needed civilian production.

"It sets up a strong presumption against increases, but not an absolute bar," he explained. "Some programs probably will be brought up. We know we want more textiles and we'll try to increase them."

LACK OF SUPPLIES SEEN CAUSING U. S. REVERSES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP) Plentiful, fast-flowing supplies from the homefront to Americans fighting in Europe might have prevented the powerful German counteroffensive, Rep. Brooks (D-La.), member of the touring House Military Affairs committee, said today.

If supplies had kept up with them, American troops might have reached Berlin in their first, crucial thrust into Germany, declared the Louisianian, who returned with his colleagues yesterday from a month's trip to European battlefronts.

Lack of munitions in Allied hands at the front, Brooks said, allowed the Germans a respite in which to build up their current counter blow.

Stimson Gives Nazi Push Views

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, expressed today the possibility that the war may be "definitely shortened" if the present Nazi offensive can be crushed.

Stimson, at his news conference, strongly implied that he expects the German lunge to fall short. The Secretary compared it with the desperate drives of the same enemy in 1918 which were beaten and followed quickly by the war's end.

With little to lose, he said, the Nazi high command chose to gamble some of its troops "rather than await the inevitable end of a slow defensive." The possibility exists, he conceded, that the counteroffensive might develop so as to gain for the Germans "a few months' extension of time" before they are called "to an accounting for the misery they have inflicted upon the world."

Countermeasures Under Way

Stimson said that Allied countermeasures against the German drive naturally are under way, but declined to give details on grounds of military security. He appealed for "restraint and patience at a moment when the stakes are high."

He expressed the "utmost confidence" in General Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander, and his aides.

To the Krug and Stimson observations, Representative Costello (D., Cal.) added his view that Germany may be able to lash back again and again. Costello headed a group of House Military Committeemen who returned last night from a long inspection of European fronts.

While there is no question of ultimate Allied victory, it will not "come quickly," Costello said, adding, "we saw no indication anywhere that Germany is on the verge of cracking."

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RUSSIA PROMISES WINTER OFFENSIVE

Informed Sources Say Drive Will Be Aimed at Heart of Germany.

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 — (AP) Russia has assured the Allies that a powerful Red army winter offensive is coming up.

When it comes, informed sources said tonight, it will disclose a new alignment of Red Army forces spearheaded toward the heart of Germany.

While it probably will not have any immediate effect on the distant western front, where the U. S. First army is the main target of a Wehrmacht counter-offensive, the Red army drive on the eastern front is calculated to hasten the eventful collapse of Hitler's forces.

Soviet sources said the Red army high command had gone so far as to communicate to the Americans and British the date for the start of its offensive. This could not be confirmed in American military quarters, but there is strong evidence that the Allies know of and are counting on the new Russian push.

One such indication was Secretary of War Stimson's remark to a news conference today that "the German high command must be prepared to meet the Russian winter offensive, wherever it may strike."

Prime Minister Churchill, speaking to the House of Commons last Friday, asserted: "I know nothing of their intentions, but speaking only of what is obvious to anyone who studies war maps, Russian armies will probably during the early part of next year traverse large areas of Poland."

Either Churchill was covering up military knowledge he already possessed, informed sources indicated, or since then, some word has come to the Allies from Moscow.

The date and place of the projected offensive remain military secrets.

The most fruitful location for a Russian attack appears to be the Polish plain, extending directly west into Germany.

The time is already one month later than the start of the great 1942 Russian winter offensive from Stalingrad, a delay explained by the fact that the Polish plain freezes later than the Russian steppes.

The lineup of Russian armies has been a mystery since last summer when the Leningrad front, three Baltic, three White Russian and four Ukrainian fronts, from north to south, were in action.

Current activity in the Balkans has been limited to single fronts, or army groups, while those farther north, already far advanced from the White Russian, Baltic and Leningrad regions from which they drew their designations, have been re-grouping.

The forthcoming winter offensive, judging by previous actions, will involve probably three army groups for the original breakthrough, with expanding movement bringing in up to six army groups.

The promised Red army offensive will answer a rising demand in this country for Russian action, reminiscent of the 1942 clamor in Moscow for a "second front."

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Clare Luce Stranded in Fog, Missed Boat, Colleagues Say

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP) Clare Boothe Luce got stranded in the fog in Italy, colleagues confided today, and that is why she missed the boat back from Europe.

Earlier reports that an earache detained the blonde Connecticut representative were erroneous, said members of the House Military committee.

Mrs. Luce failed to turn up yesterday at National airport when other committee members returned from a four-week inspection tour of European battle areas.

Mrs. Luce, her colleagues explained, left the main group at Rome to make a one-woman inspection of the 12th Airforce headquarters, quite a distance away. The main group flew to the Adriatic coast, and Mrs. Luce was to have rejoined it at Naples.

However, a heavy fog blocked her plans to fly to Naples and there was no other way for her to meet the main group in time. So the rest of the committee left without her.

"It wasn't an earache at all," one of the group said. "She simply got lost in the fog and missed the boat."

Front Supplies Ample, House Mission Says

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—House members back from Europe left the definite impression today they found adequate supplies at the fronts, although more ammunition could be used.

Hoarse and travel-weary fifteen members of the Military Committee returned last night by army plane and arranged today to tell Gen. George C. Marshall and Secretary of War Stimson of their four weeks' inspection tour of battlefronts.

Supply Setup Praised

Although bound by a self-imposed censorship not to discuss in detail what they had seen until they had talked with army bosses the returning legislators left these impressions with interviewers:

American troops want for nothing, including cigarettes, gasoline and supplies of all kinds; their morale is high, although they want to get the war over with quickly; the supply organization, from buttons to tanks, is, as one member put it, "just simply amazing and will be recorded by history as the greatest job of its kind ever undertaken."

Within Rifle Shot

The Congressmen said that they saw everything there was to see, including the supply lines in the rear and the fighting at the front, and were within rifle shot of German soldiers at Duren, on the Western front.

As acting chairman of the returning group, Representative Costello (D., Cal.) summed up the trip by saying the committee "found things in excellent condition."

"They are doing an exceptionally fine job," he added.

"They have everything they need," said another member. "The job of providing supplies has been handled superbly. There could be more heavy ammunition, but there is no critical shortage of it. There seemed to be plenty of gasoline."

Got The Lowdown

"We really got the lowdown," commented another. "They were almost overanxious for us to have the real facts."

Representative Brooks (D., La.) said the committee was "satisfied"

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with things in general, although "some shortage" of shells was noticeable.

On one occasion, Brooks said, the group was less than a mile from a German lookout post when a Signal Corpsman commented that "if we had enough shells we could get that lookout."

"The war is a good deal tougher than the American people think it is," he added.

DAVIS BACKS AIDE IN NEWS DISPUTE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP) Elmer Davis, director of the Office of War Information, today supported one of his aides who had protested against a news blackout on Germany's counter-offensive.

George Lyon, OWI representative at Supreme Allied headquarters in Europe, recently joined war correspondents in complaining about the failure of headquarters to make news available.

Davis today told reporters that he regretted "this argument got out into the public," but added:

"From here it seems that Mr. Lyon was right."

Davis remarked that the policy of headquarters in releasing news now has been modified considerably.

Davis sat in at a news conference with Edward Barrett, director of OWI overseas operations, who had just returned from Europe.

Davis told reporters that psychological warfare has proved "extremely worthwhile," and that the Allied story "has made an impression on German soldiers."

He said this was shown by the interrogation of prisoners, and that the full effect of Allied psychological warfare "will show up when a certain breaking-point" is reached.

French Envoy Ready to Leave

WASHINGTON Dec. 21 (AP).—Henri Hoppenot, who has represented the provisional government of France here for the last fifteen months, said good by today to President Roosevelt preparatory to leaving soon for Paris. His place is being taken by Henri Bonnet. Hoppenot said he would go to New York to spend a few days, then laeve for Paris. He added: "I leave full of love for your country and hope for the co-operation between your country and my country, which is certainly one of the bases for peace and freedom."

GREATER UNITY IS URGED BETWEEN UNITED NATIONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 — (AP) Growing demands on both sides of the Atlantic today for closer Allied political cooperation set American officials studying possibilities for improved consultation machinery.

Linked to a plea from British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden for more regular meetings of top Allied statesmen was a feeling that steps should be taken now to fill the gap between the end of European fighting and establishment of a world peace agency.

Only continuous channel for exchange of views outside of normal diplomacy at present is the European Advisory commission. The EAC, however, deals almost exclusively with plans for Germany and has no authority of its own. It can only make recommendations.

Expansion of the EAC or formation of some new group to take its place when Germany collapses is expected to come up for discussion at the next Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin meeting. Some officials think, however, that steps to tighten Allied political lines must be made before the Big Three get together late next month or early in February.

One possibility is that Secretary of State Stettinius may go to England to talk over Anglo-American policy and confer on closer coordination.

Actually, postwar problems already are confronting the Allies in liberated countries. British difficulties in Greece have called the attention of diplomats here to the need for regular high policy talks.

In the House of Lords, Lord Samuel said today the British might have to resort to some sort of "interallied action" to settle the Greek crisis. He said there was "no reason why Great Britain should be called upon to bear this burden alone."

The official American attitude has been to keep hands off the internal political quarrel, but to attempt to eliminate some causes of the strife by rushing in relief supplies. Unofficially, it was learned, the American ambassador in Athens, Lincoln MacVeagh, has been trying to help the British and Greeks find a solution.

Stimson Sees No Allied Rift

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—War Secretary Stimson said today he does not believe the United Nations are losing their solidarity.

He expressed this view in answering a question whether the timing of the German counteroffensive was connected with reports of dissension among the Allies and with reports of Allied supply shortages. The Secretary declared there is no evidence that either report had anything to do with the drive.

Stimson Omits Casualties

Tells News Conference Reports Are Not in From the Fronts

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP).—Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, omitted at his news conference today his usual weekly report on Army casualties. He said that the casualty figures had not yet been received from the fronts.

It had been expected this week's tally probably would include some reports on casualties in November in the opening of the winter offensive against Germany.

MEN WHO RADIOED CHARTER UNKNOWN

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Washington, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—A search of Navy records has failed to disclose the identity of radio men aboard the cruiser Augusta who transmitted the Atlantic Charter from scribbled notes.

The Navy said today that any of a considerable number of radio men normally assigned to a ship that size could have handled the notes which President Roosevelt has said never were placed in formal style during his historic meeting at sea with Prime Minister Churchill.

The Navy agreed too, with the British Admiralty, that some men who were aboard the cruiser at that time might since have become casualties on other assignments.

London dispatches said that even if the Admiralty determines that the three radio men who sent their copy from the British battleship Prince of Wales still are alive, their identities must remain a top secret. The Prince of Wales was sunk by Japanese planes off Malaya three days after Pearl Harbor.

34 LEADING ACES LISTED

Bong Heads Group, McGuire Second, Gabreski Third

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—A list of 34 fighter pilots who shot down fifteen or more enemy planes was issued tonight by Army Air Forces. Major Richard Bong, of Poplar, Wis., tops the group.

The list covered scores up to December 15. Bong, therefore, was recorded for 38 planes destroyed, although dispatches from the Southwest Pacific since then have run his score up to 40.

Major Thomas B. McGuire, of San Antonio, Texas, like Bong a member of the 5th Air Force in the Southwest Pacific, is rated second high man with 30 planes. Third on the list is Lieut. Col. Francis S. Gabreski, of Oil City, Pa., an 8th Air Force pilot who became a prisoner of war while on a mission over Germany. His score was 28.

Procedure For Scoring

The air forces announcement explained the procedure for scoring. Originally, claims of enemy planes destroyed were based on observation by the pilot or by supporting witnesses. An enemy plane was listed as destroyed only when it was seen to burn in the air or its pilot seemed to bail out.

Since January, 1943, Army fighter planes have been equipped with gun cameras which provide positive proof of whether and where the enemy aircraft is hit. To claim a positive victory, a pilot's camera must show the crash or the mid-air explosion of the enemy plane or that its pilot bailed out.

Others Listed As Aces

The other fighter pilots listed among the high scores and the number of planes they destroyed:

MAJOR ROBERT S. JOHNSON, Lawton, Okla., 8th Air Force, 27 planes.
MAJOR GEORGE E. PREDDY, Greensboro, N. C., 8th Air Force, 24.
CAPT. DON S. GENTILE, Piqua, Ohio, 8th Air Force, 23.
MAJOR GERALD T. JOHNSON, Eugene, Ore., 5th Air Force, 23.
MAJOR FRED J. CHRISTENSEN, Watertown, Mass., 8th Air Force, 22.
COL. NEEL E. KEARBY, Dallas, Texas, 5th Air Force, now listed as missing in action, 22
COL. GLENN E. DUNCAN, Houston, Texas, 8th Air Force, is missing in action, 21½.
CAPT. JOHN J. VOLL, Goshen, Ohio, 15th Air Force, in Italy, 21.
MAJOR WALKER M. MAHURIN, Fort Wayne, Ind., 8th Air Force, 21.
MAJOR JAY T. ROBBINS, Collidge, Texas, 8th Air Force, 21.
LIEUT. COL. ROBERT B. WESTBROOK, Hollywood, Cal., 13th Air Force, Southern Pacific, 20.
COL. CHARLES H. MacDONALD, St. Petersburg, Fla., 5th Air Force, 20.
LIEUT. COL. THOMAS J. LYNCH, Catasauqua, Pa., 5th Air Force, killed in action, 20.
COL. HUBERT ZEMKE, Missoula, Mont., 8th Air Force, now a prisoner, 19½.
LIEUT. COL. DAVID C. SCHILLING, Traverse City, Mich., 8th Air Force, 19.
COL. DAVID L. HILL, Victoria, Texas, 14th Air Force, in China, 18½.
CAPT. JOHN T. GODFREY, Woonsocket, R.I., 8th Air Force, a prisoner, 18.
LIEUT. COL. HERSCHEL H. GREEN, Mayfield, Ky., 15th Air Force, 18.
CAPT. DUANE W. BEESON, Boise, Idaho, 8th Air Force, 18.
MAJOR WALKER CARL BECKHAM, Defuniak Springs, Fla., 8th Air Force, a prisoner, 18.
MAJOR DON M. BEERBOWER, Hill City, Minn., 9th Air Force, in European theater of operations, 17½.
CAPT. JAMES S. VARNELL, Charleston, Tenn., 15th Air Force, 17.
CAPT. CYRIL F. HOMER, Sacramento, Cal., 5th Air Force, 17.
MAJOR EDWARD CRAGG, Cos Cob, Conn., 5th Air Force, missing in action, 17.
CAPT. GLEN T. EAGLESTON, Alhambra, Cal., 9th Air Force, 16½.
LIEUT. COL. WILLIAM N. REED, Marion, Iowa, 14th Air Force, 16½.
MAJOR GEORGE S. WELCH, Wilmington, Del., 5th Air Force, 16.
LIEUT. COL. RICHARD E. TURNER, [illegible], Okla., 9th Air Force, 16.
MAJOR SAMUEL J. BROWN, Tulsa, Okla., 15th Air Force, 15½.
MAJOR BILL HARRIS, Springville, Cal., 13th Air Force, South Pacific, 15.
C. T. RICHARD A. PETERSON, Alexandria, Minn., 8th Air Force, 15.

Fractional figures are given where more than one pilot helped in downing an enemy plane.

Stettinius Trip To London Is Indicated

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—The possibility arose today that Secretary of State Stettinius might go to London as a preliminary to a Big Three meeting.

British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden called for a re-establishment of "quarterly meetings of foreign secretaries" of the great powers in the House of Commons yesterday.

The British have clearly shown for some time their ardent wish to have a high Allied conference on their home ground, and it seems out of the question that Marshal Stalin would be willing to travel that far to meet President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in England.

Differences Bared

The flareups in Greece and Italy bared differences in Anglo-American policy toward liberated Europe, which both sides have expressed their interest in talking out.

Churchill told Commons that the Allies agreed on general aims, but that "whether there is complete agreement on every aspect of these matters is another question altogether."

Whether Stettinius will travel to London before the Big Three conference depends on Roosevelt, say well-informed sources.

Reorganization of the State Department with the new under secretary and assistant secretaries is expected to take much of the detailed tasks off Stettinius's shoulders, however, so that he can get away more easily.

May Meet Russians

In addition to the purely Anglo-American problems, it is considered possible that Stettinius may meet with Russian diplomats in London to lay the groundwork for Allied agreement on the question of voting procedure in the world peace agency.

This problem has been left open and authoritative quarters are convinced that a United Nations conference, which Washington is anxious to hold as soon as possible, could not be called until it is settled.

British anxiety to hold a conference on their own island was considered primarily a matter of prestige. There have been several demands from Parliament that the next meeting be held in the United Kingdom, which Churchill echoed in his last speech.

State Department Rally

Stettinius held a rally of State Department employés to meet his new top aides and hear a rousing pep talk.

The workers trooped down to Constitution Hall and took their seats while the Marine Band played.

Addressing everyone as members of his team, Stettinius charged diplomats and secretaries alike to take up where the armed forces leave off and "wage peace as we wage war." "Every day we are fighting battles for peace every bit as important as the battles of the war," Stettinius said.

First Such Gathering

It was the first time that the entire State Department staff of 2,500 employés had been brought together. Stettinius presented to them five men who, he said, were "second to none I know in character, ability and integrity."

They are Under Secretary Joseph C. Grew and assistant secretaries Nelson Rockefeller, Will L. Clayton, James C. Dunn and Archibald MacLeish.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 2,845 casualties in the European Area.

In all of these cases the next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

Most Men To Infantry

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Ben Lear, the army ground forces commander, said today that the infantry is well past its stepchild days and now is getting not only the most but the best of manpower.

A new "profile system" of assigning draftees is credited with the improvement.

The Army, seeking to meet the changing conditions, put aside, several months ago, the original system of supplying the ground forces with men almost entirely on a numerical basis.

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Quota Under Old System

Under this system, a quota was fixed for ground forces—chiefly infantry—and whatever men were left after the Air Forces had made its draft on the pool were available for the other branches of the Army.

The new system classifies men both on their physical condition and mental co-ordination, a "profile" of their general adaptabilities for combatant and noncombatant service.

Lear, army ground forces commander, said:

"A high percentage of the top profiles go into the ground forces today—most of them into the infantry.

"The reason is that under the principle of first things first, it was necessary to place the Air Forces into operation ahead of the large masses of men on the ground who must fight for the final decision.

"Now that it has arrived at that stage, the final-phase force—the infantry—is getting the preference."

NEW 'G' SUITS HELP AIRMEN IN COMBAT

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)

"G-suits" are the latest togs for Army and Navy fighter pilots.

Both services gave out this bit of military fashion news today, the Army announcement going into some detail on the garments designed to keep fliers from "blacking out" in steep dives and other maneuvers.

The Army's "G-suit"—the "G" is for gravity—is a pair of high-waisted pneumatic pants with built-in suspenders and girdle, and air bladders over the abdomen, thighs and calves.

The idea is to keep the blood from piling up in the lower extremities, and help the heart pump blood to the brain.

Compressed air from the plane's vacuum system inflates the bladders. Automatic valves control the pressure in relation to the gravity pull.

The War department said men wearing the suit had been captured by the enemy, so that news of it can be given out without harm.

The Army called its suit an improvement over one previously used by the Navy.

The Navy said when a fighter pilot makes a pass at an enemy the blood may be pulled away from his brain for 20 or 30 seconds under a pressure three or four times his weight. In pulling out of a dive he may for a few seconds under a pull eight or nine times the force of gravity. The Navy added:

"Under these circumstances his brain soon becomes foggy and his sight blurred. He is a 'sitting duck' for enemy pilots."

The announcement came shortly after the Canadian Air force disclosed that it has developed an anti-blackout suit. The Canadian outfit has been described as a thin rubber suit with a lining into which water or air is pumped before the flier goes into action.

'DOGGONED MAD' OVER BURIAL NOTE

Veteran Hikes From Arizona To Washington To Protest

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—A twice-wounded veteran of World War I has hitchhiked here from an Arizona veterans hospital to protest against a letter to his mother discussing burial plans "in the event of your son's death."

Fred Wesley Thomas, 44, said the letter was written from the Veterans Administration office at Whipple, Ariz., and made him "so doggoned mad" that he left the hospital and returned to his Passaic (N.J.) home where he found his mother "ill from worry." From there he came on to Washington.

Congressmen Come And Go

Thomas added that when he informed hospital officials of his intention of protesting in Washington about the letter and what he termed "deplorable treatment" of veterans in the hospitals, he was told "remember there'll always be a veterans hospital but congressmen come and go."

Before entering the hospital a year ago because of heart trouble, Thomas said, he worked as a locksmith in Knightstown, Ind.

Thomas told his story to Representative Wilson (R., Ind.), who termed it "proof of the deplorable conditions in veterans hospitals." Wilson said he intended to introduce legislation to provide additions to city and county hospitals throughout the nation for exclusive use of veterans.

A spokesman for the Veterans Administration declined immediate comment.

"According To Regulations"

Whipple, Ariz., Dec. 21 (AP)—Dr. Grover C. Daniel, manager of the Veterans' Hospital here, said today that Fred Wesley Thomas, 44-year-old former patient, had asked officials to notify his mother regarding veterans' death benefits after he learned he was critically ill of a heart ailment.

"The letter was in the usual form and written according to regulations," Dr. Daniel asserted. "It outlined the rights to which Thomas is entitled as a veteran and what benefits were available to next of kin in the event of his death."

Naval Ordnance Expansion Bill Signed

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—President Roosevelt signed legislation today authorizing a $50,000,000 expansion in naval ordnance production facilities.

The House Appropriations Committee said in its report on the measure that increased requirements of the Army Air Service for rocket bombs would exhaust previous authorizations for new facilities.

Roosevelt Signs Bill Extending War Powers

Increase in Congressmen's Allowances Also Approved

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP).—President Roosevelt today signed legislation extending through 1945 the extraordinary powers voted him by Congress at the outbreak of war.

The bill—a renewal of the second war powers act which cradles the authority for industrial priorities, rationing, food control and other emergency war activities—was rushed through the closing days of the Seventy-eighth Congress. Without its approval, the Administration's authority for war regulations would have ended with the close of this year.

He also signed a bill increasing the amount of money Congressmen can spend to staff their offices. The measure raises from $6,500 to $9,500 the annual clerk hire amount for members of the House and authorizes the Senate to raise maximum salaries of committee experts from $4,500 to $5,040. In addition it adds $4,020 for the clerk hire allowance of Senators from states of 4,000,000 or less population and $5,040 for Senators from larger states.

Ickes Defends Stand On Jap-Americans

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—Interior Secretary Ickes said today that loyal Japanese-Americans will have the "full force of the Government behind them" in their efforts to reestablish themselves as American citizens.

At his news conference he said the War Department had rescinded the West Coast exclusion order recently because "it was the proper time to do so." He said most Japanese-Americans, with the exception of those in the Tule Lake segregation center had set an "astonishing record for loyalty."

"There has not been a single case of sabotage," he added.

IckesShuns'Anti-Franco' Rally

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP).—Interior Secretary Ickes said today he has declined an invitation to speak at what he described as "an anti-Franco" meeting in Madison Square Garden Jan. 2. "I would like to express my opinions of the gentleman (chief of the Spanish government)," Ickes told his news conference, "but because of my official position I do not believe that I should do so." He did not say who invited him to the New York meeting.

One Of 8 Soldiers Wants Little Business Or Farm

Washington, Dec. 21 (AP)—One out of every eight soldiers at home and abroad wants to operate a little business or farm after he leaves the Army, a War Department survey showed today.

Under the "GI Bill of Rights," veterans may borrow up to $4,000 to obtain a farm or business with the Government guaranteeing half of the loan.

INDUCTION MACHINERY STOPPED FOR HOLIDAYS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP) The Army will suspend its draft induction machinery for Christmas and again for New Year's.

The War department announced today that on December 24 and 25 and again on December 31 and January 1 "there will be no pre-induction physical examinations, no inductions of Selective Service registrants and no transfer" of inductees to their stations.

Paul Porter Sworn In As Chairman of F.C.C.

To Hold Post Until Nomination Is Sent to New Congress

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21 (AP).—Paul Porter, Democratic National Committee publicity chief during the fall campaign, took the oath under a recess appointment today as chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

The White House said Mr. Porter was given the temporary appointment so he could have the benefit of the experience pending resubmission of his formal nomination to the new Congress convening next month. The Senate in the Congress just adjourned failed to act on the original nomination. The post formerly was held by James Lawrence Fly, who resigned.

FDR'S CHRISTMAS PLANS REVEALED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21—(AP) A scroll of President Roosevelt's D-Day prayer for victory over the "unholy forces of our enemy" was his Christmas gift today to White House employes.

More than 300 executive office employes, guards and servants were given their presents early so President and Mrs. Roosevelt might enjoy their own yuletide quietly with their only daughter and a few grandchildren. None of the four uniformed sons will be at the Presidential fireside.

As workmen began putting in place the wreaths, mistletoe and poinsettias, for the holiday decorations, the President and First Lady received first more than 250 members of the office staff.

Besides a handshake and oral greeting, each received a 21 by 14 inch scroll, engraved in black, gold, red and blue letters that began "D-Day prayer by President Franklin D. Roosevelt from the White House, June 6, 1944," and ended "Christmas, 1944—from FDR."

Each employe also was given a Christmas card with a picture of the White House on it and the following: "With Christmas greetings and our best wishes for a Happier Nineteen Forty-five. The President and Mrs. Roosevelt."

Later in the day members of the White House police force, chauffeurs, cooks, maids and other employes of the living quarters were similarly greeted in the big mirrored east room. A huge tree trimmed with white streamers, white lights, and imitation snow was the immediate magnet for their children. Toys and candy were piled high beneath its branches.

Guests for the family dinner Christmas Eve—followed by the Presidential reading of Dickens Christmas Carol—and for stocking hunting the following morning will be:

The Roosevelt's only daughter, Mrs. John Boettiger and her three children, Eleanor, Curtis and Johnny; and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., and her children, Franklin D. III and Christopher.

The customary community Christmas tree exercises will be held in the south grounds, beginning at 4:15 Eastern War Time Sunday. The public is invited to watch the lighting of a huge live Norway spruce.

At 5:15 p.m., the President will broadcast a Christmas message to this group, the nation, and the armed forces all over the world.

ALLIED POLICY IS DEBATED

Town Hall Speakers Argue O "Hands-Off" Attitude

New York, Dec. 21 (AP)—Representative John M. Coffee (D., Wash.) said tonight "it would appear that Churchill favors bringing back to Italy the House of Savoy, King Peter to Yugoslavia and Kin George to Greece."

Sir Norman Angell, 1933 Nobel peace prize winner, debating with Coffee and others in Town Hall the subject, "Should the Allies Maintain a Hands-Off Policy in Liberated Countries?" contended that a universal hands-off policy was fraught with many difficulties.

Discussing the Polish question, Angell asked whether we should "proclaim high principles and then make it clear that we are going to do just nothing about them so far as Russia is concerned?"

"Disastrously Destructive"

"Far from helping political morality, that kind of attitude is disastrously destructive of all political sincerity and honesty," Angell said in his prepared address. "Yet that is about what we—especially we liberals this last few weeks—have done.

"Both in Britain and the United States the most savage and violent attacks have been concentrated on Churchill as though it were his government that had partitioned Poland, replaced its Government, suppressed three republics, banished great sections of their populations to the Arctic.

"The effect of this concentration of blame upon Churchill and the virtual exoneration of Russia has been to make all but impossible Churchill's task of attempting by negotiating with Poland to save something from the wreck of Poland".

Other Speakers

Coffee said in his prepared address that "the liberated peoples of the world must not be cheated of their opportunity for freedom now" and declared: "No nation should undertake to boss another."

"We, in America, are not fearful of the common people," he said. "We in America, are not eager to ressurrect the effete monarchies of Europe, unless the majority of peoples in the liberated countries insist on the restoration of kings."

Other speakers on the program, broadcast over the Blue Network (8.30-9.30 P.M., E.W.T.), were Authors Frank Kingdon and Jay Allen.

Allen's Retort

Dr. Kingdon said "it is our business to set peoples free, and then to let them work out their own destinies through the exercise of their freedom."

Allen said "hands-off by one and you'll have hands-on by others."

CONGRESS LEADERS

NEW YORK, Dec. 21—(AP) Republican leaders of the Senate and House conferred today with Gov. Thomas E. Dewey and Republican National Chairman Herbert Brownell, Jr., and mapped plans for vigorous opposition party.

The all-day meeting was the first of a series to be held on party policy and put Dewey, the G.O.P. presidential nominee who was defeated in November, in an active role as titular leader of the party.

Those who conferred with Dewey and Brownell in Dewey's suite at the Hotel Roosevelt were Senator Kenneth S. Wherry of Nebraska, Republican whip; Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Massachusetts, Republican minority leader; Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Michigan, chairman of the Republican Senate Conference; Senator Wallace H. White, Jr., Maine, Republican Senate floor leader; Senator Robert A. Taft, Ohio, chairman of the Republican Steering committee in the Senate; Representative Roy O. Woodruff, Michigan, chairman of the House Republican Conference, and Representative Charles A. Halleck, Indiana, chairman of the National Republican Congressional committee.

The meeting, held quietly, followed Brownell's announcement earlier today that the Republican National committee would meet Jan. 22 in Indianapolis "to authorize a vigorous, progressive, all year-round program of party activity."

Although there was no official statement of the objective outlined today, one source described it as "the building of a firm foundation for political expression of 22,000,000 American voters." That figure approximated Dewey's popular vote.

Dewey and the conferees, it was learned, discussed the formation of a continually functioning national organization and coordination of the views and activities of Republican leaders in both houses, the National committee and Republicans generally.

DEWEY, BROWNELL HOLD PARLEY WITH

ASKS HIRING OF WOUNDED

Cushing Bids Company Heads Help Heal 'Broken Lives'

30 24 — 21445

BOSTON, Dec. 21 (AP)—American employers can become "true craftsmen" in helping to mold the "broken lives" of American service men wounded in action, Archbishop Richard J. Cushing said today.

The head of the Catholic Archdiocese of Boston, appearing before the Boston Chamber of Commerce in his first public address since his recent elevation, said it would be "the most natural temptation" to turn away men who came back maimed in body, but he asked the members to remember that "a handicap may often be the incentive that will drive them on to even greater accomplishment than they might otherwise have achieved."

The Archbishop said that the historian Francis Parkman could write only six lines a day, because of an eye affliction, that Charles Darwin wrote the "Origin of Species" during forty years of ill health and that Robert Louis Stevenson, "dogged by tuberculosis, could have become a sour cynic throwing his pen away in futile disgust."

ARCHBISHOP HAILS WRITERS' METTLE

Boston, Dec. 21 (A. P.).—American employers can become "true craftsmen," Archbishop Richard J. Cushing said today, in helping to mold the broken lives of American service men wounded in action. The head of the Roman Catholic Church in New England told the Boston Chamber of Commerce in his first public address since his recent elevation: "It will be the most natural temptation to reject" men who come back maimed in body, but he asked the members to "remember that a handicap may often be the incentive that will drive them (the veterans) on to even greater accomplishments than they might otherwise have achieved."

The Archbishop said that Francis Parkman, the historian, could write only six lines a day, because of an eye affliction, that Charles Darwin wrote his epoch-making book, "The Origin of Species," during forty years of ill health, and that Robert Louis Stevenson, "dogged by tuberculosis, could have become a sour cynic, throwing his pen away in futile disgust."

Army Pipe Lines Product Of Accidental Discovery

Research Man Got Idea for Tubes Watching Rolling Mill

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio, Dec. 21 (AP).—Twenty years ago J. R. Freeze, a research man for the American Rolling Mill Company, watched a strip of thin steel come out of a rolling mill and curl until it formed sort of an open, spiral tube.

This strip had to be flattened again before it could be used—but Mr. Freeze wondered if he couldn't make pipe that way. And that was the beginning of the "pipe line to Berlin."

This "invasion pipe" or "portable pipe line" now carries petroleum products from rear areas to the front lines in Europe, Saipan, Burma and other war zones.

Mr. Freeze devised an automatic welding machine that sealed the edges together until the metal looked like a soda straw with a continuous spiral ridge re-enforcing it.

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When the war started the Army told Armco to start making this lightweight pipe, six inches in diameter and weighing only 150 pounds. A section then could be carried by two men and laid into a line with a socket wrench, plus a shovel if it was to be buried.

Mr. Freeze, manager of Armco's fabricating division, says the pipe now is being turned out at the rate of ninety inches a minute here and in numerous other company plants.

In the field Army engineers are installing it almost in the shadow of advancing troops—some times at a speed of seventy miles a day. The pipe, which got its first real test in North Africa, has been used in increasing quantities ever since.

"Three Messerschmitts wrecked the left side of our plane and the right side was turned into a shambles shortly afterwards by scores of another B-24's fragmentation bombs, four of which stayed sticking in the wings and stabilizer until we returned to our base," recalled the Bridgeport sergeant at the AAF redistribution station here. Fortunately, none of these bombs exploded.

The plane, with Sgt. Swetz suspended in its ball turret, had entered the bomb run over the enemy airdrome when three ME's attacked it from the tail.

"They made only one pass but wounded our right and left waist gunners, shot out our oxygen system, wrecked my ball turret and completely shot up the left side of the bomber," said the Bridgeport gunner.

"We continued on our run and had failed to notice that another Lib was directly over us, but became very much aware of the fact at 'bombs away'.

"We were caught in a cascade of 240 fragmentation eggs dropped by the Lib above us. Some hit our wings and bounced off, others went right through, and three stayed sticking in the wings and one imbedded itself in the stabilizer. Our plane was a mess, but we were all thankful that the bombs hadn't fallen far enough to be fused. That would have been bad," the Sergeant pointed out.

This damage added to that inflicted by the Messerschmitts knocked the bomber out of formation and it steadily lost altitude.

"We tossed out all our ammunition and guns and flak suits," explained the Bridgeport gunner, "and halted the bomber's fall at 9,000 feet. At this altitude we made it safely back to Italy, where we landed on an emergency field. Our pilot was given the Silver Star for bringing the ship back."

PARLEY HELD ON POLL TAX

Southern Editors Told Negroes Would Not Control Elections

Atlanta, Dec. 21 (AP)—A group of Southern editors and writers was told today by an Oklahoma Negro newspaper man that removal of voting restrictions in the South would not be accompanied by attempted domination of elections by members of his race.

Addressing an inter-racial conference sponsored by the committee of editors and writers of the South at a leading hotel, Editor Roscoe Dunjee, of the *Black Dispatch* at Oklahoma City, said if voting bans are removed "the Negro will join the white people in the South in doing the things that ought to be done in a democracy."

Speaker after speaker attacked enactments of eight Southern States setting up payment of the poll tax as a prerequisite for voting and other laws and practices described as a deterrent to Negro voting.

Nothing Up Their Sleeves

"We have nothing up our sleeves in calling this meeting, but I realize that attempts to discredit us are possible," said Chairman Mark Etheridge, publisher of the Louisville (Ky.) *Courier Journal*.

"I will be frank; our purpose is simple. Legislatures in seven of the eight poll-tax states will meet shortly and we frankly hope that this meeting will put useful information in the hands of editors and others who will do something about it."

Etheridge asserted that "I propose to continue coming to Atlanta whenever worth-while matters are up for discussion whether or not eight Negroes attended the all-day conference called by the committee, described as an informal and unaffiliated group.

Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia advised the committee upon receipt of an invitation that he was unable to attend. The Governor went to south Georgia to a friend's funeral. He has called for a separate study of the poll-tax question by Southern leaders.

Says It Is Vote Tax

Editor Jennings Perry, of the Nashville *Tennessean*, ripped into poll-tax restrictions with a statement that "something artificial has come between the people of the South and the ballot box."

"The poll tax is a vote tax—the price you have to pay to cast your ballot," he said. "It is a cost price fixed upon a priceless right. There is no question of right or wrong in this matter as the right to vote is fundamental in a democracy.

"I can no longer go on telling the people who may read my newspaper that we have a democracy in Tennessee."

Capt. Routt, Grid Star, Killed

BRENHAM, Tex., Dec. 21 (AP)—Capt. Joe Routt, all-America football guard in 1936 and 1937 while at Texas A and M College, was killed in action in Europe Dec. 10, his wife has been notified. He was commander of an infantry company.

1ST DIVISION MARINES RETURN FROM PACIFIC

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21 (AP) Battle weary Marines of the First Division, 1,539 in number, plus 37 wounded, arrived with 140 Navy casualties and an undisclosed number of Army personnel on a large transport here today from a rest camp in the Pacific.

These veterans, most of whom are from the East coast with a few Southerners among them, left the United States in April, 1942 and participated in the battles of Guadalcanal, Cape Gloucester and Peleliu, their last major operation.

The Red Cross served milk and cookies at the pier and presented each with a gift.

"That's the first fresh milk we've seen since Australia in 1943," one of the Marines exclaimed. The detachment, last of the ablebodied Marines to be evacuated from Peleliu, will go by troop train to the San Diego redistribution center. From there they will be given furloughs and sent home.

The Marines were virtually unanimous in describing the battle of Peleliu as "grim business."

"We saw Jap machine gunners chained to their pill boxes with only their right arms free," said Pfc. Bernard W. Martin, 20, of 133 Bailey St., Lawrence, Mass.

Navy's Christmas Gifts To Fly to South Pacific

Giant Liberator Bomber Loaded With Hard-to-Get Items

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 21 (AP).—Santa Claus's 1944 model sleigh—a giant Navy Liberator bomber loaded with thousands of Yule gifts, Christmas trees and decorations is ready for a flight to the South Pacific to brighten Christmas Day for Uncle Sam's fighting forces.

Loading of the Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corporation plane was completed today through the combined efforts of Convair's maintenance department, the United Service Organizations, Office of Price Administration and Red Cross.

Included in the hundreds of packages are such hard-to-get items as 2,400 straight pins, 144 assorted safety pins, 180 assorted needles, a dozen scissors, countless games and other articles needed by American fighters.

Money for the gifts and trees was raised by the company maintenance department, augmented by a gift from the company. The U. S. O., O. P. A. and Red Cross helped to buy the items.

Bridgeport Gunner's Big Plane Blasted by German Fighters, Then Bombed at 19,000 Feet by Another American Liberator

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 21.—(AP) While making a bombing raid on a German airdrome near Toulon, France, Sgt. Stephen Swetz, of 130 Madison terrace, Bridgeport, Conn., a ball turret gunner, expected his bomber to be attacked by German fighters, but didn't expect it to be bombed at 19,000 feet by another Liberator.

The returnee is the son of John Swetz, of Bridgeport. A veteran of 51 missions with the 15th Air force, he wears the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters and the ETO ribbon with three campaign stars. He entered the service in January, 1943, and was sent overseas in May, 1944.

there are any welcoming speeches."

43 Whites, 8 Negroes Attend

Nelson Poynter, publisher of the St. Petersburg (Fla.) *Times*, added: "I am sorry if anybody has been distressed by our having this meeting."

Forty-three white persons and

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SECOND NIGHT LEAD GERMAN

BY ROMNEY WHEELER

LONDON, DEC. 21-(AP)-GERMAN BROADCASTS DECLARED TONIGHT THAT FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT'S "STEAMROLLER OFFENSIVE" HAD CUT THE VITAL LIEGE-BASTOGNE HIGHWAY "ON A BROAD FRONT" AND WAS DRIVING THE "ENEMY TO THE MEUSE VALLEY"--SOME 35 MILES FARTHER WEST.

ONE BERLIN COMMENTATOR ASSERTED THE U.S. THIRD ARMY HAD RUSHED NORTH INTO SOUTHERN LUXEMBOURG IN AN ATTEMPT TO STEM A SECOND DRIVE POINTED TOWARD SEDAN, BUT SAID "NONE OF THESE MOVEMENTS CARRIED OUT BY THE ENEMY HAVE THUS FAR LED TO ANY NOTEWORTHY SUCCESS."

AN ANALYST FOR DNB SAID THE "OFFENSIVE ROLLS ON TONIGHT" AND "ALL OUR ASSAULT DIVISIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN THROWN IN."

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"THE GERMAN COMMAND," HE ADDED, "AWAITS THE EXPECTED CLIMAX OF THE BATTLE WITH QUIET CONFIDENCE."

THIS BROADCASTER, DR.MAX KRULL, CLAIMED FIVE ALLIED DIVISIONS "ALREADY ARE COMPLETELY SMASHED" AND SEVEN OTHERS WERE IN "HURRIED RETREAT."

THE ATTACK, HE SAID, WAS BACKED BY "RESTED REPLENISHED INFANTRY DIVISIONS WHICH ARE EQUIPPED WITH TANKS OF THE MOST MODERN TYPE, WITH SPECIAL ANTITANK GUNS AND MOTORIZED ARTILLERY WHICH DEVELOPS EXTREMELY MOBILE FIREPOWER.

THE NO. 1 NAZI PROPAGANDIST, REICHSMINISTER GOEBBELS, WROTE IN HIS PERIODICAL, "DAS REICH" THAT THE BRITISH-AMERICAN OFFENSIVE IN THE WEST HAD FAILED "AND NOW THREATENS TO TURN AGAINST THEM."

ONE BERLIN COMMENTATOR SAID "IT MUST OF COURSE BE RECKONED WITH THAT GEN.EISENHOWER WILL NATURALLY MAKE GREAT AND TENACIOUS EFFORTS NOT ONLY TO WARD OFF THE ACUTE DANGER NOW THREATENING HIS ARMIES BUT ALSO TO RECOVER THE LOST INITIATIVE."

KRULL SAID ALL TERRITORY OVERRUN BY THE CROSSING OF THE LIEGE-BASTOGNE-ARLON HIGHWAY NOW WAS FIRMLY HELD, ALTHOUGH WITHIN IT WERE "SOME REMAINING NESTS OF RESISTANCE," ONE OF WHICH, "WITH A GARRISON OF SEVERAL THOUSAND MEN, HAS BEEN LIQUIDATED IN THE SNOWY EIFEL."

THE EIFEL MOUNTAINS RANGE THROUGH RHENISH PRUSSIA WESTWARD INTO BELGIUM, AND THIS MAY HAVE BEEN A REFERENCE TO THE GARRISON AT ST.VITH, FOUR MILES INSIDE BELGIUM. LAST ALLIED REPORTS SAID GERMAN ATTEMPTS TO CLOSE A PINCERS ON ST.VITH HAD BEEN FRUSTRATED.

THE GERMANS, ETC 2ND GRAF.

EJ832PEW

LONDON--FIRST ADD NIGHT LEAD COMMONS XXX IN POWER."

LORD CRANBORNE, THE GOVERNMENT LEADER, SAID THAT "WE ARE NEITHER PRO-KING NOR ANTI-KING IN GREECE," AND THAT IN A FREE ELECTION THE FIELD WAS OPEN FOR THE LEFTIST EAM "IF THEY THINK THEY REPRESENT A MAJORITY OF THE GREEK PEOPLE." (SINGLETON)

HE ADDED THAT THERE WAS NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY "ATTEMPTING TO BLACKEN THE GREEK KING'S CHARACTER ANY MORE THAN THAT OF THE EAM."

RQ250PEW

ADD LONDON-(MERCHER) XXX TROOPS

OTHER SOVIET FORCES 125 MILES NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST SMASHED AGAINST THE OUTER FORTIFICATIONS OF KASSA, COMMUNICATIONS HUB OF EASTERN SLOVAKIA. THE GERMAN TRANSOCEAN NEWS AGENCY SAID THAT THE RUSSIANS REPEATEDLY PENETRATED GERMAN LINES SOUTH AND NORTHEAST OF KASSA.

TWO-THIRDS OF THE SOUTHERN BORDER OF SLOVAKIA IS NOW ALIVE WITH INVADING SOVIET TROOPS. IN ADDITION TO THE SWELLING ATTACK ON KASSA, THE RED ARMY IS ONLY 26 MILES EAST OF LUCENEC, ANOTHER STRATEGIC SLOVAK COMMUNICATIONS POINT.

A BUCHAREST RADIO STATION SAID THAT ROMANIAN TROOPS HAD CROSSED THE SLOVAK FRONTIER TO FIGHT FOR THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

A REPORT FROM THE PARIS RADIO FOR THE SECOND DAY SPOKE OF STREET FIGHTING IN ZAGREB, GERMAN STRONGHOLD IN YUGOSLAVIA, MENTIONING THE PARTICIPATION OF SOVIET TROOPS AS WELL AS PARTISANS UNDER MARSHAL TITO.

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N/EJ238PEW

LONDON, DEC. 21-(AP)-THE NORWEGIAN TELEGRAPH AGENCY DECLARED TODAY THE GERMANS WERE PREPARING TO SHIFT THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN NORWAY FROM OSLO TO LILLEHAMMER, 100 MILES FURTHER INLAND.

THE AGENCY SAID THERE WERE BETTER FACILITIES TO GUARD AGAINST ALLIED AIR ATTACK AT LILLEHAMMER AND ITS SMALL POPULATION -- ONLY 9,000 -- PRESUMABLY WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO GUARD AGAINST SABOTAGE.

JR459AEW

LONDON, DEC. 21-(AP)-BRITISH ADMIRALTY OFFICIALS DUG INTO THEIR SECRET FILES TODAY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE THREE BRITISH WIRELESS OPERATORS WHO TRANSMITTED THE HISTORIC ATLANTIC CHARTER MEMORANDA FROM THE BATTLESHIP PRINCE OF WALES WERE LIVING OR DEAD.

THE BATTLESHIP WAS SUNK BY JAPANESE PLANES OFF MALAYA DEC. 10, 1941.

BESIDES PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL, THEIR AIDES AND A HANDFUL OF HIGH-RANKING NAVAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS, WIRELESS OPERATORS WERE THE ONLY PERSONS TO SEE THE ACTUAL SERIES OF MEMORANDA SIGNED BY THE TWO LEADERS AND KNOWN AS THE ATLANTIC CHARTER.

EVEN IF THE ADMIRALTY FINDS THAT THE THREE BRITISH OPERATORS SURVIVED THE SINKING OF THE PRINCE OF WALES, THEIR IDENTITIES MUST REMAIN SECRET, A SPOKESMAN SAID. WHAT THE ADMIRALTY SOUGHT TO DETERMINE FIRST WAS WHETHER THE OPERATORS WERE OF THE REGULAR COMPLEMENT OF THE BATTLESHIP OR WERE AMONG THE PRIME MINISTER'S OWN RADIO PERSONNEL.

A BRITISH NAVAL SOURCE SAID THAT IF THERE WAS A COPY OF THE CHARTER MEMORANDA, IT WOULD BE IN THE ADMIRALTY ARCHIVES UNDER A FILING HEAD MARKED "MOST SECRET," AND THAT ONLY CHURCHILL COULD ASK FOR ITS RELEASE.

N1203PEW

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, DEC. 21-(AP)-PRINCESS ELIZABETH AND PRINCESS MARGARET ROSE WERE JOINED TONIGHT BY A CAPACITY AUDIENCE IN SINGING POPULAR SONGS AT THE OPENING PERFORMANCE OF THE CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME, "OLD MOTHER RED RIDING BOOTS," AN AMATEUR PRODUCTION STAGED IN A COUNTRY HALL.

THE PRINCESSES TOOK PART IN THE SHOW, AND THE AUDIENCE REACTION

30. 24 — 21447

WAS THAT THEY SANG AND DANCED AS WELL AS THE STARS. THE PANTOMIME WAS PRODUCED BY THE PRINCESSES WITH THE AID OF THE LOCAL SCHOOLMASTER.

THE CAST INCLUDED LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN AND MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD STAFF AND BOTH PRINCESSES DANCED IN A BALLET WITH THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

SN1123PEW

ADD PARIS — (LONG) XX NOON

ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT WES GALLAGHER, IN A FRONT DISPATCH, EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT TWO DAYS OF CLEAR WEATHER MIGHT CHANGE THE ENTIRE COMPLEXION OF THE BATTLE.

IN A DISPATCH SENT LAST NIGHT AT 11:30 FROM THE STAVELOT SECTOR OF BELGIUM, HE SAID THE STRUGGLE "THUS FAR DWARFS THE TWO OTHER MAIN AMERICAN SETBACKS, AT KASSERINE PASS IN NORTH AFRICA AND AT THE RAPIDO RIVER IN ITALY."

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"MORE AMERICAN TROOPS ARE INVOLVED IN THIS STRUGGLE THAN IN ANY SINGLE BATTLE OF THE WAR," GALLAGHER WROTE. "THEY ARE OPPOSED BY THE MOST POWERFUL PUNCHING FORCE THEY HAVE YET ENCOUNTERED. THE PRI ON BOTH SIDES IS HEAVY."

HE SAID THE AMERICANS HELD FIRM YESTERDAY AGAINST A SERIES OF GERMAN ATTACKS ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE FRONT AROUND STAVELOT, 22 MILES SOUTHEAST OF LIEGE, BUT TO THE SOUTH THE ENEMY "SURGED FORWARD IN NEW ADVANCES, WITH THE END NOT IN SIGHT."

THERE WAS NO WORD ON THE PRESENT DEPTH OF THESE ENEMY PENETRATIONS. IN THAT AREA THEY WERE SAID TO HAVE RACED 18 OR 20 MILES INTO BELGIUM IN THE FIRST DAYS. GALLAGHER SAID STAVELOT WAS RECAPTURED YESTERDAY.

ALL ALONG THE LINE THE GERMANS WERE USING EVERY TRICK IN THEIR BAG. GALLAGHER SAID THERE HAD BEEN SEVERAL AUTHENTICATED CASES OF GERMANS WAVING WHITE FLAGS, ONLY TO OPEN FIRE WHEN AMERICANS PREPARE TO ACCEPT THEIR SURRENDER. SOME GERMANS WERE FOUND IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING. OTHERS USED CAPTURED SHERMAN TANKS TO APPROACH THE AMERICANS.

GERMAN PARACHUTE TROOPS DROPPED DEEP IN ALLIED TERRITORY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE OFFENSIVE STILL WERE GIVING TROUBLE. ONE AMERICAN COMMANDER SAID HIS MEN WERE FIGHTING A REGULAR INDIAN WAR--CREEPING THROUGH THE WOODS AND LOOKING BEHIND EVERY TREE.

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO DELINEATION OF THE JAGGED AND FLUID FIGHTING FRONT, INFORMATION RELEASED YESTERDAY SAID ST.VITH AND ECHTERNACH, TWO FOCAL POINTS OF THE ENEMY OFFENSIVE, REMAINED IN AMERICAN HANDS. ST.VITH IS FOUR MILES INSIDE BELGIUM. ECHTERNACH LIES ALONG THE GERMAN-LUXEMBOURG BORDER. AMERICANS WERE REPORTED SURROUNDED AT A NUMBER OF POINTS.

(GERMAN BROADCASTS DECLARED LAST NIGHT THAT "SEVERAL" ALLIED DIVISIONS HAD BEEN RUSHED FROM THE AACHEN AND SAAR FRONTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO STEM THE NAZI ADVANCES).

GERMAN SUCCESSES ALSO WERE REPORTED LAST NIGHT ON THE U.S. SEVENT AND FRENCH FIRST ARMY FRONTS.

A COUNTERATTACK FORCED THE AMERICANS TO WITHDRAW FROM [illegible] BUNDENTHAL, TWO MILES INSIDE GERMANY NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG. THE GERMANS ALSO INFILTRATED BACK INTO THE TOWN OF BERG NEAR THE RHINE.

THE FRENCH LOST THE TOWN OF GOLSHIEIEM, NORTHWEST OF COLMAR, ON THE RHINE PLAIN. SOME 35,000 GERMANS STILL IN THAT POCKET WEST OF THE RHINE IN FRANCE WERE BELIEVED TO BE FIGHTING UNDE THE PERSONAL COMMAND OF GESTAPO CHIEF HEINRICH HIMMLER.

(EDITORS: YOUR ATTENTION IS CALLED TO GALLAGHER'S WESTERN FRONT EYEWITNESS STORY IN THE NIGHT REPORT).

BZ618AEW

DEC 221944

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN LUXEMBOURG--FIRST ADD GI PAYROLL (B7.1 DAY) X X X ALL THE CASH."

BUT MCCONNELL'S EXPERIENCE WAS ONLY ONE OF THE SCREWY ONES PRODUCED IN A HURRY WHEN THE GERMANS LAUNCHED THEIR FIRST MAJOR COUNTERATTACK SINCE AVRANCHES. TAKE CAPT. GLENN W.ZARGER, OF CHAMBERSBURG, PA., FOR EXAMPLE, BATTALION EXECUTIVE OFFICER WHO WAS SURROUNDED TWICE IN TWO DAYS. HERE'S HIS STORY:

"ON SATURDAY I WENT DOWN TO G COMPANY AND AFTER I GOT THEIR I FOUND WE WERE SURROUNDED. WE SAT TIGHT AND LATE THAT AFTERNOON SAW ABOUT 14 YANKS COMING ALONG THE ROAD WITH SOME JERRIES BEHIND THEM. AT FIRST WE COULD NOT TELL WHO HAD MADE PRISONERS OF WHOM, BUT SOON IT APPEARED THAT ABOUT 40 TO 50 KRAUTS HAD ABOUT 15 TO 20 OF OUR BOYS PRISONER AND WERE TRYING TO USE THEM AS A SHIELD TO TRY TO GET BACK TO THEIR OWN LINES.

"WE WAITED UNTIL THEY WERE ABOUT 30 YARDS AWAY AND LET THEM HAVE IT. WE KILLED A DOZEN OR MORE WITH THE FIRST VOLLEY AND THE REST OF THE GERMANS AND THE AMERICAN PRISONERS DIVED FOR DITCHES."

CORP. JOHN BIELECKI, OF LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y., ONE OF THOSE PRISONERS, TAKES THE STORY ON FROM THERE:

"WHEN G COMPANY OPENED UP, WE ALL DIVED BEHIND A STONE WALL ON THE SIDE OF THE STREET TOWARD THE MILL WHERE THE YANKS WERE. WE LAID THERE FOR ABOUT TWO HOURS WITH OUR GUYS FIRING OVER OUR HEADS ONE WAY AND THE GERMANS FIRING BACK FROM THE DITCHES.

"OUR MEN KILLED PLENTY OF THEM WHILE WE SWEATED IT OUT BEHIND THAT WALL PROTECTED FROM OUR OWN FIRE BUT NEVER SURE WHEN THE GERMANS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ROAD MIGHT OPEN UP ON US FOR SPITE."

BUT AFTER THIS FIGHT HAD RAGED NEARLY THREE HOURS, SOME AMERICAN TANKS CAME ALONG AND DROVE THE GERMANS AWAY AFTER PERHAPS 30 HAD BEEN KILLED BY ABOUT 35 YANKS IN THE MILL WHO HAD ONLY THREE MEN WOUNDED.

AFTER THE TANKS HAD DRIVEN THE ENEMY AWAY, BIELECKI AND HIS COMPANIONS REJOINED THE AMERICANS.

THE WHOLE WAR IN THESE PARTS SINCE THE GERMANS LAUNCHED THEIR ATTACK ACROSS THE SAUER (CQ) RIVER HAD A STRANGE QUALITY ABOUT IT. AMERICAN UNITS HAD BEEN GETTING SURROUNDED REGULARLY BUT ERE GETTING OUT OF THESE SITUATIONS AND KILLING MANY GERMANS IN THE PROCESS.

FOR EXAMPLE, LT. RICHARD L.COOK, OF PORTAGE, WIS., WAS A PLATOON LEADER IN A TOWN SURROUNDED BY THE FIRST THRUST. HE SAID:

"THE GERMANS SWARMED ALL OVER TOWN AND JUST DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE GOOD SENSE ABOUT THE WAY THEY EXPOSED THEMSELVES. FOR THE FIRST THREE DAYS THEY MADE NO DIRECT ATTACKS ON US BUT THEY KEPT CROSSING STREETS AND MOVING IN AND OUT OF BUILDINGS WITHOUT SEEMING TO CARE. WE KILLED THEM BY THE DOZENS. I AM SURE WE KILLED MORE THAN 100 BETWEEN SATURDAY AND TUESDAY AND UP TO THAT TIME OUR CASUALTIES WERE ONE MAN WOUNDED. ON TUESDAY AFTER THEY BEGAN TO PUT THE PRESSURE ON I MADE A RUN OUT OF TOWN IN A JEEP AND AS FAR AS I KNOW, WE ONLY WERE FIRED ON BY ONE TANK."

TA&SN1005PEW

SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM X X X 1ST ADD BANKER'S MP'S (TOP AYE) X X X

THE DEMOLITION. N-Y-

"WE STOPPED THEM AT A BRIDGE AND ASKED FOR THEIR CREDENTIALS."

SAID PFC. DONALD MCHENRY, OF 1617 WALNUT ST., BERWICK, PA., WHO FLOURISHED A TOMMY GUN AS HE WALKED UP TO THE JEEP. THE GERMANS HAD THREE LOADED MACHINEGUNS AND FIVE GRENADES BUT DID NOT RESIST. THEY ALL SPOKE GOOD ENGLISH.

LT. GEORGE ROGERS, OF SHORE ROAD, SOUTH PORTLAND, ME., SAID THE GERMANS HAD COMPLETE IDENTIFICATION. ASSISTING MCHENRY IN THE CAPTURE WERE STAFF SGT. LEON HANSON, OF 71 MAFFETT ST., MUSKEGON HEIGHTS, MICH., SGT. WALTER STAGGER, EAST SCHODACK, N.Y., AND PFCS ALEX MOLNAR, 8041 DILL PLACE, DETROIT, MICH.; LARS JOHNSON, 335 WEST 59TH ST., SEATTLE, WASH., AND ALBERT DIAL, OXFORD, GA.

TA1116PEW

STAVELO, BELGIUM-FIRST ADD BRIDGE (BY BOYLE) (TOP ON AYE)

X X X MACHINEGUN FIRE."

RICE SAID HIS MEN WERE GLUM ON THE WAY BACK.

"AS SOON AS THE BRIDGE BLEW UP THEY ALL STARTED CUSSING," HE SAID. "THEY FIGURED THAT WHEN WE START KICKING THE JERRIES BACK INTO GERMANY SOMEBODY WILL GIVE US THE JOB OF PUTTING THAT BRIDGE BACK TOGETHER AGAIN."

THE CAPTAIN PRAISED ESPECIALLY THE DARING OF TWO MEN, LT.LELAND COFER, KANSAS CITY, MO. AND SGT. LOWELL L.RICHARDSON, LOS ANGELES, CALIF., WHO CRAWLED BEHIND THE DEBRIS UNDER FIRE TO ASCERTAIN THAT THE BRIDGE HAD BEEN DEMOLISHED.

LT.WENDELL HUNTZINER, HAMBURG, PA., SAID THE OTHER MEN WHO HELPED DESTROY THE SPAN WERE: SGT.JAMES L.MCKEON, MINONK, ILL., SGT.HARRY HARRIMAN, ELIZABETH, N.J., CPL.JOSEPH W.REMBISZ, PITTSBURGH, PA., PVT.JOHN R.BRUSH, CHESTER, PA., PVT.JOHN OLSON, CHICAGO (WHOSE TWIN BROTHER, BARNEY, IS A TRUCKDRIVER WITH THE SAME OUTFIT), PVT.ERNEST A.HALEY, HOT SPRINGS, ARK., PVT.ALFRED COX, RUSSELLVILLE, ALA., PVT. EDWIN HESS, MEDIC OF RICHMOND HILL, N.Y., PVT.IRWIN ALEXANDER, STATE COLLEGE, PA., PVT.MICHAEL VAN ATTA, WICHITA, KAS., PVT.GINO D.LAN MINELAND, N.J. AND PVT.EDWIN DIELINSKI, ERIE, PA.

BZ738AEW

DEC 221944

ADD V-S- 8TH-A-F-STAT-,ENG- EX UTCTAMS

SGT.FRANK J.CORMACCI, FORMER OMAHA,NEB., GOLF PROFESSIONAL, SAID HE RECEIVED SIMILAR ANSWERED AT EACH DOOR--"NO, THANK YOU" OR "I'M NOT HURT VERY BADLY--THERE MUST BE OTHERS WHO NEED ATTENTION."

HAMORY SAID HE WAS INSIDE ONE HOME WHICH WAS STREWN WITH PLASTER AND GLASS WITH THE FRONT DOOR BLOWN ON TOP OF THE PIANO.

HALF AN HOUR LATER HE FOUND THE DOOR REPLACED ON ITS HINGES. THE PIANO CLEARED OF DEBRIS AND THE HOUSEWIFE BUSILY SWEEPING UP THE REST OF THE MUSS.

N1047AEW

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, PARIS, DEC 21-(AP) IT WAS ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY LAST NIGHT THAT HEREAFTER POSITIONS OF GERMAN AND ALLIED ARMIES WILL BE MADE PUBLIC ONCE DAILY--AFTER A SUFFICIENT TIME LAG TO MAKE SURE THE ENEMY WILL GET NO BENEFIT FROM THE INFORMATION.

THE DECISION WAS ANNOUNCED AFTER PROTESTS FROM ALMOST ALL THE ALLIED WORLD OVER RECENT SUPPRESSION OF NEWS CONCERNING GERMAN GAINS ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS EXPLAINED THE NEWS BLACKOUT HAD BEEN IMPOSED BECAUSE OF THE FLUID MILITARY SITUATION AND THE BELIEF BY ALLIED GENERALS THAT INFORMATION ON TROOP POSITIONS, EVEN IF IT WERE DAYS LATE, MIGHT HELP THE GERMANS.

IT WAS INDICATED THE TIME LAG IN ANNOUNCEMENTS HENCEFORTH PROBABLY WOULD BE BETWEEN 24 AND 48 HOURS.

JR432AEW

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR YOUR INFORMATION BUT NOT (REPEAT N O T) FOR PUBLICATION, E ARE ADVISED FROM SHAEF THAT NOTHING WILL BE AVAILABLE BEFORE 10:30 EW UNDER THE NEW RULING PERMITTING A ONCE-A-DAY RELEASE ON THE ILITARY SITUATION RESULTING FROM THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE. T HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED WHETHER THE RELEASE WILL BE AT THAT IME EVERY DAY OR WHETHER IT WILL BE ROTATED.

DEC 221944

THE A.P.

JP710AEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI (370)

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS BLOCKING A GERMAN SALIENT, DEC 20-(DELAYED)-(AP)-I SET OUT TODAY TO TRACE A FEW OF THOSE RUMORS WHICH ALWAYS POP UP WHEN THERE IS AN ENEMY COUNTEROFFENSIVE OR EVEN COUNTER ATTACK, AND INSTEAD WOUND UP AMONG SOME OLD FRIENDS. I FOUND THEM WITH THEIR PARTICULAR SITUATION WELL IN HAND.

THEY WERE HOLDING ONE-HALF OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THIS PARTICULAR GERMAN SALIENT, ONE WHICH WAS ACHIEVED BY ARMOR WHICH DROVE TO STAVELOT BEFORE ENCOUNTERING A STIFF CORNER BEING HELD BY ANOTHER SEASONED OUTFIT WHICH, WITH THE AID OF TANKS, IS HANGING ON TO STAVELOT AND ALSO HELPING TO PUT SERIOUS DENTS INTO THIS PRONG OF THE PANZER ATTACK.

IT WAS RATHER A SURPRISE TO FIND THIS UNIT SO EASILY, SINCE THERE WERE TWO VILLAGES IN BETWEEN WHERE, ACCOORDING TO SOME REPORTS, THERE SHOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE SCRAPPING WITH ROVING BANDS OF GERMANS. INSTEAD, ABOUT THE ONLY ACTIVITY THERE WAS THE WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPLIES FROM A SECTOR OF POSSIBLE, IF NOT ENTIRELY LIKELY, FIGHTING.

IN A COMMAND POST SET UP IN A MODEST FARMHOUSE JUST OFF THE ROAD I FOUND LT.COL.WALTER F.WINTON OF NASHVILLE TENN., MAJ.THOMAS B.KETTERSON OF HOUSTON, TEX., AND CAPT.IRVIN BUSHMAN OF 3355 DESOTO AVE., CLEVELAND HEIGHTS, OHIO.

WINTON MAPPED OUT THE SITUATION, SHOWING HOW TROOPS HAD GONE INTO THE LINE, MET THE GERMAN PANZERS HEADON WITH SOME SUCCESS AND WERE ATTEMPTING TO THROW ENEMY ADVANCE ELEMENTS BACK ACROSS A BEND IN THE AMBLEVE RIVER.

THE FORWARD COMMAND POST WAS A COUPLE OF MILES UP THE ROAD CLOSER TO THE GERMANS. WE TOOK OFF FOR THERE IN HOPES OF HAVING A WORD WITH THE GENERAL. BUT WHEN WE GOT THERE CAPT.KARL R.PRICE OF MIDDELSBORO, KY., EXPLAINED THE GENERAL WAS IN CONFERENCE WITH REGIMENTAL COMMANDERS ON FURTHER PROGRESS OF THE BATTLE WHICH WE COULD HEAR UNROLLING FARTHER UP THE VALLEY.

ON THE RETURN TRIP WE SAW ANOTHER INCIDENT TYPICAL OF THE CURRENT

SITUATION. IN A SMALL TOWN I NOTICED TWO YANK SOLDIERS WITH RIFLES TRUDGING ALONGSIDE A CIVILIAN WHO APPARENTLY WAS THEIR PRISONER.

WE ASKED THEM WHAT WAS UP AND THEY EXPLAINED THE MAN WE THOUGHT WAS THEIR PRISONER ACTUALLY WAS GOING TO POINT OUT WHAT HE CLAIMED WAS GERMAN SOLDIER IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES. THE BELGIAN TOOK THEM TO A CROSS STREET WHERE THREE BELGIAN POLICEMEN WERE CHATTING AMICABLY WITH TWO CIVILIANS. THE BELGIAN SINGLED OUT ONE OF THEM.

THE SOLDIERS ASKED A QUESTION OF ONE OF THE BELGIAN POLICEMEN. HE NODDED HIS HEAD TOWARD THE SUSPECT, SHRUGGED HIS HOULDERS AND SAID: "NO, HE IS ONLY A REFUGEE FROM SAIT VITH."

BUT THE AMERICANS WERE TAKING NO CHANCES. THE LAST WE SAW THEY WERE MARCHING THE MAN BETWEEN THEM IN THE DIRECTION OF MILITARY POLICE HEADQUARTERS.

BZ335AEW

A U.S.PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE BASE IN FRANCE, DEC.13-(DELAYED)-(AP)-TWO CREWMEN HEROICALLY SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES RECENTLY BY RIDING A FLAK-CRIPPLEE NIGHT PHOTO RECONNAISSANCE HAVOC PLANE TO A CRASH LANDIN IN THE MISTAKEN BELIEF THEY HAD A WOUNDED GUNNER ABOARD.

THEY WERE LT.GORDON HULSE, 138 MELROSE AVE., NEEDHAM, MASS., PILOT, AND LT.WILLIAM LEAVENWORTH, 1000 SOUTH GRANT AVE., CRAWFORDSVILLE, IND., NAVIGATOR AND PHOTOGRAPHER.

UNKNOWN TO THEM, THE GUNNER, SGT.CLAUDE H.WHITEMAN, PLYMOUTH, IND., ACTUALLY WAS NOT WOUNDED BUT HAD SAFELY BAILED OUT AS THE PLANE FLUTTERED BACK TOWARDS ITS BASE ON ONE GOOD ENGINE AND SPLIT IN HALF WHEN IT WAS FINALLY GROUNDED AT THE BASE.

HULSE AND LEAVENWORTH COULD HAVE BAILED OUT BUT THEY THOUGHT WHITEMAN WOULD BE UNABLE TO GET OUT OF THE PLANE.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE HAVOC'S FILM SHOWED THE CREW ON THEIR FATAL MISSION HAD UNCOVERED 14 GERMAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN POSITIONS.

JP7AEW

PARIS, DEC 21-(AP)-PVT.WALTER MAC HALE, 29, OF 2542 SOUTH BROAD ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA., WAS ENGAGED TODAY IN WHAT THE FRENCH SPONSORS DESCRIBED AS THE MOST EXPERT CHESS TOURNAMENT PLAYED IN PARIS IN THE LAST EIGHT YEARS.

MAC HALEN WHO HAS BEEN IN PARIS TWO MONTHS AS A SHAEF SIGNAL CORPSMAN, HAS BEEN A LONG-TIME DEVOTEE OF THE GAME. ON HIS ARRIVAL HERE HE HUNTED UP THE BEST FRENCH PLAYERS AT THE CAISSA CLUB, JUST OFF THE CHAMPS ELYSEES, WHERE THE PRESENT TOURNAMENT IS BEING HELD.

OTHER CONTESTANTS INCLUDE ROGER DANIEL, THE 1943 FRENCH CHAMPION, AND LOUIS BIGOT, THE CURRENT CHAMPION, AS WELL AS FORMIDABLE SWISS, BELGIAN AND BRITISH PLAYERS.

BZ337AEW

DEC 221944

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY GROUP, DEC. 21-(AP)-MAJ. DONALD SIBRAY, ENGINEER FROM GRANT TOWN, WEST VA., REPORTED TO MILITARY OFFICIALS TODAY THAT COAL PRODUCTION IN SOUTHERN FRANCE HAS INCREASED 50 PER CENT IN THE FOUR MONTHS SINCE AMERICAN TROOPS LANDED ON THE MEDITERRANEAN COAST.

SIBRAY SAID THIS PRODUCTION RISE HAS AIDED ALLIED MILITARY OPERATIONS MATERIALLY AS WELL AS HELPING FRENCH CIVILIANS.

Z1041PEW

ROME, DEC. 21-(AP)-FOUR AMERICAN P-47 PILOTS WHO LED THE FIRST FRENCH-FLOWN THUNDERBOLT FLIGHT INTO ACTION WERE AWARDED CROIX DE GUERRE TODAY.

LT.GEN.ALPHONSE JUIN, WHO COMMANDED THE FRENCH EXPEDITIONARY FORCE IN ITALY, PRESENTED THE FRENCH MEDALS TO:

LT.COL.ARCHIE J.KNIGHT OF FOUNTAIN CITY, IND., COMMANDER OF THE GROUP TO WHICH ALL FOUR ARE ATTACHED; LT.COL.GILBERT O.WYMOND OF DETROIT, MICH., AND LOUISVILLE, KY., A SQUADRON COMMANDER; MAJ. CHARLES C.LEAF OF 411 THORNTON STREET, SOUTH ORANGE,N.J., A SQUADRON COMMANDER; AND MAJ.RICHARD O.HUZIKER OF 2804 EAST ADAM STREET, TUCSON, ARIZ.

RQ1041AEW

ROME, DEC. 21-(AP)-COLUMNS OF SMOKE RISING AS HIGH AS 18,000 FEET WERE REPORTED TODAY BY BOMBER CREWMEN WHO RAIDED AN OIL REFINERY AT BRUX, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, YESTERDAY IN THE SIXTH CONSECUTIVE DAY OF LARGE-SCALE OPERATIONS DEEP INSIDE EUROPE.

"I HAD ONLY ONE QUICK GLIMPSE OF THE TARGET THROUGH THE CLOUDS, AND SAW OILY BLACK SMOKE POURING UP," SAID SGT.RICHARD WAGNER, OF GENEVA,NEB., BALL TURRET GUNNER OF A LIBERATOR BOMBER.

OVER ANOTHER PORTION OF THE TARGET AREA LT.GERALD E.WELLSTEB OF NORTH EVANS,N.Y., A BOMBARDIER, NOTED A 500-POUND BOMB HUNG UP IN HIS LIBERATOR'S BOMB BAY. HE CRAWLED OUT ON THE CATWALK AND RELEASED IT.

"BAD COMPANY," HE SAID, SHRUGGING.

N1027AEW

DEC 221944

BY SID FEDER

ROME, DEC. 21-(AP)-TECH. SGT. WALTER KNAPP AND STAFF SGT. WILLIAM SOUTH, WHO HAVE FLOWN SO MANY MISSIONS TOGETHER THAT THEY ARE CALLED VARIOUSLY THE "HAM AND EGG BOYS" AND "SCOTCH AND SODA," ARE GOING HOME--TOGETHER.

I AM

KNAPP, WHOSE BRIDE OF SIX MONTHS LIVES AT 2321 LINCOLN ROAD NE., WASHINGTON, D.C., AND SOUTH, WHOSE HOME IS AT (15 BLUERIDGE AVE.) SAUGUS, MASS., HAVE ROUNDED OUT 100 COMBAT MISSIONS AS GUNNERS ON A B-25 MEDIUM BOMBER.

THE PAIR, MEMBERS OF THE 321ST MEDIUM GROUP, HAVE FLOWN TOGETHER THROUGH THE TUNISIAN, SICILIAN, ITALIAN AND SOUTHERN FRENCH CAMPAIGNS, AND IN THE 21 MONTHS SINCE THEIR SQUADRON CAME OVERSEAS, THEY HAD ONLY ONE BREAK, THAT ONE OF SIX WEEKS DURATION. THEIR SQUADRON COMMANDER TOOK THEM HOME--TOGETHER, OF COURSE--ON A FURLOUGH LAST JUNE.

KNAPP, WHOSE MOTHER, MRS.ESTHER M.STANLEY, LIVES IN VALLEY BEND, W.VA., AND WHO HIMSELF IS A FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF THE MILL CREEK, W.VA., BRANCH OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA, TOOK THAT OCCASION TO GET MARRIED.

THIS TIME WHEN THEY GO HOME THEY PROBABLY WILL TEACH NEW BOMBER GUNNERS.

KNAPP IS THE MOUTHPIECE OF THE COMBINATION. SOUTH JUST NODS AGREEMENT.

EACH WEARS THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS FOR FLYING VOLUNTARILY LONGER THAN THEIR NORMAL TOURS OF DUTY, AND EACH HAS THE AIR MEDAL WITH TEN CLUSTERS. SOUTH HAS A PURPLE HEART. HE WAS WOUNDED ONCE BY A SHELL FRAGMENT.

EJ302PEW

NOTE TO MEMBERS:

ASKED AS TO THE TRUTH OF A DISPATCH OF THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS SERVICE FROM ROME BY A CORRESPONDENT FOR THAT SERVICE WHICH SAID THAT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IS REPRESENTED AT ATHENS BY A 23-YEAR-OLD CORRESPONDENT OF BRITISH BIRTH (STEPHEN BARBER), WHOM THE AUTHORITIES HAVE REFUSED TO HAVE REPLACED, MY COMMENT IS:

"WE HAVE THUS FAR NOT BEEN ALLOWED TRANSPORTATION TO INCREASE OUR STAFF IN GREECE BY SENDING RELMAN MORIN OR SID FEDER OR BOTH, WHO HAPPEN TO BE AMERICANS. BUT THERE IS NOTHING IN THIS DISPATCH THAT UNDERTAKES TO PROVE THAT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTS FROM ATHENS HAVE BEEN INCORRECT. MOREOVER I WOULD NATURALLY ASSUME THAT LACKING ANY

BASIS FOR ADVERSE CRITICISM NO NEWS SERVICE WOULD PUBLISH SUCH INNUENDOES. SO FAR AS I AM CONCERNED I CAST NO REFLECTION WHATEVER UPON THE ABILITY OF YOUTH IN THIS WORK, ESPECIALLY AGAINST A MAN WHO HAS SERVED THE ASSOCIATED PRESS EXCLUSIVELY, HONORABLY AND WELL FOR THREE YEARS AND SUFFERED SERIOUS WOUNDS WHILE SERVING THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN SARDINIA. MOREOVER I MOST CERTAINLY DO NOT CAST ANY REFLECTION UPON HIM ON THE GROUND THAT HE IS AN ENGLISHMAN AND AN HONEST ONE."

KC,
NY

ME431PEW 12/21/44

BY CLYDE A.FARNSWORTH

U.S.14TH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, CHINA, DEC. 20-(DELAYED)-(AP)-REVERTING TO GUERRILLA-LIKE AERIAL TACTICS AFTER AN ALL-OUT ATTACK UPON HANKOW, FOUR FIGHTERS OF THE U.S.14TH AIR FORCE ATTACKED SHIPPING IN HONGKONG HARBOR YESTERDAY AND HIT THE JACKPOT.

THE "BLACK LIGHTNING" SQUADRON OF P-51'S DISPATCHED TWO MISSIONS OF TWO PLANES EACH TO HONGKONG, WHERE THEY SHIPBOMBED AND SANK A 400-FOOT TANKER AND PROBABLY SANK A DESTROYER AND TWO FREIGHTERS EACH 350 FEET LONG.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH HARBOR ATTACK THE FIGHTERS SWEPT KAITAK AIRDROME ON THE MAINLAND FACING HONGKONG ISLAND, WHERE THEY DESTROYED TWO ENEMY PLANES IN THE AIR AND THREE ON THE GROUND.

THE FIRST MISSION WAS LED BY LT.COL.EDWARD O.MCCOMAS, 25 EAST 12TH ST., WINFIELD, KANSAS, "BLACK LIGHTNING" COMMANDER WHO SANK A DESTROYER IN HONGKONG HARBOR DEC. 8 IN A SIMILAR TWO-PLANE RAID.

FLYING WITH MCCOMAS WAS HIS DEPUTY SQUADRON COMMANDER, CAPT.JOHN E.MEYER, 26, OF 4227 ALTAMONT ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, ALA., WHO ON THE MORNING OF DEC. 8 LED A FLIGHT OF 11 PLANES--INCLUDING MCCOMAS--INTO HONGKONG HARBOR AND PERSONALLY SANK A 500-FOOT TRANSPORT WHILE THE OTHERS WERE BOMBING FIVE FREIGHTERS.

THE ASSAULT THAT DAY WAS FOLLOWED UP IN THE AFTERNOON BY MCCOMAS WITH 2ND LT.MAX L.PARNELL, 22, OF MARIETTA, GA., AS HIS WINGMAN.

YESTERDAY MCCOMAS ACCOUNTED FOR A TANKER WHILE MEYER DAMAGED ONE FREIGHTER. IN A SWEEP OVER KAITAK AIRDROME MCCOMAS DESTROYED TWO PLANES IN THE AIR AND ONE AGROUND, GIVING HIM A TOTAL SCORE OF SIX AIR VICTORIES AND THREE CRAFT DESTROYED ON THE GROUND.

FLYING IN THE SECOND TWO-PLANE FLIGHT YESTERDAY WAS 1ST LT.LYNNE E.DECKER, JR., 22, OF 20-500 ORTEGA ST., SAN FRANCISCO, WHO PROBABLY SANK A SECOND FREIGHTER AND SCORED A DIRECT--AND PROBABLY FATAL--HIT UPON A DESTROYER.

DEC 221944

WE620AEW

ARMY AIR FORCES, PACIFIC HEADQUARTERS, DEC.15-(DELAYED)-(AP)-WITHOUT LOSING A SINGLE PLANE, THE FIGHTER AIRCRAFT OF THE 7TH AAF HAVE DESTROYED, PROBABLY DESTROYED, DAMAGED OR DRIVEN FROM THE SKIES EVERY JAPANESE PLANE ENCOUNTERED IN SIX MONTHS OF OPERATIONS IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS, LT.GEN.MILLARD F.HARMON SAID TODAY.

"THERE HAS BEEN NO INSTANCE IN WHICH A 7TH FIGHTER COMMAND PLANE EVER BROKE OFF CONTACT WITH A JAP," SAID HARMON, WHO COMMANDS THE ARMY AIR FORCES IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS. "OUR PLANES HAVE BEEN THE AGGRESSORS IN ALL CASES."

THE 7TH AAF FIGHTERS, HARMON POINTED OUT, HAVE BEEN GUARDING THE B-29 BASE AT SAIPAN FROM ENEMY AIR ATTACK AND FLYING THE LONGEST OVER-WATER FIGHTER MISSIONS OF THE WAR--THE 1,300-MILE ROUND TRIP TO TRUK, IN THE CAROLINES, AND THE 1,500-MILE ROUND TRIP TO IWO JIMA, IN THE VOLCANOS. EVERY FIGHTER, HE SAID, HAS RETURNED SAFELY FROM THESE PERILOUS STRIKES.

ONE OF THE 7TH'S BEST DAYS WAS LAST NOV. 25, WHEN 15 ENEMY PLANES ATTACKED SAIPAN. THE FIGHTERS GOT FOUR OF THEM AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT SHOT DOWN NINE MORE.

DEC 221944

RA855PCW

MELBOURNE,AUSTRALIA,DEC 21 (AP)-PRIME MINISTER JOHN CURTIN'S PRESS SECRETARY SAID TODAY THERE WAS NOTHING KNOWN HERE ABOUT A REPORT OF A DIRIGIBLE PLANNED TO LINK AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES.

(IN NEW YORK JAMES J.STREBIG, ASSOCIATED PRESS AVIATION EDITOR, SAID AUSTRALIAN INTERESTS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PROJECTED SERVICE, USING TWO OR PERHAPS FOUR DIRIGIBLES ALREADY DESIGNED BY THE GOODYEAR AIRCRAFT CORP., AKRON, OHIO).

THE PRESS SECRETARY'S STATEMENT INDICATED THAT NO APPROACH HAD BEEN MADE TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY. THIS WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE ANY INTERESTS COULD INAUGURATE PACIFIC SERVICE BASED IN AUSTRALIA.

GG1241PCW

NEW YORK, DEC. 21---THE PARIS RADIO BROADCAST A WARNING TONIGHT TO FRENCH AND ALLIED [redacted] PEOPLE IN THE FRENCH CAPITAL TO BE ON GUARD AGAINST GERMANS [redacted] WEARING AMERICAN UNIFORMS, THE BLUE NETWORK REPORTED. THE BROADCAST ADDED THAT PARIS POLICE HAVE BEGUN CHECKING THE IDENTITIES OF PASSERS-BY IN PARIS STREETS, THE NETWORK REPORTED.

BLUE EJD 530PEW

30. 24— 21451

NEW YORK, DEC.21-(AP)-MRS.S.SLOAN COLT, DEPUTY RED CROSS COMMISSIONER FOR GREAT BRITAIN AND WESTERN EUROPE, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW TODAY THAT GERMAN CIVILIANS WERE VERY HOSTILE TO AMERICAN TROOPS.

MRS.COLT, WHO RETURNED FROM ENGLAND TWO DAYS AGO AFTER VISITING A RED CROSS UNIT THREE MILES FROM THE FRONT LINES IN GERMANY, SAID "I HEARD OF ONE SOLDIER WHO OFFERED A BAR OF CHOCOLATE TO A CHILD BUT THE CHILD WOULDN'T TAKE IT. HE SAID HIS GRANDMOTHER HAD TOLD HIM NEVER TO ACCEPT ANYTHING FROM THE AMERICANS, WHO WERE BAD, HORRID PEOPLE."

71045PEW

NEW YORK, DEC 21-(AP)-THE ODYSSEY OF A PT BOAT CREW WHICH RESCUED TWO AMERICAN CIVILIANS AND NINE MEMBERS OF A LIBERATOR BOMBER CREW FROM JAP-HELD CEBU ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC WAS RECOUNTED IN A COPY-RIGHT DISPATCH TO THE NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE FOR PUBLICATION IN TOMORROW'S EDITIONS.

CORRESPONDENT HOMER BIGART WROTE THAT HE ACCOMPANIED THE CREW OF THE "BAYONNE BITCH" IN A NIGHT CRUISE OFF CEBU ISLAND. THE SHIP WAS SIGNALLED FROM THE SHORE, BIGART RELATED, AND CAUTIOUSLY HOVE-TO TO PICKUP THE STRANDED AMERICANS.

THEY INCLUDED JEROME E.STONE, 52-YEAR-OLD OIL WELL DIGGER, OF LONG BEACH, CALIF., AND ALLISTER FORBES, PLANTATION MANAGER, OF HONOLULU. THEY HAD BEEN LEADING ROBINSON CRUSOE-LIKE EXISTENCES IN MOUNTAIN HIDEOUTS THROUGHOUT THE ENEMY OCCUPATION.

THE LIBERATOR CREW, WHICH HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN DEC.1, WAS LED BY PILOT LT.GEORGE G.DANDRIDGE, OF PARIS, ARK. MEMBERS INCLUDED SECOND LT.SEYMOUR SOBEL, OF FOREST HILLS, N.Y.; STAFF SGT.IRVING HOFFMAN, OF CHICAGO; 2ND LT.RICHARD E.PHILLIPSON, OF MILWAUKEE; TECH. SGTS.WILLIAM A.HARE, OF LEESVILLE, S.C., AND WILLIAM H.CARLIN, OF SEATTLE, AND STAFF SGTS. GEORGE P.DOOR, OF MARCUS, IOWA; WILLIS C. ANDRE, OF LOS ANGELES, AND JOSEPH R.RIETROSKY, OF PENN CRAFT, PA.

THE CREW OF THE PT BOAT INCLUDED FRANK A. MELCHIONNE, OF (600 FIFTEENTH AVE.) NEWARK, N.J., AND JOHN PIZZOFERRATO, OF NEW YORK CITY.

STONE AND FORBES, BOTH MARRIED, HAD NOT HEARD FROM THEIR WIVES FOR THREE YEARS.

DY136AEW

DEC 221944

NEW YORK, DEC. 21-(AP)-THE NEXT TIME YOU WANT YOUR FAVORITE BRAND OF CIGARETTES JUST RUN OVER TO CALCUTTA, INDIA, STROLL INTO ANY LIKELY-LOOKING STORE AND BUY A CARTON OR SO.

ABDUR RAHMAN SIDDIQI, EDITOR OF THE MORNING NEWS OF CALCUTTA AND FORMER MAYOR OF THAT CITY, TOLD THE PRESS HERE TODAY THAT IN INDIA "WE HAVE ALL THE POPULAR AMERICAN BRANDS AND WE DON'T SEEM TO HAVE ANY TROUBLE BUYING THEM."

SIDDIQI, HERE TO CONFER WITH MAYOR F.H.LA GUARDIA, SAID HE'D HAD "A TERRIBLE TIME" FINDING SMOKES IN THIS COUNTRY.

SN1035PEW

MIAMI, FLA., DEC. 21-(AP)-FRANCISCO ANTONIO LOPEZ, GENERAL MANAGER OF CENTRAL MONSERRATE, PUERTO RICO, SAID HERE TODAY THE PUERTO RICAN SUGAR CROP TO BE HARVESTED BETWEEN NOW AND JUNE WILL BE 15 PER CENT GREATER THAN THE 1944 HARVEST.

"FACED WITH INCREASED COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND LABOR, PUERTO RICAN GROWERS ARE ASKING FOR A HIKE OF 40 CENTS PER HUNDRED WEIGHT ON SUGAR," HE SAID. THE PRESENT PRICE IS $3.46 PER HUNDRED.

LOPEZ SAID EXCEPT FOR A FEW SHORTAGES, HIS COUNTRY HAD ENOUGH CIVILIAN GOODS TO SATISFY MOST CONSUMER DEMANDS.

LOPEZ LEFT TODAY FOR SAN JUAN AFTER SPENDING SEVERAL WEEKS IN THIS COUNTRY.

JS1126AEW

BROADCAST

SAN FRANCISCO, DEC.21--RADIO TOKYO HEARD BY THE BLUE NETWORK HERE SAID TODAY THAT 55 AMERICAN SOLDIERS INTERNED AT MUKDEN WERE KILLED OR WOUNDED DURING A DEC. X RAID BY AMERICAN PLANES ON THE JAPANESE-HELD AREA.

WW319APW

DEC 221944

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (150)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (THU)

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMY: FRONT UNCHANGED.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: LINE ALONG ROER RIVER UNCHANGED; POUNDED GERMAN MOVEMENTS ACROSS ROER WITH ARTILLERY.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: GERMANS DROVE WEDGES INTO ITS LINE ON NORTH AND SOUTH, 35 MILES INTO BELGIUM AND THREE-FOURTHS OF WAY ACROSS LUXEMBOURG; COUNTEROFFENSIVE CONTAINED ALONG LINE FROM MONSCHAU TO STAVELOT IN NORTH, BUT ENEMY'S SOUTHERM ARM MENACED ROUTE TO SEDAN AND THE MEUSE. BAD WEATHER GROUNDED ALLIED AIR FORCES.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: COMPLETED CLEARING OF DILLINGEN AND DROVE FARTHER IN SIEGFRIED LINE NORTH OF SAARLAUTERN.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: WITHDREW FROM BUNDETHAL AND NIEDER SCHLETTENBACH, INSIDE REICH NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG AS RESISTANCE STIFFENED; GERMANS FILTERED BACK INTO BERG, NEAR RHINE; ADVANCED IN BIENWALD FOREST.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: LOST A VILLAGE NORTHWEST OF COLMAR BUT ADVANCED A MILE AT A POINT 13 MILES WEST OF COLMAR.

--DASH--

U.S. DIVISIONS

90TH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY); COMPLETED CLEARING OF DILLENGEN.

RQ422PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: FRONT UNCHANGED.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: LINE ALONG ROER RIVER UNCHANGED. ARTILLERY POUNDED GERMAN MOVEMENTS ACROSS THE RIVER.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE BY 13 TO 15 DIVISIONS STILL UNCHECKED; MOMENTUM REPORTED SLOWED. AMERICANS RECAPTURED STAVELOT, 22 MILES FROM LIEGE. SECURITY SILENCE BLANKETED LATEST MOVES. BAD WEATHER GROUNDED ALLIED AIR MIGHT.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: COMPLETED CLEARING OF DILLINGEN, ABOVE SAARLAUTERN.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: WITHDREW FROM BUNDETHAL, TWO MILES INSIDE REICH NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG; GERMANS FILTERED BACK INTO BERG, NEAR RHINE.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: LOST GOLSHEIM, NORTHWEST OF COLMAR.

--DASH--

U.S.DIVISIONS

90TH INFANTRY (3RD ARMY): COMPLETED CLEARING OF DILLINGEN.

JP835AEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO)

JR457AEW

VUNDATED B29S
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THREE OR FOUR MARIANA-BASED SUPERFORTRESSES FLEW OVER HONSHU LAST NIGHT AND EARLY THIS MORNING, JAPANESE TIME, RADIO TOKYO ANNOUNCED TODAY, BUT ADDED THAT "ABSOLUTELY NO DAMAGE" WAS SUSTAINED.
THE UNCONFIRMED BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID: "SHORTLY AFTER 10:30 LAST NIGHT (9:30 A.M., WEDNESDAY EASTERN WAR TIME, ONE OR TWO ENEMY B-29S FROM A MARIANAS BASE APPEARED OVER AICHI AND SHIZUOKA PREFECTURE"
"AGAIN TWO ENEMY B-29S APPEARED AT ABOUT 4:10 THIS MORNING (3:10 P.M., WEDNESDAY, EASTERN WAR TIME) TO ATTACK SHIZUOKA AND AICHI PREFECTURES AND RETURNED TOWARD THE SOUTH CENTRAL HONSHU, JAPAN'S HOME ISLAND.
THE JAPANESE HSINKING RADIO ADDED THAT [illegible]IMATELY 30 CHINA-BASED BOMBERS" RAIDED THE MUKDEN AND DA[illegible]S OF MANCHURIA AT 10:30 A.M., JAPANESE TIME, IN A RAID [illegible]ORE THAN 50 MINUTES.
WW627APW NM

DEC 221944

UNDATED
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD JAPANESE BOYS OF MITO, RADIO TOKYO SAID TODAY, ARE STUDYING SEMAPHORE SIGNALLING IN PREPARATION FOR NAVAL TRAINING.
THE DISPATCH MONITORED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID THAT THE STUDENTS OF THIS DISTRICT, WHICH IS 100 MILES NORTHEAST OF TOKYO, CAN RECEIVE AND RECORD 100 WORDS IN THREE MINUTES.
JP320APW

UNDATED SHIPS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AN UNCONFIRMED TOKYO BROADCAST TODAY CLAIMED JAPANESE PLANES DAMAGED AN "ENEMY WARSHIP, PRESUMABLY A CRUISER" IN PHILIPPINE WATERS WEST OF LEYTE ISLAND. THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE BROADCAST WAS RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
JP322APW NM

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WMUNDATED TOKYO SIRENS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE JAPANESE HAVE BEEN HEARING SO MANY AIR RAID SIRENS LATELY THEY ARE CONFUSING THEM WITH TRAIN WHISTLES. THE TOKYO RADIO REPORTED LAST (THURS) NIGHT THAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO MEET THE SITUATION.
THE WHISTLES ARE "VERY MISLEADING" AND THE TOKYO RAILWAY BUREAU HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO "DIFFERENTIATE THEM," SAID A DOMESTIC BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
HW1026PPW NM

UNDATED JAPANESE DIET
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE JAPANESE DIET HAS COMPLETED PLANS FOR ITS 86TH SESSION, OPENING SUNDAY, THE TOKYO RADIO SAID LAST NIGHT, BUT IS KEEPING ITS FINGERS CROSSED OVER THE PROSPECTS OF MORE AIR RAIDS.
"IF AN AIR RAID ALARM IS SOUNDED DURING THE MIDST OF ASESSION," THE RADIO SAID IN A BROADCAST PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, THE MEETING "WILL BE CLOSED IMMEDIATELY AND WILL RECONVENE WHEN THE ALL-CLEAR IS SOUNDED."
IN EVENT OF AN ALERT WHILE THE DIET IS IN SESSION, "THE PRESIDENT WILL HVE THE DISCRETION TO CALL A RECESS WHENEVER THE SITUATION DEMANDS IT."
ALTHOUGH THE SESSION STARTS SUNDAY, THE FORMER OPENING BY EMPEROR HIROHITO WILL NOT BE UNTIL TUESDAY. THE WAR AND NAVY MINISTERS WILL REPORT ON THE WAR SITUATION, AND "GRATIFICATION MESSAGES" ON THE REPORTS WILL BE MADE, THE BROADCAST ADDED.
HW921PPW NM

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30. 24 — 21+53

PATTON'S ARMY SLOWS DOWN NAZI ADVANCE WITH FIERCE TTACK ON SOUTHERN FLANK; GERMANS MASSING ARMOR FOR NEW BLOWS

DEC 23 1944

ENEMY OFFENSIVE POUNDS 40 MILES ACROSS BELGIUM

NORDNESS

Assault Bursts Through Luxembourg Cutting Allied Supply Routes.

DRIVE ON SEDAN

Brunt of Fighting Shifts to Flanks, Situation Stabilized.

PARIS, Dec. 22.—(AP) The violent German Winter offensive spent much of its force today after pounding 40 miles across Belgium in seven days, bursting through Luxembourg and rolling up near Arlon, only 10 miles from the French border 40 miles east of Sedan.

(Late German broadcasts said that a "fierce" attack from the south by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army today "succeeded in slowing" the advance and that the brunt of the fighting had shifted to the flanks.)

Field dispatches reporting that the enemy advance had slowed down, said, however, the Germans were believed massing armor for renewed blows and Gen. Eisenhower called on Allied armies to turn the whole "great gamble" into the enemy's "worst defeat."

Drive Sweeps Ahead

Supreme headquarters and field dispatches gave this picture of the sweep of the German drive from Tuesday noon—when the Germans were 32 miles inside Belgium—to Wednesday noon, keeping events of the last 48 hours under a security blackout:

NIGHT

The most powerful wedge of Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive slashed through Luxembourg and by late Wednesday had cut major roads north, south and east of the key road center of Bastogne, inside Belgium four miles west of Luxembourg's border.

This force then lanced on 13 miles northwest across the Ourthe river to La Roche, 32 miles inside Belgium and about 15 miles south of the northern flank west of Stavelot. Heavy fighting raged at La Roche.

German armor which by-passed Bastogne headed on west for an undisclosed distance.

In the break through Luxembourg, an American force was encircled at Wiltz, in the northern part of the duchy line miles east of Bastogne. The Americans still held out inside the town. The Germans had been reported nearing Wiltz Tuesday.

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A dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Edward D. Ball, still covering the situation up to Wednesday, reported there was brisk fighting in the areas of Bastogne and Arlon, important Belgian city on the Allied supply route leading down from Antwerp through Liege and Bastogne.

Spread of the fighting to Arlon broadened the front deep inside Belgium to some 50 miles.

Situation Is Stabilized

The situation was officially reported stabilized on the southern flank Wednesday around Echternach, in eastern Luxembourg near the German border, and one front dispatch said the threat to the little duchy's capital seemed to have subsided.

Advanced German forces were reported Tuesday to be about 14 miles northeast of the capital, and the push toward Arlon [illegible] day put the Germans about 13 miles away on the west.

All these developments were up to Wednesday noon.

On the basis of today's up-to-the-minute dispatches it appeared that the pace of the German advance westward also had been slowed, and that American lines were holding firm on both the north and south flanks.

Front dispatches describing the Germans' point of deepest penetration as 40 miles and reporting the slow-down of the enemy offensive apparently described the situation as it exists tonight.

On the extreme north flank in the Monschau sector, some 16 miles southeast of Aachen, furious fighting flared over the muddy, snow-covered hills and dispatches told of a massing of enemy strength in this area.

Roving German detachments, some times powered by more than 30 tanks, still were spearing through soft spots into rear areas despite heavy costs, but it appeared that the enemy high command was pausing and gathering strength for renewed blows.

Some of the heaviest fighting raged today on the northern flank east of Malmedy—along the route the Kaiser's armies struck on 1914—where for 24 hours the Germans banged without success against a Doughboy wall the that refused to give an inch.

Nazis Lose 200 Tanks

Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher said that this stubborn defense was slowly breaking the back of the German offensive and that at least 200 enemy tanks had been knocked out in the last five days, with reports far from complete.

The report that the enemy's offensive—which has brought the Allies own Winter drive to a halt—had lost a great deal of its force came from British-Canadian headquarters, which first reported yesterday that the push carried 32 miles inside Belgium up to Tuesday noon.

(The German communique tended to agree with this estimate in reporting that advanced elements had thrown several bridgeheads yesterday across the Ourthe river, seven to 12 miles beyond the Liege-Bastogne highway. This road was cut Tuesday at Werbomont, 32 miles inside Belgium.)

It would be premature to say that Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's scheme had failed, if he hopes to sweep across the Meuse river, some 65 miles west of the Belgian border, as some quarters believe, Associated Press Correspondent Roger Greene reported from British-Canadian headquarters.

But while he pauses to get his second wind, the Allies are gaining time, and time is a vital factor when every day sees Eisenhower's counter measures becoming stronger.

Flanks Hold Firm

Generally speaking, the northern flank was holding firm as veteran American troops moved into the lines, and the southern flank's situation was slightly improved although still confused.

Gallagher, reporting the bruising battle in the Malmedy sector, said the Germans had been hammering at a vital "elbow" east of there for 24 hours.

SS (Elite Guard) troops moved in to the attack at 5 a.m. today, he said, and by noon 19 German tanks had been knocked out in an area less than a mile square.

A captured trooper told Doughboys "the Germans are going to give Antwerp to Hitler as a Christmas present." To which one battle-grimed Doughboy replied: "the Fuehrer sure as hell is going to be disappointed."

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(Late Berlin broadcasts, reporting heavy fighting around Wiltz, in northern Luxembourg, and Consdorf to the southeast 14 miles from the duchy's capital, indicated this flank was being stabilized likewise. Supreme headquarters reported the Germans reached these points Tuesday.)

Clearing skies enabled the R.A.F. to fly more than 100 sorties, blasting German gun positions and strafing ground troops in support of the embattled Americans.

A front dispatch from AP Correspondent William F. Boni said that southwest of St. Vith — four miles inside Belgium in the path of the German offensive where American formations have been cut off—55 enemy tanks were knocked out in the last 24 hours.

(A Berlin broadcast claimed the capture of St. Vith).

Another front report said the Germans lashed out in an attack on a new sector 20 miles south of the city of Luxembourg, which would

put it in the area ... on the U. S. Third a ...

This was in two- ... strength and supported by ... It was repulsed last nig ...

Yanks Drop ... aar

(Berlin radio ... Third army had been ... bandon some positions o ... front, including the Sa ... suburb of Ensdorf, and "a ... vailable units have most ... y been shifted to the threate ... orthern sector.")

Eisenhower, in his f ... rder of the day since the German ... opened their offensive last Saturday, summoned Allied armies "to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him."

"The enemy," he said, "is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the summer and fall."

Supreme headquarters issued an official denial that German parachute troopers had been dropped near Paris in the current offensive, but the announcement did not specify whether enemy agents might have reached the capital area by other means.

Supreme headquarters also announced that the Germans were laying down long-range artillery fire on the big Graves bridge, between Arnhem and Eindhoven, which feeds Canadian troops of the Nijmegen salient in Eastern Holland.

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Germans' winter offensive slowed down today after a 40-mile penetration of Belgium, field dispatches reported, and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower called upon all his armies to administer a crushing defeat.

[The German high command said several spearheads crossed the Ourthe River, which at one point in its meandering course is seven miles west of Werbomont, the deepest previously announced point of the enemy's dagger-like wedge. At this point the river is about 30 miles from the Meuse at Namur and about sixteen miles south of Liege, also on the Meuse.

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[The Ourthe is about 40 miles inside Belgium.

[The Germans also told of heavy fighting on both their flanks. They named the localities of Butgenbach and Lagleize, four miles northwest of Stavelot, as focal points on the north. Consdorf, southwest of Echternach, and Waldbillig, three miles northwest of Consdorf, were listed as centers of attack on the south.]

Eisenhower declared Field Marshal von Rundstedt had made a last great gamble in coming out of his fixed defenses and called upon every man under his command to turn the opportunity into the enemy's "worst defeat."

The offensive "will completely fail," he declared.

Rundstedt's "Last Great Gamble"

Supreme headquarters still imposed a 48-hour delay on announcements of the actual positions. The next announcement from headquarters was not to come until late this afternoon at earliest, up to Wednesday moon and it was to cover developments only up to Wednesday night.

But dispatches from the British-Canadian Army Group today reported the 40-mile penetration and said Rundstedt's smash had lost much of its momentum in the last 48 hours.

Another Associated Press reporter "with American armies on the Western front" said Rundstedt's mass breakthrough appeared blunted, at least temporarily, and that his armored spearheads were being forced to turn aside and slow down this morning.

Two Allied "Soft" Spots Penetrated

The same dispatch said, however, that groups of 20 to 30 Nazis tanks were able to make penetrations at two "soft" spots and that other roving bands of armor and infantry often did much damage behind Allied lines before they were wiped out.

The main direction of these random thrusts apparently was westward, with the hurriedly reinforced American north wall on the German flank turning aside all Nazi efforts to curl behind the main 1st Army positions in the Aachen area.

An apparent broadening of the German thrusts to the south was also reported, with one action developing at a point described as twenty miles south of the city of Luxembourg. Ten enemy tanks and two companies of infantry were involved in the action and were repulsed.

[This would be in or near the 3d Army front, apparently in the direction of Thionville above Metz.]

Situation In South Still Confused

The general situation on the south flank of Rundstedt's thrust was described as improved but still confused.

In the center of the battle area, an entire SS division was making a frontal attack on St. Vith, near the German border, which had been bypassed on two sides by German spearheads.

[The Germans declared St. Vith had fallen.]

Rundstedt was reported to be massing armor in the heart of his salient southwest of St. Vith, along with infantry and sizable forces of bicycle troops, with which he possibly intended to renew his punch.

Eisenhower said the German counteroffensive "may give us a chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat."

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Allies Make Speed Marches

Along the German north flank Allied forces had swung into action after speed marches across snow-topped mountains. Fierce tank battles had been fought, and cool veterans of river crossings all the way from the Volturno in Italy to the Moselle in France had mowed down waves of Germans attempting to force the turbulent Ambleve River. This north flank was firm.

Both sides were pouring tens of thousands of men into the critical phase of the battle every few hours as the intensity of the fog-shrouded conflict mounted.

[The German radio said the German high command had adopted a policy of secrecy like the Allies' and called it a "battle of silence."]

Fighting through fog, snow and mud, the Americans were cutting down Germans by the hundreds—and also taking heavy losses.

Fifty-five Nazi tanks were destroyed southwest of St. Vith yesterday, field dispatches said, when groups of roving armor were trapped here and there. However, these groups were often doing much damage.

Sixty Nazi Planes Seen North Of Metz

The tenor of front-line dispatches suggested that the German attack south of Luxembourg was one such roving mission. Third Army dispatches, however, said 60 German planes were spotted north of Metz last night.

The main axis of the German thrust was apparently still westward, with the Germans vainly endeavoring to curl their armored spearhead northward.

Unless Rundstedt succeeds in fanning out behind the main part of the 1st Army to the north shortly, it is possible that he will be confronted with a great weight of men and material bearing down on his right flank.

Some Nazi Supply Lines Cut

Already one Allied counteraction in the Monschau area, northern hinge of the German line, had cut nine miles into the German salient, reducing its base to 46 miles.

This attack had cut across some of the German supply lines from the road center of Schleiden. But the lines to the likely main bases of the German drive, such as Stadtkyll, Prum, Bitburg and Trier, were intact.

Elsewhere on the long Allied front almost no activity was reported.

Saar Front Quiet

The British-Canadian front remained quiet, as did the Saar River front of the 3d Army.

The 7th Army, fighting along the Wissembourg Gap near the Rhine, was up against a fifteen to twenty mile thick Siefried belt, and some of Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's men were fighting above the clouds in the Haardt Mountains in efforts to reduce pillboxes with walls made of six feet of concrete and one foot of armor.

Germans Drop More 'Chutists

More parachutists were dropped by the Germans, this time a few miles southwest of Habiemont, the westernmost point of penetration so far officially reported, an Allied communiqué said. This may have been near Werbomont, where dispatches said a Nazi force had cut the Liege-Bastogne highway.

One pocket of 500 parachutists was wiped out near a vital road junction after five days of fighting. The 'chutists had expected to be reinforced by German armor in 24 hours.

[A Blue network radio correspondent said this was southeast of Eupen, a Belgian communication center about ten miles behind the Allied lines.]

No-Prisoner Order Reported

Illustrating the ferocity of the German drive, one front-line correspondent said the commanding general of an SS division had instructed his troops to take no prisoners during the offensive except a few officers for questioning.

The weather continued to favor the Germans. Thick fog clung closely to the ground yesterday. Snow and mud made conditions even worse.

Allied aircraft, which might turn the tide of battle, were kept largely in idleness. RAF heavy bombers resorted to their night raiding technique, however, and dropped an estimated 1,800 tons of bombs through the fog in a daylight attack yesterday on the German town of Trier, an enemy supply funnel 26 miles northeast of Luxembourg city. The British flyers returned last night to the Rhine cities of Cologne and Bonn.

Although many American formations have been badly mauled and their supplies used up and lost, the Allies retain a superiority in men and materials along the Western front, said Associated Press Correspondent J. W. Gallagher. He expressed the view that the 1st Army setback did not result from any shortages of either men or material.

London, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—A German military spokesman said tonight that a "fierce" southern flank attack by Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army had "succeeded in slowing down" the Nazi offensive.

DNB, the German official news agency, dramatically interrupted its transmission of an operational message from the eastern front to flash this report of the opposition to Field Marshal von Rundstedt's advance.

Earlier the German High Command had said: "Our spearhead advanced further to the west and established several bridgeheads across the Ourthe River."

Nazis Admit Heavy Fighting On Both Their Flanks

LONG

GEN. EISENHOWER CALLS UPON YANKS TO DESTROY NAZIS

LONG

Says American Troops Have Already Done Much to

30: 24— 21455

Foil Foe.

HITS GERMAN TACTICS

Sees Chance to Turn Enemy Gamble into Mighty Defeat.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Dec. 22—(AP) Gallantly resisting American troops already have done much to foil the Germans' "great gamble" in Belgium and Luxembourg, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower declared today in a fighting exhortation to his Allied armies to "destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him."

In his first order of the day since the Nazis blasted through the First army's lines last week end, the Allied commander-in-chief told his men that "the enemy may give us a chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat."

Hits German Methods

He charged the Germans with using "every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you," and called upon every Allied soldier to "rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort." The Allies, he declared, could not be content merely with repulsing the Nazi onslaught, but must crush the enemy.

Following is the text of the order:

"The enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the Summer and Fall.

"He is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won and is using every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you. He is gambling everything, but already in this battle your gallantry has done much to foil his plans. In the face of your proven bravery and fortitude, he will completely fail.

"But we cannot be content with his mere repulse.

Sees Chance for Big Defeat

"By rushing out from his fixed defenses the enemy may give us the chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat.

"So I call upon every man of all the Allies to rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort. Let everyone hold before him a single thought—to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him!

"United in this determination and with unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight, we will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory.

"Signed,

"Dwight D. Eisenhower."

Eisenhower's Order Of The Day

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Following is the text of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's order of the day:

The enemy is making his supreme effort to break out of the desperate plight into which you forced him by your brilliant victories of the summer and fall. He is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won and is using every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you. He is gambling everything, but already in this battle your gallantry has done much to foil his plans. In the face of your proven bravery and fortitude, he will completely fail.

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But we cannot be content with his mere repulse.

By rushing out from his fixed defenses the enemy may give us the chance to turn his great gamble into his worst defeat. So I call upon every man of all the Allies to rise now to new heights of courage, of resolution and of effort. Let everyone hold before him a single thought—to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere—destroy him!

United in this determination and with unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight, we will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory.

Signed,

Dwight D. Eisenhower.

"despite the desperate attempt of American leadership to master the situation."

Saying that the main brunt of the fighting now is on both flanks of the German drive, the broadcast declared that "particularly bitter fighting is raging on the southern flank where German spearheads, pushing toward the southwest had to defend themselves against fierce counterattacks by several divisions of the American Third army. The Americans admittedly have succeeded in slowing down the German advance by this flanking action."

Reiterating a claim that seven American divisions had either been destroyed or mauled, the radio named them as the Fourth, 28th and 106th infantry, the Seventh, Ninth and Tenth tank divisions and the 101st airborne group.

Earlier tonight, Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, German military commentator, said Von Rundstedt's "Winter offensive" was meeting with continued success and claimed that swiftly moving panzer divisions and motorized infantry were establishing bridgeheads on the west bank of the Ourthe river.

Part of the winding Ourthe is about seven miles west of Werbomont on the Liege-Bastogne highway, and is approximately 40 miles west of the Belgian border.

The Germans made no secret of the bloody fight being waged by the Americans along the entire front and acknowledged there was "very heavy fighting" on the northern and southern flanks. Another Berlin broadcast claimed the capture of St. Vith, important lateral communications hub behind American lines.

All the German radio reports said that pressure on the German flanks was bought by Gen. Eisenhower at the price "of sorely-needed combat divisions previously intended to bolster attacks on the Saar and Ruhr areas." A German communique claimed that on the Saar the Americans "had to evacuate bridgeheads near Dillingen and Ensdorf in order to release more formations."

"Eisenhower's dispositions show he is trying to remove the threat with available combat divisions," said the German military spokesman. "But he obviously is incapable of bringing up reserves from distant back areas to stop the fiery steamroller of German divisions.

"The tempo of German operations testifies this is no old-style offensive," the spokesman said. "The massive, unbroken wave of German divisions, fully screened on all flanks, has broken loose. For the time being, there is nothing to indicate just when the time will be ripe for a changeover from this compact form of warfare."

The German reports said the heavy flank actions "bear the mark of an all-out battle particularly on the northern flank of the German attack near Elsenbornnbut, Genbach and Lagleize." On the southern flank, Berlin said the Germans were engaged in very heavy fighting against forces near Waldbillig, Consdorf and Scheidger. These American forces, brought up from the Saar, have been reinforced continuously during the last 24 hours, broadcasts said.

Berlin claimed 25,000 American soldiers, including the commander of the Seventh garrison, have been taken prisoner, adding "the number of killed, and wounded American soldiers is many times the number of prisoners."

GERMANS REPORT DRIVE SLOWED BY FLANKING ACTION

R. WHEELER

LONDON, Dec. 22—(AP) A German military spokesman broadcast tonight that a "fierce" southern flank attack by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army had succeeded in slowing down the German offensive.

The spokesman asserted, however, that, although slowed, Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt managed to gain some further ground against the American First army to the west and established several bridgeheads across the Ourthe River.

Part of the course of the winding Ourthe is about seven miles west of Werbomont on the Liege-Bastogne highway, which is the deepest German penetration reported by the Allies, and about 40 miles west of the Belgian border.

"All enemy attempts to hold our attacks in southern Belgium were smashed yesterday," said the Nazi communiqué.

"Allied Troop Shifts Forced"

The capture of St. Vith and its garrison was claimed.

Surprise attacks in central Luxembourg are also continuing successfully, the communiqué declared.

German successes, it said, have forced "enemy withdrawal of strong formations from other assault fronts."

Ensdorf Withdrawal Claimed

The Berlin radio said some of Allied forces shifted to meet the German threat were from the 3d Army sectors, where advanced American positions east of the Saar had been abandoned.

All the 3d Army's "available units have most probably been shifted to the threatened northern sector," said the broadcast, which asserted that one position east of the Saar that was abandoned was Ensdorf, near Saarlautern.

Prisoners taken by the Germans have mounted to 25,000, Berlin said. This was 5,000 more than claimed yesterday.

The broadcast admitted, however, that the fighting west of Stavelot was growing increasingly "hard and bloody."

The radio declared that General Eisenhower had thus far been unable to "create a coherent defense front in the Ardennes," where the German offensive has made its deepest penetration, and said the battle in that area was continuing with unabated fury.

The broadcast failed, however, to give any details concerning the progress of the fighting, declaring:

"The sole German comment on the sixth day of this gigantic battle of attrition is: A battle of silence."

The Germans acknowledged a setback on the French 1st Army front. They said the French had hurled two or three divisions into an assault aimed at cracking the Nazi lines northwest of Colmar and were making some progress.

40 Miles Inside Belgium, Germans Now Declare

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—The German high command said today, "Our spearhead advanced farther

200 Nazi Tanks Knocked Out Since Start of Counterattack

By WES GALLAGHER

MALMEDY SECTOR, Belgium, Dec. 22—(AP) American GI's who will not give up an inch nor surrender appeared today to be slowly breaking the back of the German Winter offensive by exacting appalling losses in German personnel and equipment.

Far from complete reports record the destruction of more than 200 German tanks so far.

Hammer Yank "Elbow"

For the past 24 hours Von Rundstedt has been hammering the Doughboys' vital defense "elbow" just east of here with tanks and infantry. A captured Nazi soldier told the Doughboys:

"We Germans are going to give Antwerp to Hitler as a Christmas present."

"The Fuehrer is sure going to be disappointed," one grimed infantryman observed.

This command post in a cellar is shaking to the thunder of artillery, both outgoing and incoming. Our guns are smashing at violent SS attacks a short way down the road. They started at 5 a.m. today and it is now noon. In those seven hours 19 German tanks were knocked out in an area less than a mile square. And this is just the focal point of one attempt to break through the northern flank of the German salient.

A high officer in the staff directing the battle on this sector of the front estimated 150 German tanks have been knocked out in the past five days. Another report from a unit which has been surrounded several days reported the destruction of 55 more of Von Rundstedt's panzers.

This toll came from only a fraction of the forces engaged on the sixty-mile wide breakthrough front.

American losses have not been light, but are small compared to those suffered by the Germans.

Prisoners are few. The SS is fighting to the last and the Doughboys are not surrendering. In the heavy snow which fell last night some of the most savage fighting of the war was taking place today on mountain slopes laden with thousands of dazzling Christmas trees.

Behind the lines it was estimated 500 parachutists who dropped at the start of the offensive now have been practically liquidated. The end came this morning when some Nazi parachutists sent word they needed medical attention and were ready to surrender.

Parachutists Wiped Out

American officers described Von Rundstedt's parachute attempt with regular troops as "completely abortive." This force did not include German soldiers dropped behind the American lines in American uniforms for the purpose of sabotage.

"We have been killing hundreds of them," Lt. Col. Robert F. Evans of Davenport, Iowa, a veteran from one battle-experienced force, declared. "It has been the three most satisfying days since we started fighting and that was a long time ago."

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Evans explained the German tactic was to attack several points with several hundred men and about a dozen tanks trying to find a soft spot at each point.

"Right now they are using about 30 tanks and several hundred men near this hill trying to get in behind it," Evans continued. "We suggested to the commander in the area that he withdraw to more advantageous ground, but he flatly refused. He is staying right where he is, although the Germans have infiltrated into the town where his command post is, and while he is directing the main battle, his headquarters guard is cleaning up the Germans outside the front door."

As the colonel finished Capt. Carl Oelze, Cleveland, Ohio, put down a telephone and said, "the colonel reports 19 of those tanks are knocked out and smoking and the German infantry is almost wiped out."

The weather in the last 24 hours has been too bad even for Hitler to make use of. When the breakthrough was first made German tanks went running wild on main roads and had little to fear from mud and the clouds which kept off an air attack. But now their advance is slowed and they must take to the fields and secondary roads to try to outflank the Doughboys' positions.

Tanks Stick in Mud

As a result the German tanks are now sticking in the mud and becoming sitting ducks for artillery. A heavy snowfall is covering this fighting front with three inches of white, furnishing an outline against which dark tanks and

line against which dark tanks an uniforms stand out as targets.

Yesterday a 45-ton Panther tank waddled through a weak spot to a roadblock where it met an armored car under the command of Sgt. Francis DuFran of Stamford, Conn. Although an armored car attacking a Panther tank is like a mouse kicking an elephant, DuFrane started to maneuver his car when it bogged down. Undaunted, the sergeant with two others, Pvt. Jesse G. Alexander, Jr., of Derry, N. H., and Sgt. Sidney S. Haszard of Needham, Mass., grabbed bazookas and hid in a hedge.

When the Panther crew saw the armored car they shot a hole clear through it and then came closer to investigate. At this point DuFrane's bazookas cut loose. The Panther's armor was too thick to be pierced, but its gun was crippled. The tank hastily backed down the hill and started for its own lines.

The three GIs were so angry at having their armored car knocked out that they took after the tank on a run, carrying their bazookas. They pursued it a mile and a half, never quite getting close enough to shoot before they ran into the German lines and had to give up the chase.

behind them.

Today we completed the withdrawal from Berdorf, 17 miles northeast of Luxembourg city, as well as from Echternach, on the border, and stabilized lines inside the Duchy parallel with the Sure river which forms the border in this area.

The Germans used a few tanks inside Echternach, but in this sector they hadn't been extensively employed by the enemy, perhaps because heavy woods and steep hills combine with the mud to tie them to the roads where their offensive value is greatly diminished. Nazi infantrymen have been using infiltration tactics persistently to encircle American positions, but so far have been able to make an encirclement stick only in Echternach and much of our small garrison managed to slip through the ring even there after killing an amazingly large number of the attackers.

With northern Luxembourg overrun by the returning invader, the familiar scenes of 1940 are being reenacted with refugees fleeing in wagons, on bicycles and afoot.

This evacuation naturally was impromptu at first, but now is being organized by the Americans who are expediting the movement to rear areas and clearing civilians from towns behind the present lines.

These refugees which I have seen streaming along the roads in all sorts of vehicles jammed with all sorts of household effects from featherbeds to pianos seem to be strangely calm and collected, lacking any signs of hysteria. This presumably is because they feel, as the American soldiers do, that this is only a temporary setback and however bitter it may be to leave home at Christmastide it is not the hopeless sort of a departure some made in 1940.

This comparative optimism is particularly apparent among those leaving towns still inside American lines because many feel their homes will escape occupation by the enemy.

In the city of Luxembourg itself there is a crop of rumors about parachutists—none of whom has been officially reported in this area—and some uneasiness through the city.

It seems apparent now that the main effort is not being directed toward Luxembourg, although it is a fat psychological prize, but along the attack routes farther north.

Nazi Threat to Luxembourg City Subsides as Yank Forces Rally

By LEWIS HAWKINS

WITH AMERICAN FORCES NEAR ECHTERNACH ON THE LUXEMBOURG-GERMAN FRONTIER, Dec. 21—(Delayed)—(AP) The threat from the northeast to Luxembourg city which developed swiftly last Saturday morning seemed definitely to have subsided today as American defenders rallied quickly from their initial surprise.

Striking across the Sure river from the Siegfried defenses opposite Echternach the Germans moved up to three miles into Luxembourg within the first few hours of the dawn attack, and then were only about 15 miles from the capital of the Duchy.

Several American units were surrounded in this eruption along a front which had long been somnolent and for 48 hours it appeared to be touch-and-go whether the Nazis were going to recapture a liberated capital for the first time. But while infantrymen rallied and consolidated their lines, more infantry and armor were shoved in

BARE KNUCKLES AGAINST ARMOR

Yanks Rout Nazi Column With Bazookas And Grenades

By HAROLD V. BOYLE

Somewhere in Belgium, Dec. 22 (AP)—American infantry men fighting a powerful German armored column at close range with bazookas and hand grenades today sealed off the Western exit to the Ambleve River pocket after a slambang 48-hour battle.

During the struggle, the Americans destroyed eleven Nazi heavily armed vehicles, killed 120 of the enemy and took 26 prisoners.

"Our boys practically beat them back with their bare knuckles," said Lieut. Col. Warren Williams, of Sanford, N.C., describing the battle which kept large enemy forces from escaping across the Ambleve River.

One Of Bitterest Of The War

In midafternoon the remainder of the pocketed enemy column was fighting fiercely for its life across the narrow river. The wintry hills are ringing with the reverberating crack of tank and artillery fire and on the other side of the Ambleve you can see towers of smoke from bursting shells.

The battle to halt the enemy's armored thrust in this sector has been one of the bitterest engagements of the European war—one in which American infantry men, rushed in to halt the spreading Nazi advance, had to beat back a more numerous enemy equipped with heavier arms.

"They are first-rate German troops we met—the best they have," said Williams.

Streets Bear Marks Of Battle

The streets of this quiet Belgian village beside the turbulent Ambleve bear unmistakably the marks of the fierceness of the struggle.

Dead Germans sprawl grotesquely by the side of shattered vehicles where they had fought savagely even after being driven from their weapons. The vehicles knocked out were three .20-mm. flak guns, several half-tracks, a reconnaissance car with an .81-mm. mortar, two towed 105-mm. guns and two self-propelled guns.

"We cracked into them at night at the edge of this village and had to fight them with anything we had," said Williams. "We had a couple of tank destroyers, but our men knocked off most of these vehicles by going in with bazookas and hand grenades. We did not even have a single heavy machine gun with us when the battle started."

Flak Wagons The Worst

As we drove into town between lanes of smashed German artillery and the silent, ripped bodies of the mist-wet enemy dead, the doughboys who had taken the town from these slain men were being relieved.

In that line was Sergt. Al Vrabac, of Kansas City, Kan., who commanded the bazooka men whose sacrificial valor perhaps more than any other single factor was responsible for smashing the enemy drive.

"These three flak wagons were giving us the most trouble," he said. "They set them up right in the middle of the street and turned them against us. I had six bazookas when this thing started—now I only got two. But we knocked out those guns."

"Tossed Grenades Into Them"

"After the bazooka men shot holes in the vehicles, we ran up and tossed grenades into them and killed the German crews," said Sergt. Samuel D. Crenzo, of Ossining, N.Y. "One of our guys wiped out one gun crew with a grenade. Then he was wounded, but he went ahead and pulled the pin out of another grenade and gave it to his buddy to throw at another German half-track."

All the soldiers said their victory was due to the splendid leadership in the field of Lieut. Col. Willard E. Harrison, of Norfolk, Neb., whose wife now is living in San Diego, Cal.

A "Combat-Happy" Colonel

"He is combat happy—that guy," said Sergt. Michael Jalowey, of Woonsocket, R.I. "But he is the best colonel in the whole army."

Jalowey said the fighting was the most intense for a single action he had been in in four campaigns.

"I never missed a day in Africa, Sicily, Italy or Normandy—but this was the roughest I ever saw. When they pinned us down on those hard streets with those 20-mm. ack-ack guns bearing down on us, I didn't see how we could make it."

With Jalowey were Corporal Victor Parisi, of Poughkeepsie, N.Y.; Pfc. Harry McLaughlin, of Millinocket, Maine, and Corporal John Buhlman, of Detroit.

Want U.S. Flying Bombs in Action

GALLAGHER

WITH THE AMERICAN NINTH ARMY, Dec. 21.—(Delayed)—(AP) American troops being pounded by Adolf Hitler's V-weapons want to know when we are going to start tossing a few flying bombs back at the Germans.

"If we build better flying bombs than the Nazis why aren't we using them?" is the way one soldier put it after reading a story in the Yank newspaper "Stars and Stripes" to the effect that the American "Doodle" is better than the Germans V-bomb.

Weapons Are Powerful

American fighting men know the German secret weapons are no toys and cannot be dismissed with a shrug. Arguments that the weapons are indiscriminate do not impress the man in a foxhole, who may stop anything from a machine-gun slug to a 14-ton rocket.

To him it is all a question of accuracy. The rifle is more accurate than artillery, and artillery is more accurate than the flying bomb. But all have their place.

During recent weeks American and British troops in rear areas have been attacked by V-1's, V-2's and the latest V-weapon — which has been likened to heavy artillery. American troops who hear them droning overhead toward rear areas would like very much to hear them going the other way.

It is now no secret that flying bomb attacks upon London came closer to disrupting that great city's life than the 1940 air blitz ever did. The German attempt failed only because the Nazis did not have the air force to protect their bases and eventually had them over-run.

One of the main objectives of the American Air Forces is to choke Germany to death by paralyzing the Ruhr. As a result of the current German offensive the Ruhr certainly is no closer to our ground forces than it was three months ago. Many more months of hard fighting are in prospect before it feels the weight of Allied guns. At the same time winter is curbing the Allied air forces. But the worse the weather the better the flying bomb works, and every part of the Ruhr could be within range of Allied flying bombs. In all the world there probably is no better target for flying bombs than the German's jampacked industrial centers. Furthermore we have the planes to protect launching sites from aerial attack.

Psychological Effect Great

The value of the flying bomb is one-half damage and one-half psychological effect.

No factory can maintain full production with the workers' ears cocked for the drone of flying bombs night and day. Air raids, no matter how violent, end sometime, but the flying bomb offers a continuing menace around the clock, subjecting the populace to unending strain.

These psychological factors are recognized by men at the front, who have undergone artillery bombardment for days on end and know what it does to the nerves.

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Yanks Battered by V-Weapons

Roars Orders to Front Lines and Stems Attack of German Armor.

By HAL BOYLE.

An American Command Post Near Malmedy, Dec. 21 (Delayed) (A. P.).—If the Germans ever bust through this defense line they'll have to ride right over one of the most belligerent generals in the United States Army.

And if he ever heard any one say he was bossing a "defense line" he would skin them alive.

When the Germans tried to take advantage of heavy fog this morning and slice through American positions between Malmedy and Stavelot to relieve a large Panzer force trapped west of Stavelot, this General didn't sit in his room sifting various reports and weighing possibilities.

He moved right into the middle of his intelligence and operations staff and grabbed a field telephone leading to his most forward fighting men. And when this General gives commands things begin to happen. He is chunky and powerful and when he hollers it is hard for a listener to believe that his ordinarily slow, drawling voice could carry such an impact.

The General takes every forward German step anywhere along the American front as a personal insult. As for his own front—he simply won't concede the Nazis are punching at him. His theory is that his job isn't to halt Germans—it is to kill them or drive them back to Berlin.

When he had restored the situation to normal—that is, his men had killed some dozens of Nazis, destroyed five enemy-manned tanks and beaten away the rest of the attacking force—he relaxed long enough to give his battle philosophy "Hell, they aren't attacking me. I am attacking them. It's a defensive-offensive. We aren't just sitting here waiting for them."

Nazi Spies Enter U.S. Lines In Yank Garb

By Harold V. Boyle

Near Stavelot, Belgium, Dec. 21 [*AP — Delayed*] — German spies were inside the American Army's front lines today.

A captain and three privates wearing American uniforms drove along a forest road in a jeep. They halted near Capt. Fordyce Gorham, of Coudersport, Pa. Gorham, like all other soldiers, had been warned to watch for enemy troops or spies dressed in American garb.

But Gorham was busy with his own battlefield problems. He noted only that the man in the front seat wore a mackinaw and helmet with captain's bars, and that the other three soldiers—apparently privates—wore sweaters and carried rifles and carbines.

"Looking For My Tanks"

"I'm from blank corps," the strange officer said pleasantly. "I'm looking for my tanks. Have you seen some go along that road to the next village?"

"I hear some have, but you can't get across the river because the bridge is out," Gorham replied.

"How are things going?" the other captain asked casually.

Gorham gave him the usual army answer to such a question:

"All fouled up."

"Patton Has Broken Through"

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"Well, I've heard some good news," the stranger said. "General Patton has broken through. In the last 24 hours he has broken way into the German lines with four armored divisions. He captured 11,000 prisoners and destroyed 250 vehicles."

"Whoopee!" Gorham shouted. "He's loose again!"

After a half-hour's conversation the stranger started to leave then stopped and asked—"Gotta cigarette?"

He lit the borrowed cigarette and drove away.

Things Begin To Pop

A little later, things began to pop. At the very edge of the front Private Theodore Watson, of Brooklyn, N.Y., was standing behind a stone farmhouse as American tank destroyers approached to engage a Nazi tank that had been firing into Yank positions.

Suddenly two jeeps sped up the road. From one jumped the men who had talked to Gorham a short time before. Four other men, also masquerading as American soldiers, jumped out of the other vehicle.

Watson, who is a medic and carries no weapons, became suspicious. And when he heard one of the strangers call to another in a heavy, worried German accent "Where is it?" he felt sure he was right.

"They're Germans!"

Jumping out he pointed to the eight men and yelled to doughboys in foxholes. "They're Germans!" The eight men, who apparently had been looking for the Nazi tank to guide them back to their own positions, took off like deer for the Germans lines.

"Shoot them, they're Germans!" Watson shouted. But because the fleeing men wore American uniforms the doughboys hesitated. They fired just as the eight men reached a woods, and wounded one of the Germans and two American soldiers near by. However, all eight Germans escaped.

When Gorham learned of the incident he recalled his own encounter with four of the spies and exclaimed ruefully:

"I'm a boy from the hills, and this time I was taken in by city slickers. Me—who's supposed to know about things like that!"

Anti-tank Forces Battled Eight Hours Against Germans Trying to Relieve Trapped Tanks.

By WILLIAM F. BONI.

Malmedy, Belgium, Dec. 21 (Delayed) (A. P.).—American infantrymen who from 4 A. M. until well into this afternoon were fighting German tanks close at hand heard on the radio the other day that the First Army had retaken Malmedy. They think that's queer — because they'd never lost it.

The unit was commanded by Lieut.-Col. Howard Greer of Baltimore. His adjutant, Capt. Charles Pritchard of Nelsonville, Ohio, told how troops under Capt. Joseph Reaser, Gettysburg, Pa., assisted by an anti-tank platoon under Lieut. Roy N. King, Lexington, Ky., fought to a standstill a superior German force whose tanks at one point fired at point blank range.

The Germans launched the attack well before dawn and found the going heavier than they had expected. They rolled off and swung into line again.

Making the most of dense mist and ground fog they wheeled tanks up for direct fire and finally forced the anti-tank platoon, which was the only link between the town and the troops, to pull back to high ground.

For six to eight hours Reaser's troops fought, although cut off from the rest of unit. Germans infiltrated though their lines at a few points and three or four tanks managed to bust through and overrun their 3-inch tank destroyers and some 57-millimeter anti-tank guns.

But King's anti-tank gunners, though their main weapons were lost, kept the Germans away—at the same time firing at enemy armor with bazookas. From batteries on the eastern side of town artillery liaison officer Captain Richard Trouth, Cincinnati, Ohio, called for all available supporting fire.

At the moment of greatest tension when it appeared the Germans would crash into Malmedy itself, Pritchard mustered headquarters clerks—communications platoon men from the message center, and others—and marched them down to take up frontline positions. Just then armored infantry from a supporting unit arrived and the headquarters personnel went back into what Pritchard smilingly described as "mobile reserve."

Mobile Reserves, incidentally, also is the name of a cute white pup with one black eye, which is the unit mascot and the property of Capt. Ralph Kerley, Houston, Tex., unit executive officer, who picked up the dog in France—where he also picked up the Distinguished Service Cross.

All this time men of Reaser's company and King's platoon were firing away at the Germans with all they had. Anti-tank gunners without their anti-tank guns managed to knock out one tank with bazooka fire, while supporting fire put four others as well as some American Mark X tank destroyers out of commission. Of the five tanks kayoed four were American Shermans.

As we were sitting there discussing the scrap, which had ended only shortly before with the Germans thrown back to their original lines, Operations Officer Capt. Edward Hill of 75-50 Kessel street, Forest Hills, N. Y., and myself heard that telephone communication finally had been restored.

A wire crew under Pvt. John Coen of Sandusky, Ohio, from the communications section run by Lieut. Jack Gollust of Cleveland, had turned the tables on the Germans by infiltrating their positions to get the line through.

Hill said that the prisoners told us their objective in attacking first was to seize the bridge. When that failed they swung over west with the aim of overrunning our artillery positions which had been raising havoc with interdicting fire on German supply lines, especially at crossroads.

The town itself, from what we could see of it, was carrying on with reasonable normalcy though perhaps a bit quieter than usual. As we came rolling downhill on a muddy back road and into the main street there was a woman busily scrubbing her front step.

Our guides were a towering former New York State trooper, Capt. Melvin Handville, Syracuse, N. Y., and Signal Corps Photographer Lieut. Thomas Daniel.

Along the road we noticed that a good number of machine guns were set up at odd corners, there men with bazookas and others were digging gunpits and foxholes.

Since there was no German artillery fire—so far that has been one supporting weapon they have lacked in the counter-offensive—we didn't think much about it. That is, until we got into the town and Handville said: "That road was under enemy machine gun fire last night."

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Supreme headquarters issued an official denial today of a report current in Paris almost since the start of the German counteroffensive that Nazi parachute troopers had landed near the French capital.

"No paratroopers whatsoever were dropped in the vicinity of Paris," the statement said.

3 Nazis Trapped in Town They Believed Captured

Paratroopers Enter Monschau, Find Americans Waiting

AMERICAN 1st ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Dec. 22 (AP).—Ill, hungry and disgusted, three German paratroop officers were captured when they walked into Monschau after hearing a Nazi propaganda broadcast say that the town was in Nazi hands.

"You Americans are too bloody obstinate," sighed one of the Germans as he was taken off to an American Army hospital to be treated for pneumonia and trench feet. The officers and several hundred men had been dropped in the Monschau area almost a week ago, at the start of the German offensive.

Most of them were rounded up quickly. Others donned American Army uniforms or Belgian civilian clothing. Numbers of these have been caught. Still others—like the captured paratroop officers—had hidden out in woods for days, not knowing where to go next, because of the fluid nature of the lines.

Massacre Verified

With the U. S. First Army, Dec. 21 [AP—Delayed]—Films taken from a captured German photographer have provided verification of recent front-line accounts of the massacre of American prisoners by Nazi machine-gunners.

Developed by the United States Army Signal Corps, the films proved to be pictures taken after the massacre and showed the bodies of American troops lying where they were mowed down. That they were not ordinary battle casualties was indicated by the absence of equipment which American troops always carry into action.

All the bodies had been stripped of belongings—in several cases even of shoes.

40 Belgians Shot

An American Command Post Near Stavelot, Dec. 21 [AP—Delayed]—A wounded Belgian farmer related today another instance of Nazi brutality in the present counteroffensive.

Two nights ago he came into an American forward command post from the hamlet of Parfondroy.

He told Lieut. Henry Schmitz, of New York city, that 100 Nazi SS (Elite Corps) troops had entered his village and rounded up 40 persons, among them himself and two women, herded them into a barn, machine-gunned them and then set fire to the barn.

He was shot through the leg, but with the help of a friend, managed to reach American lines.

"We haven't much reason to doubt his story," said Schmitz. "You see, the two women were his mother and his sister."

Canadian Front Shelled

PARIS, Dec. 22 (AP).—Supreme headquarters announced today that the Germans were laying down long-range artillery fire on the big Graves bridge between Arnhem and Eindhoven which is used by the Canadian troops in the Nijmegen salient in eastern Holland. The bridge, captured by American air-borne troops late in September, appeared to be a target for German railway guns twenty miles away, a Canadian 1st Army artillery officer said.

Montgomery Issues Christmas Message

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery made no reference to the changed situation on the Western front in his annual Christmas message to his British and Canadian troops today, but reaffirmed the resolve "to continue the contest with stout hearts and with determination to conquer."

"Today we sing Christmas hymns, full of hope and steadfast in our belief that soon we shall achieve our hearts' desire," the message said.

Quotes Scriptures

Recounting Allied successes since the landings in Normandy, he said, "We must not fail to give praise and honor where it is due," and quoted from the Scriptures: "This was the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes."

"Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and good will toward men—this is what we are fighting for, that is what we desire: on earth peace, good will toward men," he said, concluding:

"I wish all of you good luck and a happy 1945. We are all one great team. Together, you and I, we have achieved much. And together we will see the thing through to the end."

German Radio Urges Belgians To Flee Homes

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—An enemy radio station began broadcasting to Belgians today urging them to leave their homes.

Obviously intended to complicate the Allies' military task by jamming the roads with civilians, as in 1940, the announcer told the Belgians:

"Leave your homes and flee. German armies are using horrifying new weapons. Not a single human being will remain alive in sections where these weapons will be used."

Belgians Asked to Keep Working.

London, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—The Belgian Government appealed today to all war workers to give up their Christmas and New Year holidays. The Brussels radio asked Belgians to work "for the war above all."

Swiss See Last Gamble

BERN, Switzerland, Dec. 21 (Delayed) (AP).—Swiss press comment on the German offensive in the west reflects a belief here that the drive is a last desperate gamble by the Germans to stave off impending defeat.

A leading editorial in "Die Weltwoche," of Zurich, describes the offensive as "a retarding movement" that can only delay but not alter the outcome of the war.

Nazi 'V-1½' Weapon Called Flying Shell

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 22—The Germans' new secret weapon in use on the Western Front was described here as "not V-3 or V-4, but V-1½."

Apparently is a barrage weapon, it takes the form of a self-propelled shell, it was said. It has been described in front dispatches as a small V-2 rocket.

Classifying it as V-1½ might indicate that it has some features of Both V-1, the flying bomb, and V-2, the long-range rocket.

French Plants Supply Needed Items To Allies

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP) — Reviving French industries now are supplying hundreds of items to the Allied air forces on a reverse lend-lease basis, Col. Melvin C. Smith, chief of the procurement section Air Service Command, said today.

Smith disclosed that American strategic and tactical air forces already had received 2,225,000 cubic feet of hydrogen gas for use in weather squadron drift balloons, and 3,500,000 feet of film for wing cameras.

French factories also have supplied the air forces with mattresses, stovepipes for pyramid tents and various items of radio equipment and electrical appliances.

Goebbels Has Suez Canal Stock, French Disclose

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels has been holding 100 shares of Suez Canal stock, a French Government decree disclosed today.

The decree sequestered all dividends from Suez Canal shares. The money will be held in escrow pending settlement of the shares' ownership, it was believed.

The ownership of the Suez Canal has long been a financial mystery. For a half century the securities have been a gilt-edge investment, so remunerative that speculation in them was world-wide.

Of the effective 800,000 shares at last reports, the British Government was holding 353,024. The others were scattered all over the globe.

French Liberation Bond Sales Top 3 Billions

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Empire-wide purchases of "national liberation" bonds totaled 155,000,000,000 francs ($3,100,000,000), Finance Minister Rene Pleven told Frenchmen tonight in a broadcast.

More than 75 per cent was paid in currency, thus fulfilling the Government's objective of reducing excess currency circulation. The balance was paid in older bonds.

Pleven described this response as "magnificent," compared with the 1918 liberation loan which drew only 22,200,000,000 francs.

Franco Is Reported Seeking A Republic

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Spanish Republican circles reported tonight that two emissaries of Franco's regimé had arrived in Paris to negotiate a transitional government leading to restoration of a Republic. There was no confirmation of this report from Franco sources.

The delegates were said to have crossed the frontier three days ago, instructed by Falangist leaders to make contact with Miguel Maura, one-time Interior Minister in the Spanish Republic.

The Spanish Embassy here said it knew of no such delegation, and Maura was unavailable for comment.

Paris, Dec. 22 (AP)—Angelo Chiappe, former prefect of the Gard Department, was sentenced to death today for collusion with the enemy, the French agency reported. He is the brother of Jean Chiappe, former Paris police chief.

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France Ratifies Moscow Pact

PARIS, Dec. 22 (AP). — The French-Soviet alliance was ratified today by the French government.

GERMANS REPORT REDS OPEN MIGHTY DRIVE IN LATVIA

HERCHER

Claim Assault Comes as Prelude to All-Out Winter Offensive.

LOSONC THREATENED

Soviet Troops Launch New Push to Capture Besieged Budapest.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 23—(AP) Berlin said last night that 270,000 Russians, including ski troops supported by strong tank and plane formations, had begun "a big push of extreme operational importance" against 30 Nazi divisions pocketed in snowswept Latvia as a prelude to an imminent general Winter offensive by the Red army.

A Moscow dispatch early today also said the long Eastern front was stirring into action with strong Red army patrols probing German positions and sub-zero temperatures hardening the soil to create conditions in which the Russians in the past have won some of their greatest military successes.

Strike With New Equipment

Red Army men have been issued all-Winter equipment. Familiar white-robed skimen are once more in the lines; tanks have been winterized and men marshalled in strategic areas. It is believed the Red army shortly will strike the Germans from Latvia on the Baltic sea through East Prussia and Poland down to the already active Czechoslovak-Hungarian front, said the dispatch.

In Czechoslovakia meanwhile the Russians drove to within nine miles of the important rail center of Losonc (Lucenec) and to within six miles of a secondary junction near the Hungarian frontier, thus threatening to trap a sizeable force of Germans routed from the Hungarian Matra mountains by other Soviet units attacking up from the south.

Berlin predicted a general large-scale Winter offensive "in the near future" as part of the Allied master plan of finally crushing Germany from the east, west and south, and said the Soviet Latvian command already was undertaking to sweep up an entire Axis army left there to menace the Soviet flank jutting into East Prussia.

The Northern strike was launched Thursday at the same time that Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army in Western Hungary began a new drive southwest of Budapest in a double effort to surround the Hungarian capital and crack open a direct invasion route to Vienna.

Reds Drive on Budapest

Russian troops already have stabbed to within two miles of Szekesfehervar, big bastion 32 miles southwest of Budapest and 115 miles southeast of Vienna, Berlin said. This would represent a four-mile advance from Soviet positions two weeks ago.

Berlin also told of Soviet gains northwest of Sahy (Ipolysag), 34 miles northwest of Budapest, where Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army is threatening to break out into the Bratislava plain at a point within 85 miles of the Slovak capital and 115 miles due east of Vienna.

The two Red army operations, not yet confirmed by Moscow, formed a great pincers aimed at taking Budapest from the rear and shattering intermediate German formations on both sides of the Danube between the Hungarian capital and the Austrian frontier.

Far to the northeast of Budapest other units of Malinovsky's army were converging on the big Slovak rail centers of Kassa and Losonc, and were cleaning out the last German formations clinging to the Hungarian mountains just below the Slovak frontier.

Moscow's communiqué announced the capture of seven localities in southern Slovakia, including Husina, 9 miles east of Losonc, and only 6 miles northeast of the important secondary rail junction of Fulek (Fil'akovo), where the railway from Hatvan in northern Hungary joins the Kassa-Losonc line.

Seizure of either Fulek or Losonc would trap a sizable German force being hurled out of Hungary on a 26-mile arc south and southeast of Fulek. In this lower sector the Russians seized ten localities, including Kisterenye, a junction on the Hatvan railway 18 miles south of Fulek and 22 miles southeast of Losonc.

Petervasara, 11 miles east of Kisterenye, and Disznod, 20 miles northeast of Kisterenye, also were taken, leaving the Germans only a small strip of northeastern Hungary below the escape gap at Fulek.

Important Action Suggested

In this area the Russians took 1,755 prisoners Thursday, the bulletin said.

No mention of the Latvian offensive or the drive southwest of Budapest was made by Moscow, but the bulletin said that Russian troops had wrecked 101 German tanks and shot down 68 planes during Thursday, suggesting important action in other sectors besides the Slovak-Hungarian border area.

Berlin said a crushing aerial bombardment opened the Latvian attack. It was followed by a 90-minute artillery barrage in which the Russians fired 170,000 shells into German dugouts. Then 27 Soviet divisions sprang forward on a 22-mile front south and southwest of Saldus road junction.

With this great concentration of men on such a narrow front the Russians pierced German lines at several points to a depth of a mile or more. "Counterattacks by mobile reserves smashed the Soviet offensive spearheads," Berlin claimed.

Col. Ernst Von Hammer, Axis radio commentator, termed it the "third defensive battle" of the Courland peninsula of northwestern Latvia where the Germans hold a 5,000-square-mile area north of a line running from the west Latvian port of Liepaja through Saldus to a point on the gulf of Riga 22 miles northwest of captured Riga.

"The battle continues with great momentum," Von Hammer said, with the Russians using powerful armored formations on the frozen terrain.

Action Is Confirmed

Saldus is 53 miles northeast of Liepaja and about the same distance southwest of Russian-held Riga, Latvian capital. It is 18 miles northwest of Auce, another strategic junction town which Berlin declared last month the Russians had taken in the "second successful Courland defensive battle." Moscow never has confirmed that action which Berlin classified as a brief but powerful offensive which was stopped after "negligible" Soviet gains.

Premier-Marshal Joseph Stalin has estimated that 30 German divisions are trapped in northwestern Latvia. Clearance of the area is necessary to secure the north flank of the Red army units anchored 20 miles inside German East Prussia farther south.

Berlin broadcasts reflected growing uneasiness about the general situation on the Eastern front which now is frozen hard and suitable for a Soviet mobile campaign by tanks and motorized infantry.

Von Hammer reported "reconnaissance in force" by Soviet units both in East Prussia and in Poland, and predicted the opening of the big—and perhaps last—Soviet Winter offensive "in the near future."

REDS REPORTED OPENING DRIVE SOUTH OF RIGA

Berlin Says 27 Divisions of Russians Are Used in Latvia Blow.

London, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—The Berlin radio said today the Russians, in a new attack in the long-dormant northern sector, had hurled twenty-seven divisions against the Germans on a twenty-two-mile front south of the Latvian town of Saldus (Frauenburg), about sixty miles southwest of Riga and approximately the same distance from the Baltic coast.

Assault divisions supported by tank formations and preceded by a terrific artillery bombardment of approximately 170,000 shells in ninety minutes opened the attack, Nazi military commentator, Nazi Military Commentator Ernst von Hammer said.

Drive Wedge Deeper.

Moscow, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Russian shock troops wedged deeper into Southern Slovakia today while new operations by two powerful Russian Army groups threatened to seal off beleagured Budapest from the west.

Units of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army drove to within fourteen miles east of the big Slovak rail city of Losonc (Lucenec), seizing thirty more localities, including the important communications center of Rimaszombat, on the Kassa-Losonc highway.

Fall of Rimaszombat opened an important gateway into the Matra Mountains and brought relief within sight for an isolated force of Slovak Patriots estimated at 25,000.

The Germans admitted alarm over the resumption of Soviet pressure on the west side of the Danube in the vitally strategic zone between Budapest and Lake Balaton, where Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine Army paused early this month to build up greater striking power.

The new strike by Tolbukhin's forces, already linked with elements of the Second Ukraine Army, would be to blast through the German flank riveted on positions southwest of the Hungarian capital and on the fortress city of Szekesfehervar.

The Germans also confessed nervousness over Red Army attacks in the vicinity of the Great Bend in the Danube northwest of Budapest where the river veers west toward Austria.

They freed a railway spur of the Miskolc-Losonc line and seized part of another spur jutting southward from Banreve on the Slovak border, substantially narrowing the German escape routes from the Hungary-Slovak frontier area.

Malinovsky's troops took 1,490 more German and Hungarian prisoners Wednesday, making an announced total of 42,734 in the last forty-two days.

Reds Plan 90 New Cities

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Moscow radio declared today that plans already under way for the construction of 90 new cities in the Soviet Union to replace those shattered by war. More than 1,000 architects have been put to work drawing up preliminary plans.

Coblenz And Bingen Rail Yards Bombed In RAF Night Attack

H-SCHAM

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes tonight blasted the Rhine railhead cities of Coblenz and Bingen, supply distribution centers for Field Marshal von Runstedt's attacking armies. Coblenz has large freight yards and is on a rail line from the Rhine to the Trier and Luxembourg areas. Bingen is a junction city on an important railway leading to the industrial Saar Valley.

The RAF also was out during daylight hours, and flew more than 100 sorties over the northern sector to aid American troops by attacking German forces and gun positions. Although the RAF was able to take advantage of a break in the weather, American flying bases were closed in, and both British and Italian-based United States heavies were grounded.

Oil Plant Fired

The daytime lull was the first time in weeks that German skies were clear of American bombers.

British bombers set fire to a large synthetic-oil plant at Politz, 85 miles northeast of Berlin, last night following three assaults on German cities which are used as supply bases for Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's counteroffensive. Trier was attacked in dense fog late yesterday afternoon. Soon after dark Halifaxes and Lancasters struck at Cologne and Bonn. From four missions three bombers are missing.

During the Trier raid 9th Air Force Thunderbolt dive-bombers attacked through clouds prior to escorting the RAF heavies over the target.

Weather Still Bad

However, the weather was still unfavorable for the employment of Allied air superiority against the German Army, and the German radio, up to midday, had only one report of Allied planes over the Reich.

A small formation of fast bombers—probably mediums—were in the Munich-Augsburg area of southern Germany, the German broadcast said.

To achieve an element of surprise, the RAF bombers flew a roundabout route which took them 2,000 miles before returning to base from Politz. The bombs were dropped from clear skies over the oil plant, and the formations were on their way home before any German fighters arrived on the scene. Pilots reported seeing fires and explosions.

V-Bombs Still Fall on England

LONDON, Dec. 22 (AP).—The Germans continued their V-bomb attacks against southern England last night. Damage and casualties were reported.

BRITAIN FACES BLEAK CHRISTMAS

SINCLAIR

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LONDON, Dec. 22—(AP) Christmas cheer? Not here.

This sixth yuletide since the war began will in many ways be Britain's bleakest. Quietly reserved confidence in ultimate victory is the peoples' only consolation for grim tidings from the front.

This had been Britain's Christmas of hope.

Not too many months ago her tired and troubled men and women thought they could celebrate the season with all the joviality of old, believing that the war's end would be near, if not a fact.

That hope is gone now.

Long queues outside the news stands reflect the public's hopes and fears over the turn of war.

In musty old pubs — now hung with mistletoe—discussions centered on the German push. That is equally true in many a British home that was a billet for an American soldier before the inva-

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sion.

The general gloom is as grey as London's fog.

It is true that many old customs will be kept alive. That is the Englishman's way.

The Englishman has planned something for the children so that they, at least, may escape for a day the sorrow, sufferings and separation which will be the lot of the adult world.

Christmas dinners will be a bit better this year. There is a little more meat, a few oranges. A handful of nuts.

There will be few turkeys. They have been gobbled up in the black market.

What cheer there is will be as scarce as it is synthetic. The bottled variety is anywhere up to $25 a fifth.

Christmas carolers troop through the blacked-out streets, past homes broken by war.

But the words that come through the darkness — "peace on earth, good will toward men"—are freighted with ironic unreality.

20,000 Jews In Labor Camp Slain By Nazis

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Polish Government-in-exile said today the Germans had massacred 20,000 Jews in a forced labor camp at Plaszow near Cracow.

A spokesman quoted a report from underground channels which said the Germans also liquidated Jewish forced labor camps at Skarsysk, Starachowice, Pionki and Ostrowiec.

Fifty-five men, women and children out of the 200 inhabitants of the Italian village of Madonna del'Albero, five miles south of Ravenna, were massacred by Nazi S. S. troops on November 24, according to an overseas dispatch reported today to the Office of War Information.

The dispatch said that Lieut. H. N. Acker of Toronto, a signals officer of the Canadian First Division, revealed the massacre after talking to the remaining villagers. Lieut. Acker, the dispatch said, arrived at the village as the last thirty-one of the victims were being prepared for burial. The Germans were angry, the villagers said, because they suspected some of the men had gone to the Allied lines with information.

BR[illegible] [illegible]DERS

NEW DRAFT OF MEN

KASISCHKE

LONDON, Dec. 22 — (AP) Britain tonight ordered a new draft, plus transfers from the RAF and the Navy and a stricker comb-out of its "desk soldiers," to raise quickly 250,000 more men for its armies.

The new call-up which is in addition to the regular conscription schedule, was announced by Prime Minister Churchill's office as the Berlin radio said Gen. Eisenhower was drawing reinforcements from the British army group to help the Americans check the German Western Front counteroffensive.

An official announcement said the move was being made "in order to sustain and nourish our armies in the line" in the "coming months."

The builk of the new men will be obtained by a new draft of civilians, the announcement said, but it added that extra soldiers also would be gained by transfers to the army from the navy and the RAF and by combing the administrative services and "static forms of defense" for still more.

It was assumed that the RAF defensive forces could spare men now since beating the German air force and the robot attacks, and that others would come from ground defenses.

Spokesmen would not say what the Navy could spare, but its tasks in European waters are known to have been lightened by decimation of the Nazi surface fleet and by progress of the battle of the Atlantic.

When asked whether the new call-up was a direct result of this week's Western front reverses, a military spokesman said it was a "matter of considered government policy" rather than an emergency measure.

The spokesman later added: "Tonight's announcement is regarded by the government as an important statement eloquent of Britain's resolution in the prosecution of the war."

The civilian call-up will be the first big task for the new director general of manpower, H. C. Emerson, whose appointment was announced earlier tonight. The post had been vacant about a month since the appointment of Sir Godfrey Ince as permanent Secretary to the ministry of labor and national service.

Officials declined to say whether the new call-up would necessitate a relaxation in age limits or other draft rules, or reveal the estimated number of men now in British armies.

BRITAIN TO DRAFT 250,000 MORE MEN

London, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—The British will draft 250,000 more men for the army in coming months than had previously been planned, Prime Minister Churchill's office announced tonight.

A large part of those in the new call-up will be taken from civilian jobs, the announcement said. But some personnel will be transferred to the Army from the Navy and the R. A. F. Administrative services also will be combed for men.

Tokyo Reports Yanks Get Red Cross Parcels

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Tokyo radio said today that the first Red Cross parcels sent by way of Siberia to American prisoners in Japan and Manchuria are being distributed.

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The broadcast said the next shipment would go to prisoners in the Philippines.

Goebbels to Speak Tomorrow

LONDON, Dec. 22 (AP).—A Berlin broadcast said today that Paul Joseph Goebbels, Reich plenipotentiary for mobilization, will speak by radio to the German people at 9 p. m. Christmas eve (4 p. m. Eastern war time).

Dr. Krupp Said Arrested

Zurich, Dec. 22 (AP)—Dr. Krupp Von Bohlen, head of the Krupp armament firm, and one of his two daughters, together with her husband, have been arrested by the Nazi authorities for defeatist utterances, travelers from Germany said today.

NAZI ADRIATIC FRONT BREAKS

Canadians Reach Senio River, Capture Bagnacavallo

Rome, Dec. 22 (AP)—German resistance northeast of Faenza on the Adriatic has broken under fierce pressure by Canadian troops who smashed forward to the [illegible] River on a broad front and captured the town of Bagna[illegible]

Allied headquarters announced today.

The enemy was broken north of Bagnacavallo, which is 8 miles northeast of Faenza, and the Nazi command was battling stubbornly to extricate troops, tanks and guns from a bulge pinned on the west bank of the Lamone River. Other 8th Army units maintained heavy pressure on the southern flank.

Piles Of Stores Captured

Evidence that the Germans were arranging for flight was seen in piles of equipment and stores seized by the Canadians who entered Bagnacavallo, a strategic highway center 9 miles west of Ravenna on the main route to Bologna.

The bag of prisoners was increasing hourly as the Canadians, paced by tanks, drove 3 miles through the counterattacking enemy, crossed the Fosso Munio, a narrow stream, on a 2,000-yard front and crashed onto the east bank of the lower Senio River in the vicinity of Fusignano, 12 miles west of Ravenna.

In what was left of the German salient between Bagnacavallo and Faenza, the Allied command reported the situation was "more fluid." It was apparent that this term was to describe the hasty enemy efforts to pull out of danger without having to sacrifice too much heavy equipment.

5th Army Meets Artillery Fire

Fifth Army patrols to the west probed German positions south and southeast of Bologna, running into a concentrated artillery fire in all sectors. On the right these patrols tangled with extensive enemy patrols and German machine-gun fire in the vicinity of Tossignano, on the main Imola-Florence highway.

In the bulge northeast of Faenza, the Germans were under continuing strong pressure from troops driving from the southwest. Eighth Army troops thrusting from the south end of the Naviglio canal bridgehead reached the road town of Abbadesse and cleared it of the enemy. They captured many prisoners and seized two complete artillery observer posts.

Twenty Locomotives Destroyed

Thunderbolt pilots of the United States 12th Air Force destroyed 20 locomotives, 10 railroad cars and 37 vehicles in German-occupied northern Italy yesterday and made 21 cuts in railway tracks in the Treviso and Udine areas, and two more on the Brenner Pass line.

One mission, led by Lieut. Elmer L. Belcher, of Roanoke, Ala., and Dempsey E. Ballard, of San Antonio, Texas, blew two holes in a bridge 15 miles west of Mantua, then went to Lake Legano, where the raiders damaged 25 pontoons and destroyed six motor vehicles.

In a mission near Treviso, Capt. Frederick Michel, of Spring Lake, N.J., and Lieut. James D. Dailey, of Ponca City, Okla., wiped out one locomotive, damaged 16 more and blew open 20 railway cars with machine-gun bullets.

CANADIANS GAIN ON BOLOGNA ROAD

Rome, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Canadian troops, smashing forward across the Senio River against fierce enemy resistance, have captured the town of Bagnacavallo on the road to Bologna, Allied Headquarters announced today.

Bagnacavallo is eight miles north and slightly east of the captured Bologna-Rimini highway stronghold of Faenza, and is nine miles west of Ravenna on the main highway from that Adriatic city of Bologna.

Aided by tactical Air Force operations closely co-ordinated with the ground fighting, Eighth Army units had expanded their bridgehead over the Canale Naviglio on a broad front opposite Fusignano, two miles north of Bagnacavallo.

Fifth Army operations south of Bologna and the Bologna-Rimini highway were confined to patrol activity.

New Canadian Chief in Italy.

Rome, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Major-Gen. Harry Wickshire Foster, former commander of the Canadian forces in the Aleutian campaign, has been appointed commander of the First Canadian Division, now on the Italian front line, succeeding Major-Gen. Christopher Vokes.

ITALY JAILS GENERALS

Rome, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Gen. Rissando Pentimalli and Gen. Ettore del Tetto, convicted of failing to defend Naples against the Germans in the days following the Italian armistice with the Allies, were today sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment. Their week-long trial produced no startling disclosures.

The Germans occupied Naples in a few days and subsequently used the city as a base of operations against the Allied armies battling at Salerno.

Cornelia Tanzi, 36-year-old poet and artist identified in court as once a mistress of Benito Mussolini, was convicted of collaboration with the Germans and sentenced to thirty years' imprisonment.

Many of Rome's bohemians testified at the trial. The defendant read a book of her own verse entitled "Oh, My Lord."

Defense counsel, announcing an appeal, said the only real charge against the poet was that she had a short-lived affair with Mussolini before the outbreak of the Ethiopian war.

Off-Record Press Talk Made By Clare Luce

Rome, Dec. 22 (AP)—Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.) held an off-the-record press conference today at the American Red Cross Officers Club.

She intends to spend Christmas at the front and leave shortly thereafter for the United States.

RUNS GIANT PORT KITCHEN

GI Has 'Supervised' Some 2,996,400 Quarts Of Soup

Naples, Dec. 12 [AP—Delayed]. Since the United States Army took over in November 1943, this port has handled nearly 8,000,000 tons of shipping.

Lieut. Col. Paul F. Loizeaux, of Towson, Md., port labor control officer, said that one month the port surpassed the tonnage handled in the port of New York. The harbor facilities have handled up to 14,000 tons daily.

Much of the supplies destined for the Italian front comes through this, the second largest port in the Mediterranean in peacetime. Supplies also are transshipped to Marseilles and North Africa from here.

Keeps Family Busy

Colonel Loizeaux, 40, is the son of Alfred S. Loizeaux, former electrical engineer with the Consolidated Gas and Electric Company here, who lives in Towson. His mother is dead.

The officer and his wife have two children, Herbert, 13, and Peter, 10, and Mrs. Loizeaux said he keeps the entire family busy answering his letters. He writes her every day and each boy every other day.

Colonel Loizeaux was born in Schenectady, N.Y. He was graduated from the Johns Hopkins University in 1926 and as a member of the Reserve Officers Training Corps was called into active service with the Army in January, 1941. He had been employed by the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company here.

5th Army, 12th Air Force To Play in Spaghetti Bowl

By SID FEDER

SPAGHETTI BOWL HEADQUARTERS, Italy, Dec. 22.—(AP) This will serve to introduce the Spaghetti Bowl, a football game.

It is going to be played New Year's Day between a team from the 5th Army and another from the 12th Air Force.

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We can't tip you off to just where it's going to be played because Jerry might be listening but it's coming off in an honest-to-gosh stadium that seats between 25 and 25,000 customers.

Right now the two teams are rounding into some kind of shape and the workout fields are more "hush hush" than a ward room where they plan an amphibious landing.

The Army coach is Capt. Lou Bush who came out of the Massachusetts state backfield to do some baseballing for the Boston Braves and such minor league outfits as Asheville, Columbus, Rochester and Memphis before Uncle Sam called his signal.

Maj. George A. (Sparky) Miller, former center for Indiana (1935-37) who went back to the Hoosiers after as assistant to Bo McMillin, is bossing the Air Force.

Bush is putting a lot of confidence in Sgt. Cecil Sturgeon, a 235-pound tackle for North Dakota State and the Philadelphia Eagles, before coming over here as an M.P. and Sgt. Dwight Reed, who used to toss his 220-pounds around at end for Minnesota.

Against them you hear such Air-force names as Cpl. Arthur Faircloth, a tailback from North Carolina State, Sgt. Robert Geier, ex-University of Cincinnati end (1939) and Sgt. John D. Ramsey, All-Lone Star conference lineman at Sam Houston State Teachers in '40.

Helping out Miller with the Air-

force Bridgebusters are Capt. Edward A. Schultz, a Pittsburgh end in the late 20's, and Capt. Walter Daly, former Penn fullback.

Working alongside Bush for the 5th Army booby-trappers are Lt. Bob White, infantryman out of the Indiana backfield; Arthur Remke, a signal officer who used to take signals at Georgetown in '41 and Charley Henke, a guard on the Texas Aggies Sugar and Cotton Bowl clubs of '39 and '40. They'll be playing coaches.

BRITISH GET ELAS TRUCE PROPOSALS

Greek Leftists Reported Demanding New Government

Athens, Dec. 22 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, tonight received a reply from the Left-wing ELAS group to the British terms for the cessation of hostilities. The ELAS answer is reported to be a new three-point proposal and was signed by three members of the ELAS committee.

The ELAS message—delayed for four days because of the heavy street fighting—is being considered at British headquarters. It will take considerable time to translate the lengthy letter, it was said.

Rightist Chief Complains

Meanwhile, Gen. Napoleon Zervas, chief of the Rightist EDES, charged that 15,000 to 20,000 ELAS were invading his territory in Epirus, but the Greek capital itself was quieter today as British mopping-up operations continued. A British officer commenting on the situation said: "We have rounded a difficult corner."

Tanks patrolled the Omonia Square region. An office building in that area—a favorite snipers' position—was set afire.

As ELAS-British negotiations continued, the Papandreou Government tonight denied a report that King George had communicated any decision on the regency question.

The new ELAS truce proposal was unofficially understood to agree to Scobie's terms, including disarmament and withdrawal of ELAS forces from Athens and all Attica, providing there would be a simultaneous formation of a new government.

It was understood that the ELAS would propose to disarm to an Anglo-Greek commission, rather than to the British forces with whom they have been engaged in bloody fighting.

Archbishop's Statement

Meanwhile, a tentative acceptance of a regency was made by Archbishop Damaskinos, of Athens, in an interview with the newspaper *Elephteria*.

The Archbishop said, "I believe the idea of state may be strengthened and this should be the main idea of a regency. I, therefore, consider I have no right to turn a deaf ear to the voice of my country."

The dispatching of the new ELAS note was reported after hope virtually had been abandoned for settlement of the grave political dispute before Christmas.

It remained uncertain whether the British and the Greek Government would accept the new proposals as the basis for negotiations. Scobie previously had demanded that the ELAS followers lay down their arms as a prerequisite to further negotiations — a demand the ELAS rejected.

Massing On Dhriskos Ridge

General Zervas reported to the British that a large body of ELAS already had overrun eight villages in his territory, from which they ejected all EDES supporters, and that they now were massing on Dhriskos Ridge, overlooking his headquarters town of Yanina.

British liaison officers are known to have been with Zervas's forces, but there was no indication the British had supplied the Rightist guerrillas with military equipment.

Continued British attacks with tanks and rocket-firing Beaufighters appeared to be liquidating ELAS opposition in southern Athens and the near-by port of Piraeus. Following up his declared intention of swiftly cleaning up ELAS resistance, Scobie sent landing forces across the main harbor in western Piraeus in assault boats today.

Tommies Run Into ELAS Fire

The Tommies effected a landing, but ran into stiff resistance from ELAS machine guns and mortars in warehouses and industrial buildings.

ELAS forces appeared to be pulling out of the southern suburbs of Athens, where their communications lines were endangered, and regrouping to the north and northwest. British Sherman tanks in the foothills of Mount Likabettus shelled these ELAS concentrations, while Beaufighter rockets blasted ELAS-held Averoff Prison, demolishing its main block.

3,000 Prisoners Shipped Away

British headquarters announced that 3,000 ELAS prisoners had been sent by sea to an undisclosed destination and that 1,000 others remained under guard in Greece. The International Red Cross reported that the ELAS had evacuated an unstated number of British prisoners into the mountains.

Civilians living in zones controlled by the British were served over 100,000 meals yesterday. Recruiting for the Government's new national militia began in Piraeus, and officials said they expected 2,000 enlistments.

Big ELAS Army Reported On The Move

Athens, Dec. 22 (AP)—An ELAS Army 15,000 to 20,000 strong was reported today to be moving in on territory held by Rightist guerrillas of Gen. Napoleon Zervas's EDES in strife-torn Greece.

Zervas informed British authorities that the Leftist ELAS forces already had entered his territory in Epirus and were massing on Dhriskos Ridge, overlooking the town of Yanina, which has been his headquarters.

The British said Zervas charged that Albanians were among the force threatening the EDES territory.

Prisoners Evacuated

Evacuation of 3,000 ELAS prisoners by sea to an undisclosed destination was reported earlier by British headquarters while Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie's troops were mopping up the port of Piraeus.

British troops were reported extending the area under control in southern Athens against light resistance.

Another 1,000 ELAS prisoners remained under guard. British headquarters emphasized that the total of 4,000 military captives included only those taken in battle.

Recruiting Begins

Greek police, under British supervision, were weeding out innocent civilians from additional groups of prisoners.

Unloading operations at the port of Piraeus started again. British headquarters said 700 union stevedores have been employed and an official added that "numberless" applicants volunteered to help the Tommies unload.

Recruiting for the Papandreou Government's new national militia commenced in Piraeus this morning. Officials said 2,000 enlistments were anticipated.

New Assault Landing

These developments came as a new assault landing was carried out across the main harbor on western Piraeus and reinforced troops swept through the dockyards.

Stiff resistance developed from ELAS strongpoints in the northern basin of the harbor. ELAS machine gunners and mortar positions, holed up in industrial plants and warehouses, thus far succeeded in preventing a linkup of British detachments clearing to the left and right of the harbor.

British Reported Welcomed

[An Allied headquarters communique issued in Rome said civilians in the cleared areas have received the British troops enthusiastically and that over 100,000 meals were served yesterday to civilians living in controlled zones.

[Headquarters said a large delegation headed by the mayor of Piraeus visited British authorities and tendered their thanks.]

"ELAS Planned Revolt"

London, Dec. 22 (AP)—The *Daily Telegraph*, in an Athens dispatch, today quoted Greek Premier George Papandreou as saying he could "produce proofs" that revolution had already been decided upon by the ELAS before the December 3 rioting which set off the Greek civil strife.

"I deplore the loss of life among the crowd December 3," Papandreou was quoted as saying. "I deny this loss of life was the cause of insurrection. I deny police fired the first shots. The revolution already had been decided upon. I can produce proofs."

"Great Favor"

The newspaper quoted the Greek Premier as declaring that Britain never had done Greece a greater favor than this December when "she stood up on behalf of an unarmed government representing the great majority of the country, against an armed minority bent on imposing Nazi-like tyranny."

"We are defending Greece against terrorism. There are Left-wing leaders in America and Britain who are against us. I protest their misapprehension."

JAPS TO GIVE UP NORTHWEST BURMA

CALCUTTA, Dec. 22—(AP) As U. S. 10th air force pilots wrecked further enemy bridges, frontline dispatches indicated today that the Japanese had decided to give up northwest Burma and fall back to a defense line around Mandalay.

Field reports offered mounting evidence that the enemy was in general retreat from the town of Indaw in a quarter circle southwest to Gangaw, on the Myittha river. Only rearguard pockets are left for delaying action, said dispatches received here at headquarters of the Allied land forces of southeast Asia.

In the northern combat area the "Burma bridge busters"—the 490th medium bomb group—have knocked out eight more Japanese bridges, five of them railroad spans. Other formations of American planes streaked over the wild, 450-mile jungle stretch between Lashio and Moulmein, plastering Japanese troops, vehicles, supplies and defense works almost without opposition.

P-47 pilots also accounted for a railroad bridge, and several ferry landings were left burning fiercely after raids on Japanese communications along the Irrawaddy river north of Mandalay.

In the ground fighting, British 14th army troops have struck south from the captured town of Wuntho on the Myitkyina-Mandalay railroad and occupied Kawlin, a communique from Southeast Asia command headquarters at Kandy, Ceylon, announced. Kawlin, eight miles south of Wuntho, was taken against slight Japanese opposition, the communique said.

Near the west Burma coast the town of Rathedaung, on the east bank of the Mayu river about 25 miles north of Akyab, was shelled by Royal and Indian naval units supporting the Arakan offensive.

On the Chindwin front Allied forces have slashed 17 miles east of Shwegyin on the Shwegyin-Yeu road, it was announced. The communique reported steady progress had been made elsewhere by other 14th army troops.

The Chinese 30th division consolidated yesterday's gains along the Bhamo-Namhkam road, and patrols of the American mars task force were active west of the village of Tonkwa.

Japs Seen Yielding N.W. Burma

Calcutta, Dec. 22 (AP)—Front-line reports supplied mounting evidence today that the Japanese are giving up northwest Burma as a bad job and falling back on a defense arc around Mandalay.

Advices from the field indicated the enemy was in general withdrawal from Indaw in a quarter circle southwest to Gangaw on the Myittha river, with only rear-guard pockets left for delaying action.

Jap Base Shelled

Royal and Indian naval units supporting the Arakan offensive shelled the Japanese base at Rathedaung, on the east bank of the Mayu river on Burma's coast, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's Southeast Asia Command headquarters announced in Kandy, Ceylon.

British troops driving south along the Myitkyina-Mandalay railway in pursuit of remnants of three Japanese divisions have pushed eight miles beyond captured Wuntho and occupied Wawlin, a communique said. The British were meeting only slight opposition.

Allied Forces Advance

On the Chindwin front on the west Allied advance forces have progressed seventeen miles east of Shwegyin, on the Shwegyin-Yeu road. Steady progress was reported elsewhere.

Planes of the United States 10th Air Force's 490th Medium Bomb Squadron knocked out eight bridges, five of them railroad spans. In an air assault on Japanese communications above Mandalay Allied airmen left several ferry landings burning.

CHINESE THROW RESERVES INTO HOCHIH BATTLE

CHUNGKING, Dec. 22—(AP) Reinforcements were brought up to bolster stiffening Japanese resistance at Hochih tonight, the Chinese High command announced, and observers here believed the enemy had decided to try to hold the Kwangsi town as one of its strongpoints screening the China Indo-China corridor.

"Severe fighting" was in progress around the South China railway town, a Chungking radio broadcast said, adding that Chinese units to the east of the town were "fighting to regain" the nearby railroad town of Chinchengkiang. Hochih, a key point in the Kwangsi region, is 95 miles northwest of Liuchow.

If the Japanese High command has decided to hold the town, military observers felt Chinese troops now storming the outskirts from three directions would have great difficulty dislodging the enemy garrison.

The Chigking broadcast, quoting a Chinese high command spokesman, said that although the Japanese had brought up "strong reinforcements" at Hochih, the "crisis" in the Kwangsi-Kweichow area was "over, at least for the time being."

Praising what it described as "effective" American air support now being given to the Chinese counter-offensive in Kwangsi, the Chungking broadcast reported that U. S. fighter planes had bombed Kwaiyuancheng and Liuchow, as well as enemy troop concentrations north of Pingcheng, and fuel and supply dumps along the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad.

An American communique said five Japanese aircraft were destroyed yesterday when P-51s attacked an airdrome at Tsinan, 150 miles south of Tientsin on the Tientsin-Pukow railroad. The U. S. pilots were intercepted by from 10 to 20 Japanese planes.

On the same day B-25s and P-51s of Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's Chinese-American wing bombed railroads and a bridge at Minkiang, 120 miles north of Hankow on the Peiping-Hankow railroad. A 40-car train was strafed and set afire.

American pilots supporting Chinese ground action in Lung valley attacked Japanese troops in a ravine north of Chingchengkiang and bombed and strafed fuel and storage areas along the Kweichow-Kwangsi railroad.

Fourteenth Air force Liberators blasted the Kowloon dock area at Hongkong, Fort Bayard on the Liuchow peninsula, and enemy installations at Samah bay on Hainan island, the southernmost part of China, the U. S. communique

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Japanese installations in the Hanoi, Langson, Lucnam areas were bombed and strafed by P-51s. In the Burma sector, fighters and bombers hit enemy troop concentrations and road transport near Wanting, on the China-Burma border. No Allied planes are missing.

SAY JAPS MOVE FACTORIES TO ASIA

Chungking, Dec. 22 (A. P.). Because of increasing American air raids upon Japan Japanese authorities have conscripted large numbers in North China to help move war factories from the Japanese mainland to Manchuria, Chinese informants said today.

Thirteen factories of military importance have already been transferred, they declared.

JAPANESE FORCES PREPARE FOR U. S. LANDINGS ON CHINA

By CLYDE A. FARNSWORTH

KUNMING, China, Dec. 22—(AP) Japanese withdrawal without a major engagement on the Kweichow-Kwangsi front indicates the enemy is completely preoccupied with preparations for resisting possible Allied landings on the China coast.

Instead of risking a drive deeper into the Chinese interior and a chance of knocking out American support to China which is destined to hit its stride with the opening of the Ledo-Burma road, the enemy seems concerned with consolidating a defense in depth between the east and south China coastlines and a line of land communications from Hankow to Hanoi which would extend roughly through Changsha, Hengyang, Kweilin, Liuchow and Nanking.

Enemy Threat Over-Assessed

The enemy threat to Kweiyang now appears to have been over-assessed—not that the Japanese could not at one time have driven to the Kweichow capital, but rather that their more immediate practical objective was attained by temporary possession of the Tuhnan branch of the Kwangsi railway system.

With fairly new rails taken from that branch line northwest of Liuchow they are now believed to have enough to close the gap at the southern end of the mainline between the Yungning-Ningming railhead just northeast of Langson and across the border from French Indo-China.

Being opportunists, it was somewhat surprising that the Japanese, finding virtually no resistance, did not shove further toward Kweiyang than they did. Even tentative possession of Kweiyang, which lies on one of the two most important highway junctions in free China and near the other, would have paid off for them.

Withdrawal Understood

The causes for the Japanese withdrawal are understood fully, according to American observers whose opinions I solicited during recent trips to the China front. The least of these, it was unanimously held, was Chinese resistance.

In the first place, the Japanese never contemplated such a deep penetration of China when they started their thrust northwestward from Liuchow. The enemy troops were neither clothed nor equipped for a conquest of Kweichow's cold and forbidding mountains even if a normal supply line could have been maintained.

The collapse of Chinese resistance in Kwangsi, however, was an inviting factor and the Japanese went somewhat beyond the advance called for under their rail-gathering plan. However, Chinese reserves who were better-armed and better-clothed than their Kwangsi comrades, were in the Kweiyang region.

The effect these reserves had upon the situation was more in the nature of a potential threat than anything else. The Japanese never closed with them, or vice versa.

Observers expect the Japanese to halt at some prepared defense line far enough from Liuchow and their main line of communications to cushion any actual Chinese counter-offensive. Meanwhile, the Japanese high command is expected to find other uses for its vast pool of troops in southeast China.

There are many places yet to be occupied if the enemy is to consolidate in the southeast against possible American landings.

This apparent strategy of the Japanese does not necessarily mean they will not try to crack American supply and air force establishments in southwestern China, but it does seem to limit any attempt along that line to offensive operations from French Indo-China.

Japs In Allied Guise Bomb Kunming Gardens

Kunming, China, Dec. 22 (AP)—Two Japanese bombers pretending to be Allied transport planes flew into the traffic pattern over the United States Army air base last night and attempted to bomb the field. Their explosives hit near-by vegetable gardens.

This was the first time in a year that the Kunming area was bombed.

Leyte Jap Escape Port Under Artillery Fire

Yank Infantry Advances 3 Miles Toward Palompon In Move To Cut Off Fleeing Foe

DEC 23 1944

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Saturday*, Dec. 23 (AP)—The United States 77th Infantry Division has advanced three miles west of the Ormoc corridor on the mountain road toward Palompon, escape port for the embattled Japanese remaining on Leyte Island, General MacArthur announced today.

Palompon, which is on the western coast of the northwest shoulder of the island, is under Yank artillery fire. Japanese remnants fleeing from the corridor are trying to cut their way through to Palompon.

Mopping Up In Other Areas

Mopping up continues in other areas near the corridor, where the door has been slammed shut on the Nipponese after destruction of their defense lines.

An additional 1,546 enemy dead were counted on Thursday, headquarters said.

The enemy air force continued its raids on American ground positions on Mindoro, far to the northwest of Leyte, and lost nine planes, seven to fighters and two to ground fire. Two American fighters were lost in intercepting the attack. Enemy ground opposition still had failed to develop on Mindoro.

Jap Air Activity Increasing

Nipponese aerial activity has increased sharply since completion of American airfields on Mindoro, which is within 30 minutes' flight of Manila, on Luzon to the north.

Liberator bombers, possibly based on Mindoro, splattered Panay, Negros, Cebu and Masbate Island airdromes with 1,000-pound missiles.

MacArthur has reported 12,873 enemy dead found abandoned on Leyte in the last seven days. This average of 1,839 daily considerably exceeded the estimate of 1,500 enemy casualties daily which he made in his December 15 report on casualties for the first 55 days of fighting in the Leyte-Samar campaign.

American warplanes based on Leyte shot down two Nipponese planes in the Leyte Gulf area.

Tempo Of Luzon Raids Rises

The new Yank bases on Mindoro have accelerated the tempo of the aerial invasion of Luzon.

Clark Field, near Manila, was harassed by heavy bombers, the communiqué said, causing fires and explosions. It was the fourth consecutive day of attacks on Luzon.

A hundred tons of bombs were dropped on airfields on Cebu and other Visayan islands, ripping up runways and destroying or damaging thirteen Nipponese planes. Heavy raids also were made on airdromes at Davao and Zamboanga, to the south.

Dutch Airmen Attack Convoy

Two Liberator bombers hit petroleum refineries at Miri and near Balikpapan, on Borneo, Wednesday. Medium bombers of the Netherlands Air Force attacked an enemy convoy of two freighters and a destroyer in the Banda Sea the same day. Striking at masthead height, the Mitchells sank one freighter and strafed the second. Hundreds of Japanese troops were seen swimming from the burning freighter as it settled.

Heavy bombers braved adverse weather to fly the 2,200-mile round trip to Java, where they damaged the Malang airfield with 24 tons of bombs. Dispersal areas were hit and eight parked planes destroyed or damaged.

Air Raids In Other Areas

The usual neutralizing raids were carried out against the Wewak area of New Guinea, New Zealand, New Britain, and Bougainville.

[Radio Tokyo said in an unconfirmed broadcast Friday that 39 "enemy" planes raided Luzon that morning, smashing at Clark Field, and at Legaspi, on southeastern Luzon.]

On Leyte Island, across the archipelago to the southeast, the remnants of a once powerful Japanese garrison were in the last desperate throes of resistance. They were being hounded by American infantry men and guerrillas as they fled westward into the hills toward Palompon from their shattered defenses in the Ormoc corridor.

Pockets Being Eliminated

A junction of the 10th and 24th Army Corps sealed off the corridor, leaving only pockets of resistance. These were being eliminated. Nipponese elements cutting their way westward were making a futile effort to reach Palompon, a possible escape port.

The end was in sight on Leyte after a campaign of more than two months, lengthened by typhoons that turned the island's roads and trails into a quagmire, bogging down all operations.

Favored by dry weather and continued lack of ground resistance, the Yanks on Mindoro consolidated their positions amid a sharp increase in enemy air activity. Stung by the new power of the American air arm flying from Mindoro fields, the Nipponese were striking back furiously at ground installations. An attack by 29 enemy planes, 11 of which were shot down with a loss of one American fighter, was reported by headquarters yesterday.

MacArthur's Christmas Prayer

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Saturday*, Dec. 23 (AP). Gen. Douglas MacArthur today issued the following Christmas prayer to his command: "It is my Christmas prayer that merciful God will continue to preserve and protect the members of this fine command and return each and every one of you safe and well to your beloved homes."

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 22 (AP)—Yank pincers have snapped shut on the hapless Japanese on northwest Leyte, and pocketed Nipponese troops are being destroyed while American planes range over the Philippines from a new base on Mindoro, less than 150 miles south of Manila, headquarters reported today.

Climaxing a laborious fight north and south along the Ormoc corridor road, the 10th and 24th Army Corps fought to a juncture near the point where a supplementary road forks west to the enemy escape port of Palompon.

Attempts To Slip Through

Scattered Japanese units are trying frantically to slip through gaps from the east and get to Palompon. Today's communique reported that an additional 2,032 enemy dead have been counted.

On Mindoro, which has the advantage of being on the western side of the Philippines, where torrential rains do not fall as they do on Leyte, the air base completed in five days already is demonstrating its importance. The communiqué said Mindoro-based planes had downed 11 of 29 enemy raiders Wednesday at a cost of one plane.

Although the invasion of Mindoro put the Yanks on an island less than ten miles from Luzon, no sizable enemy ground resistance has ever been reported and today's communiqué specified inactivity.

Freighter-Transport Sunk

A 6,000-ton Japanese freighter-transport was spotted off the northwest coast by a reconnaissance Liberator which bombed the vessel and set it aflame.

Luzon's Batangas airdrome was attacked by fighter planes; other fighters ripped into airdromes on Negros; and Cagayan airdrome on Mindanao was raided. Eight Nipponese planes were destroyed or damaged on the ground. Off Mindanao, four coastal vessels were sunk. A 2,000-ton cargo ship and three small freighters were damaged off Borneo.

At Pearl Harbor, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced that the enemy airbases at Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands were raided by Liberators Tuesday, United States time, for the thirteenth straight day. These bases are midway between the B-29 airfields on Saipan and targets on Japan.

Yanks Close Pincers On Japs On Leyte

San Francisco, Dec. 22 (AP)—Tokyo reported the death of another Japanese admiral today—the eighty-first since May 1. The Domei news agency, in a broadcast recorded here, said the newest naval casualty was Rear Admiral Tomojiro Kaneoka. Details were not announced.

YANKS PUBLISHING TABLOID FOR JAPS

Leyte, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Publication of a newspaper for isolated Japanese troops was begun today by the American Psychological Warfare Branch. A weekly two-page illustrated tabloid will be delivered from the air and by artillery, printed in Japanese with pictures illustrating the good treatment accorded the Japanese on American-occupied Saipan.

The Psychological Warfare Branch explained that the purpose is to break the enemy morale by disclosing the truth. A spokesman said that many Japanese think Germany is winning the war and have not heard of any Japanese defeats since Attu.

The initial issue carried headlines about the Mindoro and Ormoc landings by American troops and the earthquake and Superfortress blows at the Japanese homeland. The paper is under the direction of Lieut.-Col. Claude E. Hawley, a former professor at the University of Florida.

Third Of Captured Jap Ammunition U.S. Made

Leyte, Philippines (AP)—Soldiers fighting the Japanese here know what it's like—how the enemy must feel—to have American-made bullets whine and shells crash about them. DEC 23 1944

One third of the ammunition captured in Japanese dumps in the early phases of the Leyte campaign was manufactured in the United States.

It had been seized by the Japanese when they invaded the Philippines early in the war.

A majority of the Japanese garrison of Leyte was found to be armed with .30-caliber, model 1917 Enfield rifles, originally made for the United States Army.

An American 75 mm. field gun was discovered, when the mud-brown Japanese paint was rubbed off, to bear the colorful crest of a Filipino regiment.

B-29'S AGAIN BOMB NAGOYA

HAVELAND

Raiders Beat Off Horde Of Jap Fighter Planes

DEC 23 1944

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 22 (AP)—A good-sized force of B-29's bombed Nagoya, Japan's aircraft center, again today through a thick overcast and ran into heavy anti-aircraft fire and a horde of defending fighter planes.

Precision instruments helped to overcome the handicap of the overcast and the bombardiers expressed confidence their loads of explosives found a mark. Gunners caught sight of parts of the city through holes in the clouds.

It was the third time in ten days that the Superfortresses had flown 1,400 miles from Saipan to plaster the Nagoya area.

None Lost To Enemy Action

[In a communiqué issued in Washington at midnight, the War Department said none of the attacking planes was lost to enemy action. The attack was centered on a Mitsubishi aircraft plant.

[The Superfortress crews, fending off Japanese fighter planes, probably destroyed five enemy planes and damaged four.

[Results of the raid, accomplished by precision instruments, were unobserved, the communiqué said, due to the overcast. Both the fighter opposition and antiaircraft fire were described in the communiqué, issued by the 20th Air Force headquarters as moderate.]

Strongest Fighter Attack Yet

The first planes over the city today met heavy ack-ack but few enemy fighter planes. As in previous raids, the later Superfortress formation fought off hordes of Japanese fighters but little ack-ack.

"It was the strongest fighter attack we have had yet," said Major Robert Fitzgerald, of Ridgewood, N.J., a plane commander. "They were sitting out there waiting for us."

Another commander, Capt. Jav J. Brown, and his bombardier, First Lieutenant Norman Ek, of Chicago, estimated 150 enemy fighters were in the air.

Brown's copilot, Second Lieutenant Robert Sollock, of Rule, Texas, said there were 50 in the immediate vicinity of his formation and twice that many in the distance.

Jap Planes "Everywhere"

"You've seen those airplane models dangling from the ceiling of a ready room," said Sollock. "Well, this looked just like that, with Jap planes hanging everywhere."

Second Lieutenant George H. Timson, navigator, of Silvis, Ill., and Second Lieutenant Donald D. Chapman, flight engineer, of Arlington, N.J., said enemy planes were coming in from all angles, some very aggressively.

[Japanese broadcasts reported about 100 planes participated; that they didn't do much damage, and that ten of them were shot down.]

Raid A "Return Engagement"

The Hatsudoki factory of the Mitsubishi aircraft works, principal target of earlier Nayoga raids, presumably was hit again, since today's raid was described by Brig. Gen. Emmett O'Donnell, Jr., as a "return engagement."

More than 670,000 square feet of the factory's roofage was burned off in a previous raid, December 13, reconnaissance reports said, and today's operations possibly were supposed to put the finishing touches to the destruction.

The Hatsudoki factory is one of Japan's foremost producers of fighters and bombers. Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., commander of the B-29 base here, has described it as "the Paterson [N.J.] works and Hartford works combined."

Raiders' Confidence Rising

The B-29 crews here report their confidence is increasing and that their bombing accuracy will continue to improve with the experience gained on each mission.

[Japan's Domei news agency broadcast that today's raiders "dropped bombs and incendiaries at random" and that "our damage was light."

[Similar statements were made by the Japanese after the other raids, although subsequent to the December 13 strike on the Hatsudoki factory the Tokyo radio reported war plants were being moved underground for safety.

[Today's Nipponese reports said the Superfortresses attacked in waves for an hour and a half, hitting the Prefectures of Shizuoka, Aichi and Osaka on the east coast of Honshu Island; that one plane raided Fukushima Prefecture north of Tokyo and that another pentrated the Tokyo vicinity but met fierce ack-ack and fled without inflicting damage.]

B-29's Attack Targets On Honshu

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Superfortresses resumed their attacks on Japan's home production centers today, attacking industrial targets on the island of Honshu.

The planes were in sizable force, indicating that up to 100 participated.

The attack was carried out by B-29's of Brig. Gen. H. S. Hansell's 21st Bomber Command based on Saipan, a War Department communiqué said.

No More Details Given

Additional details were not released. The text of the communiqué:

"A sizable force of B-29's from Brig. Gen. H. S. Hansell's 21st Bomber Command based on Saipan today, December 22, Japanese calendar, attacked industrial targets on the Island of Honshu, Japan, Gen. H. H. Arnold in his capacity as commanding general of the 20th Air Force announced at the War Department.

"Additional details will be announced later."

Saipan Account

[A dispatch from Saipan said the target was Nagoya and stated that formations kept going over the target area for two hours and a half.

[Since December 13, more than 670,000 square feet of the roofage of the Hatsudoki factory of the Mitsubishi aircraft works have been burned off. Today's raid may have been designed to finish off the target which General Hansell had earlier called "The Paterson (N. J.) works and Hartford works combined."—they are big American aircraft works.

[This morning's takeoff was in clear weather, but it was likely that some B-29's would not be able to bomb visually because of the frequently covered Honshu coastline and that they would have to employ precision instruments.

[The flyers report their confidence is increasing and they predict that with experience gained from each mission there will be a steady improvement in their bombing accuracy.]

Today's strike was the second in five days by Saipan-based Superforts against the principal island of the Japanese archipelago. Gen- eral Hansell's planes bombed an aircraft factory at Nagoya Monday.

B-29's from Asiatic bases hit still another Nipponese aircraft factory at Omura Tuesday following a strike Monday at Hankow, China, principal port of supply for imperial forces operating in south-central China.

A third Japanese airplane factory at Mukden, Manchuria, also was blasted this week by B-29's flying from China bases.

In Monday's blast at Nagoya heavy damage was inflicted on this third largest Japanese city, a War Department communiqué reported.

NAGOYA HIT AGAIN; 100 SUPERFORTS REPORTED ON RAID

HAVELAND

Enemy Says Luzon Is Bombed—Manila's Airport Given as One Target.

Headquarters, Twenty-first United States Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 22 (A. P.) (Via Navy Radio).—A sizable force of B-29 Superfortresses today attacked Nagoya for the third time in ten days. The first of the gigantic bombers over that huge aircraft manufacturing center bombed through an overcast in the early afternoon, and other formations kept coming over for two hours and a half.

Brig.-Gen. Emmett O'Donnell Jr. of Jamaica, L. I., commander of an operational organization, described the raid as a return engagement.

The takeoff was in clear weather but it was likely that some of the Superfortresses would not be able to bomb visually but would have to employ precision instruments.

[In a broadcast communique recorded by the FCC, Japanese Imperial Headquarters said that about 100 Superfortresses attacked Nagoya. At Washington, the Associated Press adds, the War Department indicated that up to 100 planes took part. On the other hand, the Tokyo radio declared that thirty - nine Allied planes today struck Luzon, concentrating on Legaspi and Clark Field, Manila; and that "more than ten" Mustang fighters raided Canton and Hongkong.]

Aimed at Vital Factory.

Since the December 13 attack on the Hatsudoki factory of the Mitsubishi Aircraft Works at Nagoya, more than 670,000 square feet of its roofage has been burned off. Today's raid may have been designed to finish off that target which Brig.-Gen. Haywood Hansell Jr., commanding the Twenty-first, has described as "the Paterson (N. J.) works and Hartford works combined." This plant is instrumental in the production of Japanese bombers and fighters, and is two and a half miles east of the famous Nagoya Castle and eight miles north, inland, from the Kokuki water front plant which was bombed on December 18.

Gen. Hansell announced on December 18 that in addition to the heavy damage dealt on December 13 to four main assembly buildings, twenty-two smaller structures were destroyed or badly damaged within the Hatsudoki plant.

The flyers here report that their confidence is increasing and that with the experience gained from each mission there will be a steady improvement in their bombing accuracy.

TO Superforts Downed, Japs Claim

San Francisco, Dec. 22 (AP)—About 100 Superfortresses attacked the aircraft city of Nagoya today, a Nipponese imperial communiqué reported a few hours after the United States War Department announced that Marianas-based B-29's had bombed industrial targets on the Japanese home island of Honshu.

The Nipponese communiqué claimed ten B-29's were shot down.

A Domei news agency broadcast, recorded here, said "the enemy raiders dropped bombs and incendiaries at random."

Nagoya Called Main Target

An early Domei dispatch said the Superforts attacked in waves for an hour and a half, hitting the prefectures of Shizuoka, Aichi and Osaka on the east coast of Honshu. Nagoya, whose two big Mitsubishi aircraft plants have been heavily bombed recently, was described as "their main target area." It is in Aichi prefecture.

The Imperial communiqué made the customary Japanese claim that "our damage was slight."

"Heavy Ground Fire"

Domei said "heavy ground fire from our anti-aircraft artillery as well as body-crashing tactics of our intercepting fighters are believed to have accounted for many enemy aircraft."

The Kokuki aircraft plant in Nagoya, one of Japan's largest, was hit with devastating accuracy by B-29's Monday. The city was again bombed before dawn Tuesday by two more Superforts.

The Mitsubishi company's Hatsudoki factory, seven miles away, was so badly damaged in a raid December 13 that Tokyo radio reported war plants were being moved underground.

Incendiaries Dropped

In a broadcast after today's Nagoya raid the Tokyo radio said one enemy plane raided the eastern shores of Fukushima prefecture, north of Tokyo, dropping incendiaries without causing damage.

Still another Tokyo broadcast said a B-29 from the Marianas base (Saipan) penetrated the vicinity of Tokyo last night but that it met fierce anti-aircraft fire and fled without inflicting damage.

Iwo Jima Blasted Again.

Pearl Harbor, Dec. 22 (A. P.). Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced that the Japanese air bases at Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands were raided on Tuesday for the thirteenth consecutive day. These bases are midway between the B-29 airfields on Saipan and the B-29 targets in Japan. Liberators dealth Tuesday's blow, the Admiral declared in a communique last night.

NOTED R.A.F. PLANE ON WORLD FLIGHT

Montreal, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—The Liberator Commando of the R. A. F. Transport Command has arrived in San Diego, Cal., on the last leg of the first round-the world flight ever to be made from Canada, Transport Command headquarters announced today. Thus far she has covered 24,652 statute miles in an actual flying time of 5 days 1 hour and 9 minutes. The average speed was slightly more than 203 miles an hour.

From Montreal, she flew to London and thence to Cairo, Ceylon, Perth, Sydney, Auckland, Fiji, Honolulu and San Diego, skippered by Wing Commander W. H. Biddell of East Grinstead, Sussex, England.

Throughout the flight the Commando carried a maximum pay load of Government-sponsored passengers, war freight and mail. Among the passengers from Sydney was Leading Seaman Leonard Williams of Birmingham, England, who was transferred at San Diego to a Montreal-bound plane to make connections for the United Kingdom and his home where his wife and two children are gravely ill.

It was the Commando that carried Prime Minister Churchill to Tehran for his conference with President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin.

Canadian Casualty Announced.

Ottawa, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Among casualties announced today by the Canadian Army was the following: Injured—Private George Ruthven; father, William Ruthven, 1217 Nelson avenue, New York city.

Yule Message Of Pope

New York, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Christmas message of Pope Pius XII will be rebroadcast in English by the Vatican radio at 12.15 P.M., Eastern war time, Christmas Eve, four hours after he delivers the address in Italian, it was announced in Rome today.

The major networks in the United States have not scheduled a relay of the message as yet.

The Pontiff's 8.15 A.M. address will be rebroadcast by the Vatican radio in Spanish at 9.15 A.M., Eastern war time; in French at 10.15; Polish, 11.15; German, 1.15 P. M.; Romanian, 2.15, and Dutch, 3; Slovakian, 3.45; Portuguese, 4.30.

Submarine Sunk, Japs Claim

San Francisco, Dec. 22 (AP)—The Japanese Domei news agency reported today that Nipponese planes sank an Allied submarine in the western Pacific. The broadcast was without Allied confirmation.

NAZIS SEEN READY TO MEET RED DRIVE

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 — (AP) It may be weeks or months before the promised Russian grand offensive produces any effect on the Western Front, military men said today.

In their opinion, the German High command has "budgeted" its men and materials for each of its fronts—the Western, Eastern and Italian—and would not shift troops until a "critical stage has been reached."

Assuming that the projected Russian offensive on the Eastern front succeeds in breaking through the Nazis' line, this "critical stage" might be reached when the Russian forces roll up to the border of Germany proper.

If the Soviet armies strike from the Vistula river in Poland, they would have to advance westward almost 200 miles before hitting the German border.

Even then, it was said, the German High command hesitate to shift forces from the Western front —assuming that the Western front by that time is not even more menacing than the eastern.

It was pointed out that although troops had crossed the German border at some points in the west, there is nothing to indicate that the German command has pulled any forces from the east, even for the big counteroffensive now under way.

Speculation on the area of the Soviet offensive centers largely on the Vistula front, where the broad Polish plains offer favorable ground for use of large masses of Russian cavalry and mechanized equipment.

The Germans apparently have established strong defenses along the Vistula. Behind it, east of Lodz, is a north-south line of high ground on which secondary defenses may have been anchored.

As an alternative to a strike from the Vistula, the Russians might push against East Prussia with the objective of clearing the Baltic coast as far west as the border of Germany proper. German defenses in East Prussia, however, are believed to be far stronger than in the Vistula area. Another unfavorable factor to any action in that vicinity is the threat poised by the German pocket in north Latvia.

Russia has promised to meet the rising Allied demand for more action by hurling three army groups against the Germans on the Eastern front.

The forthcoming offensive as it expands probably will involve up to six army groups and its route may well be across the broad Polish plain directly into Germany.

Starting Date Revealed

The Red Army high command has informed the United States and Britain of the offensive's starting date, Soviet sources in Washington said.

Although mounted to speed Germany's defeat, the promised Red Army drive probably will not affect immediately the Western front where the *Wehrmacht* in a slashing counteroffensive is advancing into Belgium.

The Russian offensive has been delayed, it was said, by the fact that the Polish plain freezes later than the Russian steppes.

The initial onslaught will involve some three army groups. As the drive expands the Russians plan to employ up to six army groups. Although the Allies are counting on the projected winter smash, the Russian drive propably will not affect at once the western front.

Soviet sources in Washington say the Russian offensive has been delayed by the fact that the Polish plain freezes later than the Russian steppes.

Reds Promise Allies New Drives For Reich

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Soviet

NAZI DRIVE BARES NEW SUPPLY NEEDS

Washington, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—Germany's surprise counter-offensive today posed these harsh possibilities for the United States home front:

1. A war extending many months beyond the time once believed necessary to crush the Nazis.
2. Continued shortages of civilian goods.
3. Possibly larger draft calls.
4. Demands for more and more military supplies. American factories may be called on to re-equip the entire American First Army, which is bearing the brunt of the German winter attack.

A War Production Board official summed up the probable repercussions of the present European military situation thusly: It "will come back and hit us between the eyes in various ways."

War Secretary Stimson notes one bright possibility, suggesting that this mighty Nazi smash might parallel the Germans' supreme bid for victory in 1918. The 1918 offensive fell short of its objectives and was followed by imminent German collapse.

The Red armies will unleash a mighty winter offensive against the Germans, perhaps through Poland straight into the heart of Nazidom, the Russians have promised the Allies.

NAVY DISCLOSES NAMES OF 2 SHIPS LOST OFF LEYTE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP) Two American warships lost off Leyte in the Philippines were identified by the Navy today as the destroyer Mahan and the destroyer transport Ward.

Loss of the two ships, which raises to 236 the number of naval losses since the war started was announced Dec. 8 by Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur. They were not identified at the time.

At that time he reported the vessels were heavily damaged by aerial torpedoes. Their crews were removed and the ships then were sunk by our own forces, he said.

There was no loss of life on the Ward, which had an outstanding war record including the sinking of a Japanese submarine early on December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor day. Built during the last war, the Ward at that time was constructed in 17 1-2 days, setting a world's record for destroyer building.

The Mahan was built in 1933 and had participated in many landing actions throughout the Pacific area.

Next of kin of the casualties aboard the Mahan which carried a crew of approximately 170 men have been notified, the Navy said. The number of casualties was not disclosed.

Lieut. Richard E. Farwell was commanding officer of the 1,090 ton Ward, which had a normal complement of about 125 men. Farwell's address is San Diego, and his wife now lives at San Diego. He commanded the Ward in action in the Solomons off New Guinea during participation in landings at Biak and in actions in the Philippine area including bombardments and landings at Moratai and Leyte.

Cmdr. Ernest G. Campbell, a native of Portland, Oregon, whose wife now lives in Chevy Chase, Md., was skipper of the 1,450 ton Mahan. Engagements in which the Mahan participated included bombardment of Finsch Hafen, New Guinea, several engagements with enemy aircraft, and action in the New Britain and Admiralty areas before she was assigned to escort service in the Philippines.

NAZIS BURN HOMES IN NORTHERN NORWAY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP) The Germans are carrying off or destroying all food and burning all buildings as they retreat from northern Norway, the Norwegian ambassador said today.

In that sub-polar climate, "indescribable suffering" has resulted for the population, Ambassador Wilhelm Morgenstierne said in a statement.

"The inhabitants, old and young, men, women and children, are either left in the snow, darkness and cold, without shelter or food, or crowded into small boats under such conditions that many die from exposure and exhaustion."

The Ambassador said the Russian troops which crossed the Norwegian border in October are "doing everything to help" in the districts they have occupied, and that the Swedes are dropping food and clothing from the air but that such aid is necessarily limited.

Morgenstierne called the German action one which "in cruelty and horror ranks with the worst crimes committed by the Huns in this war."

Trench Feet Outdo Cooties As War Evil

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP) — Last war it was the cooties—this time it's trench feet the boys at the front cuss most.

And they're not only griping about it, a congressman-doctor just back from the trenches said today, but many of them are being laid up as casualties because of this affliction which affects circulation of the blood.

Serious Problem

"Last war we griped about trench feet, too, but it actually has become a serious problem this time," Representative Fenton (R., Pa.) told a reporter.

"It bothers the boys now a lot more than most of the shortages. In some serious cases gangrene has even set in."

Fenton is a physician who was elected to Congress six years ago. He served with the Army Medical Corps in France in 1917-18. He toured the European battlefronts this month with several other house Military Affairs committeemen.

Not Infection

Trench feet, he said, is a "circulatory disturbance" in which the blood does not flow properly and freely to the capillaries of the feet. Swelling results and it can be very painful. He stressed it is not an infection such as athlete's foot.

Chief cause of the affliction is lack of exercise, when a man is confined to a foxhole or trench for a long period. Poor-fitting shoes or infrequent changes of footwear increase the hazards.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 22 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 1,714 casualties in the European and Mediterranean war areas.

In all these cases the next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Included in the list today are the following with their next of kin:

CORRESPONDENTS GET PURPLE HEART AWARDS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 — (AP) Navy Secretary Forrestal today approved awarding of the Purple Heart decorations to three war correspondents killed or injured in Pacific war action. They are:

Jack Singer, international News Service; (posthumous); Charles H. McMurtry of the Associated Press, and Joe James Custer, United Press.

Singer died from wounds suffered when the aircraft carrier Wasp was sunk in the South Pacific, Sept. 15, 1942. A certificate and an engraved medal will be sent to his widow, the Navy said.

Both McMurtry, chief of the Associated Press bureau at Honolulu, and Custer will receive Purple Heart medals, authorization to wear a ribbon and in civilian clothes to wear lapel buttons representing the award. Custer was blinded in one eye in the sinking of the cruiser Astoria in a night engagement on Savo island, Aug. 8-9, 1942.

McMurtry was badly burned about the hands and face aboard the aircraft carrier during the battle of Santa Cruz in 1942. A flaming Japanese bomber rammed into the signal bridge on which he stood, missing him by less than eight feet and killing seven others nearby.

WAR DEPARTMENT ISSUES VIEWS ON YOUTH TRAINING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP) The War department favors strictly military universal training for purely military purposes, in contrast with President Roosevelt's suggestion of training with educational and social aspects.

The Department, it was disclosed today, has stated its policy in a circular recently distributed to officers. The circular endorses such training "for the one and only reason that without such a program the continued security of our national life and institutions can no longer be assured."

It adds: "There will be no place in a sound universal military training program for activities that are non essential to the task of preparing our young men for combat."

The views expressed in the circular are a reiteration of those previously outlined by department officials in speeches and before congressional committees.

President Roosevelt was asked at a press conference last month for his ideas on universal training.

He expressed hope that the new Congress would enact a compulsory, one-year training law; said that the degree of training would be up to the legislators; commented that there are lots of things a boy could do for his country; that there are different ideas on what constitutes military training; that cooking might be military training or might not, and so might carpentry.

Mr. Roosevelt told reporters that it would be a good thing to build up youths, mentioning the physical benefits to those who served in the prewar civilian conservation corps.

The War department circular says the belief that the sole reason for universal military training is national defense represents "the considered and unqualified opinion of all the foremost military leaders of our nation today."

It makes three arguments in support:

"America probably will be the initial objective of the aggressors in any next war and the first engagements of that war will quite possibly be fought in our own homeland.

"Universal military training is absolutely essential in any practicable plan that can be considered adequate to insure the future security of our nation. x x x

"Universal military training will be our preparation for the next war."

The only alternative to this program would be to maintain a standing army and national guard of sufficient strength to meet all requirements for the first year of a total war, the Department says. It adds that such a plan would be "wholly impracticable" and the cost "prohibitive."

A year of training would be necessary, the Army says, adding: "We know that if we devote less time to the training of men who are to constitute units ready for combat, we shall be guilty of sending those men to battle without an average chance of survival and success."

Trainees under the universal program would be dispersed through air, ground and service units of all types to provide a "properly balanced force capable of sustained offensive or defensive operations immediately following mobilization day," the circular says.

FDR HOLDS LENGTHY MEETING WITH CABINET

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22—(AP) President Roosevelt and his cabinet held an unusually lengthy meeting today, but there was no indication to what extent the German counter-offensive figured in the deliberations.

Secretary of War Stimson stayed an hour after other cabinet members left.

"Were you able to give him any encouraging report on the situation on the Western front?" a reporter queried.

"I hope so," Stimson replied. "I'm not stampeded on that at all."

He said, however, that it was "another matter" which kept him later than the other cabinet officers.

The cabinet meeting did not start on time at the scheduled hour of 2 o'clock, but it was one of the longest in months. Stimson did not depart until 5:45.

Aims Of Charter Still Valid, F.D.R. Says

Washintgon, Dec. 22 (AP)—President Roosevelt asserted today he thought "the objectives of the Atlantic Charter are valid as when they were announced in 1941."

He permitted direct quotation of that point during a news conference discussion of the Charter—which he said on Tuesday "never existed as a formal document."

A reporter had remarked that some people thought the Charter was losing its purposes or was slipping away and that he would "like to hear what the President thinks."

Cites Other Documents

The President would have preferred to think it over for a while, Mr. Roosevelt replied, but he said that through the years certain documents had seemed to maintain a good deal of importance, some affecting public thinking on objectives of a better world.

The objectives of the Atlantic Charter still stand, the President said, just as do objectives of documents which go back many centuries.

The objectives in some instances have never been obtained, Mr. Roosevelt continued, but they still are good. People don't live up to all the Ten Commandments and all the doctrines of Christianity, he went on, but they still are something pretty good to shoot at.

A Place In History

The President said he was not comparing the Charter with the Ten Commandments or the Christion religion. But, Mr. Roosevelt said, he thought the Charter would take its place in history as a major step forward—just as Wilson's Fourteen Points constituted something we all would like to see attained. They, too, he said, were a step toward a better life in the world.

[President Wilson's Fourteen Points listed peace objectives in World War I.]

Answers In Negative

Asked whether he was implying that "you are as far from attaining the ends of the Charter as the world a thousand years ago . . ." the President interrupted to halt the question with a negative.

The world, Mr. Roosevelt said, goes by peaks and valleys, although on the whole the curve is upward. Human life is on a better scale than it was a thousand years ago, he said, but we still have a long way to go and we still have to work for it.

Commander Tunney Named To New Post

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Commander James J. (Gene) Tunney, former heavyweight boxing champion, is going to spend more time with the fleet in carrying on the Navy's physical-training program.

The Navy announced this tonight in disclosing that Tunney has been appointed special assistant to Vice Admiral Randall Jacobs, Chief of Naval Personnel, with complete charge of physical training.

The former boxing champion heretofore has held the title of "Officer in Charge, Physical Training Section of the Bureau of Personnel."

Tunney will be succeeded in his old post by Lieut. Com. C. M. Farrington, former director of athletics at George Washington University, Washington.

SHIPBUILDING BEING STUDIED

Construction Change Planned After July 1

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Construction of merchant-type ships will continue at the present high level during the first half of 1945.

Disclosing this today, a spokesman for the Maritime Commission said consideration is now being given to the size of the shipbuilding program for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

The White House, the joint chiefs of staff, the Maritime Commission and the Budget Bureau are participating in conferences on the program for the next fiscal year.

Program Under Way

Recommendations of the joint chiefs of staff on the needs for new construction are expected to be the determining factor in deciding the construction schedule after July 1.

The program for the first half of the year already is under contract, and will not be changed materially as a result of Germany's counteroffensive or other military factors, it was said.

Merchant shipyards now are turning out vessels at a rate of approximately 18,000,000 deadweight tons annually, although production in the current calendar year may fall somewhat below this figure. Failure of the shipyards to meet last year's record of more than 19,000,000 deadweight tons is due in a large measure to the shift away from slow Liberty ships to slower-building vessels, such as the Victory ship and types for the military services.

Assault Ships

This shift away from the Liberty will continue in the first half of 1945, and by July 1 all outstanding contracts are scheduled to be completed. The commission is not expected to let any new contracts for the Liberty, and shipyards now building this vessel are expected to be put to work on other construction or turned into repair yards.

Production in the next few months will include large numbers of vessels for the armed forces, particularly assault transports and assault cargo ships. An increasing number of transport types also are on the schedule.

FDR Asks War Workers to Stick To Jobs for Our Fighting Men

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—(AP) President Roosevelt asked the American people today for a Christmas present for the fighting forces. It is to stick on the job and turn out the supplies they need.

The President told a news conference there was nothing he could add to the press dispatches on the heavy fighting in Europe but that a lot of people had asked him what those at home could do for the fighting forces at this Christmas time.

He picked up a paper from his desk and read:

"We can best help the Christmas season of our fighting men if we carry on our respective tasks, doing those things which will contribute to winning the war at the earliest possible moment.

"Therefore, I urge that each of us resolve to keep on the job and maintain the steady output of supplies needed by our men on the fighting fronts."

The conference developed another lengthy discussion of the Atlantic Charter which the President disclosed earlier this week was never drafted as a formal document which he and Prime Minister Churchill signed.

Today's was initiated by a reporter's request for comment on what he said was a feeling by many people that "we are getting away from the purposes" of the charter.

Mr. Roosevelt said he thought "the objectives of the Atlantic Charter are as valid as when they were announced in 1941" and lent emphasis to this statement by authorizing its direct quotation.

He went on to say that many documents through the years have affected public thinking and helped the world advance even when their objectives were not fully attained.

PLASMA BILL IS SIGNED

President Approves Transfer of Some to Health Agencies

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22 (AP)—President Roosevelt signed legislation today which would authorize the transfer to Federal, State and local public health authorities and non-profit hospitals of 49,850 units of dried plasma and 29,200 units of frozen plasma.

The blood was collected by the American Red Cross and turned over to the Public Health Service for the treatment of casualties resulting from enemy action within the United States, Alaska and Puerto Rico. It will deteriorate if not used.

The Surgeon General can release any amount of the plasma he deems proper, if the agency which gets it will pay the transfer costs.

WLB REOPENS LOW-PAY ISSUE

Substandard Wage Case To Take In Other Industries

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—The whole issue of substandard pay was reopened before the War Labor Board today.

Labor members of the WLB demanded a floor at 72 cents an hour.

Public members went part of the way with a suggestion of 55 cents, but Chairman William H. Davis said that that figure was proposed "only as a basis for discussion" in the case at hand.

The board has been granting boosts to 50 cents, and in some cases ordering them, for correction of "substandards of living."

Not Limited To Textiles

Textile wage cases now before the board were the immediate issue, but the labor members said their proposal was not limited to that industry.

The public members' tentative figure was submitted in a form that could make it a general precedent.

Labor members in a statement on their stand asserted that the board had "refused to attack this [substandard] problem in a forthright fashion" and has "evaded the issue and sought to circumvent or postpone an adequate solution by creating wholly unsatisfactory administrative stopgaps."

Issues Statement

Emil Rieve, general president of the Textile Workers Union of America (CIO), issued a statement in which he said:

"If the public members of the board seriously are proposing to set 55 cents an hour as a minimum wage in the cotton textile industry they are obviously blind to the cold realities of the situation that now face the country.

"The public members of the board have before them tested statistics which show that in order to live even on the bare subsistence level defined by the WPA in the depth of the depression in 1935, a worker with a wife and two children to support now needs 72 cents an hour or $28.80 a week.

"Would Ignore Need"

"The public members of the board would completely ignore this need and say in effect:

"'You will have to get by on $22 a week.' The proposal would be ludicrous, if it were not so tragic."

Critical shortages in war-necessary cotton textiles, Rieve said, are due to low wages in the industry.

72-Cent Plan Tabled

Davis said the 72-cent proposal submitted in the form of a resolution, had been "tabled."

Other WLB officials said the labor members probably would insist on that figure in determining the minimum wage rate in the textile cases.

In their "across-the-board" resolution, the labor members said that evidence obtained from a study of subsistence budgets shows that 72 cents is necessary for a wage earner to maintain a family of four.

Terms Problem Evaded

They declared the WLB persisted in evasion of the substandard rate problem "despite presidential assurances, despite powers granted in statutes and executive orders, despite its own brave words that action would be taken to meet the problem of eliminating the problem of substandard living."

Davis said the 55-cent rate suggested by Dr. George W. Taylor, the board's vice chairman and public member, was submitted merely as a point on which to start discussions. He said the public members, including Taylor, were not committed to that rate.

Davis explained that in discussing such cases, the board as a routine policy designates a public member "to put into writing something which will form the basis for discussion of details of the case."

"Always Changed"

None of these discussion documents, such as Taylor submitted, has ever come out of final discussion in the form in which it was presented, Davis declared.

The Taylor suggestion, in addition to laying the 55-cent floor, would increase the minimum rate for all textile employés by 5 cents an hour. New England mills have a minimum of 52 cents, which would be boosted to 57.

The International Textile Workers Union (CIO) has asked a 60-cent hourly minimum and a 7-cent premium pay for the third shift.

PASSENGER CAR TIRE OUTPUT

ORDERED CUT

WPB Official Says More Truck Casings For Military Use Planned

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—A sharp reduction has been ordered in the output of passenger-car tires in the first quarter of 1945 in an effort to increase production for the armed forces.

James F. Clark, director of the War Production Board's rubber bureau, announced today that about five million passenger-car tires will be produced in the first quarter, a slash of approximately 1,650,000 from present production levels.

Clark said the action made it "very apparent" that "A" card holders must get along with their present casings "for a good part of 1945."

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More Military Tires

The reduction is even more drastic in the light of previously scheduled increases for the first quarter. About 8,000,000 passenger-car tires might have been produced in the first three months of next year under the old schedules.

Clark said a diversion of manpower and conversion of facilities from production of passenger-car tires to military types was necessary in view of heavy requirements by the armed forces.

He estimated today's action would make possible expanded production of military tires, in addition to output already scheduled, at a quarterly rate of 350,000 in the critical A-5 classification, and make it possible to eliminate an existing deficit. These tires are used on medium-sized army trucks.

New Rationing Quotas

W. J. Sears, assistant director of the rubber bureau, said he believed the reduced production level would be sufficient to keep "essential cars running."

New rationing quotas, based on the reduction schedule, probably will be announced over the week end by the Office of Price Administration.

In December 2,000,000 passenger-car tires were released for ration-

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ing, an increase of 150,000 from November. As of December 1, a backlog of 750,000 approved applications remained unfilled but this is expected to be reduced to about 550,000 by January 1.

Tire Conservation Urged

Clark said "B" and "C" motorists cannot expect to receive as many new tires as had been expected, and urged them to conserve their existing tires "in every way possible."

The reduction in passenger-car tires will be brought about through allocation of cotton tire cord and fabric, previously unallocated.

Dewey Is Invited To Inauguration

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP) — Now it's up to Thomas E. Dewey alone as to whether he goes to the White House.

Defeated for the Republican nomination in 1940, and for the Presidency itself in 1944, it looked until today as though the New York Governor might never see the inside of 1600 Pennsylvania avenue.

President Roosevelt himself expressed a desire to have the 48 Governors at his fourth inaugural January 20, his first to be held at the Executive Mansion.

On Invitation List

Dewey and his 47 colleagues were placed on the invitation list promptly.

There was some talk in the inauguration committee about the wisdom of relaxing the travel restrictions even for the Governors. It was decided, however, that few of those from afar would make the trip.

The committee hasn't made up its mind yet whether to invite the members of the Democratic National Committee.

Bulging as usual, the Capital might not be able to offer much in the way of lodgings.

12-To-15-Minute Ceremony

The ceremony itself will be prosaic. Senate Secretary Edwin A. Halsey, who also is secretary of the inaugural committee, said it would be over in 12 to 15 minutes.

The President's speech will probably be a five-minute affair.

Everybody has to stand on the White House lawn. If the weather is like most Januarys around here, bring your boots.

F.D.R. Slaps At Columnists

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—President Roosevelt described columnists today as an unnecessary excrescence on our civilization—but he quickly declared Mrs. Roosevelt's newspaper column is different.

The First Lady writes mostly a diary, he explained to a news conference.

The question of columnists arose this way:

A reporter said there has been some discussion of joint chiefs of staff to handle political and economic matters for the Allies. He asked whether anything like that was contemplated.

Mr. Roosevelt replied that he thought columnists suggested it.

"I'm not a columnist and I wrote it," remarked James Wright, of the Buffalo *Evening News*.

All he could say, the President replied, is that columnists are an unnecessary excrescence on our civilization.

"But you've got one in the family," burst out Elisabeth May Craig, who represents Maine newspapers.

Mr. Roosevelt laughed with his audience and said that was perfectly true. But, he said, Mrs. Roosevelt's column is a little bit different because mostly it's a diary.

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RIFT DENIED BY HANNEGAN

Story Of Discord With President "Untrue," He Says

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Robert E. Hannegan, Democratic National chairman, today denied—and President Roosevelt dismissed as something he wouldn't care to discuss—a published story of discord at a meeting between the two.

At his news conference, the President was asked about the story, published in the Chicago Sun, and replied that he did not think he wanted to comment on stories of that kind.

Through the Democratic National Committee, Hannegan issued a statement later calling the report "patently and wholly untrue."

Published Account

The published account said that during the President's recent vacation Hannegan visited him at Warm Springs, Ga., to discuss the party chairman's political future.

It called the atmosphere of the meeting "none too friendly."

The story said Hannegan after the successful fourth-term campaign had confidently expected to be made Postmaster General. Frank C. Walker decided to stay on in that position, however, the story continued, and Hannegan probably will remain as chairman.

"Totally Untrue"

The Postmaster Generalship, a Cabinet post, has been by custom the reward of the party chief.

The published story said the three news men who accompanied Mr. Roosevelt were forbidden to mention Hannegan's visit because the Chief Executive was in Warm Springs "off the record."

Hannegan's statement said:

"The statement is patently and totally untrue. Our alleged conversation and the subsequent conference with the President were most cordial and friendly. There were no controversies and the Postmaster Generalship was never even mentioned.

Another Story Denied

"The President knows my views in regard to public office and I understand his position. Without going into details, I may state that our talks, apart from the usual holiday pleasantries, were in relation to purely political matters."

Hannegan also denied another published story that he planned to open a Washington law office.

OPA ASSAILED OVER CATTLE

Senators Warn Against Ceilings On Live Cattle

Washington, Dec. 22 (AP)—Imposition of ceiling prices on live cattle, a group of western senators said today, would result in premature selling of animals, a reduction in meat supply and confusion among producers.

The sixteen senators expressed unanimous agreement that such ceilings would be "completely unpractical" and would be impossible to enforce because of lack of manpower.

The senators held a two-hour closed conference with War Food and Price Administration executives to discuss the meat problem.

New York Problem Cited

Senator O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), serving as spokesman, told reporters afterward that the problem, such as prompted New York and New Jersey butchers threaten to close their shops if OPA rules are not revised, might be eased if there was less talk about live ceilings.

Contending ceilings would lead to premature sale of cattle, O'Mahoney said:

"It would do the consumers in New York no good to have 40,000,000 head sold at an average weight of 600 pounds each, instead of 35,000,000 head at 1,000 to 1,100 pounds."

An order calling for ceilings is reported to be on the desk of Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson, but there was no indication of its terms.

O'Mahoney declined to go into this phase of the situation, saying he had not been authorized by the OPA to disclose any details.

Senator Butler (R., Neb.) said:

"Producers' costs have advanced terribly and they cannot absorb any further rollback of prices.

Retail Price Rise Suggested

"Any proposed increased packer subsidy will not reach the producer or feeder. It may be OPA should permit some increase in retail prices of meat, the same as it has allowed in other lines."

Cattle feeders, Butler said, "are in for a terrible headache" if the change contemplated by the OPA becomes effective.

O'Mahoney said the attitude of the senators at the meeting was that nothing should be done until producers or their representatives have an opportunity to present their point of view in Washington.

"If they don't do that," Senator Wherry (R., Neb.) said, "there is going to be an impact that will raise hell."

France Pays Gold To Belgian Bank

New York, Dec. 22 (AP)—The transfer of $223,292,833 in fine gold from the account of the Bank of France to the account of the National Bank of Belgium was announced today by John Foster Dulles, counsel for the Belgian bank, who said the action ended litigation based on the transfer of Belgian funds by France to the German Reichsbank.

Dulles said that during the litigation, which the Belgian bank began in 1941, approximately $500,000,000 in gold on account with the Federal Reserve Bank for the Bank of France was attached by the Belgian bank. The attachment was the largest ever made, he said.

Reached U.S. Supreme Court

The case was settled by agreement last October. Instituted in New York Supreme Court, it had reached the United States Supreme Court.

"After the liberation of France," Dulles said, "prompt steps were taken by the Bank of France to assure that the relations between the two central banks would be on that basis of mutual confidence which had long prevailed between them."

Dulles, who was Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's foreign affairs adviser in the presidential campaign, said the litigation was based on events during the Winter of 1939-40, when the Belgian bank intrusted its gold to the Bank of France for safekeeping.

After France was invaded, he said, the French shipped the gold to Dakar, and when the Bank of France came under control of the Vichy Government the gold was flown to Marseille, delivered to the Reichsbank and later sent to Germany.

Calls Shipment 'Outrageous'

Dulles described the shipment to Germany as "outrageous" and said one of France's major items of business after its liberation was to make a settlement with Germany for the gold.

The Bank of Belgium has agreed, he added, to help the Bank of France "recover from the German Government or the Reichsbank" all the gold.

Phone Operators Send Notice Of Strike Vote

New York, Dec. 22 (AP)—Formal notice of the strike vote of long distance telephone operators here was approved today by the executive board of the Federation of Long Lines Telephone Workers (Ind.), which will forward the notice to Washington.

These operators are employés of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

C. T. Deats, vice president of the federation, said the notice was sent by its New York city local, 98.3 per cent of whose members voted in favor of a strike to obtain a $5 weekly wage increase.

Must Wait 30 Days

Under the terms of the Smith Connally Act, the local must wait 30 days from the day Government agencies receive the strike notice and then vote again, with balloting arranged by the labor board.

The local claims 3,700 members among the 6,000 long-distance operators in the New York city area.

Meanwhile, a strike vote among 12,000 employés of the New York Telephone Company, including local operators, has been ordered by the general executive committee of the Traffic Employés Association (Independent).

GOP Headquarters On Full-Time Basis

New York, Dec. 22 (AP)—Operation of the Republican party headquarters on a full-time basis has been agreed upon by GOP leaders.

In an all-day conference yesterday Herbert Brownell, Jr., Republican national chairman, and Senate and House party leaders recognized Thomas E. Dewey, defeated presidential candidate, as active titular head of the party. Dewey was present.

Subjects Listed

The meeting was said to have discussed the following subjects:

1. Establishment of a national organization for a vigorous, continually functioning opposition party.

2. Co-ordination of views and activities of Republican leaders in Congress, the national committee and others.

3. Building of a firm foundation for political expression of the 22,000,000 voters who balloted for the party in the presidential elections.

Martin At Session

Conferring with Dewey and Brownell were Senator Kenneth S. Wherry, of Nebraska; Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr., Massachusetts, Republican minority leader; Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, Michigan, chairman of the Republican Senate Conference; Senator Robert A. Taft, Ohio, chairman of the Republican Steering Committee in the Senate; Representative Roy O. Woodruff, Michigan, chairman of the House Republican Conference, and Representative Charles A. Halleck, Indiana, chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

New Type Destroyer; Placed In Commission

Boston, Dec. 22 (AP)—The U.S.S. Southerland, a new type 2,200-ton destroyer, was placed in commission at the Boston Navy Yard today by Rear Admiral Felix Gygax, USN, commandant of the First Naval District.

Named in honor of the late Rear Admiral William Henry Hudson Southerland, USN, of New York city, the new destroyer will be commanded by Commander Russell C. Williams, USN, of Norfolk, Va. His executive officer will be Lieut. Com. Edward Muhlenfeld, USN, of Baltimore.

The U.S.S. Southerland was launched at the Bath Iron Works, Inc., Bath, Maine, on October 5. The vessel was sponsored by Mrs. Edmund Richardson, of Washington, D. C., daughter of Admiral Southerland.

Cruiser Oklahoma City Placed In Commission

Philadelphia, Dec. 22 (AP)—The light cruiser Oklahoma City, built at the Cramp Shipbuilding Company, Philadelphia, was commissioned here today.

Capt. Charles R. Hunt, Pasadena, Cal., who commands the ship, told her officers and men: "It is up to us to give the Oklahoma City the best we have, that she may join the fleet eager and able to carry out her share of the work set to be done."

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Rear Admiral Milo F. Draemel, commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, told the men: "You are somewhat akin to a football squad out for its first practice. As it is with the football team so it is with a ship. Teamwork gives you confidence—confidence in yourselves, confidence in your shipmates, confidence in the fighting strength of your ship."

Wright Bryan Located

Editor of Atlanta Paper Reported in Nazi Prison Camp

ATLANTA, Dec. 22 (AP).—"The Atlanta Journal" was informed today by the office of Basil O'Connor, president of the American Red Cross, that Wright Bryan, associate editor and managing editor of "The Journal," has been located in a German prison camp. The information said Mr. Bryan was wounded when he was captured in France, Sept. 12.

Mr. Bryan, as a war correspondent in the field, was the

of the field, wore the insignia of a captain. A former reserve officer, he went to England in September, 1943, for a six-month stay, but obtained an extension to cover the invasion. At the time of his capture, he was with the United States Third Army in France and was taken prisoner by the Germans with Edward W. Beattie, United Press correspondent.

ADD LONDON AP PROGRESS

BERLIN REITERATED THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE HAD GAINED SUCH MOMENTUM THAT EISENHOWER HAD BEEN COMPELLED TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM OTHER SECTORS TO MEET THE THREAT.

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"IN THIS CONNECTION IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT HIS DRIVE ON COLOGNE AND DUSSELDORF HAS COME ALMOST TO A STANDSTILL. HIS DRIVE IN THE SAAR AREA HAS NOT ONLY COME TO A STANDSTILL, BUT HE ACTUALLY IS WITHDRAWING TROOPS FROM FORWARD POSITIONS."

THE BROADCAST ALSO SAID, WITHOUT CONFIRMATION FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE, THAT AMERICAN FORCES HAD ABANDONED THEIR SAAR RIVER BRIDGEHEAD AT ENSDORF, SOUTH OF SAARLAUTERN, ON THE THIRD ARMY FRONT.

"THE SEVENTH ARMY," IT ADDED, "IS STILL REGROUPING ITS FORCES."

LONDON, DEC 22-(AP)-AN OBSOLETE CATALINA FLYING BOAT, ORDERED TO THE SCRAP-HEAP, FLEW FROM SCOTLAND TO AN ISOLATED NORWEGIAN FJORD AND RESCUED THREE MEN, A WOMAN AND A BABY TRAPPED BY THE GERMANS AT A SECRET RADIO STATION WHICH HAD BEEN SUPPLYING INFORMATION TO THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY, IT WAS REVEALED TODAY.

THE SHIP, NAMED THE "VINGTOR" AFTER THE NORSE GOD THOR, MADE SCORES OF FLIGHTS TO NORWAY FROM HER SCOTTISH BASE AND FINALLY WAS ORDERED OUT OF SERVICE AS "TOO OLD."

THAT NIGHT THE CREW WAS INFORMED ABOUT THE RADIO STATION AND THAT THE OPERATORS WERE CUT OFF THERE BY THE GESTAPO. THE CREW TOOK THE "VINGTOR" ON ONE LAST FLIGHT AND RESCUED THE ENDANGERED NORWEGIANS.

DY1210AEW

LONDON, DEC 22-(AP.)-REUTERS SAID TODAY IT HAD RECORDED A TOKYO BROADCAST REPORTING A NEW SUPERFORTRESS RAID ON THE JAPANESE MAINLAND, WITH THE INDUSTRIAL CENTER OF NAGOYA THE MAIN TARGET.

THE BROADCAST SAID THE SUPERFORTRESSES STRUCK IN SEVERAL WAVES AND DROPPED BOMBS OVER A WIDE AREA. AS USUAL THE JAPANESE MAINTAINED ONLY SLIGHT DAMAGE WAS CAUSED.

BESIDES NAGOYA THE SUPERFORTRESSES ALSO HIT AT SHIZUOKA AND OSAKA, WHICH ALSO ARE SITUATED ON HONSHU ISLAND.

JP457AEW

LONDON, DEC. 22-(AP)-LT.COL.HARRY J.DAYHUFF OF OGDEN, UTAH, HAS ASSUMED COMMAND OF THE FOURTH FIGHTER GROUP OF THE U.S.EIGHTH AIR FORCE, FOLLOWING THE TRANSFER OF LT. COL. CLAIRBORNE H. KINNARD, JR., OF FRANKLIN, TENN., AND MONTGOMERY, ALA., TO AN ASSIGNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY. DAYHUFF, A MUSTANG PILOT, HAS BEEN IN ENGLAND FOR TWO YEARS. HIS WIFE LIVES AT 530 NORTH MC CLAY ST., SANTA ANA, CALIF., AND HIS PARENTS AT 3638 GRANT AVE., OGDEN.

FD915AEW

LONDON, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE NEW STATESMAN AND NATION TODAY ACCUSED THE UNITED STATES OF ADOPTING AN UNCOOPERATIVE ATTITUDE IN SUCH WORLD MATTERS AS CIVIL AVIATION AND "MARKING OUT FOR ITSELF A SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AS ALARMING TO OTHER NATIONS AS ANY EXTENSION OF FRONTIERS."

"TRUE TO A PARALLEL WITH BRITAIN IN THE 19TH CENTURY," THE WEEKLY SAID. "THE UNITED STATES IS BUILDING AN ECONOMIC EMPIRE WHILE DENOUNCING ON THE HIGHEST PRINCIPLES ALL THE VICES OF IMPERIALISM."

WD1216PEW

LONDON, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE LONDON STAR SAID TODAY THAT FIELD MARSHAL SIR BERNARD L.MONTGOMERY HAD CONSULTED WITH AMERICAN GENERALS REGARDING THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE.

WD1244PEW

ADD PARIS-(NORDWEST) AX HOLLAND

THE BRIDGE, WHICH WAS CAPTURED BY AMERICAN AIRBORNE TROOPS LATE IN SEPTEMBER, APPEARED TO BE THE TARGET OF GIANT RAILWAY GUNS FIRING FROM 20 MILES AWAY, A CANADIAN FIRST ARMY ARTILLERY OFFICER SAID.

ELSEWHERE ALONG THE FRONT THE ALLIED WINTER OFFENSIVE WAS AT A STANDSTILL EXCEPT FOR MINOR GAINS.

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THE THIRD ARMY'S SAAR RIVER FRONT WAS QUIET EXCEPT FOR FOUR LIGHT ENEMY COUNTERATTACKS LAST NIGHT INSIDE THE BASIN EAST OF SARREGUEMINES.

THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY STILL HELD TO THE FRINGE OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THE PALATINATE AGAINST SCATTERED ARTILLERY FIRE.

IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE SECTOR OF ALSACE, THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY REPULSED COUNTERATTACKS AT MITTELWIHR, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR. THE FRENCH OCCUPIED LA CHAPELLE, SIX MILES WEST OF COLMAR, BUT THE TOWN WAS UNDER VIOLENT SHELLING.

JS428PEW

30.24— 21467

ADD PARIS— (LING) XX MATERIAL

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS DISCLOSED YESTERDAY THAT UP TO NOON TUESDAY NAZI FIELD MARSHAL KARL RUDOLF GERD VON RUNDSTEDT HAD DRIVEN TWO DEEP WEDGES INTO U.S. FIRST ARMY LINES.

HEADQUARTERS SAID THE NORTHERN PRONG HAD SWEPT TO THE HAMLET OF HABIEMONT, SOME 30 MILES INSIDE BELGIUM AND 18 MILES SOUTH OF LIEGE. LATER AN ASSOCIATED PRESS DISPATCH FROM BRITISH-CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS SAID THIS COLUMN HAD DRIVEN TWO MILES FARTHER WEST TO WERBOMONT, CUTTING THE IMPORTANT ALLIED SUPPLY HIGHWAY RUNNING BETWEEN LIEGE AND THE FRENCH ROAD JUNCTION CITY OF BASTOGNE TO THE SOUTH.

OTHER GERMAN COLUMNS, THE ALLIED COMMAND SAID, HAD CUT THREE-FOURTHS OF THE WAY ACROSS THE MIDDLE PART OF THE DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG, REACHING WILTZ, 10 MILES EAST OF BASTOGNE, AND THE VICINITY OF CLERVAUX, SEVEN MILES NORTHEAST OF WILTZ.

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FARTHER SOUTH OTHER GERMAN COLUMNS WERE OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF CONSDORF, SOME 14 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG. (THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REPORTED THIS MORNING THAT THE LUXEMBOURG RADIO HAS BEEN OFF THE AIR FOR TWO DAYS).

THE SOUTHERN GERMAN COLUMNS APPEARED HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF SEDAN, SITE OF THE MAJOR GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH INTO FRANCE IN 1940. AT WILTZ THE ENEMY WAS 48 MILES NORTHEAST OF THAT FORTRESS CITY.

SEVEN MILES IN ADVANCE OF THE GERMANS WHO HAVE CUT THE LIEGE-BASTOGNE HIGHWAY AT WERBOMONT LIES THE FLOODED L'OURTHE RIVER. IT WAS CONSIDERED POSSIBLE HERE THAT AN ALLIED STAND MIGHT BE MADE AT THAT POINT.

(GERMAN BROADCASTS DECLARED LAST NIGHT THAT THE HIGHWAY HAD BEEN CUT "ON A BROAD FRONT" AND THAT THE AMERICANS WERE BEING DRIVEN BACK TOWARD THE MEUSE RIVER VALLEY, SOME 35 MILES FARTHER WEST. BERLIN DECLARED GEN. EISENHOWER THUS FAR HAD BEEN UNABLE TO "CREATE A COHERENT DEFENSE FRONT."

(ONE GERMAN BROADCASTER SAID U. S. THIRD ARMY FORCES HAD BEEN SHIFTED NORTHWARD INTO LUXEMBOURG. BY THESE ACCOUNTS, VON RUNDSTEDT'S SOUTHERN FORCES HAVE COMPLETELY CROSSED LUXEMBOURG.)

A DISPATCH FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT WILLIAM F. BONI QUOTED A FIRST ARMY STAFF OFFICER AS SAYING THAT THE DELAYING ACTIONS FOUGHT BY THE AMERICANS HAD PROVIDED INVALUABLE TIME IN WHICH TO MARSHAL NECESSARY FORCES AGAINST THE DEEPEST PENETRATION OF THE AMERICAN LINES.

BONI SAID THAT THE GERMANS APPARENTLY HAD HOPED TO CAPTURE SOME AMERICAN GASOLINE DUMPS TO KEEP THEIR TANKS GOING. ENEMY TANKS, HE SAID, REPEATEDLY HAVE BEEN FOUND ABANDONED--STALLED ONLY BECAUSE OF A LACK OF GASOLINE.

OTHER DISPATCHES SAID THAT THE GERMAN ATTEMPT TO THRUST NORTHWARD IN BELGIUM HAD BEEN FOILED LARGELY BY HEAVY FIGHTING ALONG A MOUNTAIN STREAM NAMED THE L'AMBLEVE WHICH RUNS BETWEEN STAVELOT AND MALMEDY. THE GERMANS FIRST TRIED TO CROSS THE STREAM TUESDAY NIGHT. BUT IN THAT AND SUBSEQUENT ATTEMPTS THE ONLY NAZIS TO REACH THE AMERICAN BANK WERE QUICKLY CAPTURED OR KILLED.

VIRTUALLY NO ACTIVITY WAS REPORTED FROM THE OTHER ALLIED FRONTS. IN THE U. S. SEVENTH ARMY SECTOR, AMERICAN UNITS WITHDREW YESTERDAY FROM NIEDER-SCHLETTENBACH, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG.

JP/JR/FW533AEW

ADD PARIS XXG 1BE

A REPORT WAS CURRENT DURING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION OF FRANCE THAT THE NAZIS, BY MANIPULATING THE SECURITIES OF FRANCE, HAD GARNERED A WORKING MAJORITY OF THE SHARES EXTANT, IN 1940 THE GERMANS ORDERED THE FRENCH PEOPLE TO TURN IN THEIR SUEZ SHARES TO BE IMPOUNDED. HOWEVER, MANY DID NOT COMPLY AND CONTINUED TRADING THEM IN THE BLACK MARKET BECAUSE OF FRANCE'S LOOSE SYSTEM OF REGISTERING SECURITIES.

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B3PEW

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, DEC 22-(AP)-THE GERMANS ARE OPERATING A "BOGUS BBC" ON THEIR COUNTER-OFFENSIVE SECTOR OF THE WESTERN FRONT, BROADCASTING "DOCTORED" NEWS BULLETINS IN ENGLISH, IT WAS DISCLOSED TONIGHT.

DY1055PEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

WITH THE U.S. FIRST ARMY, DEC. 22-(AP)-SINCE THE GERMANS OPENED THEIR MASSIVE WINTER OFFENSIVE THEY HAVE BEEN TRYING DESPERATELY TO CRACK THE NORTHERN LINE ALONG WHICH THE AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS ARE CONTAINING THEM.

WHEN THE EARLY MORNING MIST CLEARED ABOUT 10 A.M. TODAY THERE WERE 28 WRECKED ENEMY TANKS ALONG ONE SECTOR OF THE FRONT. THAT IS A SAMPLE OF THE INFENSITY OF THE FIGHTING.

ELEMENTS OF GERMAN DIVISIONS HAVE TAKEN A CRACK AT THIS SOLID AMERICAN SHOULDER THAT IS HOLDING THEM SHORT OF THE VALUABLE ROAD NETWORK THEY SEEK, AND TANGLING THEIR COLUMNS ALONG ROADS IN REAR AREAS FOR LACK OF SPACE TO MOVE AHEAD.

THOSE DIVISIONS HAVE TAKEN HEAVY CASUALTIES AND IN THE MOST RECENT FIGHTING THEY HAVE MADE VIRTUALLY NO PROGRESS, EVEN THOUGH THEY NOW ARE SUPPORTED BY CONCENTRATIONS OF ARTILLERY WHICH WERE LACKING IN THE OPENING PHASES OF THE ASSAULT.

DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF THE ENEMY'S PENETRATION, ARTILLERY AND THE AIR FORCE WERE THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY'S TWO STRONGEST DEFENSIVE WEAPONS AND THE ONES IN WHICH THE FIRST COMMANDED THE GREATEST SUPERIORITY.

BUT UNTIL THE CLOUDS BROKE FOR A FEW HOURS TODAY, THE AIR FORCE HAD BEEN TIED TO THE GROUND BY FOG AND MIST FOR THREE DAYS, WHILE FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT WAS ABLE TO BRING UP GUNS.

THESE GUNS, RANGING UP AT LEAST TO 150-MM, ARE SUPPORTING THE INCESSANT HAMMERING AT AMERICAN TROOPS PENNING THE GERMANS SOUTH OF MALMEDY AND STAVELOT.

THERE WAS A HEAVY SNOWFALL IN THIS SECTOR DURING THE NIGHT. WHEN THE HAZE LIFTED, THE HULKS OF SMASHED AND BURNED-OUT TANKS STOOD PLAINLY AMID THE SURROUNDING WHITE.

THOSE 28 ARE ONLY PART OF THE BAG TAKEN BY VETERAN UNITS WHICH HAVE BEEN FIGHTING SIDE BY SIDE ALMOST THROUGHOUT THE WEEK--ONE OF WHICH HAD TO CALL FOR ARTILLERY FIRE WITHIN 100 YARDS OF ITS OWN COMMAND POST TO HALT GERMAN PANZERS ON THE SECOND MORNING OF THE DRIVE.

INTO THIS FIGHTING ALSO HAS GONE THE CONFUSING EFFECT OF HAVING THE GERMANS USE AMERICAN UNIFORMS, JEEPS AND SHERMAN TANKS.

LT.COL.WAYNE WOOD, SAN ANTONIO, TEX., OF ONE OF THE DIVISIONS INVOLVED, TOLD HOW AN ARTILLERY COMMANDER LOOKED OUT OF HIS OPERATIO POST, CAME BACK AND SAID: "HELL, HOW COULD YOU KNOW WHAT WAS WHAT WHEN THERE WERE THREE TO FOUR OF OUR VEHICLES IN LINE SUDDENLY FOLLOWED BY TIGER TANKS?"

IT WAS AT 7 A.M. SUNDAY THAT THIS DIVISION SENT OUT WORD TO ITS UNITS ALREADY STRIKING WELL INTO MONSCHAU FOREST THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO FALL BACK TO GUARD AGAINST AN ENEMY THREAT COMING UP FROM THE SOUTH.

THREE HOURS LATER, GERMAN TANKS WERE INTO A SMALL TOWN, HELD A RAILWAY BRIDGE AND WERE FOLLOWED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY BY HALF-TRACKS AND OTHER PERSONNEL CARRIERS WHICH UNLOADED INFANTRY. THE INFANTRY BEGAN COMBING THROUGH THE TOWN.

TROOPS MANAGED TO BLOW UP A GASOLINE DUMP, BUT QUARTERMASTER PERSONNEL HAD TO ABANDON A FAIR SUPPLY OF RATIONS AND OTHER STORES WHEN THE ONCOMING GERMANS FORCED THEM TO TAKE OFF TO THE NORTH.

DIVISION COMMAND POST WAS IN A NEARBY VILLAGE AND TWO TANKS AND HALF-TRACKS DROVE TO WITHIN 300 YARDS OF IT. ALL HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL WERE IN THE FIRING LINE, AND WOOD REPORTED THAT A COOK AND A DRIVER MANNING AN ANTITANK GUN STOPPED ONE TANK DEAD WITH THEIR FIRST SHOT. OTHER HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL CHOPPED DOWN ESCAPING CREWMEN WITH 50-CALIBER MACHINEGUN FIRE.

A TANK DESTROYER UNIT WHICH BARELY HAD SWUNG INTO LINE KNOCKED OUT A SECOND GERMAN TANK, AND AS A HALF-TRACK ROLLED UP IT WAS SMASHED AMIDSHIPS BY ANOTHER ROUND. AGAIN MACHINEGUNS CUT A CLEAR SWATH THROUGH THE RANKS OF DISPERSING GERMAN INFANTRY.

A FORMATION OF FIVE TANKS WAS SPOTTED MOVING NORTHEAST CLOSE TO THE COMMAND POST. THE FIRST ARTILLERY RANGING SHELL LANDED 50 YARDS FROM HEADQUARTERS. THEN THE FIRST SALVO FELL SQUARE ON THE TARGET, WRECKING ALL FIVE.

ANOTHER GROUP OF FIVE COMING ALONG BEHIND SAW THE TRAIL BLAZERS BURNING AND TRIED TO TURN AROUND IN THE ROAD, BUT THEY TOO WERE CAUGHT BY ARTILLERY.

SOME GERMAN TANKS DID MANAGE TO GET INTO THE VILLAGE, WHICH WAS RETAKEN FROM THE GERMANS YESTERDAY, AND AS THEY ROLLED THROUGH THE MAIN STREET GI'S IN SECOND FLOORS OF THE HOUSES DROPPED FIVE-GALLON GASOLINE CANS ON TO THE TANKS, SETTING A NUMBER ON FIRE.

THE DIVISION COMMAND POST WAS SAVED FOR A SECOND TIME FROM BEING OVERRUN WHEN AN INFANTRY BATTALION CAME INTO LINE JUST AS GERMAN INFANTRY WAS GETTING SET TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK. IT WAS UNDER FIRE FROM GERMAN 88'S BUT THIS WAS SILENCED TO SOME EXTENT BY COUNTER-BATTERY FIRE.

..JS558PEW

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BY THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH ON THE U.S. FIRST ARMY FRONT APPARENTLY IS A MORALE-BUILDER FOR MANY GERMANS FIGHTING ON THE SEVENTH'S FRONT HERE.

UNTIL THE BREAKTHROUGH MOST GERMAN PRISONERS FELT THE WAR WAS OVER FOR THEM AND ABOUT OVER FOR THE REICH. IN THE PAST FEW DAYS THE PRISONERS' ATTITUDE SEEMS CHANGED. NOW MANY ADMIT THEY DO NOT KNOW EXACTLY HOW THE BREAKTHROUGH IS TO BE EXPLOITED, BUT FEEL THAT IF ANYTHING CAN WIN THE WAR FOR THE REICH THAT OPERATION WILL TURN THE TRICK.

THE GERMANS' FIERCE RESISTANCE, INCLUDING COUNTERATTACKS IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE POCKET, IS MORE UNDERSTANDABLE IN VIEW OF THE ENEMY'S SUCCESS ON THE FIRST'S FRONT. AFTER THE FRENCH AND AMERICANS ON THIS SECTOR BROKE THROUGH TO THE RHINE RIVER AND STARTED MOPPING UP THE ALSATIAN PLAIN THE GERMANS IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE AREA BEGAN TO RETREAT ACROSS THE RHINE OVER THE NEUF-BRISACH BRIDGE. THEN AROUND DEC. 1 THE RETREAT HALTED AND THE GERMANS BEGAN FLOCKING BACK FROM THE REICH INTO THE ALSATIAN POCKET.

GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS THEN DISLODGED THE FRENCH AND AMERICANS FROM SOME TOWNS. GESTAPO CHIEF HEINRICH HIMMLER HIMSELF VISITED THE POCKET, EXHORTING THE GERMANS TO RESIST TO THE UTMOST. GERMAN FORCES WERE BUILT UP TO ABOUT 35,000.

AT FIRST THE GERMANS' RESISTANCE IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE POCKET SEEMED DESIGNED TO TIE UP MANY DIVISIONS IN THAT AREA AND PREVENT THEM FROM JOINING OTHERS HACKING THE FRINGE OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE.

THE BREAKTHROUGH OF THE FIRST ARMY FRONT SHED ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON THE GERMANS' POCKET OPERATION. WHEN THE BREAKTHROUGH STARTED IN THE NORTH THE GERMANS IN THE POCKET AREA CEASED ACROSS-THE-LINE BROADCASTS. THERE WERE OTHER SIGNS THAT THE POCKET OPERATION MIGHT BE SERVING A SECOND PURPOSE--AS A RED HERRING FOR THE BREAKTHROUGH.

THE GERMANS' POCKET OPERATION ALSO IS SERVING A THIRD PURPOSE, PURELY POLITICAL. THE POCKET, WHICH IS ABOUT 25 MILES LONG EXTENDIN IN WIDTH FROM THE VOSGES TO THE RHINE, IS THE LAST LINK GERMANY HAS WITH ALSACE, WHERE THE NAZIS BENT BACKWARDS TO DO A SUPERLATIVE PROPAGANDA JOB.

THE GERMANS DROPPED LEAFLETS AT STRASBOURG AND ELSEWHERE SAYING "WE ARE COMING BACK."

SOME ALSATIANS FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE FRENCH-AMERICAN LIBERATI WERE SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE FUTURE. THE POCKET OF RESISTANCE MADE OTHERS DUBIOUS. THEN THE BREAKTHROUGH IN THE NORTH MADE EVERYONE THINK.

A FEW ALSATIANS CONFIDED TO THIS CORRESPONDENT THAT THEY HAD THEIR BAGS PACKED.

..SN1023PEW

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BY HAL BOYLE

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM, DEC22-(AP)-ELEVEN AMERICAN SOLDIERS HAD TO STRANGLE THEIR PET DOG TO KEEP HIM FROM GIVING AWAY THEIR HIDING PLACE TO THE GERMANS.

EIGHT SIGNALMEN AND THREE OTHERS, CAUGHT IN A TOWN WHEN GERMAN AR SWEPT THROUGH, HID FOR TEN HOURS IN THE CELLAR OF A HOUSE OCCUPIED B ENEMY ARMORED TROOPS.

WHEN A GERMAN OFFICER IN DRESS BLOUSE AND AN ENEMY EXLISTED MAN WALKED INTO THE CELLAR "TUFFY", A PINT-SIZED BROWN PUP, KEPT QUIET, AND THE CROUCHING SOLDIERS WERE NOT SEEN IN THE DARK.

SHORTLY THEREAFTER THE PUP BEGAN TO BARK PLAYFULLY. AFRAID TO RISK THEIR LIVES BY REPEATEDLY TRYING TO KEEP HIM QUIET, ONE SOLDIER REACHED OUT IN THE DARK AND QUIETLY CHOKED "TUFFY".

THERE WAS A LONG SILENCE AS THE MEN RECALLED HOW THEY HAD ADOPTED "TUFFY" AS A WOBBLY PUPPY WEEKS AGO.

THE MEN WERE IN THE HOUSE AND WERE JUST SITTING DOWN TO BREAKFAST WHEN THE ARMORED FORCES BROKE INTO TOWN . AS MACHINEGUN FIRE BEGAN SP THE HOUSE THEY DIVED INTO THE CELLAR.

BLACK UNIFORMED CREWS OFTWO PANZER TANKS BROKE IN, SEARCHED HASTILY AND THEN SAT DOWN AND ATE THE SIGNALMEN'S BREAKFAST.

"THERE WAS NO WAY OUT SO WE JUST SAT TIGHT IN THE CELLAR," SAID TECH.SGT.JACK MCCLURE, OF 708 HOUSTON ST., SHERMAN, TEXAS. "WE WERE DIVEBOMBED BY OUR OWN PLANES AND RAKED BY OUR OWN ARTILLERY BUT IT WA MUSIC TO OUR EARS."

DURING THE DAY, AS MANY AS 18 GERMANS WANDERED ABOUT UPSTAIRS, ATE AMERICAN RATIONS AND SMOKED THE SIGNALMEN'S CIGARETTES WHILE BELOW THEY WERE AFRAID TO LIGHT UP FOR FEAR OF BEING CAUGHT.

ONCE ONE NAZI RAKED THE STAIRS AND CELLAR DOOR WITH A MACHINE PIST ANOTHER LOOKED IN THE BASEMENT WINDOW AND PASSING TANKS PEPPERED THE BUILDING WITH SCATTERED FIRE.

DURING THE DAY THREE OTHER AMERICANS SLIPPED INTO THE CELLAR

SANCTUARY--A COMBAT ENGINEER WHO HAD HIDDEN FOR HOURS IN THE SNOW, A DOUGHBOY LOST FROM HIS UNIT AND AN ACK-ACK GUNNER. THEY SLIPPED IN UNDER THE VERY NOSES OF THE NAZIS.

SPLITTING INTO TWO GROUPS, THE YANKS MADE A BRWAK FOR THEIR OWN LINES AFTER DARK. AS THEY LEFT THEY SAID THE NAZIS STARTED TO BURN DOWN THE TOWN AND BLOW UP CAPTURED AMMUNITION. THE MEN HIKED MILES THROUGH THE MUD, SLUSH AND WATER AND ONCE, WHILE CRAWLING ACROSS A CREEK ON A SLIPPERY POLE, SGT. ROBERT E. STANCLIFF, OF 171 EDGAR ST., WOODBRIDGE, N.J., SLIPPED AND FELL IN THE WATER WITH A LOUD SPLASH.

THEY WAITED FEARFULLY BUT THE NAZI OUTPOSTS HAD FAILED TO HEAR I' FINALLY, THEY SAW PATROL AHEAD AND HESITATED. WERE THEY FRIEND OR F(

"ARE YOU AMERICANS," DOUBTFULLY CALLED T/5 JOSEPH L.HILL, OF 116S CLAY ST., BOWLING GREEN, KY.

"NO, WE ARE YANKS," CAME THE ANSWER.

AND SOUTHERNER THOUGH HE IS, THAT WORD HAD A WELCOME RING IN HILL EARS. THEY WERE SAFE.

OTHER SIGNALMEN WERE T/3 JAMES A.CAMERON, 1000 SOUTH WALNUT ST., INGLEWOOD, CALIF., T/4 NATHAN SHARNEY, OF 745 WESTGATE ST., ST.LOUIS MO., T/4 RAYMOND B.MILLER, OF HELENA, MONT., AND T/5 ADAM P.KULIG, 931 SARATOGA ST., UTICA, N.Y.

RH2OPEW NM

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BY HAL BOYLE

IN AMERICAN OCCUPIED BELGIUM, DEC. 20-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THIS IS BELGIUM TODAY, WITH HER TIDY INDUSTRIAL TOWNS AND ROLLING HILLS ONCE AGAIN THREATENED BY GERMAN ATTACK:

YOU CAN SEE THE FEAR OF THE TEUTON IN ALMOST EVERY EYE. WOMEN, YOUNG GIRLS AND OLD MEN CHEER AND WAVE TO EACH TROOP TRUCK AND TANK MOVING TOWARD THE FRONT. WHEN A CONVOY IS HEADED THE OTHER WAY THEY GLANCE AT EACH OTHER WITH MUTE, QUESTIONING LOOKS THAT SEEM TO ASK WITHOUT WORDS, "HAVE THE GERMANS BROKEN THROUGH?"

BELGIAN CIVILIANS CLUSTER TOGETHER ON EVERY STREET CORNER IN A VILLAGE NEAR THE FIGHTING ZONE. WHERE THE LONG COMBAT COLUMNS HALT MOMENTARILY, SOMEONE CALLS OUT IN BROKEN ENGLISH, "ZEE BATTLE! HOW GOES IT? BETTER, YES?"

IN MOST CASES THE TROOPS JUST SHAKE THEIR HEADS SILENTLY WITHOUT ANSWERING. THEY HAVE BEEN WARNED OF SPIES AND ENEMY AGENTS WHO MIGHT BE TRYING TO PICK UP INFORMATION THIS WAY.

YET THE ONE THING THAT AMAZES YOU IS HOW SPEEDILY WORD OF A GERMAN ADVANCE GETS AROUND. EACH GROUP OF GOSSIPERS HAS HALF A HUNDRED UNCONFIRMED RUMORS---BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, SOMETIMES THEY CHAT WITH ASTONISHING KNOWLEDGE OF MILITARY EVENTS WHICH ARE TAKING PLACE 75 MILES AWAY. IT MAKES YOU WONDER HOW ANY BATTLE SECRET CAN BE KEPT. ALL BELGIUM IS AN EAR--AND A VOICE SPREADING RUMORS.

THE TROOPS HAVE LOST MUCH OF THE BOYISH EXUBERANCE WITH WHICH THEY CHASED THE GERMANS ACROSS BELGIUM THREE MONTHS AGO. THEY RIDE TO BATTLE NOW WITH GRIM AND SERIOUS FACES. THERE IS LITTLE TALK NOW OF HOW SOON THE WAR WILL END, AND JESTS ABOUT "HOME BY CHRISTMAS" BRING ONLY TIRED SMILES.

CHILDREN STILL STAND BY THE ROADSIDE SHOUTING "ALLO," BUT THE SHOWERS OF CHEWING GUM AND CANDY ARE FEW NOW. THE TROOPS ARE TOO PREOCCUPIED. AT ONE INTERSECTION A SMALL BELGIAN BOY PLAYING SOLDIER STRUTS PAST CARRYING A WOODEN SWORD AND WEARING THE INNER LINING OF AN AMERICAN HELMET.

THE ROADS ARE GRIMY AND MUDDY AND FILLED WITH ENDLESS TRAFFIC. THEY ARE LINED AGAIN WITH GROUPS OF FRIGHTENED REFUGEES. EVERYONE CURSES THE WEATHER BECAUSE IT KEEPS ALLIED AIR POWER FROM SMASHING AT ENEMY TRANSPORT AND TROOP CONCENTRATIONS. MANY SHOPKEEPERS BOARD UP THEIR WINDOWS AND CLOSE SHOP. SOME SOLDIERS SNATCH KISSES FROM BELGIAN GIRL FRIENDS BEFORE THEIR UNIT PULLS OUT. THEY KISS OPENLY AND NO ONE FROWNS. THERE IS NO TIME FOR COYNESS.

3o 24 — 21469

TANK AND TRUCK RETRIEVER VEHICLES ROAR PAST WITH THEIR RED LIGHTS FLASHING "KEEP OVER" AS THEY HAUL BACK VEHICLES WHICH HAVE BEEN KNOCKED OUT IN BATTLE OR IN ROAD ACCIDENTS. IN AN ORCHARD TWO GREAT PITS SURROUNDED BY FRESH EARTH MARK NEAR MISSES BY GERMAN BOMBERS WHICH TRIED TO WIPE OUT A COLUMN OF MEDICS. BY THE ROADSIDE LIE TWO BLANKET-COVERED FORMS WITH THEIR HELMETS BY THEIR SIDE. THERE ARE LARGE RED CROSSES ON THE HELMETS SHOWING THE TWO MEN WERE MEDICS. THEY HAD STARTED TO RUN, BUT FLYING BOMB FRAGMENTS CUT THEM DOWN.

EVERYTHING IS MOVING. THERE IS NOISE EVERYWHERE LEADING UP TO THE FIGHTING ZONE. AT THE EDGE OF THE BATTLE ITSELF THERE COMES A STRANGE SILENCE. THEN THE LULL IS ENDED BY THE SOUND OF CRASHING GUNS AND A BATTLE OF SMALL ARMS FIRE.

BELGIUM IS ONCE AGAIN A WORLD BATTLEFRONT.

WD1117AEW

DEC 23 1944

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY, DEC.22-(AP)-TWELVE THUNDERBOLTS SUPPORTING THE SEVENTH ARMY TODAY TANGLED WITH 12 ME-109S OVER MARBACH, EAST OF FRIEBURG, DESTROYING SIX ENEMY CRAFT AND LOSING ONE OF THEIR OWN.

LIEUTENANTS WILLIAM R.RICHMOND, JR., NORTH WILBRAHAM, MASS., AND CLARENCE B.FLACK, LEAVENWORTH, KANS., SHARED CREDIT FOR THREE PLANES, WHILE RYLAND T.DEWEY, DENVER, COL., WILBUR G.ALLEN, CHATTANOOGA, TENN., AND FRANK E.PARDUE, COEBURN, VA., SHOT DOWN ONE EACH.

PREVIOUSLY THE THUNDERBOLT PILOTS HAD DESTROYED 14 LOCOMOTIVES AND 174 FREIGHT CARS AND CUT TWO RAILWAYS.

RH1015PEW NM

PARIS, DEC.22-(AP)-THE NEW FRENCH-RUSSIAN 20-YEAR ALLIANCE WAS SENT TO THE FRENCH CABINET TODAY FOR WHAT WAS EXPECTED TO BE CERTAIN RATIFICATION FOLLOWING ITS APPROVAL YESTERDAY BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF YESTERDAY'S DEBATE ON THE PACT, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO CONTAIN GERMANY BETWEEN EUROPE'S MOST POWERFUL POST-WAR COUNTRIES, GEN.CHARLES DE GAULLE DECLARED FRANCE WAS DETERMINED TO HELP FORM A WORLD PEACE ORGANIZATION IN WHICH SHE EXPECTED THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE A LEADING ROLE.

"A REAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IS NECESSARY AND IN THIS ORGANIZATION WHO COULD BE FIRST IN RANK IF NOT THE UNITED STATES, WHOSE EFFORTS IN THE WESTERN THEATER AND IN THE PACIFIC ARE ENORMOUS," DE GAULLE SAID.

REACTING TO HIS STATEMENT THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR COMPANION PACTS WHICH WOULD BUILD UP TO THE WORLD SECURITY ORGANIZATION.

DE GAULLE'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY WAS GREETED WITH ENTHUSIASTIC APPLAUSE.

"THE WORLD IS BEGINNING TO REALIZE," HE SAID, "THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SETTLE THE GREAT PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD WITHOUT FRANCE. PERHAPS SHE IS ALSO BEGINNING TO REALIZE THAT VICTORY CANNOT BE GAINED WITHOUT FRANCE. IN BOTH SPHERES FRANCE ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITIES."

EARLIER, FOREIGN MINISTER GEORGES BIDAULT TOLD THE ASSEMBLY FRANCE INTENDS TO HELP MOUNT GUARD ON THE RHINE AFTER THE WAR TO KEEP THE RHINELAND AND RUHR INDUSTRIES OUT OF GERMAN HANDS. HE ALSO DECLARED THE FRENCH NATION INTENDS TO HELP POLAND EXPAND WESTWARD INTO SILESIA.

DURING THE RECENT CONFERENCES IN MOSCOW WHICH CULMINATED IN THE ALLIANCE, THE FRENCH WERE REPORTED TO HAVE PROMISED TO SUPPORT THE RUSSIAN CASE FOR THE OLD CURZON LINE IN POLAND.

JR443AEW

PARIS, DEC. 22-(AP)-GAILY LIGHTED PINES HAVE APPEARED IN MANY PARIS OFFICES, STORES AND HOMES AND THE CAPITAL IS GRADUALLY TAKING ON THE FAMILIAR ASPECT OF PRE-WAR CHRISTMASES.

FOR PARISIAN YOUNGSTERS THE MOST CHERISHED TOY APPEARS TO BE A MINIATURE JEEP -- DONE IN WOOD. BUT THE COST - ABOUT FIFTEEN DOLLARS -- WILL PROBABLY PREVENT PERE NOEL FROM FULFILLING ALL REQUESTS.

JR738AEW

PARIS, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE EUROPEAN EDITION OF THE NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE RESUMED PUBLICATION TODAY.

FOUNDED IN 1887 BY JAMES GORDON BENNETT, JR., THEN PROPRIETOR OF THE OLD NEW YORK HERALD, THE PAPER WAS PUBLISHED THROUGHOUT THE LAST WORLD WAR BUT SUSPENDED IN THIS WAR JUST BEFORE THE GERMANS MARCHED INTO PARIS.

IT CAME OUT TODAY AS A FOUR-PAGE EDITION.

DEC 23 1944

FW424AEW

MOSCOW, DEC 22-(AP)-COL.PIOTR KILOMEITZEV, WRITING IN RED STAR, THE RED ARMY'S NEWSPAPER, TOLD THE RUSSIAN PUBLIC TODAY THAT THE GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH ON THE WESTERN FRONT "CANNOT RADICALLY ALTER THE SITUATION."

THE COMMENTATOR ATTRIBUTED THE ENEMY'S INITIAL TERRITORIAL GAINS TO THE SUDDENNESS OF THE OFFENSIVE IN A SECTOR TO WHICH, HE SAID, THE ALLIES "OBVIOUSLY DID NOT PAY MUCH ATTENTION AND WHICH WAS PROTECTED BY LIMITED FORCES."

KILOMEITZEV SAID THE ALLIES HAD ADOPTED MEASURES FOR LOCALIZATION OF THE BREAKTHROUGH AND ADDED THAT THE NEXT FEW DAYS WOULD SHOW WHETHER THE ALLIES INTENDED TO UNDERTAKE AN IMMEDIATE COUNTERBLOW OR TO WAIT UNTIL SUCH A BLOW COULD BE COORDINATED WITH ATTACKS IN THE DIRECTIONS OF COLOGNE AND THE RUHR VALLEY.

MT927AEW

MOSCOW, DEC 22-(AP)-PRAVDA ATTACKED ARGENTINA TODAY AS AN "ASYLUM OF HITLERITES," DECLARING ITS RULERS CONTINUE TO AID GERMANY AGAINST THE UNITED NATIONS.

"THIS AID CAN BE SEEN IN THE INCESSANT SUPPLIES OF FOOD AND WAR MATERIALS SENT VIA SPAIN TO GERMANY, AS WELL AS THE FREEDOM OF ACTION GIVEN HITLERITE AGENTS AND SPIES IN ARGENTINA," SAID THE ARTICLE, SPREAD OVER FIVE COLUMNS ON THE COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER'S FOREIGN PAGE.

PRAVDA SAID ARGENTINE LEADERS PERSIST "IN FOLLOWING WHAT ONCE WERE HITLER'S GRANDIOSE PLANS FOR GERMAN DOMINATION OF LATIN AMERICA.

"HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ALREADY HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO ARGENTINA BY GERMANY CRIMINALS," PRAVDA DECLARED.

IT QUOTED AMERICAN NEWSPAPER OPINION AS BELIEVING THAT BRITAIN HAD NOT MANIFEST SOLIDARITY WITH AMERICAN ACTIONS AGAINST ARGENTINA BECAUSE OF BRITISH FINANCIAL INTERESTS IN THE SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRY AND BRITAIN'S NEED FOR MEAT.

MT920AEW

ROME, DEC 22-(AP)-MAJ.GEN.ALFRED M.GRUENTHER OF OMAHA, NEB., CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE 15TH ARMY GROUP, AND COMMODORE HUBERT W. ARNOLI OF FALL RIVER, MASS., WERE AWARDED CROSSES OF THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA TODAY. THE CEREMONY TOOK PLACE AT THE PALACE OF MALTA IN ROME.

MT1119AEW

MADRID, DEC 22-(AP)-A FASHION NOTE: SWASTIKAS ARE BEING WORN AGAIN HERE AMONG GERMANS SINCE THE NAZI COUNTER-OFFENSIVE BEGAN. THEY HAD ALMOST VANISHED FROM GERMAN LAPELS FOLLOWING THE LIBERATION OF FRANCE.

DY1051PEW

DEC 23 1944

CHUNGKING, DEC. 22-(AP)-JAPANESE FORCES HOLDING THE RAILWAY TOWN OF HOCHIH IN NORTHWESTERN KWANGSI PROVINCE HAVE BEEN REINFORCED AND ARE OFFERING STIFF RESISTANCE TO ATTACKING CHINESE TROOPS, A CHINES COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THE BULLETIN SAID THE CHINESE WERE MAINTAINING STRONG PRESSURE FROM THREE DIRECTIONS ON HOCHIH, WHICH IS 95 MILES WEST OF LIUCHOW, FORMER U.S. AIR BASE SITE.

OBSERVERS HERE EXPRESSED BELIEF THE JAPANESE INTENDED TO MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO HOLD HOCHIH AS A BASTION SCREENING THEIR NEW CORRIDOR LINKING CHINA AND INDO-CHINA.

JR716AEW

CHUNGKING, DEC 22-(AP)-MAO TZE-TUNG, COMMANDER OF COMMUNIST ARMIES IN NORTHWEST CHINA AND COMMUNISTY PARTY CHIEFTAIN, DECLARED TODAY THAT NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CHUNGKING GOVERNMENT AND THE COMMUNISTS HAD FAILED TO ATTAIN "THE LEAST RESULT."

MAO WARNED IN A SPEECH AT YENAN, COMMUNIST HEADQUARTERS, OF THE DANGER OF JAPANESE ATTACKS IN THE NORTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST, AND ADDED THAT CHINA'S WHOLE TASK SHOULD BE TO COOPERATE WITH THE ALLIES AND OVERTHROW JAPAN. HE SAID QUICK VICTORY WOULD RESULT ONLY IF ALL ANTI-JAPANESE FORCES IN CHINA WERE UNIFIED.

[redacted] ADD LEYTE XX REGIMENT

THE RECAPTURED AMMUNITION INCLUDED LARGE QUANTITIES OF .30 CALIBER CARTRIDGES, BOTH IN RIFLE CLIPS AND MACHINE GUN BELTS. MUCH OF THIS BORE THE FRANKFORT ARSENAL STAMP, SHOWING IT HAD BEEN MANUFACTURED IN JULY, 1941.

DV928PCW

BY ELMONT WAITE (330)

ABOARD A SEAPLANE TENDER,PHILIPPINES,DEC 22 (AP)-SEVEN MEN OF A NAVY LIBERATOR CREW INCLUDING THE SQUADRON COMMANDER, CMDR. JUSTIN A.MILLER OF MISSOULA, MONT., WHO HAVE BEEN REPORTED MISSING AND THEIR PERSONAL EFFECTS SENT HOME WERE RESCUED AFTER TWO MONTHS OF HIDING IN A JAPANESE-HELD ISLAND IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THEY ARE: CMDR.MILLER; ENS.G.H.MARTIN, BOSTON, MASS.; SQUADRON GUNNERY OFFICER, LT.W.A.READ, WHOSE FATHER IS A NEW YORK INVESTMENT BANKER AND IS NOW A CAPTAIN ON ADMIRAL MARC A. MITSCHER'S STAFF; ENS.H.W.MCDANIEL OF ILLINOIS (WHOSE HOME TOWN IS UNAVAILABLE) AND WHOSE WIFE AND NEW-BORN BABY LIVE IN LOS ANGELES; H.A.RUMMERFIELD, AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN 3/C; AND J.F.COSMOW, AVIATION ORDNANCEMAN 2/C--BOTH OF SAN FRANCISCO;

AND F.M.FORD, AVIATION RADIOMAN 2/C OF ALABAMA, (WHOSE HOME TOWN IS NOT AVAILABLE).

ALL OF THE MEN HAD BEEN INJURED, SEVERAL SERIOUSLY. ONE OF THE CREW WAS KILLED AND TWO WERE MISSING. THE NAVY LIBERATOR WAS HIT BY ACK-ACK AND CRASHED INTO THE CHINA SEA.

WITHIN A DAY AFTER THE SURVIVORS REACHED SHORE AT A NEARBY ISLAND, A JAPANESE BOMBER SHOT DOWN BY CMDR.MILLER'S FRIEND, LT.HAMILTON M.DAWES, OF MONTCLAIR, N.J., CRASHED IN THEIR MIDST, KILLING ONE OF THE SURVIVORS AND REINJURING THREE.

THE MEN WERE FINALLY PICKED UP FROM A NATIVE SAILBOAT.

TELLING HIS STORY ON THE SEAPLANE TENDER TODAY CMDR.MILLER WAS THINFACED FROM MALARIA BUT HE WAS CHEERFUL.

MILLER HIMSELF HAD DEALT OUT MUCH DESTRUCTION TO THE JAPANESE BEFORE SHOT DOWN. HIS LIBERATOR CREW IN 19 DAYS IN OCTOBER, DESTROYED 19 JAPANESE PLANES, OIL BARGES, A GASOLINE LUGGER AND FOUR SMALL CARGO SHIPS BESIDES DAMAGING 10 PLANES, A FREIGHTER, TWO LUGGERS AND TWO SMALL CARGO SHIPS.

HIS SQUADRON HAS FLOWN 715 COMBAT SORTIES IN FIVE MONTHS AND DESTROYED 37 JAPANESE PLANES AND DAMAGED 11. IN ADDITION IT DESTROYED A SMALL JAPANESE WARSHIP AND 30 FREIGHTERS TOTALLING 60,000 TONS.

THE SURVIVORS ARE GOING TO SIDNEY NOW ON LEAVE AND THEN TO THE STATES.
GG824ACW

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR,DEC.22-(AP)-A LOT OF SAILORS OUT IN THE PACIFIC ARE GETTING BUBBLE BATH POWDER FOR CHRISTMAS -- AND THEY HAVEN'T SEEN A BATHTUB IN MONTHS.

FLEET HEADQUARTERS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE BUBBLE BATH POWDER BECAUSE SO MANY OF THE PACKAGES BROKEN IN TRANSIT CONTAINED THE STUFF.

DESPITE THE PAUCITY OF BATHTUBS, THE POWDER "OFFERS MANY POSSIBILITIES, ACCORDING TO THE MAIL CLERKS (SAILORS) IN ADVANCED AREAS," SAID THE HEADQUARTERS RELEASE, BUT IT DIDN'T SAY WHAT THESE POSSIBILITIES WERE. SAILORS ABOARD MOST WARSHIPS AND AT SHORE INSTALLATIONS USUALLY HAVE SHOWERS.

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MORE THAN 500,000 BAGS OF MAIL REACHED PACIFIC STATIONS DURING NOVEMBER AND EARLY DECEMBER, LT.COMDR.EARLE D.CHANCE, FLEET POSTAL OFFICER, REPORTED.

THE SEABEES GET MORE MAIL PROPORTIONATELY THAN ANY OTHER BRANCH OF THE SERVICE, CHANCE SAID, ALTHOUGH IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES THE WAVES OUTDRAW THEM.

NINETY-FIVE PER CENT OF THE FLEET'S OUTGOING MAIL GOES TO WOMEN.

LT.JOHN B.SEAVY, OF BROOKHAVEN,MISS., ASSISTANT POSTAL OFFICER, SAID SOME MAIL TO FORWARD AREAS IS ARRIVING WITHIN EIGHT DAYS OF THE TIME IT IS POSTED ON THE MAINLAND.
FJ652ACW

BY MARINE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS STANLEY FINK, OF 334 WEST 4TH ST., BETHLEHEM,PA., FORMER EDITOR OF THE BETHLEHEM GLOBE-TIMES;
DISTRIBUTED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GUAM (DELAYED)--THIS CENTRAL PACIFIC ISLAND, WHICH BEFORE THE WAR BOASTED ONLY TWO MOTION PICTURE THEATERS, NOW HAS 45 MOVIE HOUSES, ALL OF THE OUTDOOR TYPE.

OPERATED BY VARIOUS ARMY, NAVY AND MARINE UNITS, NIGHTLY SHOWS ARE WELL ATTENDED BY BOTH SERVICEMEN AND NATIVES.

THE TWO PRE-WAR THEATERS WERE LOCATED IN AGANA, GUAM'S CAPITAL, WHICH WAS DESTROYED DURING THE ALLIED REOCCUPATION LAST JULY. THEY WERE NAMED THE AGANA THEATER, AND THE SCENIC GAIETY.

G.I. THEATERS GO UNDER STRANGER NAMES, SUCH AS ACE OF SPADES, LITTLE ACK ACK, SKEE BOO'S ASIATIC, LITTLE MAN'S SHOW HOUSE, HELLCAT, DENGUE BOWL, NEW SHANGRI LA, AND LAST CHANCE.
HY530AEW

HEADQUARTERS THIRTY-FIRST DIVISION, MOROTAI ISLAND, (AP)-THIS IS ABOUT A JAPANESE ARMY SERGEANT-MAJOR WHO THOUGHT AMERICANS "VERY FOLLISH".

USING A RED LEAD PENCIL, HE WROTE ONE DARK NIGHT: "TO DEAR SOLDJER--AMERICAN ARE VERY FOLLISH PEOPLE." HE THEN TIED THE NOTE TO THE TRIGGER OF A HIGH-EXPLOSIVE BOOBY TRAP WHICH A UNIT OF THIS "DIXIE" DIVISION HAD RIGGED IN FRONT OF ITS POSITION.

CAPTAIN MARTIN M.FRIEDMAN, 3561 3.142ND ST., CLEVELAND, OHIO, TURNED THE NOTE OVER TO INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS AND THOUGHT NO MORE ABOUT IT UNTIL--

THE BODY OF THE JAPANESE SERGEANT-MAJOR WAS FOUND ONE MORNING IN FRONT OF A PILLBOX FROM WHICH SERGEANT A.J.GOELLNER, LUMBERTON, MISS., HAD FIRED AT A CRAWLING SHADOW THE NIGHT BEFORE. THEY FOUND A RED PENCIL STUB IN THE DEAD MAN'S POCKET.

IT APPEARED THAT AT LEAST ONE JAPANESE WAS VERY FOLLISH TOO.
RA936PCW

BY VERN HAUGLAND (420) DEC 23 1944

21ST BOMBER COMMAND,SAIPAN,DEC 22 (AP)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-- WHEN ONE OF HIS B-29S FAILED TO RETURN FROM A NIGHT WEATHER STRIKE MISSION AGAINST NAGOYA, LT.COL.ROBERT HAYNES OF HERMOSA BEACH, CALIF., A SUPERFORTRESS UNIT COMMANDER, SOUGHT PERMISSION TO SEARCH FOR IT.

BASING HIS SEARCH LARGELY ON HUNCH AND LUCK, BE FOUND THE SURVIVORS ON TWO RAFTS A HALF HOUR AFTER HIS TAKEOFF -- TEN MEN AND ALL UNINJURED. BUT TWO OTHERS HAD DROWNED.

THE AIRPLANE COMMANDER OF THE DOWNED B-29, LT.RICHARD A. EWING (3209 SOUTH 87 STREET) PHILADELPHIA, SAID: "WE WERE MUCH MORE FORTUNATE THAN WE EXPECTED TO BE IN DITCHING OUR PLANE IN THAT ROUGH SEA WITHOUT INJURY, AND TO GET PICKED UP BY OUR OWN SKIPPER WAS UNADULTERATED LUCK."

THE PLANE'S NOSE AND TAIL BROKE OFF WHEN IT HIT THE WATER, DEC. 19 AT 5:45 A.M. ALL TWELVE GOT OUT AND CLUNG TO TWO RAFTS.

"ONE OF THE MEN WHO WAS LOST," SAID LT.EWING, "WAS A SUBSTITUTE VOLUNTEER TAIL GUNNER. AFTER 15 MINUTES ON THE RAFT WHEN WE WERE ALMOST SWAMPED BY WAVES, HE TRIED TO SWIM TO A THIRD RAFT. I CALLED HIM BACK BUT HE FIGURED ONE RAFT COULDN'T HOLD US MUCH LONGER. THAT'S THE LAST WE SAW OF HIM.

"THE OTHER MAN LOST HIS GRIP AND DISAPPEARED UNDER THE PLANE'S WING."

EWING SAID THAT THEY WERE OVER HONSHU FOR AN HOUR IN WIND WHICH SLOWED THEM DOWN TO 50 MILES AN HOUR.

"OUR BOMBS TOUCHED OFF A BIG EXPLOSION A MILE INLAND -- MAYBE AN ARSENAL OR AN ELECTRICAL PLANT. THEN WE SMELLED AN ELECTRICAL FIRE AND OUR GUNS AND THE INTERPHONE WENT OUT AND OUR COMPASS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT FAILED. WHEN ONE ENGINE CUT OUT, WE KNEW WE HAD TO DITCH THE PLANE."

HE SAID: "ONLY MY RADIO OPERATOR, S/SGT.KENNETH L.MASTERSON, (116 SOUTH 39TH ST.) LOUISVILLE, KY., AND I WERE FULLY CONSCIOUS AFTER WE CRASH-LANDED. THE OTHERS WERE HALF OUT FROM SHOCK AND SWALLOWING SALT WATER.

"LEFT GUNNER SGT.OTIS HOWELL JR. OF OAKLAND, CALIF., SUPPOSEDLY CAN'T SWIMG BUT IN HIS EXCITEMENT HE SWAM TO OUR RAFT."

THE RAFTS HAD ONLY SIX PINTS OF WATER AND IN THE ROUGH SEA, HE SAID, THEIR CHANCES OF LASTING WEREN'T GOOD.

COL.HATES SIGHTED THEM AT ABOUT 11 A.M. AND STAYED OVER THEM FOR THREE HOURS UNTIL THEY WERE RESCUED BY A DESTROYER, ABOUT 130

MILES NORTHWEST OF SAIPAN.

OTHERS RESCUED WERE LTS.JACK JACKNESS (2130 73RD ST.) NEW YORK CITY, AND WENDELL EMMETT, SALEM, ORE.; 2ND LTS.FRED R.SPIES, RIVERSIDE, CALIF.; AND ROBERT J.MOORE, SAN JOSE, CALIF.; SGTS. COKE E.HAWKINS, PASS CHRISTIAN, (CORRECT) MISS., RICHARD F.LAND, (562 WEST 113TH) NEW YORK CITY; AND ROBERT G.LOVELL, RIVER FALLS, WISC.

THE SKIPPER, FORMER ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE FLIER AND IN PEACE-TIME A COMMERCIAL FLIER, STARTED AS A STUNT PARACHUTER. HE ONCE FLEW HIS B-17 CREW HOME FROM AFRICA ON LEAVE AND DELIVERED EACH MEMBER TO HIS OWN HOME AND ARRIVED FOR HIS OWN LEAVE AT DES MOINES, IOWA, THE ONLY MAN LEFT IN THE PLANE.

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EDS: IN ABOVE AT START TWELFTH GRAF READ IT "COL.HAYNES SIGHTED ETC)

GG731ACW NM

BY ROBERT GEIGER (390)

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN,DEC 22 (AP)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-AS SUPERFORTRESSES ON ONE OF THEIR HEAVIEST ATTACKS AT JAPAN'S MAINLAND LEFT THIS BASE TODAY BRIG.GEN.EMMETT (ROSIE) O'DONNELL, JR., YOUTHFUL ENERGETIC COMMANDER OF ONE B29 UNIT WHO HAS LED SIX RAIDS WAS IN THE CONTROL TOWER SHORTLY AFTER DAWN.

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WITH HIM WAS CHIEF OF STAFF, COL.C.A.M. SWEENEY OF TAMPA, FLA., AND DEPUTIES COLS.MIKE LEE, OF MT.PLEASANT, IOWA, AND GEORGE SCHAETZEL OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

"THIS IS WONDERFUL FLYING WEATHER," SAID THE GENERAL, AS HE SAT ON A TWO-BY-SIX PLANK RESTING ON SAND BAGS ATOP THE CONTROL TOWER.

THE SCENE BELOW RESEMBLED A SPRAWLING KANSAS CROSSROADS VILLAGE. THE RUNWAYS APPEARED TO BE GIANT HIGHWAYS WITH HUGE CLOUDS OF DUST STIRRED BY TRAFFIC.

LEADING TODAY'S PLANE PARADE TO NAGOYA WAS "DREAM GIRL" PILOTED BY WILLIAM ENSLEY OF RIVERSIDE,CALIF., WITH LT.WILLIAM A.GEORGE OF GRAHAM, TEX., AS COPILOT. THE PLANE HAS BEEN ON TWO OTHER RAIDS OVER JAPAN IN WHICH IT TOOK A FEW BULLETS WITHOUT SERIOUS HARM.

THE CREW CHIEF JOSEPH DENO, (27 EAST 9TH ST.) OSWEGO, NEW YORK, AND HIS MEN HAD LABORED MOST OF THE NIGHT GETTING "DREAM GIRL" READY.

BEHIND "DREAM GIRL" WERE "PRIDE OF THE YANKS," "AMERICAN BEAUTY" AND DEVIL'S BLIGHT" EACH WITH GAUDILY PAINTED FIGURES.

SGT.NICK SPEROUNIS (41 BEACON ST.) LOWELL, MASS., HAD THE JOB OF AWAKENING THE CREW OF "DREAM GIRL", THE LEADING PLANE, AT 3 A.M. HE SAID: "THEY THREW OLD SHOES, BOTTLES AND CUSS WORDS AT ME BUT THEY WOULDN'T MISS THE CHANCE TO BOMB JAPAN FOR ANYTHING."

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AFTER ARISING, DREAM GIRL'S CREW BREAKFASTED AT 3:30, WERE BRIEFED AT 4:15, THEY WERE AT THEIR STATIONS AT 5 A.M. AND THEY TOOK OFF AROUND DAWN ON THEIR DANGEROUS FOIGHT OF APPROXIMATELY 3,000 MILES WITH 19 HOURS IN THE AIR.

DREAM GIRL'S OTHER CREWMEN WERE LTS.ROBERT BERFIELD, TOULON, ILL.; KEITH KENNEDY, LEAD, S.DAK.; MORTON ALTHOUSE, (4937 SANSON ST.) PHILADELPHIA; PVT.OSWALD FORD, SLAYTON, (CORRECT) MINN; SGTS. HARDY SILVERBERG, LITCHFIELD, MINN.; JOE POTVIN SR., (106 PUTNAM) MANCHESTER, N.H., WILLIAM SWIATEK CHICAGO, ILL., CHARLES BEALS, HAWTHORNE, CALIF., AND JACK KILLON, TEXARKANA, ARK.

GM1094ACW NM

BY VERN HAUGLAND

TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND,SAIPAN,DEC.22-(AP)-NOW THAT NEXT OF KIN HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED, NAMES OF THE 11 SUPERFORTRESS MEN LOST IN COMBAT NEAR TOKYO ON NOV.24 CAN BE DISCLOSED.

THEIR B29 WAS THE ONLY COMBAT LOSS IN THAT HISTORIC FIRST WEEK

OF SAIPAN-BASED SUPERFORTRESS RAIDS ON TOKYO, WHEN TWO DAYLIGHT AND ONE NIGHT MISSION WERE FLOWN. A SECOND B29 MADE A FORCED LANDING AT SEA EN ROUTE BACK TO SAIPAN BUT THE CREW WAS RESCUED.

THE SUPERFORT SHOT DOWN OVER THE JAPANESE CAPITAL WAS RIDDLED BY BULLETS FROM A TWIN-ENGINED FIGHTER OF A NEW DESIGN.

LT.COL.ROBERT HAYNES OF HERMOSA BEACH,CALIF., WHO LED THE FORMATION FROM WHICH THE PLANE WAS LOST,SAID THE BOMBER FAILED TO RETURN A SINGLE SHOT, HE AND OTHERS EXPRESSED BELIEF THE OXYGEN SUPPLY HAD FAILED, AND THE ENTIRE CREW WAS UNCONSCIOUS.

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A SECOND JAPANESE FIGHTER, HIT BY CROSSFIRE FROM OTHER B29S, EXPLODED AND TORE OFF THE TAIL OF THE HAPLESS SUPERFORT, WHICH STREAKED DOWNWARD AND SPLASHED INTO THE SEA, SINKING IMMEDIATELY. NOBODY WAS SEEN TO PARACHUTE.

THE SUPERFORTRESS WAS COMMANDED BY LT.SAM P.WAGNER, 26, A WEST POINT GRADUATE WHO LIVED AT 1755 1/2 DAUPHIN ST., MOBILE, ALA. HIS WIFE RESIDES IN LOS ANGELES.

CO-PILOT WAS SECOND LT.ERNEST B.LOPES, 23, OF WAIPAHU,OAHU, HAWAII. OTHERS ABOARD WERE SECOND LT.ALVIN R.HOFFMAN, 23, MOHALL,N.D.; SECOND LT.DAVID J.SCHNAARS, 24, 24 EAST SECOND, BROOKLYN,N.Y.; SECOND LT.OBNE N.BAHL, 26, 1503 NORTH HAMLIN AVE., CHICAGO; STAFF SGT.RALPH C.BANOVICTS, 25, 3993 LILLIBRIDGE, DETROIT; SGT.HUBERT D.WHEELER, 22, DALLAS, TEX.; SGT.ELMER C.LINDENSTRUTH, 26, 941 ASHBURTON, BALTIMORE,MD.; SGT.WILLIAM WENDLER, 24, LEDBETTER,TEX.; CORP.CECIL E.FREDERICK, 19, SEATTLE, AND PFC.REX E. MERRITT, 20, 304 SOUTH MAPLE, NORTH MANCHESTER,IND.

DV910PCWNM

30 24— 21473

BY VERN HAUGLAND

TWENTY-FIRST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, SAIPAN, DEC. 22-(AP)-B-29 CREW MEMBERS RETURNING FROM TODAY'S NAGOYA RAID SAID THE JAPANESE APPARENTLY SENT UP EVERY AVAILABLE FIGHTER AND AT LEAST ONE TWO-ENGINED BOMBER TO DEFEND THEIR GREAT AIRCRAFT BUILDING CENTER.

CPL.DONALD LADD OF (306 HOLLY AVE.) MANCHESTER, N.H., TO GUNNER OF ONE OF THE FLYING FORTRESSES, SAID:

"THERE WERE 30 TO 40 FIGHTERS AT OUR LEVEL AND ABOVE US. THEY MADE ABOUT 15 PASSES AT US.

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"WE WERE NINE MINUTES BEHIND THE OTHER FORMATION AND THE STIRRED-UP FIGHTERS CAME AT US. WE COULD TELL THEY WERE WAITING FOR US BY THE THICK VAPOR TRAILS."

HE SAID HE SHOT DOWN ONE FIGHTER AND THAT SECOND LT.JOE J.TIERNEY OF BRIDGEPORT, CONN., BOMBARDIER MANNING A GUN, GOT ANOTHER.

LADD SAID HE SAW AT LEAST THREE DIFFERENT TYPES OF JAPANESE FIGHTERS AND ADDED "THEY EVEN HAD ONE 'BETTY' (A CLASS OF TWO-MOTORED BOMBER) UP THERE."

THIS B29, COMMANDED BY LT.WILLIAM J.BASS OF WESTFIELD, N.J., CLAIMED THE ENEMY FIGHTERS DOWNED BY LADD AND TIERNEY. CORP.FRANCIS POWERS, TAIL GUNNER, OF HOLYOKE, MASS., WAS CREDITED WITH A PROBABLE.

LADD SAID HE SAW TIERNEY'S BULLETS START FOUR BURSTS OF FIRE IN THE ENEMY FIGHTER, WHICH WENT DOWN IN A SPIN.

LT.NORMAN EK (CORRECT) OF (2445 NORTH NELAND AVE.) CHICAGO, ILL., BOMBARDIER OF ANOTHER B29, ESTIMATED 150 ENEMY FIGHTERS WERE IN THE AIR.

CORP.GERARD H.NONELLI OF BOSTON, MASS., RING GUNNER ON THE PLANE, WAS CREDITED WITH DAMAGING AND PROBABLY DOWNING TWO ENEMY FIGHTERS.

MAJ.ROBERT FITZGERALD OF RIDGEWOOD, N.J., SAID HIS CREW PROBABLY DOWNED TWO "TONYS", A TYPE OF JAPANESE FIGHTER. GUNNER CORP.REUBEN WRAY OF NASHVILLE, TENN., WAS CREDITED WITH ONE AND THE REST OF THE CREW COMBINED WITH THE OTHER.

THE CREW INCLUDED LT.HERSCHEL CONNOR, CANTON,ILL., AND DALLAS,TEX.; SECOND LTS.VINCENT J.CAUFIELD (623 THIRD ST.) VERONA,PA.

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CAPT.WILLIAM W.CANADA OF HOT SPRINGS,ARK., FOUND HIMSELF IN THE EMBARRASSING POSITION OF HAVING MOST OF HIS GUNS OUT OF ORDER OVER THE TARGET. "WE SPENT MOST OF THE TIME TRYING TO HIDE, BUT THE SKY OVER NAGOYA ISN'T A GOOD HIDING PLACE," HE SAID.

NAVIGATOR SECOND LT.LAVERNE J.RUNBERG, (150 FALCONER ST.) JAMESTOWN,N.Y., SET A GOOD COURSE FOR HOME, CAPT.CANADA SAID.

CORPS.RALPH HOUGAARD OF MANTI,UTAH,AND ROBERT HOLLIDAY, 115 EAST FOREST AVE., OLEAN,N.Y., RADIOMAN ON TWO OF THE B29S, SAID THEY WERE TOO BUSY WITH THE EARPHONES TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE ENEMY FIGHTERS AND THAT THEY PREFERRED TO BE BUSY AT TIMES LIKE THAT.

BV654PCWNM

HEADQUARTERS,ALASKAN DEPARTMENT,DEC 22 (AP)-THE ALAS-KALEUTIAN (CORRECT) PRESS ASSOCIATION, BELIEVED FIRST SUCH ORGANIZATION FOUNDED BY OVERSEAS GI PUBLICATIONS, NOW SERVES CAMP NEWSPAPERS IN THIS AREA.

EVERY PAPER OF THE ALASKAN DEPARTMENT AND TWO FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION, AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND, TOOK PART IN THE CONFERENCE AT MOUNT MCKINLEY PARK ORGANIZING THE ASSOCIATION. THE ANNOUNCED AIM WAS EXCHANGE OF PAPERS AND IDEAS. MEMBERSHIP WAS LIMITED TO NEWSPAPER STAFFS, ACCREDITED CORRESPONDENTS AND ARMY PERSONNEL AIDING ALASKA JOURNALISM.

CPL.KENNETH L.JERDON, BROOKPORT, ILL., EDITOR OF THE FORT RICHARDSON DAILY BULLETIN, WAS NAMED SECRETARY OF THE GROUP.

CG1153ACW

MEXICO CITY,DEC 22-(AP)-THE WORK STOPPAGE VOTED BY THE RECENT LATIN AMERICAN LABOR FEDERATION CONGRESS IN COLOMBIA TO PROTEST AGAINST THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WILL BE HELD IN 17 NATIONS ON JANUARY 25, VICENTE LOMBARDO TOLEDANO, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION, SAID HERE TODAY.

WORKERS WILL PAUSE FOR 15 MINUTES DURING THE DAY, AND FOR THE SAME PERIOD AT NIGHT, LOMBARDO TOLEDANO TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE. AFFECTED WILL BE THE LATIN AMERICAN REPUBLICS WITH AFFILIATED LABOR GROUPS.

"REPORTS AT THE COLOMBIA CONGRESS INDICATED THAT ARGENTINA AT PRESENT IS GENERAL HEADQUARTERS FOR FASCIST ESPIONAGE, ANTI-DEMOCRATIC PROPAGANDA, AND A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE UNITED STATES, BRITAIN AND RUSSIA," THE LABOR HEAD SAID.

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"MILITARY PREPARATION IN ARGENTINA COUNTINUES WITH ACCELERATING PROGRESS. THE IMPERIALISTIC MOTIVES OF THE FASCIST ARGENTINE LEADERS ARE NO LONGER A SECRET."

LOMBARDO TOLEDANO SAID THE CONGRESS, AT WHICH 16 LATIN AMERICAN REPUBLICS, THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND ENGLAND WERE REPRESENTED, "NOT ONLY WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT ASSEMBLY OF LATIN AMERICAN LABOR EVER HELD, BUT ALSO ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLIES OF ANY KIND IN AMERICAN HISTORY."

DV-RA930PCW

(ADVANCE) OTTAWA, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE CANADIAN ARMY ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES TODAY:

WOUNDED: PVT. ALBERT JOSEPH WICHMANN; MOTHER, MRS. ROSE A. WICHMANN, AUBURN, WASH.

SLIGHTLY INJURED: CORP. EARL JACOB HYATT; WIFE, MRS. VIRGINIA HYATT, LAINSBURG, MICH.

(END ADVANCE FOR USE AT 10 A.M. EASTERN WAR TIME TODAY, FRIDAY, DEC. 22)

JR353AEW

OTTAWA, DEC.22-(AP)-THE ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE SAID TODAY THAT LOT OFFICER JAMES LLOYD MICHELL, PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING ON FIVE SERVICE, NOW IS PRESUMED DEAD. HIS MOTHER, MRS.B.ST.J. MICHELL, LIVES AT 3605 WHEELER AVE., LOUISVILLE, KY.
Z459AEW

(ADVANCE) OTTAWA, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE CANADIAN ARMY ANNOUNCED TODAY THE FOLLOWING CASUALTIES:

SERIOUSLY WOUNDED: PVT. WALTER RAYMOND BEATTIE; MOTHER, MRS. EMILY BEATTIE, 131 BLOSSOM ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

SLIGHTLY INJURED: PVT. WILLIAM MORTON BARTEAUX; MOTHER, MRS. GERTRUDE F. BARTEAUX, 7 HAZELWOOD AVE., WATERVILLE, ME.

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MISSING: PVT. JOHN MARSHALL YORK; FATHER, ANDREW YORK, 36 SGARON AVE., TORRINGTON, CONN.
CP--JA--226A

NEW YORK, DEC. 22-(AP)-A BROADCAST BY THE ALLIED RADIO AT ROME SAID TODAY THAT THE BERLIN RADIO HAD ANNOUNCED THAT ROBERTO FARINACCI, FORMER MEMBER OF THE FASCIST GRAND COUNCIL AND EDITOR OF THE CREMONA NEWSPAPER REGIME FASCISTA, HAD BEEN KILLED IN AN ACCIDENT. THE GERMAN REPORT GAVE NO DETAILS, ACCORDING TO THE ROME BROADCAST, WHICH WAS REPORTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.
TA1248AEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 22 - (AP) - THE DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG, OVERRUN BY GERMAN TROOPS FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FIVE YEARS, HAS FORMALLY ABANDONED THE NEUTRALITY THAT THE GREAT POWERS GUARANTEED TO IT IN 1867 BY THE TREATY OF LONDON, THE PARIS RADIO SAID TODAY IN A BROADCAST HEARD BY THE FCC.

"IN A DECLARATION PUBLISHED TO THAT EFFECT," SAID THE BROADCAST, "THE GREAT DUCHY DECLARES ITSELF READY TO ASSUME ALL DUTIES RESULTING FROM THIS NEW SITUATION."

THE DECLARATION APPARENTLY WOULD CAUSE LITTLE CHANGE IN LUXEMBOURG'S STATUS, HOWEVER. EARLY IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR, AFTER THE GOVERNMENT AND ROYAL FAMILY HAD FLED INTO EXILE WHEN HITLER'S TRO STORMED ACROSS INTO BELGIUM AND FRANCE, LUXEMBOURG CITIZENS FORMED A L TO FIGHT WITH ALLIED ARMIES.

DEC 23 1944

WASHINGTON, DEC. 23-(AP)-THE WASHINGTON POST SAID TODAY THAT "A BID SEEMS TO BE COMING OUT OF LONDON FOR A FRANCO-BRITISH ALLIANCE SIMILAR TO THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE."

THE PAPER SAYS THIS IS EVIDENCE OF THE GROWING PRESTIGE OF DEGAULLE, FURTHER COMMENTING, "CERTAINLY THE POSITION OF HIS PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT AND THE POSITION OF FRANCE IN RELATION TO THE OTHER POWERS IS NOW STRONGER THAN SEEMED POSSIBLE A FEW MONTHS AGO EVEN TO THE MOST PREJUDICED IN DEGAULLE'S FAVOR."

ALL THIS MUST BE ASTONISHING TO A NUMBER OF HIGHLY PLACED PERSONAGES, THE PAPER CONTINUED, "INCLUDING GENERAL SMUTS WHO A YEAR AGO SPOKE OF FRANCE AS A NATION THAT WOULD BE OF NO ACCOUNT FOR YEARS TO COME."

REFERRING TO THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY EUROPEAN NATIONS, THE PAPER CONCLUDED, "THE THING TO DO NOW IS TO BRING ALL THESE BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS WITHIN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE WORLD SECURITY SYSTEM. ALAS, SINCE THE DUMBARTON OAKS CONFERENCE NO DIPLOMATIC ACTION TO COMPLETE THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN FRAMING THE CHARTER HAS BEEN TAKEN. DEGAULLE HIMSELF APPEARS TO BE IN ACCORD WITH THIS VIEW."

PALM BEACH, FLA., DEC. 22-(AP)-MRS.MARGARET EMERSON HAS LEFT FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC THEATER OF WAR TO BECOME AN ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN THAT AREA.

MRS.EMERSON'S TWO SONS, LTS. ALFRED AND GEORGE VANDERBILT, HAVE BEEN SERVING IN THE PACIFIC THEATER FOR SOME TIME. HER DAUGHTER, MRS.FLORIA BAKER TOPPING ALEXANDER, WIFE OF BRIG.GEN.EDWARD H. ALEXANDER, FORMER COMMANDER OF THE CARIBBEAN WING, IS LIVING HERE. HER HUSBAND IS NOW OVERSEAS.

MRS.EMERSON SERVED THE RED CROSS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR WHEN SHE WAS STATIONED WITH THE CANTEE CORPS AT THE EMBARKATION CENTER IN NEW YORK.

CHICAGO, DEC 22-(AP)-THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE ANNOUNCED THAT THE FIRST SUE OF ITS OVERSEAS EDITION PRINTED IN AUSTRALIA FOR DISTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN TROOPS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA WAS DELIVERED IN SYDNEY TODAY.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID ARMY PRIORITIES HAD BEEN GRANTED FOR SHIPMENT OF THE PAPERS TO FORWARD AREAS BY AIR. THE ARMY'S SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS ORDERED 5,000 COPIES WEEKLY FOR THE START OF THE VENTURE.

THE NEWSPAPER SAID THE OVERSEAS EDITION SPRANG FROM A DESIRE ON THE PART OF COL.ROBERT R.MC CORMICK, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER OF THE TRIBUNE, "THAT MIDDLE WEST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES HAVE ACCESS TO THE NEWS AND FEATURES THEY LIKED IN CIVILIAN LIFE."

ANOTHER OVERSEAS EDITION IS PRINTED IN HAWAII.

07-1111PCWNM

ROCHESTER, MINN., DEC. 22-(AP)-SAMUEL LEWIS, PANAMA FOREIGN MINISTER, SAID HERE TODAY IN AN INTERVIEW THAT INTERCHANGE OF AMERICAN AND PANAMAIAN DOCTORS HAS STRENGTHENED RELATIONS XETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIE

HE EXPRESSED HS APPRECIATION OF THE OPPORTUNITY OF YOUNG MEN OF HIS COUNTRY AND OTHER LATIN-AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO COME TO THE MAYO CLINIC FOR STUDY, ADDING THAT MANY AMERICAN DOCTORS NOW ARE STUDYING DISEASES COMMON TO PANAMA IN PANAMA HOSPITALS.

LEWIS ARRIVED IN ROCHESTER LAST WEEK WITH HIS TWO CHILDREN TO VISIT HIS WIFE, A PATIENT AT A HOSPITAL HERE SINCE SEPTEMBER. THEY PLAN TO RETURN TO PANAMA BY PLANE BY JAN. 1.

DEC 23 1944

R155PCW NM

FARRAGUT, IDAHO, DEC. 22-(AP)-ENSIGN JOHN D. DRAKE, WILMINGTON, DEL., PILOT OF A TORPEDO BOMBER, PLAYED THE ROLE OF A JAPANESE FLIER SO CONVINCINGLY WHEN SHOT DOWN THAT THE JAPANESE TRIED TO RESCUE HIM.

HITTING THE WATER IN THE PACIFIC, HE SAID, TWO ENEMY PLANES SPOTTED HIM. HE WAVED TO THEM IN FRIENDLY FASHION AND THEY, HE ADDED, WAGGLED THEIR WINGS AND DROPPED A LIFE RAFT AND A BAG OF BROWN SLICK TO MARK THE WATER.

"A FEW MINUTES LATER," HE RELATED, "I WAS FACED WITH THE DUBIOUS PLEASURE OF A RESCUE BY A SMALL JAP BOAT WHICH PUT OFF FROM AN ISLAND AND HEADED TOWARD ME."

DRAKE SAID HE WAS WONDERING WHAT THESPIAN TALENTS TO EMPLOY WHEN ANOTHER WAVE OF AMERICAN PLANES ATTACKED THE ISLAND. THE JAPANESE BOAT SCURRIED FOR SHORE. FOUR HOURS AFTER HITTING THE WATER HE WAS PICKED UP BY A NAVAL PATROL BOAT.

XZ1227ACW NM

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (FRI)
CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: ROER RIVER LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: BRITISH-CANADIAN FRONT DISPATCH REPORTED GERMAN SPEARHEAD PENETRATION OF 40 MILES INTO BELGIUM; SAID GERMAN DRIVE LOST MUCH MOMENTUM IN LAST 48 HOURS. NAZI SOUTHERN FLANK ADVANCED WITHIN 48 MILES OF SEDAN AND PUSHED NEW THRUST WESTWARD SOUTH OF LUXEMBOURG CITY.
U.S. THIRD ARMY: FRONT QUIET; BERLIN REPORTED FORCE WHEELING NORTH TOWARD LUXEMBOURG TO AID FIRST ARMY.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: FOUGHT ALONG WISSEMBOURG GAP NEAR RHINE AGAINST TOUGH SIEGFRIED LINE BELT, AND IN HAARDT MOUNTAINS.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: GERMANS REPORTED TWO OR THREE NEW FRENCH DIVISIONS ASSAULTED NAZI LINES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR, MAKING PROGRESS.
JS611PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY
CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: ROER RIVER LINE UNCHANGED.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: BLUNTED GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE TEMPORARILY IN SOME SECTORS, TURNED IT ASIDE IN OTHERS; GERMANS PENETRATED 32 MILES INTO BELGIUM AT WERBOMONT; REACHED WILTZ IN LUXEMBOURG, 48 MILES FROM SEDAN; NEW FIGHTING REPORTED 20 MILES SOUTH OF CITY OF LUXEMBOURG; OFFENSIVE BEING CONTAINED ON NORTH AND SOUTH FLANKS.
U.S. THIRD ARMY: FRONT QUIET; BERLIN REPORTED FORCE WHEELING NORTH TOWARD LUXEMBOURG TO AID FIRST ARMY.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: FRONT COMPARATIVELY QUIET. WITHDREW YESTERDAY FROM NIEDER-SCHLETTENBACH, FIVE MILES NORTHWEST OF WISSEMBOURG.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: GERMANS REPORTED TWO OR THREE NEW DIVISIONS ASSAULTED NAZI LINES NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND MADE PROGRESS.
NT842AEW

THE ROAD TO BERLIN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOB).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).

DEC 23 1944

FW429AEW

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DEC. 22, 1940--VISCOUNT HALIFAX APPOINTED BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO UNITED STATES. ANTHONY EDEN NAMED FOREIGN SECRETARY AND CAPT. DAVID MARGESSON SECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR. RAF RAIDS WILHEMSHAVEN, COLOGNE, MANNHEIM, BREST, OSTEND, CALAIS, FLUSHING, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, AND LORIENT.
FW428AEW

UNDATED
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
JAPANESE WORKERS IN MUNITIONS PLANTS HAVE "AGREED" TO FOREGO "ALL HOLIDAYS" MARKING THE END OF THE OLD YEAR AND THE BEGINNING OF THE NEW IN ORDER "TO WIN VICTORY" IN 1945, THE JAPANESE NEWS AGENCY DOMEI SAID TODAY.
WW632APW NM

30.24— 21477

UNDATED JAPANESE COMMENT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE TOKYO NEWSPAPER ASAHI TOLD ITS READERS TODAY (FRI.) THAT THEY MUST NOT BECOME "TOO ELATED OVER THE GERMAN SUCCESS" IN EUROPE.
THE CURRENT NAZI COUNTERATTACK HAS BEEN HAILED IN ALL QUARTERS OF JAPAN, SAID THE EDITORIAL, BROADCAST TO THE CONTROLLED ASIATIC PRESS BY DOMEI NEWS AGENCY, BUT THE JAPANESE MUST NOT "SIT BACK AND RELAX."
THE BROADCAST EDITORIAL, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, EXHORTED THE JAPANESE TO EXERT EVERY EFFORT, AND TO "JOIN HANDS WITH GERMANY AND OPEN THE ROAD WHICH WILL LEAD TO VICTORY
FJ642ACW

UNDATED LUZON
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
RADIO TOKYO SAID THAT 39 ENEMY PLANES RAIDED LUZON ISLAND THIS MORNING, JAPANESE TIME. THE UNCONFIRMED REPORT SAID "20 ODD" HIT LEGASPI IN THE SOUTHEASTERN PGTION, AND THE REMAINDER STRUCK AT CLARK FIELD, NEAR MANILA.
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION INTERCEPTED THE BROADCAST
LATER, RADIO TOKYO ANNOUNCED THAT "OVER 10" MUSTANG FIGHTERS (P-51S) RAIDED THE SOUTH CHINESE PORTS OF CANTON AND HONGKONG AT ABOUT 8 A.M., EAST CHINA TIME, TODAY.
JAPANESE INTERCEPTOR PLANES, THE BROADCAST CLAIMED, "IMMEDIATELY ENGAGED" THE RAIDERS AND "SHOT DOWN THREE."
WW717APW

DEC 23 1944

Yanks Dent Nazis' South Flank As Air Armadas Smash At Salient

DEC 24 1944

Americans Hold Near Malmedy;

DEC 24 1944

Stavelot Is Lost

DEC 24 1944

U. S. Forces Strike Northwest of Luxembourg as Germans Push Closer to Sedan—

SS Unit Badly Mauled—News Blackout Is Lifted

NORDNESS DEC 24 1944

Paris, **SUNDAY,** Dec. 24 — (AP) — American relief columns, swinging up through Luxembourg and Southeastern Belgium in their first effective counter-action, have bitten into the southern flank of the German pene-

tration which now has reached Libramont, only 23 miles northeast of historic Sedan, Allied Headquarters disclosed last night.

With clearing skies the world's mightiest air force also sung into action with 4,500 sorties against the German vasion columns, cutting destructive swaths through eir ranks and hammering their rear bases.

Allied Headquarters, lifting a 48-hour time lag on front news, gave this report of the situation:

Striking north of the city of Luxembourgh and also north of Arlon, 13 miles northwest of Luxembourg, American troops have dented the German southern flank.

A front dispatch covering this action through Friday morning said the Luxembourg counter-action was sprung north of Mersch, eight miles above Luxembourg City. Although this dispatch was censored it contained these perhaps significant words:

"It is obvious that in the eight days since the Germans threw the dice in what probably a their last big gamble the Americans have had time to reform their forces."

SS Division Mauled

Encouraging news also came from the northern flank where Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher said that Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt had been forced to pull back one of his crack SS (Elite) divisions because it was so badly mauled by hard-fighting doughboys in the Malmedy sector.

The Germans left more than 1,000 dead in the snows below Malmedy, Gallagher said, and a hard freeze setting in had the Yanks grouped around small bonfires across the battle-ridden fields and cross roads. Hundreds of Hitler's youthful troops are snow-covered lumps, dead in the no-man's land between the lines in that area, the dispatch said.

The Americans, however, have lost Stavelot, five miles southwest of Malmedy, headquarters disclosed, and also confirmed the German announcement that St. Vith, 12 miles southeast of Stavelot, had been taken by the Germans.

Masses of German armor were reported pushing the Americans back slowly from St. Vith toward Vielsalm, nine miles to the west and seven miles south of Stavelot. Shaef described this action, where the Americans were trying to prevent a link-up of major German columns, as one of the epic stands of the war. The Americans slugged it out toe to toe, and are still fighting with great courage, but are slowly being pressed back by superior forces.

Nazis Still Determined

In the Malmedy sector the Germans still were trying to gather enough strength to break through and widen their penetration, headquarters said.

In their western penetration one German spearhead in a 10-mile advance has reached Marche, 22 miles north of Libramont, and 23 miles southeast of Namur.

A front dispatch said that by Friday morning the Germans also had cut a highway northeast of Hotton, five miles northeast of Marche and 23 miles south of Liege. Heavy fighting was reported between Hottot and Soy, three miles to the northeast.

Headquarters said there was considerable enemy pressure south of Marche on the highway to Laroche, but there was no indication of a continued retreat of American troops.

The extent of the American counter-attacks north of Arlon and Mersch was not given, but it appeared to be in the nature of a large-scale operation, and front dispatches said that vapor trails of the supporting aircraft ranging the frosty skies were as thick as plough furrows.

At the southeastern end of the enemy's offensive bulge there was no change in the situation. The Americans still hold a stable line in the Echternach sector although the Germans have widened the base of their salient to Diekirch, five miles southwest of Echternach.

A dispatch from this area said that the American relief drive from the south, if it makes any major advance, will menace the entire southern German flank. It said, that although the war was a swift and fluid one an early end of the war is possible if Gen. Omar Bradley's men can meet and checkmate the daring German thrusts.

In the first good flying weather in three days, every type of American and British plane surged over the battle sector in Belgium, Luxembourg and Western Germany, loosing a deadly hail of bombs and bullets with ravaging effect.

178 Planes Destroyed

Incomplete figures showed that a total of 178 enemy planes had been destroyed and 17 tanks and armored vehicles knocked out. A total of 194 motor transport, 71 railroad cars, two locomotives, and seven gun positions also were destroyed and five rail arteries cut.

Added to these impressive figures was the death of many German troops caught under the wings of the Allied planes sweeping over snow-covered roads where the enemy was firmly silhouetted, and the undoubted havoc caused by shattered communications.

In some of the fiercest air battles of the war with hundreds of German planes which also took advantage of the clear weather, the Allied airmen rampaged over a wide front between the invasion area and the Rhine River. The heavy bombers, more than 400 American and 100 R. A. F., concentrated on rear bases and rail junctions in Germany.

The U. S. Eighth Air Force reported the loss of three heavy bombers and 13 fighters. The Ninth's losses were not yet reported.

Four hundred U. S. heavy bombers and 100 R. A. F. Lancasters dumped nearly 2,000 tons of explosives on rail lines and communication centers in the Trier area, feeding the enemy front and Kaiserslautern back of the Saar.

One force out of the 700 fighter-bombers that flew in escort knocked out 12 tanks and armored vehicles and more than 30 trucks in the battle area.

DEC 24 1944

Planes Join Battle

R. A. F. Spitfires, Tempests and Typhoons joined the battle, attacking road-clogging convoys with such effectiveness that horsedrawn traffic enroute to the front went into hiding, a dispatch from British-Canadian headquarters said.

German armor which encircled the Belgian highway center of Bastogne broke into the important highway center Thursday, a front dispatch said. American planes dropped supplies to the surrounded troops today.

Supreme headquarters was silent on German broadcasts that Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army had driven so hard against the Southern flank that the entire von Rundstedt push westward had been slowed.

It presented a far more encouraging picture of the crucial fighting eddying around St. Vith and declared that as of noon Thursday the vital triangle formed by St. Vith, Malmedy and Stavelot held firm on the north flank of the enemy lines.

The St. Vith wedge, which splits the two big westward drives, held after three days of furious attempts by the enemy to overwhelm it and unite his forces.

It was one of the fiercest and most successful struggles in the U. S. First Army's week-long struggle to stem the grey-green waves sweeping out of Germany.

Yank Line Holds

Without success von Rundstedt hurled the full force of his armored forces against dug-in American tanks and infantry, trying to drive them from a high plateau and ridge between St. Vith and Vielsalm, nine miles to the west.

(Instead of reports of advances, the enemy high command communique told of 14 strong American relief attacks being warded off yesterday in the Stavelot sector.

(It reported that the Americans were thrown back on both sides of the Ourthe River yesterday in the push toward the Meuse, but it had said the day before that bridgeheads had been planted along the stream).

The Germans in Northern Luxembourg Thursday overwhelmed Wiltz, where an American force had been surrounded. They stabbed into Bastogne, nine miles west, but the doughboys still held the town.

There was no report of enemy progress near Arlon, 22 miles south of Bastogne, where the Germans Wednesday were reported fighting some ten miles from the French border.

Nor was there anything further of a second push to La Roche, 14 miles northwest of Bastogne.

Tip of Wedge Cut

Associated Press Correspondent William F. Boni reported for the first time that the tip of a wedge which the Germans had driven to Habiemont, dues west of Stavelot and 18 miles south of Liege, had been cut off by the Americans.

The Germans, however, had succeeded in bringing up artillery and were trying to blast a hole in the lines of the doughboys who had stopped von Rundstedt's first steel wave. By Thursday the Germans were pouring in tanks for another try.

Farther east, the Germans were fought to a standstill near the villages of Bullingen and Faymonville, five miles east of Malmedy.

Supreme headquarters described German losses in manpower and equipment as unquestionably high. German prisoners—and there were few of them so far—conceded that their losses were bloody.

There was no attempt to minimize American losses. Groups as large as a battalion had been overwhelmed. Some still held out inside the German lines. Hoping to be rescued by counterblows.

Elsewhere along the front, the Allied Winter offensive was stalemated.

Ensdorf Evacuated

Supreme Headquarters said the Third Army had withdrawn from Ensdorf, at the Saarlautern bridgehead across the Saar River in the Western Saar Basin.

It added that German broadcasts saying American bridgeheads had been abandoned at Dillingen, three miles north of Saarlautern, and at Saarlautern itself were unfounded.

Hundreds Of Bombers Hammer At Still-Gaining Germans

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Paris, Dec. 23 (AP)—Allied air might lashed fiercely today in a break in the weather at Nazi armored columns, dealing repeated bomb smashes against the German offensive tide that by Thursday noon had reached within 29 miles of Sedan.

Preliminary reports indicated that effective blows had been delivered by hundreds of heavy and fighter bombers at Field Marshal von Rundstedt's drive. Bad weather for a week had tied down the

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Allied air arm, but today its weight was thrown into the balance.

Supreme headquarters and field reports disclosed that the Germans were only 29 miles from Sedan by Thursday noon after a 40-mile drive through Luxembourg and into Belgium and had entered the bypassed Belgian road hub of Bastogne.

Two Nazi Forces Kept From Joining

To the northeast, a dug-in United States tank force at last report still held its own in a terrific three-day battle just west of St. Vith, 4 miles inside Belgium.

This furiously fought stand was keeping the deep, dangerous central German wedge split from the northern thrust that had struck beyond Stavelot. The Germans hurled the full force of their armor into attempts to merge the two penetrations.

It was one of the fiercest—and supreme headquarters said one of the most successful—battles of the week-long fight to check the Nazi onslaught. The American armored force was fighting on high ground between St. Vith and Vielsalm, 9 miles to the west.

Germans Report "Ferocious" U.S. Onset

[A DNB broadcast said fresh American forces were thrown into the fight on the northern side of the German thrust with the intent of cutting off the German salient.

["German forces were forced to the defensive temporarily, but regained the initiative at noon yesterday and captured a number of important heights and occupied large areas," the broadcast said.

[Americans put up "a most bloody and ferocious battle" for a number of towns, it added.]

"The Weather We've Been Praying For"

Rundstedt's strong central wedge had battered 18 miles beyond Bastogne to St. Hubert, 29 miles northeast of Sedan and scene of the 1940 German breakthrough into France. That was 48 hours ago. Subsequent events had not yet been disclosed.

Bright sunshine lit the snow-clad battlefields—"the weather we've been praying for" as one pilot said. Up to noon today, one tactical air force reported twelve tanks and armored vehicles knocked out and more than 30 trucks destroyed, and the air assaults continued through the afternoon.

Twenty-nine German planes were downed in three dogfights near Trier, Coblenz and Euskirchen. Five Thunderbolts were lost over the two former towns.

400 Planes Drop 1,500 Tons Of Bombs

This afternoon 400 big United States bombers hammered German positions with 1,500 tons of explosives. Fighter bombers strafed German columns moving into Belgium.

Waves of German fighters bunched in tight formations of 40 and 50 were tackled by American fighters and by nightfall at least 84 Nazi planes had been shot down.

Railroad yards, junction points and columns of German tanks and trucks, silhouetted in the bright sunlight against the snow-covered ground, afforded perfect targets for the 400 Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Britain and their 700 fighter escorts.

Besides the railyards at Ehrang, near Trier, and Kaiserslautern, three road junctions squarely behind the attacking Germans were bombed.

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Yanks Give Up Ensdorf

Supreme headquarters kept silent on German broadcasts saying Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's 3d Army had been hurled northward into counterattacks on Rundstedt's southern flank and had slowed the Nazis there.

Headquarters disclosed that 3d Army troops had withdrawn from Ensdorf in the southeastern section of Saarlautern, but German reports that United States bridgeheads at Saarlautern and Dillingen had been abandoned were described as unfounded.

[Today's German communiqué said the Saar town of Dillingen had been retaken by the Nazis and the right bank of the Saar River cleared "on a broad front." This followed German reports Friday of United States pullbacks on this 3d Army front, indicating that Patton may have delivered a hard punch northward.

First Army Reported Shifted

[A still later Berlin broadcast today said that while Patton was hitting the lower base of the Nazi breakthrough 1st Army forces had been drawn from the Aachen sector to hammer the upper end of Rundstedt's corridor.]

Tremendous losses in men and equipment were being suffered and inflicted by the Americans. United States units as strong as battalions were reported cut off at undisclosed points, with some wiped out to the last man.

Bastogne is on a main highway running south from Liege. Farther south a third Nazi wedge was reported to be threatening Arlon, on the same highway 22 miles below Bastogne and 39 due east of Sedan.

German Communique

[Today's German communiqué declared strong Nazi forces were "pursuing dislodged United States units" on both sides of the Ourthe River in Belgium.

[The German command yesterday asserted that several bridgeheads had been established across that winding river, without disclosing the locations.

[Americans made as many as fourteen "relief attacks" on the northern edge of the German breakthrough between Elsenborn and Stavelot, but all were beaten back, the broadcast communiqué added. Elsenborn is 13 miles east and somewhat north of Stavelot.

[Four new Allied divisions are striking at the Nazis' northern flank and the fighting there is mounting in violence, the German news agency DNB said today. Reuter heard this broadcast.]

St. Hubert is 13 miles southwest of Laroche, an area where the Germans had crossed the Ourthe River at one place.

By latest accounts, the stiffened American defense was holding on the northern penetration front in the St. Vith - Stavelot - Malmedy wedge. The last Allied communiqué said all three towns were still in American hands.

Associated Press Correspondent Harold V. Boyle, in the field, reported that the tip of the northern German wedge which had penetrated as far as Habiemont and Werbomont had been cut off by Americans along the Ambleve River a short distance west of Stavelot.

Nazis Bring Up More Artillery

In the whole wedge, however, the Germans had brought up supporting artillery in an attempt to blast out the lines of doughboys who had fought Field Marshal von Rundstedt's first wave to a stop. The Germans were pouring in more armor for a second try.

New German attacks east of Malmedy, near the villages of Faymonville and Bullange, were fought to a standstill.

The Germans had lost 200 tanks in five days' fighting around Malmedy.

Both flanks of the German breakthrough—at Monschau on the north and near Echternach on the south—were still regarded as firmly held.

Nazi Losses Called High

Supreme headquarters said German losses in manpower and equipment were unquestionably high. Fifty-five tanks or assault guns were known to have been knocked out in a single salient on the Wiltz front, and 28 more were wrecked in the fight for Malmedy, where 200 had previously been knocked out. German prisoners—not many of whom had yet been taken—said their losses in killed and wounded had been very high.

Writing from 21st Army group headquarters, Associated Press Correspondent Roger D. Greene said it would be premature to say that Runstedt's scheme had failed, if he hopes to sweep across the Meuse River, some 65 miles west of the Belgian border, in the first rush.

"But it was clear," this dispatch continued, "that the Allies were gaining important time, and that with every passing day General Eisenhower's countermeasures were growing stronger."

Picture Given From Field

Field advices gave this picture of the situation on the northern flank: In the Monschau sector, 16 miles southeast of Aachen, furious fighting flared over the muddy, snow-covered hills and there was a massing of German strength in that area.

On the southern flank the situation was officially reported stabilized Wednesday around the Luxembourg border city of Echternach.

A front-line dispatch by Associated Press Correspondent Edward D. Ball said the Nazis were checked in the areas of Dickweiler, 2¼ miles southeast of Echternach; Osweiler, 1½ miles to the southeast, and Berdorf, 3 miles west.

In a dispatch dated Thursday, Associated Press Correspondent Lewis Hawkins said the Americans had completed their withdrawal from Berdorf and Echternach.

Nazis Claim 25,000 Prisoners

Ball said that the Germans had rolled up to the area of Arlon, only 10 miles from the French border and 40 miles east of Sedan. The spread of the fighting to Arlon broadened the front deep inside Belgium to about 50 miles.

[A Berlin broadcast last night claimed the capture of St. Vith, in Belgium, less than 4 miles from the border. It claimed that 25,000 American soldiers, including the commander of the St. Vith garrison, were taken prisoner and added that "the number of killed and wounded American soldiers is many times the number of prisoners."

[The German high command claimed that advanced German elements has established several bridgeheads across the Ourthe River but did not say exactly where. Presumably one, at least, was in the vicinity of Laroche and was gained by the southern spearhead.]

Nazi Moves Now Understood

In a dispatch from the United States 7th Army, Thoburn Wiant wrote that the counterattacks being made by the Germans in the Colmar-Mulhouse pocket are more understandable in view of the enemy's success on the American 1st Army front.

After French 1st and American 7th Army troops broke through to the Rhine and started mopping up the Alsatian Plain, the Germans in the Colmar-Mulhouse area began to retreat across the Rhine over the Neuf-Brisach bridge. Then around December 1 the retreat halted and the Germans began flocking back from the Reich into the Alsatian pocket.

In the pocket area yesterday the French repulsed counterattacks at Mittelwihr, 5 miles northwest of Colmar. Other French units occupied La Chapelle, 6 miles west of Colmar, but the town was under violent shelling.

American 7th Army troops still held to the fringe of the Siegfried Line in the Palatinate against scattered artillery fire.

[German patrols 30 to 40 strong swarmed across the Maas River at more than half a dozen points in daylight yesterday and during the night, a Reuter correspondent at 21st Army Group headquarters reported. The crossings, made in assault boats along the northern stretch of the river and at Venlo, were "baiting parties," he said, sent to identify Allied positions and learn their strength. All of the patrols were driven back across the river with casualties.]

NAZIS TRUMPET SUCCESS TALES

Eisenhower Forced To Divert His Armies, Berlin Says

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—German broadcasts trumpeted claims today that General Eisenhower had been forced to drain manpower from his entire Western front in an effort to halt Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive in the north.

While asserting that weakened American forces were retreating to the south, the tone of the Berlin broadcasts indicated Nazi propagandists might be getting ready to disclose the offensive had been slowed or even halted.

One commentator after another spoke of "fierce battles" and of "throwing back repeated counterattacks." The high command's communiqué was headed by a paragraph saying "our troops warded off strong enemy relief attacks up to fourteen times" in the Stavelot area.

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Germans "Hotly Pursuing"

"The American 3d Army continued to evacuate its Saar bridgeheads because General Patton had to move his forces to threatened areas on the northern sector of the vast front," said Transocean. "German troops are hotly pursuing the retreating Americans."

A later Transocean broadcast claimed that Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th Army "started to evacuate a number of pillboxes on the Alsace-Palatinate border" yesterday morning.

Berlin claimed that "the Americans have withdrawn large numbers of troops from the Aachen sector."

Both the Nazi radio and the German communiqué emphasized a claim that the long-surrounded garrison at St. Nazaire, on the coast of the Bay of Biscay, had opened an attack and occupied 80 square kilometers (30 square miles) of territory.

Berlin "Leaving Enemy Groping"

Throughout the day the Germans withheld up-to-the-minute news—whether good or bad.

"The German aim is to leave the enemy groping about in the dark," said one of the military commentators. Capt. Ludwig Ser-

torius.

"They (the Americans) are now attacking in a south-north direction, but in vain. The next few days undoubtedly will see increased attempts on the part of General Eisenhower to transform his improvised defense into a methodical counterattack or counteroffensive."

The Fighting Around Stavelot

German commentators generally claimed the fiercest fighting was around Stavelot, on von Rundstedt's northern flank. Sertorius reporting that Allied tank attacks "are carried out with suicidal tenacity."

The German communiqué said that on both sides of the Ourthe River German forces were pursuing dislodged United States units.

Far to the south the Germans claimed the recapture of Dillingen, on the Saar River, and announced repeated crossings of the Saar in Patton's territory.

Nazis Resort To Old Trick

The Nazis resorted to an old trick of the 1940 *Blitzkrieg* days, broadcasting what it claimed was a report from a Belgian radio urging citizens to evacuate a number of cities, including the industrial center of Charleroi. Refugee-choked roads would hamper Allied military traffic.

Sertorius said the winter offensive already had proved its worth by forcing the Allies to break off their own drive.

Calling von Rundstedt's thrust a "daring enterprise," he added:

"But it must not be forgotten that it has an intact West Wall to fall back on."

1,000 Germans Die in One Mile Of Belgian Soil

Elite Guard Division Hits a Stone-Wall U. S. Line, Is Forced to Pull Back

IN THE MALMEDY SECTOR, Belgium, Dec. 23 (AP).—Leaving more than 1,000 dead in an area of a single square mile, the German command had to pull back a battered Elite Guard division today that had been mauled by American soldiers for the last five days.

The Allied air forces struck at the extended German tentacles for the first time since the enemy offensive started.

During the night the entire complexion of the front changed on this vital north

flank. Hard-freezing weather put a firm crust on fields and roads that were slush twelve hours ago. The skies cleared and thousands of Allied planes roamed the battle area.

The cold was so sharp that soldiers behind the actual front grouped around small bonfires in fields and at crossroads.

Hundreds of the Hitler Youth organization did not feel the cold, however, for they lay dead, with white snow dotting their gray-clad bodies in no man's land between the hulks of some thirty tanks that lay just over the hill from here.

Supplies Flown to U.S. Troops

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, Dec. 23 (AP).—American planes dropped supplies to troops in the Bastogne area of Belgium today. Pilots of Thunderbolts escorting the C-47 transport planes said the relief craft went in low and dropped their supplies accurately by parachute.

SAYS NAZI WOMEN TRY TO TRAP YANKS

London, Dec. 23 (A. P.).—English - speaking German women, equipped with knives, are being dropped by parachute inside the American lines, according to the Daily Telegraph's Paris correspondent who quoted reports from an area near the First Army front.

Seven women are said to have been arrested and to have confessed that their mission was to seduce American soldiers and then kill them, the correspondent said.

U. S. Strikes at Southern Flank

WITH AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 23 (AP).—Announcing the first American counterblows from the south, the 12th Army Group said today that American forces had cut into the lower flank of the German penetration, with gains north of Mersch, in Luxemburg. Mersch is eight and a half miles north of the city of Luxemburg.

The exact gains or exact locations of the advances were not disclosed.

A report covering action up to the early hours of Friday also said that enemy forces had reached Mohret, in southeastern Belgium, six miles southwest of Bastogne and thirty-three miles northeast of Sedan.

The enemy cut the road northeast of Hotton, which is on the west bank of the Ourthe River eight miles northwest of La Roche.

Patch Sends Yule Greetings To His Army

With the U.S. 7th Army, Dec. 23 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch sent the following Christmas message to his men today:

"This year many of you will be spending your third Christmas far from your homes and your loved ones. You have become accustomed to living among strange foreign surroundings during past Yuletime seasons. It is not expected that this year will be very different and I cannot wish for you the impossible—that you will pass a merry day. I can merely extend my thanks and appreciation for your splendid achievements in speeding the day when we can be reunited with our families so we may once more say, 'Peace on earth, good-will toward men.'"

Belgian Father's Christmas Feeling

Somewhere in Belgium, Dec. 22 [*AP—Delayed*]—On open Christmas letter "to General Eisenhower and his brave warriors" was published in a local newspaper today.

It was written by a Belgian father. It concerned American soldiers who cheerfully shared tidbits from their ration kits with pale-faced Belgian children begging gum and candy.

"We are anguished at the thought you may return home thinking of our children as beggars," the writer said.

"For almost four years when they asked us for everything childhood dotes upon we have had to tell them 'later.'

"When they asked us more precisely when this 'later' was coming we told them 'after the war ends.'

"When they wanted to know when the war would end, we could only say, 'When the Americans come.'

"That is why all of them go out to you in full confidence, as if to Father Noel (Santa Claus)—because Father Noel never regarded them as beggars."

Officer Is Decorated For Aid in Picking D Day

Col. Yates Gets Medal for His Weather Forecasting

LONDON, Dec. 23 (AP).—Colonel Donald Yates, of Bangor, Me., received the Legion of Merit today for his part in deciding what day should be D Day.

Lieutenant General Carl Spaatz, commander of the United States strategic Air Forces in Europe, pinned the medal on Colonel Yates at a ceremony during which five other flyers were decorated.

Colonel Yates's "good judgment, skill, sound leadership and reconciliation of differences" in forecasting the weather for June 6 won him the award.

"The value of his advice since has been proven," the citation said, "as the day selected for the Continental assault probably was the only day during the month of June on which the operation could have been launched."

Gen. Kane Gets Air Command

UNITED STATES AIR SERVICE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS IN EUROPE, Dec. 23 (AP).—Brigadier General Clarence Kane, of San Diego, Calif., and Fairfield, Ohio, has been made commanding general of the Air Service Command for Europe, succeeding Major General Hugh Knerr. General Knerr continues as deputy commander for United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe.

U.S. Nurses Remain Cool, Calm Under Buzz-Bomb Raids

Somewhere in Belgium, Dec. 22 [*AP — Delayed*] — United States Army nurses are weathering the heaviest buzz-bomb attacks of the war with a calmness that causes some rear echelon soldiers to think twice before ducking into a corner everytime they hear a V-1 overhead.

Dozens of bombs are falling in some areas in Belgium day and night, smashing houses to bits and causing casualties, yet the nurses go about their duties as though they were working in a peaceful hospital back home and the explosions were only the backfire of trucks.

"Cool And Collected"

After observing the attitude of her fellow nurses at a general hospital in the buzz-bomb zone Lieutenant Angela Brinker, of Richmond, Ind., said:

"I think it is remarkable how cool and collected most of them are, especially when women are thought of as having hysterical tendencies.

"It seems to me the smart thing for everyone to do it to go on about their business and don't think about it. When your turn comes, that's it.

"These bombs make you realize you are just another person and that life hangs by a thread, but I had rather go my normal way and keep thinking that is the last one over rather than wait for the next one to come along.

"Frightened At First"

"We were frightened a little at first, but it is only natural to get used to it after being around here for a while."

Lieut. Lois Beck, of Lebanon, Ind., said the noise "wakes you up at night, like last night when four or five seemed to land awfully close, but when you realize the chances are small that you'll get it, there is not much cause for alarm."

"The London air raids," she said, "were more frightening."

Miss Beck has been overseas sixteen months and said she liked Belgium "very much, because I have been able to get a lot of shopping done and had my first ice cream here since leaving the States."

West-Front GI's To Have 'White Christmas'

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—A heavy snowfall along the Western front has guaranteed a White Christmas for America's fighting men, but in that respect alone will it be like the traditional Yuletide. A great proportion of the doughboys will be fighting for their lives.

Some have the prospect of spending Christmas surrounded by Germans, others of wielding guns in counterattacks designed to drive the enemy back into Germany.

As on Thanksgiving, turkey has been taken to the front for every United States soldier. But not all will get it on Christmas Day. Most of those in the actual line will eat the usual canned rations. Their turkey will be saved and they will have Christmas dinner when they come out of battle.

Germans Capture Turkey

Some Germans may feast on American Christmas turkey, too, for they have captured much material in their winter offensive and it is probable that Yuletide items were included in the booty.

Hundreds of thousands of Christmas parcels from home already have reached the troops in France. But some soldiers are complaining they have received none—and declare they must have been lost or stolen.

The Christmas dinner planned for each soldier of the British 2d Army consists of canned chicken, fig pudding, a box of cigarettes and candy, and a small flask of rum.

In Britain, many English families will share their holiday rations with Americans far from home. In Birmingham alone more than 500 Americans will be entertained in private homes.

The Army has decorated mess halls with evergreens. The Red Cross is planning dances and other entertainments.

The Yanks themselves are playing Santa Claus in a big way. An example is one United States hospital where the patients have donated their own candy and other gifts for a party at which 700 British youngsters will be feted. Similar events will take place in France, Belgium and Holland.

There's Christmas caroling, too. One group of 40 American army men and women is traveling London singing carols in underground shelters and on the streets. British choirs are singing at American hospitals, airfields and camps.

For several hundred British children this will be the first Christmas at home in four years. They returned recently from wartime stays in Canada and the United States.

American officials immediately called this to the attention of the French Government and in future all civilians charged with similar offenses will face a French military tribunal.

Officers say the losses have not affected the great battle now raging in Belgium and Luxembourg one way or another. Maj. Gen. Henry Benton Sayler, chief ordnance officer in the European theater of operations, reported the thefts had no bearing on the current military situation.

Hundreds of Americans

At 8 A. M. today in just one detention barracks in Paris 1,308 Americans were under arrest and more than half of these are charged with misappropriation of Government property.

In another detention cage are 181 enlisted men and three officers charged with selling a trainload of cigarettes, soap and other supplies to the black market. They were members of two battalions operating a railroad. They will face a general court the first week in January.

"This group sent over $200,000 in Post Office money orders and cashier checks back home," said Col. E. G. Buhrmaster, provost marshal of the Seine base section, of Schenectady, N. Y. "Every one of them had between $5,000 and $6,000 on him when I picked them up."

But the big theft is in gasoline

Hundreds Of U. S. Soldiers Held For Hijacking Of Gas In France

Paris, Dec. 23 (AP)—Thousands of gallons of American gasoline intended for the Allied war machines at the front are being hijacked daily and fed into the French black market.

Cigarettes and post exchange supplies as well have been stolen in carload lots—mostly by American soldiers—and sold at fantastic prices. Hundreds have been arrested.

A tightening of the French Government's attitude toward the French black market agents involved has been promised. At least 5,000 unauthorized automobiles have been taken from civilians who were unable to disclose the source of their gasoline.

Two Soldiers Get Life

Two American enlisted men were sentenced to life imprisonment by a general court in November for selling Government property to black market agents. Implicated in the same offense was a French civilian. Tried before a French civil court, the Frenchman was let off with a fine of 1,200 francs ($26).

and the losses by pilferage run into hundreds of thousands of gallons a week.

"This place is getting to be like Chicago in the days of Al Capone," Buhrmaster said. "They hijack trucks right off the road. They drive a car between the last couple of trucks in a convoy, stick a gun in the driver's belly and tell him to vamoose.

"Then they sell the truck for 250,000 francs. Under the German evaluation this was only $1,500, but at the American rate of two cents to the franc it amounts to $5,000. Our evaluation of the franc is the basis of the black market."

Major Sent $36,000 Home

Buhrmaster said one major had sent $36,000 home in a short time. A corporal was reported to have sent $1,200 in five days and two other enlisted men sent $2,600 and $2,000

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home within a few days.

"Many of these kids were never in any kind of trouble before, but they saw all this easy money and couldn't resist the temptation to get into it," Buhrmaster said.

General Sayler commented that "people don't steal bullets and tanks, because they can't dispose of them."

"The only 'hot' items on the ordnance list are watches and field glasses," he said. "We caught one soldier who stole 300 watches and he's in the penitentiary. But our firepower supplies are untouched."

A high-ranking communications officer said that the thefts of gasoline occurred hundreds of miles behind the combat zone. He said fuel levels in the combat area were satisfactorily high and that even the figure of hundreds of thousands of gallons lost weekly was only a fractional part of one per cent of the available supply.

2,000 Vehicles Stolen

In the Paris area alone the theft of military vehicles has topped the 2,000 mark, but the majority have been recovered.

In a normal week's activity between December 14 and December 21 military police in the Seine section recovered 41,700 packages of cigarettes and 2,120 cans—five-gallon containers—of gasoline.

"I am absoluely sure the recent cigarette supply breakdown was due to black market activity," one officer said. "The black market price is 150 francs a package and during the shortage here the price never varied. The black market had plenty."

Military police said they believed pilferage had been drastically curtailed in recent weeks by rigid control of supplies and measures against theft. All railroad trains are escorted by military guards with instructions to shoot to kill.

Oil pipelines, supply dumps and convoy routes are guarded.

But in Paris alone between 800 and 900 soldiers still are being arrested weekly for one offense or another.

3 Spies, Acting Like Yanks, Executed

Paris, Dec. 23 (AP)—The first German spies captured in American uniform during the Nazi counteroffensive were executed today, supreme headquarters announced. One officer candidate and two noncommissioned officers were put to death by a firing squad.

The Germans were described as part of a group trained to impersonate Americans, and admitted they were assigned to reconnoiter the condition of bridges and roadways along the Meuse.

They were caught by United States military police at Ayawaille 11 miles southeast of Liege in Belgium, wearing American uniforms and armed with American weapons. They were driving an American truck.

The spies were executed after a court-martial.

Following is the text of the announcement:

"The first execution of German spies captured in American uniforms during the current German counter-offensive took place today when one officer candidate and two non-commissioned officers met death before a firing squad after conviction by an American military court.

"Part of a group trained to impersonate Americans in order to locate and sabotage communications, the Germans also admitted that they were trying to reconnoiter the condition of bridges over the River Meuse and of roads leading to these bridges. They were to radio these reports back to their headquarters.

"The three Germans were arrested by the American Military Police at Aywaille when they failed to produce proper identification. They were wearing American uniforms and were armed with American weapons. They were driving an American quarter-ton truck. The prisoners admitted they were trained for espionage and sabotage behind the American lines and said they wore German parachute troopers' suits over their American uniforms to hide their mission from their own troops. They took off these garments and posed as Americans after they passed through the German lines. The executed men were Officer Candidate Guenther Billing, 21; Naval Signal Service Sergt. Manfred Pernass, 23, and Corporal Wilhelm Schmidt, 24.

SOVIETS SMASH WESTWARD IN DANUBE VALLEY

Red Army Troops Gain 16 Miles in Drive Toward Vienna

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—A hard-fighting Russian thrust westward above the Danube River in Hungary has gained as much as 16 miles and placed Red Army troops within 100 miles of Vienna and 72 of Bratislava, Moscow disclosed tonight as action flamed on the Southeastern front in many sectors.

The Soviet communique ignored a German radio announcement that Red Army forces had entered the southern and eastern suburbs of beleaguered Budapest in a new frontal assault, but described heavy fighting at distances northeast, north, northwest and southwest of the Hungarian capital.

Nine Towns Won

The drive towards Bratislava and Vienna through mountainous, wooded country below Ipoly Sag and north of the Danube, captured nine towns and reached the barrier of the Ipoly River on a 10-mile front down to its confluence with the Danube, Moscow disclosed. The Russians were virtually on the river for another 10 miles right up to the Ipoly Sag area.

The German DNB Agency in a late broadcast conceded that the Russians actually had crossed the Ipoly and had reached the valley of the Hron (Gran) River a dozen miles farther west on former Czechoslovak territory.

Berlin, purposely obscure about the exact location of this action, claimed a German counter-attack had cut off this Soviet wedge and encircled an isolated Russian grouping of troops.

The Moscow communique announced, without giving place names, that "in the area north of Ipoly Sag (Sahy) our troops successfully repulsed counter-attacks of large formations of enemy tanks and inflicted heavy losses in manpower and equipment."

Among the Hungarian towns which the Russians listed as captured along the Ipoly River was Tolges, 100 miles southeast of Vienna and but 72 from Bratislava, capital of the German puppet state of Slovakia.

Renew Offensive

Southwest of Budapest, on the front between the Danube and Lake Balaton, the Russians announced they had again gone on the offensive in the area of the city of Szekesfehervar and were now engaged in heavy fighting with large enemy tank and infantry formations.

In northeast Hungary, where the enemy now is pinned in a sack-shaped strip of territory about 30 miles long by 15 in depth, Moscow's communiqué announced capture of eleven towns in a 25-mile-long ring at distances of 20 to 25 miles south and southeast of Losonc.

Moscow's communiqué said that in northeast Hungary Friday the Soviet 2d Ukraine Army had maintained its 1,000-a-day prisoner average by capturing 1,050 German and Hungarian officers and men.

As an indication of the bitter nature of the fighting all along the fronts, Moscow announced that on Friday 107 German tanks had been knocked out. This made a total of 208 in two days.

Officially, the Russians continued to ignore both the Baltic front, where the Germans have said a new Red Army drive is in progress, and the Budapest battle, which the Germans insisted was nearing a climax.

Russians Enter Outer Suburbs Of Budapest

London, Dec. 23 (AP) — Russian forces have broken into Budapest's southern and eastern "outer suburbs," the German broadcast said tonight, declaring that "the battle for the Hungarian capital is nearing its climax."

The thrusts into the city's outskirts were said by German reports to be a part of a massive triple offensive whose outer prongs are aimed at complete encirclement of the capital.

Spreads Action

According to German broadcast reports, this renewed Budapest drive brings large sections of the Eastern front in Hungary, Slovakia and Latvia into flaming action.

The Nazi accounts say that Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky has regrouped and resupplied his forces for an all-out drive to cut off the capital and that other forces southwest of the city have scored advances.

101 Nazi Tanks in One Day.

Moscow, Dec. 23 (A. P.).—An official Soviet announcement of the destruction of 101 German tanks in a twenty-four-hour period ending Thursday night gave realistic support today to German reports that the Red Army's great winter offensive is getting under way.

The fact that the long eastern front now lies under hard, firm snow, with deep freezes, offers the Russians just the kind of weather needed for their slashing attacks. Throughout the war they have always commenced their biggest winter operations in just such weather and temperatures.

The Soviets are better equipped than the Germans and the record shows conclusively that they are consistently able to outfight them when the cold sets in.

The Russian High Command did not say where the Nazis suffered this huge loss of panzers. The Germans, however, reported that a mighty force of 270,000 winter-hardened Russian troops was on the move in snow-swept Latvia, where an estimated thirty Nazi divisions are pocketed against the Baltic.

Further official reports of these huge tank losses would mean that a terrific panzer battle is going on somewhere and the sector is not likely to be Slovakia, for it is a mountainous country not suited for tank operations.

There was a likelihood that large-scale fighting was taking place in the five-mile wide strip between the Ipoly and the Gran rivers, north of Budapest, although the High Command was saying nothing about it.

Berlin broadcasts described the Soviet surge in Latvia as "a big push of extreme operational importance."

Reports here early today said the long eastern front was stirring into action.

Red Army units at the southern end of the front drove to within nine miles of the important Slovakian rail center of Losonc (Lucenec), threatening to engulf a sizable force of Germans pushed from the Hungarian Matra Mountains by another Russian drive up from the south.

The communique announced the capture of seven Slovak localities east of Losonc and ten others in northern Hungary southeast of the city, including the sixway rail junction of Kisterenye. In this area the Russians took 1,755 prisoners Thursday, the bulletin said.

700,000 SLAIN IN LWOW CAMP

Soviet Report Says Himmler Ordered Tortures

By EDDY GILMORE

Moscow, Dec. 23 (AP)—A Soviet extraordinary state commission investigating war crimes reported today that 700,000 persons, including an undetermined number of citizens of the United States and Britain, had been killed by the Germans in three camps in Lwow province, Poland.

The report did not list the names of the Americans and Britons, nor did it give any further details concerning them. The victims of all nationalities were said to include both civilians and prisoners of war.

Washed Stairs With Tongues

Writers, artists and musicians were made to wash the stairways of one seven-story building with their tongues and then were compelled to pick up garbage with their lips, the report said.

In another incident, the report related, the commander of one of the camps, the Yanov camp, threw two 4-year-old children into the air and shot them to amuse his own 9-year-old daughter.

The committee said it was also established that at the three camps —Yanov, Sitadel and Lisenitz—the Gestapo devised the "human icicle" treatment, which consisted of putting bound prisoners into barrels of water and then placing the barrels outside in below-zero temperatures, with guards standing over them, until they became frozen in ice.

Say Himmler Took Part

Heinrich Himmler, Gestapo chief, was said to have participated directly in the crimes, visiting the camps several times for personal ...ection.

...s a result of this," the report ..., "the Lwow atrocities of the ...rman monsters were distinguished by particular 'refinements.' ...hey bear the mark of the personality of Himmler himself."

The German Government, said the report, systematically sent to the Lwow camps prisoners of war and civilians of foreign states from concentration camps in Germany, and then tortured and killed them.

The victims were said to have included Ukrainians, Poles, Czechoslovaks, Yugoslavs, Americans, Britons, Netherlanders, Italians and citizens of other states, including many Jews. The reports were confirmed, the commission said, by numerous statements of Soviet citizens and also by French prisoners of war who had been confined in the camps and were liberated by the Red Army.

Children For Targets

The commission reported that "children were selected and given to detachments of the Hitler youth as targets for shooting practice."

One French witness was quoted: "In the camp where I arrived September 3, 1942, Englishmen were killed by slow degrees. There was only one water tap in this camp for 12,000 people. Prisoners were allowed to use it for only four or five hours a day.

"German guards terrorized us. For the smallest fault we were threatened with death. We were not allowed to drink water. We starved. In the morning we could hardly stand on our legs. We got 200 grams (7 ounces) of bread a day. The soup was just water. We slept on the ground. There were fleas and bugs everywhere."

War Prisoners Died

In one camp for war prisoners, the report said, nearly 3,000 prisoners died of dysentery in the four months from August through November, 1941, and nearly 5,000 prisoners died through a typhoid epidemic.

"In one execution ground in a forest more than 200,000 people were killed," the report said.

The commission reported that 136,000 Jews were confined in one ghetto camp, and that 130,000 were killed in this camp from September 7, 1941, to June 6, 1943.

On special order of Himmler and an S.S. (Elite Guard) major general named Katman, thousands of corpses were said to have been exhumed in June, 1943, and then burned and the ashes sifted by special machines to recover 110,000 kilograms (about 121 tons) of gold from watches, teeth, etc.

700,000 Slain At Lwow By Nazis: Russ

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Moscow radio said today an extraordinary Soviet commission had established that nearly 700,000 persons, including an undetermined number of Americans and British from German prison camps, were tortured and slain in the Nazi extermination camp at Lwow.

The broadcast, recorded here by the Soviet monitor, said an additional 200,000 persons were killed in another Nazi camp at Janow. And that children were slaughtered in target practice.

Number Not Given

The broadcast did not make clear whether the British and Americans were prisoners of war or civilians and did not state their number.

Relating eyewitness descriptions of the most horrible terror-tactics, the broadcast said the commission had established Heinrich Himmler's direct participation in the Lwow atrocities. It said the Gestapo chief visited Lwow, in the eastern part of what was pre-war Poland, several times. It was overrun by the Russians some time ago.

Confirmation Claimed

The broadcast said the commission's report was confirmed by numerous statements of Soviet citizens, as well as by French prisoners who were liberated by the Red Army.

"Children were selected and given to detachments of Hitler Youth as targets for shooting practice," the commission said.

Many Frenchmen and Englishmen also were killed by slow degrees in a camp at Rava Russkaya, the report said. A Frenchman was quoted as saying that when he arrived at the camp in September, 1943, there was only one water tap for the use of 12,000 prisoners, and the prisoners were allowed to use it only a few hours a day.

Deliberate Epidemic

The report said a typhoid epidemic was introduced in one camp by deliberately putting typhoid sufferers among healthy prisoners. It took 5,000 lives, the commission said.

The report described special measures taken on Himmler's orders in June, 1943, when thousands of corpses were exhumed and burned and the ashes sifted by special machines. By this means, the report said, 110,000 kilograms of gold was recovered and sent back to Germany.

The commission said a special school had been established at Lwow to train cadres for exhuming bodies and burning them. Later the sites were camouflaged with trees and bushes.

Romania Assassination Plot

MOSCOW, Dec. 23 (AP).—The Moscow radio reported a dispatch from Bucharest today describing an attempt by two members of the land owners class to kill Romanian Vice-Premier Peter Groza at a theater.

Soviet Casey Jones Acclaimed By Press Throughout Russia

Moscow, Dec. 23—(AP)—Locomotive engineer D. A. Dolgikh of Tula was acclaimed throughout the Russian press today as a sort of Soviet Casey Jones.

The story which promises to turn into a saga of the Soviet railroads began at Tula, a town just down the line from Moscow.

Dolgikh's engine was pulling a lot of important cars and was scheduled for a quick run into Donbas. Just before departure time, however, engine trouble developed.

The engineer quickly discovered a broken part in the firebox.

The fireman observed that to fix it meant the entire firebox would have to be cleaned, a process which would take hours.

Dolgikh, with an eye on his watch and the schedule, shook his head and said there was not time.

The engineer picked up shovels full of coaldust and covered the fire. He then drenched himself with ice-cold water and hopped into the firebox, press accounts of the incident related.

He ripped out the broken part, did a quick repair job and hopped back out.

"Give her the steam and let her roll," he said, apparently none the worse for his experience.

The train got to its destination and Dolgikh won a valuable prize.

AIR BATTLES RAGE AT FRONT

171 German Planes Shot Down By American Flyers

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—The might of Allied air power was thrown in today over the snow-covered Western front in an attempt to check the German drive into Belgium and Luxembourg as more than 400 heavy bombers and more than 1,000 fighter-bombers pounded Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's lines.

In some of the fiercest air battles of the war at least 171 enemy planes were shot down by American fighters and bombers which escaped with much smaller losses. Three heavy bombers and 13 fighters were reported missing by the United States 8th Air Force, based in Britain.

[A report to Allied headquarters in Paris said incomplete figures showed a total of 178 enemy planes had been destroyed.]

Nazi Fighters Swarm Up

Three hundred planes of the United States 9th Air Force based in France shot down at least 29 of the German fighters which rose by the hundreds to protect the German supply lines. The 9th's losses were not reported here.

Meanwhile, RAF Lancasters battered targets in the Rhineland, and their escorting Mustangs and Spitfires strafed ground targets and shot down one German.

The *Luftwaffe* fought frantically against the American airmen, who had been waiting anxiously three days for clearing weather to lend a hand to the hard-pressed ground forces on the Western front.

Americans Carry Brunt

The Americans carried the brunt of the air attacks, more than 400 heavy bombers hitting railyards near Trier and just west of Mannheim and rail junctions along the front betwee Coblenz and the Belgian border, while rocket-firing fighter-bombers gave escort and struck at the German spearheads.

Today's attacks were officially described in an e8th Air Force communiqué as "designed to disrupt the movement of German troops and material to sectors where the enemy offensive has reached into Belgium and Luxembourg."

Results "Fair To Good"

"Fair to good" results were obtained as the bombardiers dropped their loads visually. Seven hundred Britain-based fighters of the 8th Tactical Air Force escorted the heavyweights, while 300 France-based 9th Air Force planes concentrated on German tank columns and other vehicles.

First reports said that at least twelve German tanks were known to have been knocked out, and 30 trucks carrying supplies to the front were destroyed.

Marauders joined the Lightning and Mustang pilots in the strafing of German armored and infantry columns.

The American heavy bomber strike was during mid-day, and later 100 RAF Lancasters escorted by Spitfires and Mustangs battered the garrison and rail town of Trier itself. During the night, the RAF bombers also attacked rail yards at Coblenz and Bingen, situated strategically on the Rhine behind the German spearheads thrusting into Belgium. Six German fighters were shot down and three British planes lost.

Ammunition Train Blown Up

RAF Mosquito fighter-bombers also got in several licks at German transport behind the Belgian battlefront during the night, blowing up one entire freight train loaded with ammunition.

The Germans used their best pilots, who attacked in waves of 40 to 50 planes. For the most part the Germans kept away from the bombers and attempted only to keep the fleet American fighters away from German invasion columns.

German flak was only moderate, returning pilots said, the Nazis relying chiefly on their revived fighter force to cover their attacking ground troops.

Eagerness to get at von Runstedt's army was prevalent at Air Force headquarters. Given good weather, the airmen believed that a "few more cracks" at the Germans could put enough strain on the enemy's supply lines to turn the tide.

LUFTWAFFE GIVES BATTLE AS ALLIES ATTACK OFFENSIVE

Waves of German Fighters Tackle American Flyers —84 Nazis Downed.

London, Dec. 23 (A. P.).—Hundreds of war planes attacked the German counter-offensive today despite fanatical Nazi opposition as the weather suddenly broke in Allied favor.

Waves of German fighters bunched in tight formations of forty and fifty were tackled by American fighters, and by nightfall at least eighty-four Nazi planes had been shot down by Thunderbolt, Lightning and Mustang pilots of the American Eighth and Ninth Air Forces.

Railroad yards, junction points and columns of German tanks and trucks were silhouetted in bright sunlight against the snow-covered ground, affording perfect targets for some 400 Flying Fortresses and Liberators from Britain and their 700 fighter escorts.

Besides the railyards at Ehrang, near Trier, and Kaiserslautern, part of the 1,500-ton bomb load of the big planes fell on three road junctions squarely behind the counter-attacking Germans.

Returning pilots said most targets were hit visually as the snow and mist which has shrouded the German advance for days cleared and a brilliant sun shone on the battlefield. Attacks on all objectives were rated "fair" to "good" by United States Strategic Air Force officers after interviewing returning airmen.

First pilots returning to Britain said the German air force was up in strength and that the skies were ablaze with dogfights.

Col. Dave Shilling Becomes Top Ace In European War

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—Col. Dave Schilling, who commands an ace fighter group in Europe, became the leading ace himself today in the European theater. By getting five German planes, making his total bagged 34½—of which 24½ were in the air and 10 on the ground.

The 26-year-old Traverse City, Mich., pilot led his group into one of the fiercest dogfights of the war when they tangled with 250 German Messerschmitts and Focke-wulfs and shot down 35 of them.

Schilling is a protege of Col. Hubert Zemke of Missoula, Mont., who was known as the United States' fightin'est commander in Europe before he went down two months ago just a mile inside Germany and was taken prisoner.

The old record that Schilling broke was held by another Zemke protege who also is a prisoner now—Lt. Col. Francis Gabreski of Oil City, Pa., who had 31 planes to his credit—28 in the air and three on the ground.

Ironically, both Zemke and Gabreski went down on their last missions, Zemke making a final flight before acceding to requests that he accept a desk job and Gabreski before going home to be married.

Waterford Fighter Pilot Fells Nazi in Air Combat

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—Four German fighter planes attacked the Flying Fortress "Blue Grass Gal" today after the big plane had become separated from the rest of the formation. Two fighters were shot down.

Credited with downing the two fighters were Sgt. Richard Warwick top-turret gunner from Hickory, N. C., and Sgt. Arthur Clarke Jr., of New York.

Among fighter pilots claiming kills were Lieut. Robert Benefield, Walla Walla, Wash., and Lieut. Emery Cook, Waterford, Conn.

New Nazi Weapon Termed 'V-1½'

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—Several British newspapers, without giving the source of their information, designated the newest German secret weapon last night as V-1½.

The weapon has been in use during the present German offensive. The newspapers suggested it might be a self-propelled shell—a weapon having some features of the V-1 flying bomb and the V-2 rocket.

More than 1,000 V-2's have been launched against the Allies since the beginning of the rocket attacks in September, the Berlin radio said today. The broadcast said that for some time the Germans have been producing "a considerable quantity of the weapons in factories which are secure from enemy attack."

NEW ASSEMBLY IS ELECTED IN FREE HUNGARY

Provisional Body Meets—Plans Co-operation With Allies

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—Moscow announced tonight that a provisional Hungarian National Assembly had been elected in liberated portions of that country and had started work at Debrecen to establish a new provisional government which would co-operate with the United Nations.

The broadcast of the Moscow announcement, recorded here by the Soviet Monitor, said the 230-member Assembly held an organizational meeting December 21 and issued an appeal to the Hungarian people to break with Hitler's Germany and join with the United Nations.

The new government as it is authorized to set up would rival the puppet regime of Pro-Nazi Ferenc Szalasi which has fled from besieged Budapest to Sopron on the Austro-Hungarian border.

The Assembly elected as its president Bela Zede, Professor of the Juridical Academy at Miskolc. Vice Presidents are Kalman Santo, Professor at Debrecen University, and Dr. Sandor Yuhadnagy, a leader of the Reform Church in Hungary.

It met in a building of the Reform College.

Delegates to the Assembly were elected by Hungarian citizens in liberated territory in voting December 13 to 20, the Moscow radio reported.

The Assembly, it said, called for a break with Nazi Germany, an armistice with the Allies and joining the war for Hungary's liberation.

"We must break with Hitlerite Germany," tthe Assembly declaration was quoted. "We must sign an armistice with the victorious Allied powers, the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the U. S. A.

"We must not stand aside with folded arms while the Russian Army alone is liberating our motherland from the German yoke. We will truly merit the right to freedom and independence only when we ourselves with all our might take part in our own liberation."

Moscow said the Assembly represented "all democratic parties, trade unions, local government, local national committees, peasant unions, industrial associations and other public organizations" in liberated Hungary.

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YULE SPIRIT IS BYPASSING EUROPE AGAIN

LANDSTROM

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—For the sixth straight year the Christmas spirit will by-pass Europe, its belligerents locked now in perhaps the final struggle and most of its hearts desolate.

The German counteroffensive has pulled up the Allied armies tautly and made them determined to set right this reverse on the Western front.

In the mud and blood of the fiercely-contested ground where Marshal von Rundstedt cast his challenge there can be nothing approximating Christmas, not even the ordinary Christmas at the front when special food and gifts are passed forward.

Consequently, London, Paris, Brussels and Rome naturally feel far less disposed to celebrate.

Peace Is Delayed

Yet the people do not want to be—nor are they encouraged to be—morbidly gloomy. News of peace, the finest Christmas story, will be delayed, and at tragic cost, but its coming is inevitable.

As in the past, therefore, Americans and Britons here are exchanging courtesies, the former sharing the good things of their Red Cross clubs with children denied a normal family life, and the latter receiving U. S. service men into their home.

Red Cross clubs are serving free turkey dinners and sponsoring parties, concerts, movies and dances. United Seamen's Service is taking care of many merchant sailors of the Allied nations.

Similar arrangements were made in several Belgian and French cities.

Apart from the frontline jolt, the British had troubles with the black market flourishing in poultry, liquor and toys. Only a relatively small number of people are able to eat turkey, chicken or goose. Most could get only a piece of beef or pork.

Though Winter holiday travel is not at a record level, travellers flocked to most London railroad stations early today in order to make the most of a vacation lasting until Wednesady. In England the day following Christmas—boxing day—also is a holiday.

In Neutral Lands

Only in neutral lands were there any real outward Christmas signs. The sixth war Christmas finds Switzerland something like a magic island in a thrashing sea. Refugees of half a dozen battle-ridden neighbors gaze into well-filled shop windows. Things long vanished in other countries are displayed in Switzerland, but their prices are staggering.

In Dublin citizens of Eire fare well enough for food, provided they have money, and in Stockholm the folk are even better off.

The grimmest of all will be the German Christmas. From Bern, Switzerland, comes an Associated Press dispatch quoting the German newspaper Appenzeller Zeitung:

"In place of bells are air raid sirens. The Christmas cake, goose and carp are only memories, no longer a part of the vocabulary of the German Christmas.

Not Even Carols"

"Last year Germans were exhorted to make practical gifts. Not even Christmas cards are permitted this year."

In Nazi-occupied Italy bitterness is increasing with the cold weather. Communists and Socialists of industrial Milan, Turin and Genoa were reported to have adopted a Christmas motto: "Christmas liberation or Christmas blood." Skirmishes of Partisans with Fascist and German troops continues. Germans are moving cattle to the fatherland by the thousands.

A year ago Budapest, the Hungarian capital, was still one of the elegant continental cities, but today it belongs to the front line. Reports reaching Bern said that 60 per cent of its stores were closed, its hotels empty and thousands of its population of two million heading westward.

Once gay Vienna is apathetic, said a dispatch to the National Zeitung of Basel, Switzerland. Suburban plants still are making armaments for the Nazis with the help of 700,000 foreign workers, whom the Germans fear, the paper said.

Norway Acts To Rebuild Depleted Merchant Navy

London, Dec. 23—(AP)—Nearly 50 per cent of Norway's merchant navy has been lost since the start of the war, but steps to rebuild it already are under way, Maj. Arne Sunde, Norwegian minister of shipping announced tonight. Before the war the Norwegian merchant fleet was the third largest in the world.

Sunde, in a broadcast beamed to Norway, said Swedish shipyards have practically completed the construction of 300,000 deadweight tons of ships on orders placed by the Norwegian Shipping and Trade Mission. Contracts for even larger tonnage have been placed, he said.

E-Boats Attack Convoy; 9 Hit In Battle

London, Dec. 23 (AP)—Strong forces of German E-boats attacked an Allied convoy en route to Antwerp last night, but were battered and beaten off without inflicting any damage, the Admiralty announced today.

At least two E-boats were sunk, two probably sunk and five others were damaged during the battle, lasting almost until daybreak, with British ships and light coastal forces.

The E-boats attacked just off the mouth of the Schelde River, in their first appearance in weeks, the Admiralty added.

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U.S. Officer Barricades Himself In Leeds Hotel

Leeds, Eng., Dec. 23 (AP)—An American Army officer, just back from the Western front, was hospitalized for shell shock last night after he had barricaded himself in a hotel room with a Sten gun for six hours and threatened all who attempted to enter.

Firemen finally entered a window by a ladder and overpowered him. His identity was withheld.

Air Commodore Silly Dies

LONDON, Dec. 23 (AP).—Air Commodore Benjamin James Silly, who appeared in the British film "Target for Tonight," the record of a typical Royal Air Force bombing raid on Germany, has died in a Japanese prison camp in Formosa, it was disclosed last night. He formerly commanded Britain's Pembroke Dock Air Station.

Ex-Bureau Chief Held

Stockholm, Dec. 23 (AP)—Police authorities today announced the arrest of John Alexander Lonnegren, former chief of the Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau, on charges of supplying to Germany information on Norwegian refugees in Sweden. Lonnegren left his post in the telegraph bureau more than a year ago.

600,000 Hungarian Jews Deported, Report

Geneva, Switzerland, Dec. 23 (AP). The world Jewish Congress announced today that 600,000 Jews were deported from Hungary during the past two months, with some going to compulsory labor in Germany but most being sent to the Auschwitz extermination camp.

The congress also reported that the Iron Cross party, aided by the Nazis, is conducting a pogrom against 250,000 Jews who until now had been permitted to remain in "Jewish houses" in Budapest. That number had been reduced to 75,000 by the beginning of December and no information has been received about them since, the congress said.

CANADIAN TROOPS IN ITALY ADVANCE NORTH OF FAENZA

Rome, Dec. 23—(AP)—Canadian troops of the Eighth Army, pushing ahead against strong opposition, have established a front more than five miles wide along the east bank of the Senior River northeast of Faenza, while American troops have made local gains near Monte Belmonte, south of Bologna, Allied Headquarters in Italy announced today.

The report of the American advance was the first mention of any gains south of Bologna in weeks. The Americans have been in control of Monte Belmonte, a peak almost 2,000 feet high just east of Highway 65, for several weeks. In their 24-hour advance, they moved up 500 yards in some places against dogged German resistance. Patrols maintained contact with the enemy throughout the night.

The Canadians, taking quick advantage of their breakthrough at the Naviglio bridgehead northwest of Bagnacavallo, nine miles west of Ravenna, were backed by armor which spread out along the river bank under a heavy smoke screen.

In close support of the advances south of Bologna and north of Faenza, nearly 1,000 Allied fighters and fighter-bombers struck at targets immediately ahead of the assault forces and bombed Po Valley communications and the Brenner Pass rail line.

The Air Force report said that the railroads were cut in 72 places, five rail bridges and one road bridge were destroyed and six locomotives, 15 rail cars and 26 enemy-held buildings were smashed.

Closer to Faenza, other Eighth Army troops were hacking away at an enemy salient still left between the two Allied forces as they maintained their westward advance. The town of Mezzano, three miles northeast of Faenza, was captured.

Adriatic coastal area patrols pushing northwrd probed deeper toward Valli di Comacchio.

Americans Improve Position In Italy

Rome, Dec. 23 (AP) — Canadian troops have established a 6-mile-wide front along the Senio River northeast of Faenza, in Italy, while the 5th Army to the west made local gains south of Bologna, Allied headquarters announced today.

The communique made the first definite mention in weeks of an advance from directly south of Bologna, announcing that American troops had improved their positions in the area of Monte Belmonte, a peak towering 2,000 feet just east of Highway 65.

Advance 500 Yards

The doughboys, who have been under the guns of Germans on this mountain for a number of weeks, advanced 500 yards in some places against dogged opposition.

Canadian units were taking rapid advantage of their breakthrough at the Naviglio bridgehead, northwest of newly captured Bagna-Cavallo, a strategic highway center 9 miles west of Ravenna.

Backed up by armor which pushed across the Fosso Munio, the Canadians spread out along the east bank of the Senio for 6 miles. This advance placed the Canadians in the area of Alfonsine.

Nearer Faenza, other 8th Army troops hacked at an enemy salient left between the two forces.

Mezzano, 3 miles northeast of Faenza, was captured while a push to the north was clearing German rearguards from east of Naviglio and south of Bagnacavallo.

It was disclosed that the 313th Battalion of Combat Engineers, commanded by Lieut. Col. Salvatorea Armogida, of Canton, Ohio, still was struggling with German demolitions in the Italian hills.

This outfit previously took part in the 5th Army's advances through the Gustav and Hitler Lines. One of its recent jobs was done under shellfire and bad weather when it dug a trail to replace a mule path across the Santerno River so that supplies could be brought up.

Po Valley Bombed

In close support of the Allied advances the air force sent nearly 1,000 fighters and fighter-bombers into the air against targets in the Po Valley, the Brenner Pass and others immediately in front of the ground troops.

Important rail lines were cut at 72 places, a headquarters announcement said, and five rail bridges and a road bridge were destroyed. Six locomotives, 15 rail cars and 26 enemy-held buildings were smashed.

Authorities In Rome Cleaning Up Mobs Of Armed Gangsters

Rome, Dec. 23—(AP)—Six hundred heavily-armed Carabinieri supported by light tanks surrounded the Roman suburb of Tormarancio during the night, arrested some 200 Roman gangsters and seized large stores of arms, the Carabinieri Command announced today.

Official declarations also said four separate groups of civilian and soldier criminals believed to have been connected with a number of serious crimes, including murder of a former near Tivoli, had been rounded up.

These arrests were made by Allied military police operating in close co-operation with Italian civil authorities.

Brig. Gen. Thoburn K. Brown, Rome area commander, said there has been a noticeable decrease in major crimes since the arrests.

The first of the four groups included a number of Allied soldiers who admitted committing robberies in Naples and Rome.

Members of the second group, consisting of 16 persons, including soldiers, deserters and civilians, were apprehended on October 28 as they prepared to hold up two cafes.

The third group, comprising a dozen persons including soldiers, was accused of issuing counterfeit Allied military currency.

Allied soldiers and deserters made up the fourth band which was accused of committing a number of highway robberies.

Syracuse Soldier Decorated

ROME, Dec. 23 (AP).—The Legion of Merit was awarded today to Technical Sergeant Howard S. Ialberg, former radio engineer for station WAGE at Syracuse. The award was made for outstanding service in building the Rome radio studio and in developing a technique for recording broadcasts from bombing planes.

3 U.S. Tank Men Get British Awards

With the 5th Army in Italy, Dec. 23 (AP)—Three American tankmen have been awarded the British Military Cross for creating "chaos and consternation in the ranks of the Hun," an announcement said today.

The action occurred back of Monastery Hill at Cassino early this year.

The three tankmen are Capt. Herman R. Crowder, of Yazoo City, Miss.; Lieut. John Crews, of Chicago, and Lieut. Chester M. Wright, of San Antonio, Texas.

Ordered To Raise Chaos

The trio are believed to be the first American tankmen ever to receive the British decoration.

Crowder was company commander with crews and Wright platoon leaders when they received an order to "raise chaos and consternation" behind the enemy lines.

They proceeded to Mesa Albaneto nunnery, behind the monastery, and did such a good job that Ghurka Indian troops on near-by Hangman's Hill were able to withdraw without loss.

The outfit lost ten tanks, three of them shot out from under their crews.

Connecticut Men On Italian Front Send Christmas Messages Home

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With the Fifth Army, Italy, Dec. 23—(AP)—Connecticut soldiers serving overseas with the veteran 34th "Red Bull" Division of Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army send the following greetings to their home folks from the front in Italy.

To his mother, Mrs. Mary Triano, 18 May Street, Naugatuck, Pvt. Rocco J. Triano says: "Dear mother: I hope to be spending next Christmas with you and our family. Love, Rockie." Triano is a rifleman with the 168th Infantry Regiment.

Another member of the same company, Pfc. Raymond J. Dupere sends greetings to his father, Gerard Dupere, 62 Second Street, Plainfield. He says: "Dear dad: hope to be back soon, by next Christmas if possible. Take good care of mom for me—Duke." He is a tommy gunner.

Tech. Sgt. Frank J. Evon, operations sergeant in the 185th Field Artillery Battalion, chose the good old fashioned, "Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," as his greeting to his mother, Mrs. John Evon, 109 Clifton Street, Wallingford.

"Wishing you a Merry Christmas. Christmas for us will be better than last year, but I wish I were home." That's the wish received by Mrs. Hattie Collins, North Stonington, from her son, Corp. Roy A. Collins, a forward observer with the 151st Field Artillery Battalion.

Pfc. Charles W. Hains, rifleman with the 135th Infantry Regiment sends this greeting to his mother, Mrs. Cora Hains, 4 Tolles Street, West Hartford: "Merry Christmas and my love to you, Lucille and Edward."

Vito Montanaro, 51 Diaz Street, Stamford, receives the following message from his son, Pvt. Fred V. Montanaro: "Merry Christmas to you, Lena, Jean, Eleanore, Carmina and Jerry." Private Montanaro is a cook in the 135th Regiment.

Continue Around Athens

Athens, Dec. 23—(AP)—Fifteen thousand to 20,000 Left-Wing Elas warriors stormed the Rightist guerrilla stronghold in Northwestern Greece today, spreading civil war clear across the nation, as stiff fighting also erupted north of the Athens port of Piraeus where British-Indian troops landed under the support of naval guns and rocket-firing Beaufighters.

British headquarters, which only last night received the Elas' reply to its cease-fire ultimatum, officially declared that the Elas assault on the Right-Wing stronghold around Ioannina was an "unprovoked attack" in violation of an agreement reached between the rival factions at Caserta before the original British landings in Greece.

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While Lieut. Gen. Ronald Scobie, the British commander, and Harold McMillan, British resident general in the Middle East, conferred on the situation, Indian troops battled the Elas members north of the main harbor basin of Piraeus, southwest of Athens.

In Factory Buildings

Elas bands were holed up in factory buildings and the British made slight advances by capturing the shell-damaged terminal station of the Piraeus-Athens interurban line.

It was feared that the main refrigerating plant for meat supplies of the whole capital district was seriously damaged in the fighting in this district north of Kallipolis Peninsula.

Indian troops on the western side of Piraeus harbor ct solidated their bridgehead, established this morning, and Elas formations also were reported to have pulled out of the Southern Athens suburbs west of the main Athens-Phaleron Road. Newly, formed Greek National Guard detachments, whose strength as a result of a call-up now has reached nearly 9,000, took over control of this area.

Elas Regrouping

The lowland from Piraeus eastward toward the line of the Ellisos River also is now declared completely free. In Fissariani and up to the stadium area at the back of Sappion Park, Elas groups still are strongly entrenched, but the main move is now to the north where the Elas evidently is regrouping with a view of securing it inland communications.

British Sherman tanks based on the slopes of Mt. Likabettos continued a stiff harassing bombardment throughout today on the Elas concentrations in the northern suburbs of the capital. R.A.F. planes also participated.

Gen. Napoleon Zervas, commander of the Right-Wing Edes, sent an urgent message to the British for assistance, but thus far no help has been sent.

Cut Edes Territory

The leftist Elas, commanded by Gen. Stephanos Saraphis, were reported to have cut 20 miles through Edes territory, by-passing Yannina, which has served as Zervas headquarters.

Zervas, whose current strength is estimated at 12,000, notified the British he was resisting the attack from the north but expected to fall back into the Tomaros Mountains to the south of Iannina in Central Epirus.

The communique said that at Caserta both generals "agreed to refrain from hostilities."

"General Scobies' orders had been obeyed scrupulously by Gen. Zervas in spite of obvious concentrations of Elas forces within his operational boundaries, and he has taken no provocative action," the communique asserted.

Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, the British commander, was given the Elas' reply to his ultimatum during a 25-minute truce called last night.

While the terms of the reply were not made public, there were indications the Elas has refused to agree flatly to Scobie's conditions.

Stamtios Mercuris, veteran politician and Liberal who acted as a courier in carrying the Elas message to the British, was reported to have made this statement in behalf of the Left-Wing EAM party, whose military wing is the Elas:

"We have unwittingly been involved in a clash with Great Britain. If we give in it is because we don't want British prestige to suffer in any way . . . the Elas are ready to obey Britain's orders and hastens to join in the fight against Germany."

(Ankara radio said the reply was believed to have accepted Scobie's demand that the Elas evacuate Attica, which embraces Athens and its Port of Piraeus, and agreed to disarm its troops in the two cities under scrutiny of a joint British-Greek commission.

(The broadcast, heard by the Federal Communications Commission, said the Elas also agreed to formation of a new national unity government. Cairo radio, in a similar broadcast, said the Elas "already had been removed outside of Athens.")

The sound of artillery and small arms fire echoed through Athens today and British Beaufighters roared low over the city as they strafed Elas positions west of the capital.

The communique said troops were landed this morning on the north side of Piraeus Harbor "and from the vicinity of the west side have made good progress in clearing insurgent forces."

The landings came after a British warship bombarded Leftist concentrations north of the port. The Elas fought back strongly from the eastern sector of this front, throwing in two strong counterattacks in the factory area during the morning.

Withdrawing From Athens

The Elas appeared to be withdrawing from the southern suburbs of Athens. Britsh-manned Sherman tanks shelled the Elas in various districts north and east of the city. A number of armed prisoners and some war stores were captured.

Premier George Papandreou, whose government has been under attack by the Elas, told a morning press conference that the crux of the situation was refusal of "the extreme left ot disband their private army."

A questioner sugested that the Rightist forces were fighting back with arms in their possesion after the government's December 20 deadline for disbanding all armed groups. The premier replied that "self defense is the right of all free men."

(The Elas in refusing to yield its weapons asserted the Papandreous Government was trying to disarm Left-Wing forces while leaving guns in the hands of the Rightists.)

The premier declared the question of a regency was "wholly irrevalent to the present situation," and denied he had sent a recommendation to King George to accept a regency.

Papandeou asserted that even with a regency there was no guarantee the extreme left would not rebel against it.

"After quelling the rebellion liberty will be restored," he added. "There is no intention to victimize or take revenge against the extreme left."

Greek Civil War Spreads As Elas Attack In North

BARBER

Force of Over 15,000 Left-Wing Fighters Open Assault on Rightist Stronghold in Upper Section of Nation—Battles

Greek Leftists Open Attack On EDES

Athens, Dec. 23 (AP)—A strong attack by Left-wing ELAS forces in northwest Greece against Rightist guerrillas led by Gen. Napoleon Zervas was announced today by British military headquarters.

The announcement asserted that the attack was in violation of an agreement signed by the opposing Greek forces of Caserta before Allied forces landed in Greece to drive out the Germans.

Deep Penetration

The official communiqué said a deep penetration into the Rightist (EDES) territory had been made by the ELAS. It was reported unofficially that these ranged up to twenty miles. The ELAS forces are commanded by General Sarafis.

British forces landed this morning on the north side of Piraeus harbor, the communiqué said, and have made good progress in clearing out the insurgent forces. Progress also has been made in Athens in subduing the ELAS.

25-Minute Truce In Athens

A 25-minute truce silenced a section of Athens last night while an ELAS messenger delivered a reply to Lieut. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander, on his cease-fire ultimatum. The contents of the note were not immediately revealed.

Firing resumed after the truce was ended and there were indications that the ELAS were unwilling to agree flatly to Scobie's terms.

A Cairo broadcast recorded by the FCC said that ELAS' headquarters already had been removed outside Athens in accordance with Scobie's first condition and that there were reports that the ELAS had accepted almost all the British commander's terms.

[Ankara radio said it was believed that the ELAS had agreed to evacuate Attica, that ELAS troops in Athens and Piræus would be disarmed and that a new national unit government should be formed.]

Small-arms fire still echoed through Athens today as Scobie considered the reply to his ultimatum. The ELAS apparently were withdrawing from the southern suburbs to the north.

A British warship bombarded ELAS concentrations north of Piræus in the clearing operations which continued throughout yesterday on the west side of the main harbor. Stiff opposition was encountered by the British north of the Kallipolis peninsula.

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20,000 ELAS Troops

Zervas's headquarters reported that up to 20,000 ELAS troops were concentrated around EDES territory and a spearhead had driven into Grammeno village, west of Ioannina, Zervas's headquarters.

The EDES general reported to the British Athens headquarters that he was resisting the attack from the north, but expected to fall back into the mountains of central Epirus.

It was disclosed that he asked for British support, but thus far none had been sent. His strength was estimated at 12,000.

Many U. S. Soldiers In Bethlehem for Christmas Services

Jerusalem, Dec. 23—(AP)—On this sixth Christmas of the greatest conflict the world has known more than 500 American warriors will gather to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace at the Bethlehem Manger where it occurred.

They started coming in by plane today, fresh from the mud and gore of the battlefields in France, Germany and Italy, from North Africa, from stations in the Middle East and from the bleak coast of the Persian Gulf.

There weren't many officers among these pilgrims. Most of them were just plain G. I.'s—winging in from scenes of violent death to honor the one who promised eternal life.

They follow the winding road to Bethlehem soon after their arrival, for they are eager to see "The Place." In the Church of the Nativity they descend a short flight of stone steps and are shown the exact spot where the Manger stood.

A bright metal star inlaid in rock marks the place.

They will return to Bethlehem Sunday night. From 9 P. M. to 3 A. M. relays of Army buses will bring them from Jerusalem. The Army and the Red Cross have arranged everything for their participation in the celebrations of the Saviour's birth.

Many will attend the midnight mass in the Church of St. Catherine, the Roman Catholic Church adjoining the Church of the Nativity which is the common property of Roman, Greek and Armenian churches.

Yanks Fly To Jerusalem

By Relman Morin

Jerusalem, Dec. 23 (AP)—American soldiers, who only days ago, were slogging through the bloody turmoil of war on the Western front arrived in Jerusalem today to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace.

They came by airplane directly from the scenes of the world's greatest conflict to the site of history's greatest miracle. Yesterday they heard the guns of war and the shrieks of the wounded and dying: tomorrow they will hear hymns of rejoicing. They have seen death; they come now to see the birthplace of the one who promised eternal life.

Fewer This Year

Army authorities and the Red Cross said between 500 and 600 are expected as against over 1,000 normally.

Planes are arriving here not only from the battlefields of France and Italy but also from North Africa, the mid-East and the bleak shores of the Persian Gulf—but only a few can come. The war is nearer its

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climax now.

Disappointed At First

If you have seen the average GI on his usual leave behind the lines, brimming with life and high spirits, you would not recognize him here. Something of the ancient mystery of this place seems to touch him the moment he steps down from the army bus bringing him in from the airport.

First he is a little disappointed—he does not see Christmas trees and the familiar red and green ornaments, tinsel and artificial snow and all the things he is accustomed to find in shop windows.

Then he goes along the street to the Y.M.C.A., where the Red Cross is quartered. There he finds a tall tree appropriately strung with electric lights. He begins to feel more at home.

Go To Bethlehem

At the Red Cross headquarters arrangements are made to take the soldiers to Bethlehem, where guides take them into the cool, high-roofed Church of the Nativity. They descend a short flight of stone steps to the spot where the manger originally stood.

A bright metal star inlaid in the rocks marks the place.

They all will be coming back to Bethlehem Sunday night, Christmas Eve. Relays of army busses will bring them from Jerusalem.

The soldiers will hear and see the midnight mass in the church.

They will hear the joyous swelling strains of "Hark the Hcrald Angels Sing, Glory to the Newborn King." A choir of 2,000 voices—all Polish officers and men—will sing the Christmas songs in their native language.

Tigyaing Occupied By British Pushing Toward Mandalay

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 23—(AP)—Tigyaing, 42 miles down the Irrawaddy River from Katha in northern Burma and 125 miles from Mandalay, has been occupied by the 36th British Division, the Southeast Asia Command announced today.

Dispatches from the front reported the Japanese appeared to be withdrawing from northeastern Burma to form a defense around Mandalay, leaving only rearguards to delay Allied advances.

Chinese troops operating east of the British driving down the Irrawaddy have cut the Bhamo-Nahmkam Road not far from Nahmkan and the Burma Road, and British troops on the 15th Indian Corps front have captured Kwazon, a village at the junction of the Kalapanzin and Mayu Rivers.

The communique reported continued progress on the Chindwin Front along the Shwegyin-Yeu Road.

Allies Take Town 125 Miles From Mandalay

Southeast Asia Command Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 23 (AP)—British troops driving down the Irrawaddy River in northern Burma have captured Tigyaing, 42 river miles south of Katha and approximately 125 miles from Mandalay, the Southeast Asia Command announced today.

This new gain by the 36th British Division yesterday came as field dispatches gave mounting evidence that the Japanese are withdrawing from northwestern Burma into a defense arc around Mandalay. They are leaving only rearguard pockets for delaying actions, dispatches said.

Drive Along Road

On the Chindwin front, Allied progress continued along the Shwegyin-Yeu road.

On the east flank of the British drive along the Irrawaddy, Chinese troops have cut the Bhamo-Namhkam road at the fifty-second milestone, headquarters said. This would be very close to Namhkam and the Burma road.

CHINESE PRESS HOCHIH DRIVE IN 3 SECTORS

Chungking, Dec. 23—(AP)—Chinese troops supported by American fighter planes pressed their attack on the key railroad town of Hochih in Kwangsi Province from three sides tonight, the Chinese High Command anounced.

Hochih, which is 95 miles northwest of Liuchow, is being assaulted by troops which routed Japanese columns from Kweichow Province during the past two weeks.

Mustang fighter planes of Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's 14th Air Force supported the Chinese ground action by bombing railroad yards east of Hochih and enemy road traffic west of Ishan.

In another raid at Hongkong yesterday U. S. P-51s destroyed two enemy fighters which intercepted them over Kaitak airdrome, an American communique said. Four Japanese planes were destroyed on the ground.

Four other enemy planes were damaged, two freighters were strafed in the harbor district and oil storage areas at Kowloon were hit, the communique added.

Another P-51 mission which destroyed three Japanese planes on the ground at Tienho airdrome was intercepted by 12 enemy fighters. One enemy plane was damaged in the air.

Mustangs also hit barracks at Lucnam in French Indo-China yesterday, and B-25s bombed bridges south of Langson.

From all the missions three U. S. planes failed to return.

Japs Stiffen At Hochih

Chungking, Dec. 23 (AP)—Fighting continued without material change today outside the enemy-held Kwangsi province railway city of Hochih, where Japanese resistance was stiffened with reinforcements, the high command announced today.

Hochin, 95 miles northwest of Liuchow, was besieged on three sides by Chinese troops that successfully routed Japanese columns from Kweichow province during the last two weeks.

A Chinese high command spokesman yesterday said the "crisis" in the Kwangsi-Kweichow area was "over, at least for the present."

ner, First Sgt. [redacted] Irving W. Smith, J. G. MARTIN 24, of Muskegon, Mich., bagged one "Oscar" with about 100 rounds, sending the Japanese plane—which had burst into flame—to the ground. The bombardier, Lieut. Harold Dickerson, of St. Louis, Mo., got one and damaged another from the "Last Resort's" two forward turrets.

Pilot John G. Martin, 23, of Woodbridge, Conn., flying his ninth mission, and the co-pilot, John Harvell, 25, of Birmingham, Ala., on his seventh mission, told of encountering few fighters en route and little flak over the target. But, they said, they ran into many fighters of all descriptions around Mukden. Their plane damaged two or three attackers which put .50 caliber shots through the gunners' compartment, ripping the clothing of Sgt. Thomas Jefferson Love, Jr., Atlanta, Ga., but unharming him.

Sgt. Everett S. Swanson, 21, of Kane, Pa., top gunner in the "Superstitious Aloysius" bagged one fighter. In the same plane, the bombardier, First Lieut. James J. O'Keefe, 22, of San Francisco, flying his fifth mission, experienced shells bursting on both sides but was unhurt.

LIBERATORS POUND LUZON AIRDROME

HUTCHESON

Destroy Majority Of 100 Jap Planes On Clark Field

Russian drive carries within 100 miles of Vienna.....Page 4

ELAS forces attack Rightists in northwest Greece.....Page 3

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Sunday*, Dec. 24 (AP). Headquarters today reported a smashing daylight air raid on Clark Field, near Manila, in which the majority of 100 grounded Japanese planes were destroyed, and said also that United States troops had completed the destruction of Nipponese in the bloody Ormoc corridor of Leyte Island.

Liberator bombers, operating from an undisclosed field, made the Clark Field raid Friday, Philippine time.

First-Class Surprise

It was the first daylight Liberator operation against that main Japanese air center in the Philippines and an Army spokesman said it was a first class surprise to the Nipponeses, who got only nine of their fighters in the air to meet the assault.

Eight of the nine interceptors were shot down by United States Thunderbolts. The dispersal and taxi areas between two of the airstrips were left enveloped in fire and smoke. Liberator crews reported one tremendous explosion from which a smoke column rose 5,000 feet.

3,788 Dead Japs In Day

Yanks cleaning up Leyte's Ormoc corridor and pocketed Japanese to the east counted another 3,738 enemy dead in one day, bringing the eight-day total to 16,661.

The 77th Division, the communique said, is continuing to work its way westward from the corridor to the port of Palompon, last base of the remnants of enemy forces in that area.

Participation of the 11th Airborne Division in the west Leyte fighting was disclosed for the first time. It is commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Swing. It did much of the heavy fighting in the rugged mountainous terrain southeast of Ormoc and east of the battlefront where the 77th and the 7th Division closed a trap on the enemy's Yamashita line.

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Dec. 24 (Sunday) (AP).—At single C-47 transport plane dropped all the 11th Air-borne Division paratroopers and equipment for the west Leyte operation. The plane was piloted alternately by Major William Martin, of Chickamauga, Ga., First Lieutenant John W. Patterson of Danville, Ill., and Second Lieutenant Alvin R. Johnson of Des Moines, Iowa.

It took a neat bit of flying to do the job. The transport had to poke its way through cloud-shrouded valleys and dip down to 600 feet to drop its loads, then pull up sharply to clear a hill ahead.

It took ten missions to do the job. Only once did a 'chute hang up in a tree top. The paratroopers were dropped fully armed and prepared to defend their guns against the Japanese less than a mile away. When they boarded the transport they chuckled:

"This will come as a big surprise to the Japs; it'll kill them."

Pound Jap Airdromes

Islands lying between Leyte and Mindoro were given another heavy aerial pounding. Japanese airdromes on Cebu, Panay and Negros took 160 tons of bombs on successive days.

Japanese planes again attacked the American positions on Mindoro and twenty were shot dow. Two others probably were bagged. The Japanese offered no ground opposition there.

The communiqué reported the sinking of a small enemy freighter by light United States naval units in the Visayan Sea and the shelling of Japanese shore installations on Masbate Island.

Yanks Pursue Foe On Leyte Island

London, Dec. 23 (AP) — The Tokyo radio said the Japanese foreign office has protested to the United States Government Thursday a "new violation of international law by the American air force" in the sinking of a Japanese hospital ship, the Mura Maru, on December 12.

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MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 23 (AP)—American infantrymen, chasing a foe whose abandoned dead is being counted at a rate of 1,800 a day, pressed mercilessly on Leyte against Nipponese retreating toward Palompon while artillery pumped shells into that last port of escape, headquarters reported today.

On recently invaded Mindoro Island, there still was no ground opposition, but the enemy continued its air raids, losing seven planes in combat and two to anti-aircraft fire. Two American fighters were lost.

In the bloody Leyte campaign, swiftly nearing an end as Japanese soldiers fell at an amazing rate, the United States 77th Division was three miles beyond the Ormoc corridor advancing westward along the mountain road toward Palompon, on the northwest shoulder of the island.

Mopping Up Japs

The Americans, after sealing off the corridor itself, were mopping up the bottled-up Japanese there as well as remnants hoping to escape by sea at Palompon.

Palompon is a secondary port at best, poorer by far than Ormoc. It was doubtful that the Japanese could make good any mass escape through a rain of artillery shells and sea and air attack such as the Americans could mount from nearby bases.

An indication of the carnage wrought on the Leyte Japanese by Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces was given in his announcement that 12,873 enemy dead were found abandoned on the island in the last seven days. That is an average of 1,839 a day. A week ago he estimated 1,500 had been killed daily during the first 55 days of the Leyte-Samar campaign.

Philippines Airfields Hit

Stepped-up American air activity included a severe plastering of central Philippines airdromes. Panay, Negros, Cebu and Masbate airdromes were hit by 1,000-pound bombs which cratered runways and destroyed or damaged 13 Japanese planes.

Liberators also caused fires and explosions in a night attack on Clark Field, northwest of Manila.

The petroleum refineries in northern Borneo took another bombing from patrol planes. Dutch medium bombers sank a freighter and damaged another in the Banda Sea the same day (Wednesday) and hundreds of Japanese troops were seen swimming from the burning ship as it settled.

General MacArthur issued this Christmas prayer to his command:

"It is my Christmas prayer that merciful God will continue to preserve and protect the members of this fine command and return each any every one of you safe and well to your beloved homes."

Turkey And Gifts Rushed To GI's

HUTCHESON

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 23 (AP)—Turkey and a flood of gift packages will give Christmas some of its traditional holiday spirit for the troops and sailors in the Philippines.

The distribution of hundreds of sacks of Christmas packages has been under way for more than a week with delivery to the troops up front rating a high priority. Today the Quartermaster Corps started distributing a million pounds of turkey from a refrigeration ship.

Dozen Cans Of Beer Each

By airplane, fast boat, land vehicles and on the backs of carabaos and men, the turkey is going to the front lines. There will also be an allotment of a dozen cans of newly arrived beer to be sold to each man between Christmas Eve and New Year's Day.

Major Robert C. Russell, Cham-

Woodbridge Officer Pilots B-29 In Mukden Plane Plant Attack

A B-29 Base in China, Dec. 21—(Delayed)—(AP)—Superfortresses of the 20th Bomber Command today attacked the strongly defended Japanese aircraft factory at Mukden, Manchuria, and the adjoining arsenal.

Howard Anderson, 21, of Santa Monica, Calif., a radio operator flying his eighth mission, said at least 20 enemy fighters over the Mukden target pressed the attack for 20 minutes on the Superfortress "Last Resort" which encountered considerable inaccurate flak en route and made a crippled, slow flight home.



The left gun-

paign, Ill., who has one of the world's biggest turkey-peddling jobs, said: "We will throw the turkey to the men in the frontmost foxholes if necessary.

"Six planes are carrying turkey to the Mindoro troops tomorrow. Fast boats are taking it to the outlying islands. Also to Samar and the Ormoc front. I don't think we are missing anyone."

A pound is allotted for each man both Christmas and New Year's. The turkey will be cooked in the mess halls before being taken to the front lines.

Menu Announced

Major Russell outlined this menu where facilities are available: Fruit cocktail, turkey, biscuits, peas, corn, asparagus, pumpkin pie, hard candy.

"Beer will go to the combat troops first, but all will have it by New Year's, Major Russell said.

"Even if you add all this up," said Major Russell, "it won't be exactly a merry Christmas for the troops, but the fighting men isolated at the Pacific fronts have had a lot worse."

Yanks Get 'Sweetest' Mail From Home

Headquarters 31st Division, Morotai Island, Dec. 23 (AP)—Never was the mail from home any sweeter than that received recently by an infantry outpost of this "Dixie" division.

The bundle of letters, dropped from a cub delivery plane just at chow time, fell into a syrup pot. It was rescued by Sergt. Harold Bank, of Tuscaloosa, Ala.

150 Jap Planes Hit Superforts Over Nagoya

San Francisco, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Tokyo radio reported that a single Superfort dropped bombs and incendiaries on Tokyo early today and another hit Hong Kong. The B-29's were apparently on reconnaissance flights from Saipan and China bases. The unconfirmed broadcast was recorded here.

Later the Tokyo domestic radio said two Superfortresses had passed over the Hanshin area, which includes the cities of Osaka and Kobe, but "fled" without dropping bombs.

Twenty-first Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Japanese flung 150 planes, manned by first-rank flyers Friday at Superfortresses over Nagoya, Japan, in a frantic effort to prevent further damage to aircraft factories there, but the B-29's fought them off and blasted enemy war industries for two and a half hours.

A War Department communique issued at Washington said that not a B-29 was lost to enemy action out of the sizeable force which concentrated on the already hard-hit Mitsubishi aircraft works at Nagoya, a city of more than 1,000,000 inhabitants 165 miles southwest of Tokyo. Five enemy interceptors were believed destroyed and four others damaged.

Japs Claim 16

(A Japanese imperial communiqué claimed sixteen Superforts definitely shot down, four probables and twenty others damaged. The broadcast communiqué admitted four Japanese interceptors were lost.)

Overcast prevented assessment of results of the precision instrument bombing. Returning flyers expressed confidence some explosives added to the severe damage inflicted December 13 on the Hatsudoki factory of the Mitsubishi works, which produces fighters and bombers.

"It was the strongest fighter attack we have had yet," reported Major Robert Fitzgerald, of Ridgewood, N.J.

"They were sitting out there waiting for us."

Second Lieutenant Robert Sollock, of Rule, Texas, a pilot who counted 50 interceptors in the vicinity of his formation, said:

Like Ready Room

"You've seen those airplane models dangling from the ceiling of a ready room? Well, this looked just like that, with Jap planes hanging everywhere."

Corporal Donald Ladd, of Manchester, N.H., identified at least three types of enemy fighters.

"They even had one Betty (a two-engined bomber) up there," Ladd said.

"We saw fighters of the caliber we haven't seen since Germany," reported Capt. Louis L. Haltom, Nacogdoches, Texas.

Stayed 20 Minutes

"We were the lead ship of our formation and the fighters stayed with us for twenty minutes."

Second Lieutenant Paren Cockerill, of Sacramento, Cal., bombardier, told of fighters making two attacks during the bombing run and four after it had been completed, always concentrating on the leading Superfortress.

Corporal Ladd shot down one fighter and saw his bombardier, Second Lieutenant Joe J. Tierney, of Bridgeport, Conn., manning a gun, down a second.

Anti-aircraft fire was intense during the opening stages of the raid, the flyers reported.

Superfortress Captain Tells of Saipan Christmas

Veteran of Tokyo Missions Sends Letter to Wife Through Associated Press.

DEC 24 1944

This is a Christmas letter transmitted by the Associated Press from Capt. Donald W. Thompson, 25-year-old veteran of several B-29 flights over Tokyo to his wife, Mrs. Dawn Thompson of 659 Wall street, Ridgewood, N. J. Capt. Thompson named his Superfortress "Punchin' Judy" for his daughter Judy, who will be a year old February 4. His letter:

December, 1944.

"SOMEWHERE ON SAIPAN.

"Dawn darling:

"Your last letter came on a beautiful Sunday morning and was so in tune with all that Sunday can mean. It was a rare day, somehow, although I did some routine things—jeeped up to the line to check on Punchin' Judy and attended a critique on the last Nagoya mission. The Puncher was in fine fettle, for Sergt. Raynes really takes care of that big silver baby.

"I would fly an orange crate to Tokyo and back if he would install the engines and maintain them. The 'recon' photos shown at the critique would make a heartening Christmas greeting for each and every Rosie-the-riveter Boeing employs.

Different Christmas Questions.

"Speaking of Christmas, it is about time that I started on a Christmas letter to you and Judy. The big question out here is not 'how many shopping days until Christmas?' but 'how many days until we go again?' but that does not interfere with the hopes I send for a most happy Christmas Day and a more victorious New Year that will follow.

"You know that all the crew join me in these wishes. They all are in the pink these days. Ray still is a most able assistant in directing the crew; Mac has seen his bombs fall on Tokyo; Randy is licking one of the world's tougher navigation problems, and 'Plumber' checks his engineer's gauges and distributes the gas that keeps those four fans humming.

"SargeStrong sits in his 'dark room' and keeps radio contact with the rest of the world while in 'dark room No. 2' 'Burk' Burkhart works in secrecy with his numerous important gadgets.

"Old Man Staller, our CFC gunner, along with Stormy Cloud and Dave Davis fuss like old women over their 50s while Dan Bartok takes more than usual pride in the cannon that makes any tailgunner feel considerably less lonely. They all are doing a fine job, not only because they know their equipment but because they take a personal pride in everything they do to keep Punchin' Judy coming out of her Saipan corner ready for every new round.

Ground Crew's Role.

"Of course, Boss Raynes and his ground crew make all this possible by their daily sweating over the Puncher's engines and other complicated equipment. And do not think they are forgotten—not when the cigars are distributed. All these men and many others who drove the Nips from this island and built runways are helping to make the New Year victorious and its next Christmas a happier one for all of us.

"You can picture us running around out here on Christmas Day in the usual khaki shirt and shorts combination, boning turkey for Christmas dinner and getting a big surprise out of the packages you have filled to the last official ounce. Undoubtedly there will be a version of eggnog in circulation — for those who bring their own. And, most surely, a spontaneous Christmas carol or two. The chapel tents will be more than filled—the attendance increases with each passing Sunday.

"Though I won't be sharing Judy's first Christmas with you, I will be happy with this and little thoughts—you swinging mistletoe over the unsuspecting in the doorway; you reaching high to put the star of peace atop an evergreen and you digging Judy out from under a pile of bright Christmas wrappings.

"So many a merry Christmas to you and Judy, darlings, and the proud grandmas and grandpas whom you will be hostessing at Christmas dinner.

"Love,

"DON."

Members of the Crew.

Capt. Thompson's crew includes: Co-pilot Second Lieut. Raymond J. Rood, Mobile, Ala.; flight engineer, First Lieut. Philip N. (Plumber) French, Portsmouth, N. H.; bombardier, Second Lieut. Charles H. McKinney, Spencer, Tenn.; navigator, Second Lieut. Randall C. Maydew, Salinas, Cal.; radio operator, Sergt. Robert J. Strong, 66 Rose avenue, Harrison, N. Y.; gunners, Sergts. Edwin Burkhart, Washington, Ind.; Merrill W. Staller, Twelve Mile, Ind.; Dan Bartok, Mount Olive, Ill.; William Cloud, Galena Park, Tex.; Corporal Waterman J. Davis, Sumter, S. C., and crew chief, Technical Sergt. Walter Raynes of Winfield, W. Va.

BIG U. S. PLANES RAID VOLCANO,

BONIN ISLANDS

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 23—(AP)—American land based bombers struck anew at the western and northern approaches to Japan in raids announced by the Navy here today.

The blows were delivered by bombers from Marianas bases at the Volcano and Bonin Islands and by Aleutian based bombers of the Eleventh Air Force against the Kurile Islands.

A Pacific Fleet communique said Liberators raided Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands December 20 and 21. These were the 14th and 15th consecutive daily strikes at the base from which Japanese planes have raided the American B29 base on Saipan.

Marine Mitchell bombers, the communique said, made rocket attacks on shipping around the Volcanoes and Bonins December 21. The results were not disclosed.

Onekotan Attacked

The Eleventh Air Force Liberators bombed Onekotan Island in the Northern Kuriles December 21, bombing and straffing targets, which were not identified.

Onekotan is 600 miles from the Japanese mainland island of Hokkaido.

All American planes returned.

Other American planes pounded at familiar targets in the Central Pacific.

Marine fighters straffed and bombed enemy supply and ammunition dumps in the Palaus December 20. They repeated the performance the next day.

Marine torpedo planes bombed Yap and Navy search planes destroyed an enemy plane on the ground at Oroluk, also in the Carolines.

Pagan in the Marianas underwent a straffing attack by seven Army Air Force Thunderbolts.

Bypassed Japanese bases in the Marshalls, which have been under steady air assault for nearly a year, were hit anew by Marine aircraft.

8 Allied Ships Sunk, 12 Hit, Japs Claim

San Francisco, Dec. 23 (AP)—A Japanese imperial communique today claimed Japanese planes sank eight Allied warships and transports and damaged 12 others in a three-day attack on shipping in the Philippines Seas.

These figures apparently did not include two other "enemy cruisers or destroyers" claimed sunk by suicide flyers this morning off Mindoro Island.

All of the claims were unconfirmed by Allied sources.

The imperial communique claimed that in the three days ended yesterday six transports and two cruisers or destroyers were sunk off Mindoro, in the Gulf of Leyte or the Sulu Sea.

Listed as damaged were an aircraft carrier, six transports, a cruiser, a cruiser or destroyer and three unidentified warships.

6 Groups' Ads Hit Farrell Regime

Buenos Aires, Dec. 23 (AP)—Discontent with some recent measures of the Government of Gen. Edelmiro Farrell erupted yesterday in a series of full-page newspaper advertisements demanding reconsideration of decrees establishing a pension system for commercial workers and cracking down on chain stores.

The outburst followed a similar campaign of a few weeks ago against the minimum-wage law for agricultural workers which forms an important part of the social justice program of Col. Juan Peron, the vice president.

Action By Six Organizations

Six leading organizations representative of Argentine mercantile interests, including the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, the Argentine Industrial Union and the Argentine Chamber of Commerce, sponsored the advertisements charging that the Government, after inviting collaboration, disregarded their recommendations in framing the pension law.

They complained especially that the retirement age of 55 for men and 50 for women was excessively low and uneconomic and contrary to the practice in countries most advanced in social security legislation.

Inflationary Tendencies

They called attention to inflationary tendencies in the country which they termed "artificial and the result of monetary credit policies which bear no relation to national economy."

In an open letter, 73 business houses demanded annulment of the chain-store measure on the grounds that it was "contrary to the national constitution and fundamen-

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tal laws of the nation and general interests of the community."

Meanwhile, there was a series of repercussions against measures tending to abridge individual liberty.

Protests Detention

Deputy Hector Gonzales Iramain, the former conservative Senator, took advantage of the Government's pledge to respect the freedom of the press to publish a long article protesting the recent invasion of his home and his subsequent detention.

Simultaneously the wife of another prominent conservative politician, former Senator Antonio Santamarina, brought legal action to require authorities to permit counsel to visit him in jail, where he has been held for seven days.

Women Dispersed

Two days ago police dispersed a demonstration of women, who marched to the Government House to appeal for the release of their men folk, held as political prisoners. Several women were removed in patrol wagons.

A large group of Argentine society women sent Farrell a letter urging Christmas amnesty for political prisoners, most of whom are held under suspicion of Communist affiliations.

Argentina Is Beset By Liquid Fuel Shortage

Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dec. 23 —(AP)—Argentina's military government, beset by one of the most acute shortages of liquid fuel in the nation's history, today forbade further sales abroad of flaxseed, normally an export crop bought chiefly by the United States.

The existing stocks will be brought up and turned into oil.

Nazis' Strength 'Conserved'

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—Germany is withholding her ultimate total strength from the breakthrough battle of the Western front until the Nazi high command can determine the prospects for a truly major victory.

Military men here, reporting this today, suggested the probable German idea of such a victory would be the trapping and destruction of two or three Allied armies cut off from the rest of the forces in France.

The Nazi offensive, despite its initial swift progress, has not reached the point where the high command can make the determination.

Falling Behind, One View

One military expert, implying that the Germans actually were falling behind on their timetable, said that in view of the early success of the breakthrough the enemy should have progressed farther than the 30-odd miles he is known to have advanced since last Saturday.

There is, however, no inclination to turn away from the fact that the situation in Europe continues grave.

Dispatches from the front indicate that the Nazis, probing north and northwestward with part of their armored columns, found stiffening opposition there and now are pushing armored feelers to the south.

Reinforcement Sources

The enemy, by no means, has committed his utmost strength to the breakthrough venture, military students here say. Sources of reinforcement, both men and armor, exist. These sources include more or less dormant sections of less active areas, including the central Russian front.

Russia, however, has assured her allies that a winter offensive is coming.

This assurance, it was learned, was not the result of any new and direct plea because of the menace of the German breakthrough. It was given by Moscow sometime before the Nazis smashed out on their offensive.

General Date Set

The Russians are reported to have voluntarily informed the United States and Britain several weeks ago that a major winter drive would be launched in strategically important areas. A general date was set, but Moscow explained that the time would have to be governed to some extent by weather and other factors.

A Russian offensive could produce no effect on the Western front by forcing diversion of German troops in time to influence the breakthrough situation, military men say.

From the time the offensive started rolling until it actually menaced German territory might involve weeks or even months—and a military decision must be reached in the west before then.

News Blackout to Troops Faces Inquiry in House

Brooks Charges Men Receive Little Word From Home

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—Representative Overton Brooks, Democrat, of Louisiana, said today the House Military Affairs Committee will investigate what he called a "complete blackout" of news to Americans fighting abroad.

Mr. Brooks is a member of the committee, which recently completed a four-week inspection tour of European battle-front areas. American troops abroad, he complained, are not getting enough news of the rest of the world and most of what they do get is old.

The French edition of the Army publication, "Stars and Stripes," he said, gives "very little news" to the troops and "what news is given is highly colored." Some of the news it publishes, he aded in a statement, is "a month or two old."

"The paper does have one column for 'gripes,' which is used to air grievances of the men in the service, and is satisfactory, but it fails completely to give news coverage from home," he declared, adding that the troops "crave" news from the United States and failure to provide it is "unfair" and injurious to morale.

Whether the blame for the "news blackout" belongs in this country or abroad, Mr. Brooks said he was unable to say.

Army, Navy Journal Sees Clarification Of Big-three Positions

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—The Army and Navy Journal said today there has been a "clarification of the murky situation which contained possibilities of danger to the grand alliance."

The unofficial but authoritative service publication, which has been critical of certain policies of Great Britain and Russia, added:

"What has transpired during the past week both politically and militarily, has tended to compose clashing interests, and certainly to pave the way to closer co-operation.

"Contributing to this more satisfactory condition are the public exposure of the differences which existed between the big three and the approach to agreement which has resulted, and the reappearance in all its ugliness of the common peril in the form of the powerful counter-offensive launched by the German armies on the Western Front."

The Journal added that an "analysis of the statements issued by Secretary Stettinius regarding Italy, Greece and Poland are of the speeches before Parliament made by Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Minister Eden, establish a substantial advance toward acceptable treatment of European questions."

Philippine President Broadcasts Message

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—President Sergio Osmena of the Philippines today broadcast from Levte a Christmas message asking that "Peace reign in our spirit now that our emancipation is assured."

"And may good will bind us all and make us realize more than ever," he added in the message, released here by the Philippine Commonwealth, "that we have one common country and one common cause to serve—the Philippines represented by its duly elected Government and the cause of freedom of democracy."

Here's G.I. Christmas Menu

Everything From Sauce to Nuts, But it May Vary

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—The Army's Christmas menu: Roast turkey and dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, snowflake and sweet potatoes, green beans, asparagus, fresh fruit salad, mayonnaise, celery, pickles, olives, hot rolls, butter, hot mincemeat pie, candy, assorted fruit, nuts and coffee.

The Army expressed hope today that every one will get his share but acknowledged that the menu "may vary" in combat areas.

Switzerland Interns 1,500 American Airmen

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—Some 1,500 United States airmen forced down in bombing missions to Germany had been interned in Switzerland up to last October 1, the Swiss legation said today.

About 95,000 refugees of twenty nationalities had been admitted to Switzerland on that date.

The American airmen were among 16,000 military internees. Other refugee classes are: 48,500 civilians from adjacent war zones; 18,500 former Italian soldiers; 7,500 emigrants blocked by the war from proceeding to their destination; 3,300 escaped prisoners of war; 700 deserters from various armies, and 500 soldiers of various countries, hospitalized in Switzerland by their governments.

Congressional Medal Awarded Posthumously

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—The Congressional Medal of Honor has been conferred posthumously on an infantryman whose "selfless heroism and calculated sacrifice" spearheaded an attack and saved the lives of scores of comrades.

The War Department said today the nation's highest military honor had been given to Staff Sergeant Arthur F. DeFranzo of 16 Prospect St., Saugus, Mass., who fell riddled by German bullets in the hedgerow of France last June 10.

The presentation of the award will be to his mother, Mrs. Grace DeFranzo, at a date to be announced later.

BERLE SLATED AS ENVOY OF U. S. IN BRAZIL

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—Adolf A. Berle is slated for appointment as ambassador to Brazil, it was learned authoritatively today.

Berle resigned as assistant secretary of state in the recent departmental shakeup.

He has had long experience with international and political affairs although this will be his first foreign diplomatic post.

Berle came to the department in the early days of the New Deal as one of President Roosevelt's brain trusters.

The Brazilian post is considered of extreme importance in view of Argentinas split away from the solid war front of the Americas.

Barrier Against Nazis

Brazil is felt here to be one of the main bulwarks against Nazi influence in South America. One of Berle's top jobs in Rio de Janeiro will be to block any spread of the influence of the Argentine Government, which the State Department has called Fascist, throughout Latin America.

Officials here have expressed concern over the fact that the United States has had no ambassador in Rio for the past three months, since Jefferson Caffery left to take up his new post as ambassador in Paris.

Berle was offered the Brazilian [illegible] job while he was heading the American delegation at the international civil aviation conference in Chicago.

Action Appears Certain

There had been some doubt whether he would accept but his decision to take the post now appears definite.

The President is expected to send up his nomination when Congress reconvenes.

Among the important problems in American-Brazilian relations is disposition of naval and air bases built by the United States in Brazil during the war. It is expected that these will be turned over to the Brazilian Government with some provision about their use by the United States for hemisphere defense.

Another problem is the feeling in Latin American countries that they should have more representation on the proposed world security council. Several countries have said that Latin America should have a permanent member on the council. Their diplomats here say informally that the seat should go to Brazil.

YANKS BACK FROM ABROAD

70,000 To 80,000 Return Every Month

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—The Army is returning 70,000 to 80,000 men every month from overseas, but only about 22,000 of the total are coming back under the rotation plan.

About 8,000 are being returned for temporary duty in the States. The remainder represents sick and wounded soldiers, and men brought back for operational reasons.

The information came from Secretary of War Stimson, in reply to a letter from Senator Cordon (R., Ore.) The Senator had received several petitions from relatives and friends of personnel of the 41st Division, which has been in the Pacific theater of operations more than two years. The petition pleaded that the 41st be brought home, with regiments having the longest combat service given preference.

Prosecution Of War Involved

Stimson wrote that he saw no way in which one unit could be singled out for return without setting off a series of similar transfers which would "severely damage" the war effort.

"It is a bald fact, if unpleasant," he said, "that the Army can do no more than it is now doing to return these men, at least until the defeat of Germany, unless the prosecution of the war is to become a matter of secondary concern."

The Cabinet official explained that "we simply lack a sufficient number of qualified replacements and adequate shipping facilities to establish a program of rotation which will permit short periods of overseas service for all soldiers.

Program Discouraged

"The mere fact that the preponderance of the Army will be overseas by the end of this year would, in itself, prevent such a program."

He said the best the War Department could do was determine the total number that can be returned and then apportion that number among the various overseas theaters.

Stimson told Cordon he was glad to be able to say that recently all limitations were removed on the number of soldiers who may be returned from overseas on leave or furlough to spend one month at home.

Diplomatic-Peace Efforts Urged

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—Senators Hatch (D., N.M.) and Ball (R., Minn.) called for a "supreme effort" today to solve diplomatic problems in Europe.

They made the appeal shortly after conferring with President Roosevelt at the White House.

With President An Hour

In a statement penciled [illegible] at a news conference, the two Senators said that, after an hour's discussion with the President of the whole field of foreign affairs, "we are more strongly convinced than ever of the gravity of the international situation, particularly as it relates to future co-operation to maintain peace."

"There is no easy solution in sight of the difficult problems and responsibilities facing the United Nations, particularly the United States, Britain and Russia," the two Senators said.

Allies' Co-Operation Needed

"So much is at stake that we believe this country must make a supreme effort to solve these immediate problems, in which we must have the co-operation of our allies."

Both Senators previously had expressed disappointment at what they interpreted as unilateral attempts to settle such problems as the postwar boundaries of Poland. Both have said that such questions should be left to final determination by a proposed international security organization.

Red Cross Again Spreads YuleSpiritAround World

Brings Cheer to Service Men and War-Stricken Children

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—The Red Cross again will spread the Christmas spirit around a war-beset world.

The great humanitarian organization will bring an old-fashioned Yule to service men and women both at home and overseas. For months it has been planning and working so that no one wearing an American uniform will be overlooked, even if he be in an Arctic outpost, an island jungle, a prison camp or on a ship at sea. Even war-stricken children in Allied countries will be remembered, some of them by United States service men themselves.

On Christmas Day a million and a quarter individual gift boxes will be distributed to service patients in overseas hospitals, aboard hospital ships, trains and planes and to small groups of men at remote stations. These boxes packed by volunteers, contain candy, cigarettes, gum, trinkets and reading matter. The Christmas spirit will be enhanced at holiday gatherings with colorful decorations provided in kits prepared and sent overseas by Red Cross and Junior Red Cross members.

Impoverished children of Great Britain, France, Italy and other war-ravaged countries will receive 200,000 packages of candy and 150,000 gift boxes of games, school materials and sewing equipment from the Junior Red Cross. Service men are supplementing these gifts with toys made in Red Cross hobby shops abroad.

TO STUDY AIR RIGHTS FUTURE

Senators Also Will Check Other U.S. Angles Abroad

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—Senators maneuvered today to provide an ace in the hole for the State Department when it sits in on the final determination of aviation rights.

Chairman Mead (D., N.Y.) announced that members Tunnell (D., Del.) and Burton (R., Ohio) of the Senate War Investigating Committee have been instructed to find out what has been done or will be done with American-constructed airports, when they make a flying trip to North Africa after Christmas.

Mead said the committee is determined that Uncle Sam keep a string on the world-wide system of landing fields which military engineers have built in foreign countries until it becomes certain that this country will share in aviation rights in those countries.

Co-Ordination To Be Checked

Tunnell and Burton will check the co-ordination of American civil, military and relief agencies abroad, inquire into the tapering off of lend-lease, learn plans for the postwar disposition of facilities and find out how much oil is coming out of the Middle East for the fighting fronts.

"We particularly want the State Department to have a string attached to that lineup of airfields from Casablanca to Cairo when it goes into conference to determine landing rights all over the world," Mead said.

Mead said he had asked the two Senators to add a 1,000-mile leg to their flight to visit the British controlled refineries at Abadan, Iran, as well as near-by American refineries.

Refineries At 40 Per Cent

"When we were over there a year ago," the chairman said, "the refineries at Abadan were operating at only about 40 per cent capacity.

"Their excuse then was that the Mediterranean was closed and the oil couldn't be taken through.

"It should be a great deal easier to get that oil to the fighting fronts, and especially to Burma, than by shipping it across the Atlantic. We want to know if those refineries are being run to capacity and if not, why not."

To Probe Food Outlook

He said the prospects for food production in Africa will be investigated to learn if supplies for American troops and the civilian population in Italy and in Africa can be obtained there.

The chairman said he was informed that an extra strain might be placed on shipping by an FEA commitment to supply 5,000 housing units in the devastated areas of France.

"I don't know where we are going to get the shipping to do all of these things and still supply our troops all over the world," he added.

Wants Few Companies Given Air Facilities

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—Chairman Bailey (D., N.C.), of the Senate Commerce Committee, declared today the number of domestic air lines should be kept "relatively low."

Railroad and steamship companies should be discouraged from entering the field of air transport, he said.

On transoceanic service, he announced his opposition to Government ownership if other means can be found. He said the service must be "something in the nature of a monopoly" and should be under strict Government control.

The committee which Bailey heads is expected to have an important part in laying out policies that will govern future commercial aviation at home and abroad.

Murray Asks Labor Aid For Coalition of Big 3

Writing in Russian Union Paper He Urges World Organization

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, writing in an official Soviet trade union publication, urged organized labor today to guard the war-time coalition of the United States, Great Britain and Russia, in the interest of a secure peace.

Mr. Murray wrote an article for the Dec. 19 issue of "War and the Working Classes," official trade union organ of the Soviet Union. It will be reprinted in "The C. I. O. News" for Dec. 25.

Urging establishment of a world labor organization at the February conference called by the British Trades Union Congress, Mr. Murray said such a united movement "will be but the embodiment of the unity which all the peoples fighting Fascism feel."

The February conference first was scheduled for last June, at the request of the C. I. O. The European invasion forced postponement.

In the mean time, the American Federation of Labor, United Mine Workers and most of the railroad brotherhoods have declined to attend. Without saying so, the A. F. of L. and U. M. W. indicated that the participation of the C. I. O. and the Soviet groups had a lot to do with their decision to remain away.

But Mr. Murray's organization has enthusiastically supported the meeting, sending Sidney Hillman, R. J. Thomas and Emil Rieve to London for preliminaries, from which they returned last week.

Mr. Murray, in the article for Soviet consumption, said: "Above all, we of organized labor, together with all freedom-loving people, must make certain that the peace lasts. Never again must our peoples be called upon to endure the horrible suffering which this war has inflicted upon them."

Russia May Spend $30,000,000 In United States When Peace Comes

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—Russia is talking postwar purchases in the United States which may add up to $30 billions. She now has a war-swollen buying commission here of 1,600 men, working all over the country.

That figure of $30 billions is many times our normal yearly trade with other nations, so obviously Russia may have to wait several years to get all she wants.

Besides, key American government men are looking for some formula of "parceling out" American production so that the home-folks and the rest of the world can get a certain percentage of what they need east postwar year. Russia, like the rest, is likely to get only a part of what she wants each 12 months.

Soviets Want Machines

Russia wants what she's always wanted from the American market: Machines, parts, motors, tools and processed metals with which to build her own industry so she can make the clothes, autos, homes, radios which have meant a higher living standard in the United States.

Right now, to educate her public she is readying a Spring exposition for Moscow which will show Russians the machines we make, and many of the products the machines turn out. Russian experts are here seeking priorities so they can purchase the single models they want to exhibit.

The news has gotten around, and both the State and Commerce Departments are beset by manufacturers who want to send salesmen to Moscow. This Government will clear them, it's learned, but the Russians still say, "No. The war won't permit." However, there are seven American fur firms with buyers there now. Fur is the item through which Russia has always garnered the largest amount of American dollars.

Will Need Credit

Russia's possible postwar purchases here represent such a vast sum that she will need credit—and Government credit, since no private combination of banks is thought likely to underwrite such sums. And Department of Commerce experts are counselling other Government departments to grease the wheels for this trade bonanza.

Here are the most-discussed financial plans as they're outlined by E. C. Ropes, the Commerce Department's Russian expert:

1. The Government could guarantee Russia's purchases. That would mean, if she defaulted on a purchase from Baldwin Locomotive the U. S. Government would pay Baldwin the unpaid part of the bill.

2. The Government could insure the seller, himself, and the plan would work the same way.

3. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation could make loans to American firms, which would permit them to turn out the goods for Russia swiftly, and yet wait some time for the long-term payments.

4. The Export-Import bank could guarantee American sales to Russia. This is the most popular plan. There is a move afoot now to increase the bank's capitalization from $700 millions to a top of $5 billions to assist American trade with all foreign countries. Since the bank's funds revolve, it could finance much more than $5 billions in trade.

Russia is asking as long as 30 years to pay off these purchases. Government men say, "why not? Under the Dawes plan we loaned Germany billions, and gave her 62½ years to pay."

Government experts point out that before the war Russia never defaulted on either purchases or loans. And she's the only country which has announced she'll pay off lend-lease which now stands, for her, at $7 billions.

Russia's method of buying and selling abroad is part and parcel of her good reputation as a debt risk.

Harbor Workers Asked To Forgo Their Holiday

O. D. T. Appeal Cites Urgent Needs of Overseas Armies

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—To meet urgent demands of the armies overseas, the Office of Defense Transportation today appealed to New York Harbor operators and their employees to forgo their Christmas holidays.

"The recent news from the European front emphasizes the critical petroleum transportation problem existing today which demands the full use of all transportation facilities," J. Monroe Johnson, O. D. T. Director, wired thirty operating and towing companies.

"On the east coast our water equipment is straining to meet its essential transportation requirements.

"While we appreciate that the crews of your vessels have earned their Christmas holiday, we deem it highly essential that your vessels do not become idle even for a day, and we must request you to ask your crews to forgo their holiday this year, if one was planned, in the interest of the all-important war effort.

"Your co-operation and assistance in this respect will be a substantial contribution to that war effort. Please advise what will be done."

HORSE RACING IS BANNED BY BYRNES ACTION

Other Drastic Manpower Curbs Announced by Director

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—In its most drastic manpower moves of the war, the Government today banned horse and dog racing and served notice that materials, fuel and transportation will be denied businesses which defy manpower regulations.

Selective Service also was directed to review the qualifications for military service of professional athletes.

The actions capped a week of intensified endeavor to speed up the whole American war effort to the greater pace which the German counter-offensive has shown will be necessary to victory.

Previous Actions

In earlier moves, the Government had:

1. Increased the draft rate for January and February from 60,000 to 80,000.

2. Raised its sights on war production to plan on the basis that heavy fighting may continue in Europe for a year or more.

3. Frozen production of civilian goods at current levels indefinitely.

4. Sharply cut the allotment of automobile tires for civilian use.

Today's actions were ordered directly by James F. Byrnes, director of war mobilization and reconversion. It was announced, however, that his request that all racing tracks close by January 3 was issued with President Roosevelt's approval.

Professional Athletes

Byrnes asked Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey to review the professional athletes' qualifications for military service, explaining that it was difficult for both him and the public to see how an individual could be unfit for military service yet capable of engaging in games "demanding physical fitness."

Serious consideration, Byrnes added, should be given to recalling those men to the armed forces or giving them another physical examination if they have not previously been inducted.

The "crack down" on businesses which disregard manpower regulations was taken in two steps.

First, Byrnes asked the War Manpower Commission to intensify its drive to establish employment ceilings in areas of labor shortages. Under such ceilings, the WMC tells a business — manufacturing plant, laundry or tavern, for instance—the total number of workers it may employ.

Business Decision

Then, Byrnes asked the War Production Board to put "teeth" into the manpower regulations since the manpower commission has no authority itself to enforce its ceilings. The WPB did this by invoking for the first time in the war its broad priority powers.

These permit it to withhold from a business materials, transportation and any other product subject to priority control.

As invoked, the WPB can use the power whenever it "makes a finding that materials or facilities are not

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being used most effectively for the prosecution of the war as a result of failure to comply with an employment ceiling or hiring regulation of the War Manpower Commission."

The WPB announced these controlling policies:

Before action against an employer, the manpower commission must certify that he has refused to comply with a ceiling or hiring regulation "within reasonable time after he has been notified of his failure to do so."

After such certification, hearings will be ordered before a compliance commissioner to determine whether there is proof of failure to comply.

Only in event the commissioner found such proof would the WPB's priority sanctions be applied.

In creating this machinery, Byrnes noted in a statement that the purpose of the ceilings is to assure that war plants get sufficient manpower.

"The vast majority of establishments and employes throughout the nation are co-operating wholeheartedly with the War Manpower Commission in accepting employment ceilings as essential to war production," he said.

"I am sure that we can continue to establish these ceilings in most instances through negotiations with the establishments and services concerned and with their employes on a voluntary basis.

"However, I am unwilling to ask for the voluntary acceptance of ceilings by the many without being prepared to take positive measures to enforce ceilings on the very few who are unwilling to thus contribute to our war effort. I am sure that our people want and expect our war plants to be fully manned."

mands the utmost effort that the people of the United States can give to the support of its armed forces in the production of needed war materials. The operation of racetracks is not conducive to this all-out effort. Therefore, with the approval of the President, I urge that the management of these tracks take immediate measures to bring present race meetings to a close by Jan. 3, 1945, and to refrain from resuming racing at all tracks until war conditions permit.

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I have asked the War Man-Power Commission to withdraw all ceiling authorizations. I have also asked the chairman of the War Production Board and the director of the Office of Defense Transportation to take such steps as fall within their power to prevent the use of critical materials, services and transportation in the operation of these tracks if such steps should prove necessary. However, I am confident that the management of these tracks can be depended upon to take prompt action without the necessity of recourse to other measures.

armed services and thereafter discharged.

In either event they proved to thousands by their great physical feats upon the football or baseball field that they are physically fit and as able to perform military service as are the 11,000,000 men in uniform.

I am confident that our efforts to find the man power needed for war production would be greatly facilitated if serious consideration were promptly given to recalling these men into the armed services or where they have not heretofore been inducted, calling them for another physical examination.

I would greatly appreciate any action which you may take to accomplish this end.

Letter to General Hershey on Athletes

I am seriously concerned that at this critical period when we are exerting every effort to direct man power into critical war industries, we find such a large number of men between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six engaged in professional athletics of all types. It is difficult for the public to understand and certainly it is difficult for me to understand how these men can be physically unfit for military service and yet be able to compete with the greatest athletes of the nation in games demanding physical fitness.

I am advised that in some cases these professional athletes were not inducted because of alleged physical unfitness. In other cases they were inducted into the

Text of Byrnes' Statements On Racetracks and Athletes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—The texts of War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes's statement ending horse racing and of his letter to Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Director of Selective Service recommending drafting of professional athletes, follow:

Statement on Closing Racetracks

The operation of racetracks not only requires the employment of man power needed for more essential operation, but also man power, railroad transportation as well as tires and gasoline in the movement of patrons to and from the track, and in the movement of the horses and their attendants.

The existing war situation de-

Most Point-Free Meats To Be Rationed Soon

Renewed Control of Virtually All Canned Vegetables

Also Scheduled After First of Year — Frozen Foods Not Expected to Be Affected

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—Virtually all point-free meats and canned vegetables will be back on the ration list by the new year, it was learned tonight.

The OPA, reliable sources said, is prepared to announce the drastic move next Wednesday.

New point values, now being discussed, probably will be effective December 31.

The decision is understood to affect practically all cuts of beef, veal, lamb and pork as well as all major canned vegetables. The affected foods have been ration-free since last May.

Frozen Foods Excluded

Because of continuing need for freezer space in warehouses for military commodities, frozen fruits and vegetables probably will stay point-free. Jams, jellies, and preserves are not expected to be returned to the list.

Restoration of points to the wide variety of meat cuts and vegetables will be a major victory for OPA over the War Food Administration. For the last five months OPA has recommended that point-free meats and vegetables be put back under rationing, contending that spotty distribution and shortages—actual and potential—warranted such a move.

WFA, which has jurisdiction as to which commodities are rationed, rejected the proposal each time it was submitted. The dispute was climaxed last month when OPA appealed to Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson, asking that he act as arbitrator.

Decision Supports OPA

His decision, it was said, supports the OPA virtually 100 per cent.

WFA's arguments were that while some commodities are in short supply, there are substitutes available in each case. In view of this, the agency said, there should be as little rationing as possible in order to avert large food surpluses at the end of the war in Europe.

OPA's position was that, to provide for equitable distribution, foods should go back on the ration list as soon as they become unavailable in parts of the country. It argued that supplies of most point-free meat, particularly pork, have been extremely short since mid-Summer.

OPA acknowledged that canned vegetables were in good supply, but said that stocks were moving too rapidly, indicating a shortage before the start of the new pack year next Summer.

Longer War Considered

One consideration which apparently tipped the scale in OPA's favor is the prospect that the war in Europe may be drawn out as a result of the German counter-offensive. This would make it necessary to ship more food to the armed forces than first calculated, and at the same time reduce the likelihood of an early homefront surplus feared by WFA.

Another factor contributing to the decision was said to be WFA's latest estimate that the Spring pig crop will be two per cent under last year's, while the agency had called on farmers for a seven per cent increase.

The impending change will restore point values to practically all utility grades of beef and lamb, the cheaper cuts of pork, and probably to all grades of veal. The top grades of all these meats, except veal, already are rationed.

All canned vegetables except tomatoes are off the ration list at present.

The number of red and blue ration points provided for a four-week period probably will be increased under the new program. The quantity was cut in half when the list of rationed commodities was reduced.

WLB Penalizes Union For Strike

Washington, Dec. 23 (AP)—The War Labor Board today penalized a union for a strike despite the fact that the union had obeyed rules on a strike vote and a waiting period.

The penalty was denial of maintenance of membership for a "probationary period" of six months.

The union observed requirements of the War Labor Act in calling the strike, and the Kansas City Regional WLB had ruled in effect that it should not be penalized. But Lewis M. Gill, public member of the national board, in a majority opinion reversing the regional ruling, said the purpose of the Smith-Connally Act was "plainly not to legitimatize strikes, but rather to aid in preventing them."

He declared the board's action was "in accordance with our established policy of withholding grants of union security in cases where the union has demonstrated a lack of responsibility in carrying out its wartime obligations."

The dispute involved the Carr, Adams and Collier Company, of Dubuque, Iowa, a sash, door and millwork business, and the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (AFL), representing 570 employés.

FLOOD CONTROL BILL IS SIGNED BY ROOSEVELT

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—President Roosevelt's signature put a billion dollar program of approved flood control projects on the nation's postwar books today.

But Congress still must appropriate the money for the projects, which encompass not only flood checking works, but also reclamation, hydro-electric power and similar developments.

In signing the bill authorizing the program, the President said the legislation "is a step forward in the development of our national water resources and power policies.

In approving Missouri Valley projects embraced by the bill, Mr. Roosevelt said he did so in the understanding that the measure would not jeopardize in any way the creation of a Missouri Valley Authority.

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Such a program, which would be in some ways parallel to the Tennessee Valley Authority, should be considered at an early opportunity by the next Congress, the President asserted.

About 75 to 80 per cent of the cost of the various floodcontrol projects, Senator Overton (D.-La.) has estimated, would go for labor.

New Depression Feared

Disturbing many economists, too, is an idea that another depression may set in two or three years after the war ends.

Some of them believe the immediate postwar years will be relatively prosperous, that demands pent up during the war will be unleashed. Others say that the prospect of heavy delayed demands has been exaggerated, except in a few lines of consumer goods.

But both groups' views pretty well coincide on a sharp dip toward depression levels after two or three postwar years.

Should those fears prove well founded and the national income slip back to something like $40,000,000,000 a year, the Government might find itself borrowing again to meet running expenses—and borrowing to pay interest on its borrowed money.

Consequently, Government financial authorities are hopeful that America can keep the annual national income at $140,000,000,000 to $150,000,000,000 after the war.

As a result of the attention the debt problem is receiving, an entirely new approach to fiscal policy is shaping up.

In the past the Government has figured out how much it could afford to spend with the national income and tax receipts at such and such a figure. How it may have to compute its expenses in advance, decide how large the national income will have to be to meet those expenses—and determine whether it should do some prodding to push the income up to the required level.

Amid all the financial uncertainty, there is one thing the fiscal experts are sure of—not in this generation and perhaps not in many generations will the the national debt ever be whittled back down to a comparatively slim $20,000,000,000 or $30,000,000,000.

Fiscal Experts See Great Challenge In $300,000,000,000 National Debt

Washington, Dec. 23—(AP)—Fiscal experts took a look today at a prospective national debt of $300,000,000,000 and said its management will afford one of the greatest challenges ever to confront the Government.

At stake in finding a sound method of handling it are the solvency of the Government, stability of the national economy and the savings and investments of every American.

Not Worried Yet

These experts aren't exactly worried yet. But they are working on a budget, which President Roosevelt will submit to Congress in about 10 days, which will hoist the debt to upwards of $300,000,000,000.

In former years, they say, it didn't matter greatly if there was a bit of a deficit—or even a sizeable deficit—for the total debt was relatively small and there always were prospects of running into a period of good years which would permit trimming it to comfortable size.

But after this war, the Government won't be able to take many chances. For it is going to cost about as much to pay interest on the debt, to say nothing of retiring it, as it used to cost for total prewar expenses of the Government.

And, should peace plans prove inadequate, it would be a staggering job to pile costs of another war on top of a $300,000,000,000 debt.

Electors to Fete Roosevelt

Will Hold Pre-Inauguration Dinner For President and Truman

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—A reception and dinner in honor of President Roosevelt and Vice-President-elect Harry S. Truman will be given by the Democratic Presidential electors the night be-

fore the inauguration.

Michael Francis Doyle, of Philadelphia, chairman of the Electoral College, announced the affair will be given Jan. 19. Members of the Cabinet, the Supreme Court and high Army and Navy officers have been invited. On the following day, Mr. Doyle said, the President will give a reception at the White House to which the electors have been invited.

Anonymous Electioneers Out

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—President Roosevelt signed tonight legislation making it unlawful to publish or distribute any political statement relating to a candidate for Federal office unless the statement named the person responsible.

Dewey Expected to Give Lincoln Dinner Address

May Outline Party Views in Speech at Washington

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (AP).—A Lincoln Birthday speech here may give Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York his first public opportunity since the election to keynote Republican views on home and foreign affairs.

The defeated Presidential candidate is understood to have accepted an invitation to speak before the annual Lincoln Day dinner in February.

Mr. Dewey's appearance here would follow a meeting of the party's national committee in Indianapolis Jan. 22. At that time his long-time friend, Herbert Brownell jr., is expected to be retained as national chairman and a paid assistant authorized to help Mr. Brownell set up a full-time staff for a four-year campaign.

Mr. Brownell has indicated that he plans to move national headquarters back to Washington from New York.

Here the committee chairman will be in closer touch with Republican members of Congress who are are likely to become much more frequent mouthpieces of Republican views than Mr. Dewey, despite his position as titular head of the party.

G. I.s On Gilbert Islands To Greet Holiday First

New York, Dec. 23—(AP)—Doughboys stationed in the Gilbert Islands in the Pacific will be the first Americans now on far-flung battlefields of the world to greet Christmas Day and those in the lonely Aleutians the last.

It will be 8 A. M., Eastern War Time Sunday in New York when Christmas dawns in the Gilberts, and four hours later the Philippines will begin observance of the birth of Christ.

American in Chungking will welcome Christmas Day at 1 P. M., E. W. T., Sunday and Yanks in Palestine will hear the bells of Bethlehem ringing in the Holy Day at 4 P. M., New York time.

To the Americans fighting on the battlefields of France and Italy and those stationed in England Christmas will come at 7 P. M., E. W. T.

But to the the Yanks in the Aleutians Christmas Day will not dawn until six hours after Christmas has arrived in New York.

UNITY URGED BY ROOSEVELT

President Hails Conference Of Christians And Jews

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New York, Dec. 23 (AP)—President Roosevelt said today it was "the solemn duty for us who live and work in the United States to keep our country free of prejudice and bigotry."

In a message to the National Conference of Christians and Jews made public today, the President called upon the nation to "come together" during the conference-sponsored Brotherhood Week, February 18-25.

Full Text Of His Message

The full text of the President's message follows:

"It is highly fitting that in the midst of the world struggle for liberty we should remind ourselves of the spiritual realities by which the ideals of freedom are nourished.

"The principle of human brotherhood is the source of our political democracy and this principle is rooted in the faith which our fathers knew and which we have lived by.

"One God is our Father and all of us are brothers and sisters in His family. We worship at different altars and express this faith in many ways. But deeper than the differences is the spiritual unity that makes us the people.

"Justice And Peace For All"

"On battlefields throughout the world, Americans of many cultural backgrounds stand together in one fighting force that presents an unbroken front against the enemies of freedom.

"We move forward to victory—one people dedicated to one flag in the service of justice and peace for all. As these men and women of the fighting forces carry on their struggle against tyranny overseas, they dream of the homeland in which equal opportunity for the good life is open to all.

"It is, therefore ,a solemn duty for us who live and work in the United States to keep our country free of prejudice and bigotry so that when our fighting men return they may find us living by the freedom for which they are ready to give the full measure of devotion.

Teamwork Vital In Wartime

"The United States is the greatest team of free men and women that the world has ever seen. This is the hour for us to decide that our determination shall be in peace, as in war—teamwork.

"I am happy, therefore, to welcome the 12th anniversary of Brotherhood Week, February 18-25, 1945, under the auspices of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

"I hope that our people will come together during this week to renew and strengthen their determination to serve the high principles of liberty through spiritual unity."

New Zealander Terms League's Failure Moral

New York, Dec. 23 (AP)—Carl A. Berendsen, Minister of New Zealand to the United States, called today for "a new moral standard" to prevent a postwar failure similar to that of the League of Nations.

In an address during the victory rally of the Metropolitan Opera broadcast, Berendsen asserted the cause of the League's failure was "moral failure."

"The League failed because its members lacked the courage and the sense to do the right; the League failed because of a false and vicious idea that international morality differs in some way from individual morality; the League failed because far too many nations, in the conduct of their international relations, adopted a policy that a nation's pledged word is not necessarily its bond," he said.

Light Cruiser Topeka Placed In Commission

Boston, Dec. 23 (AP)—The light cruiser U.S.S. Topeka, named for the capital city of Kansas, was placed in commission today at the South Boston annex of the Boston Navy Yard.

The new ship, launched last August 19 at the Bethlehem Steel Company's Quincy Shipyard, is of the 10,000-ton Cleveland class of light cruisers, a class which mounts twelve 6-inch guns in four turrets, and a dozen 5-inch anti-aircraft guns in six twin mounts.

Mayor Frank J. Warren of Topeka, whose wife christened the ship at her launching, was among the guests, and presented to the ship the gift of the city of Topeka, a loud-speaker system with an album of records. This is to be operated separately from the ship's speaker system for entertainments.

Shipyard Workers Agree to Stay on Jobs Christmas Day

Brunswick, Ga., Dec. 23—(AP)—Hundreds of shipyard workers agreed today to work Christmas Day and return their over time pay for the holiday to the U. S. Treasury, as a Christmas present to fighting forces on the front lines.

Eighty shipfitters initiated a move to continue working on the holiday Monday without pay as a "gift to the boys overseas" and the proposal was agreed to by hundreds on each of the three shifts at the Jones Construction Company.

E. J. Krett, general manager of the yards, said the company would prepare a separate payroll for the Christmas Day work and that workers would endorse the checks and forward them to the Treasury. More than 1,000 of the approximately 13,000 workers advised officials they would be on the job Christmas and many others volunteered as they learned of the move.

The holiday work schedule was approved by J. F. McInnis, of Philadelphia, regional director of East Coast Construction of the Maritime Commission. He said a Government ruling that the workers be paid for the holiday.

The move prompted the New York Metal and Termite Corporation to donate welding rod used at the yards without cost for the day and the shipyard cafeteria announced it would supply free Christmas dinner to workers.

50 Ward Pickets Stage Demonstration in Store

Manager Reports Suits Ripped and Stock Scattered

DETROIT, Dec. 23 (AP).—Congress of Industrial Organizations unionists picketing a Montgomery Ward & Co. store in suburban Royal Oak staged a demonstration inside the store today. Manager Edward Barden said some clothing from the store's stock was ripped and other merchandise thrown on the floor.

State police dispersed the group after it had been inside the department store nearly an hour.

Mr. Barden said about fifty pickets paraded in the aisles, singing a Christmas carol, then tossed merchandise on the floor, went to the basement to obtain baseball bats, and continued their demonstration. Meanwhile, he said, some of the unionists tried on suits obviously too small for them, and flexing their shoulder muscles, ripped the coats.

Mr. Barden said the principal damage was in the disarrangement of the stock which was thrown about. Despite this, he said, the store remained open. More than a score of state and Royal Oak police were on hand to prevent further trouble.

Roy Scoggins, Michigan director of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees' Union, C. I. O. affiliate, whose members have been on strike at four Detroit area stores since Dec. 9, said he was informed some pickets had been clubbed by state police, and added, "If we have to fight the state police, as well as Avery (Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward), we are prepared to do so." State police said their reports did not show any injuries to pickets.

FOR RELEASE XXX MARRIED
LIKE ZEMKE, SCHILLING FLIES MORE THAN MOST COMMANDERS IN THIS
THEATER AND WHEN HE WAS ZEMKE'S DEPUTY THEY USUALLY ALTERNATED WITH
GABRESKI IN LEADING THE GROUP.
THE GERMANS CALLED THEM THE "TERRIBLE THREE" AND THEIR SQUADRON
USUALLY RECEIVED PLENTY OF ATTENTION FROM DEFENDING NAZI FIGHTERS.
FOUR ENEMY PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN TODAY BY MAJ.GEORGE CEULEERS OF
404 1/2 LOS FELIZ BLVD., LOS ANGELES.
TWO EACH IN THE AIR WERE SHOT DOWN BY:
CAPT. FELIX WILLIAMSON OF CORDELE, GA.;
LT. ROBERT WINTER, 819 WOOLAWN, DALLAS;
LT. ALFRED O. PERRY, 88 1/2 TWELFTH ST., DESMET, IDAHO;
CAPT.JOSEPH PERRY, 410 BENNETT ST., BRIDGEPORT, OHIO;
MAJ. HAROLD COMSTOCK, 215 N. FRESNO ST., FRESNO, CALIF.;

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CAPT. CAMERON HART, 633 1/2 WEST WATER ST., ELMIRA, N.Y.;
LT. RANDEL MURPHY, JR., 2919 WHEELER AVE., HOUSTON, TEXAS;
LT. WILLARD SCHERZ, 2452 SACRAMENTO ST., BERKELEY, CALIF.;
LT. GEORGE GLEASON, MONTROSE, COLO.;
LT. JOHN FRAZIER, 16 WOODROW ST., FORT WORTH, TEXAS;
LT.ROY ORNDORFF, CASEY, ILL.;
CAPT.THOMAS FARELL, 951 WEST GENESEE ST., SYRACUSE, N.Y.;
LT.WILLIAM ERSKAMP, 2314 FAIR PARK AVE., EAGLE ROCK, CALIF.
ON IN THE AIR:
LT.JACKIE WOODSIDE, 820 SOUTH 2ND ST., ARTESIA, N.M.;
LT.CHARLES HAMMETT, 154 ATLANTA AVE., ATLANTA, GA.;
LT.RICHARD VAUGHN, 3708 NORTH 61ST ST., OMAHA, NEB.
LT.WILLIAM FLYNT, 107 WINTHROP ST., AUGUSTA, ME.
LT.SIM LETT, JR., FORT MEADE, FLA.;
LT.EUGENE BEASON, 2130 CLEVELAND ST., GRANITE FALLS, ILL.; (NOT
IN POSTAL GUIDE);
LT.SANFORD BALL, JR., SALEM, MD.;
LT.CHARLES CARLSTON, 196-21 FORTY-FOURTH ST., FLUSHING, N.Y.
LT.ANDREW CHASCO, STRUTHERS, OHIO;
LT.WILLIAM DALEY, ONANCOCK, VA.;
LT.NORMAN GOULD, 3216 E. AVE., ERIE, PA.
LT.WARREN LEAR, VALPARAISO, FLA.;
LT.VICTOR BAST, LENA, WIS.;
LT.SAMUEL BATSON, 9517 TROUVILLE, PLAYA DEL REY, CALIF.;
LT.WILLIAM HOFFMAN, LIBERTY BLVD, PARKSIDE, PHILLIPSBURG, N.J.;
F/O.MELVIN HUGHES, GREEN KNOLL PARK, SUMMERVILLE, N.J.;

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CAPT.CARL ERNST, 301 S. CHURCH ST.JOHNS, MICH.;
CAPT.JOSEPH STRUBEY, 541 SOUTH CENTER, SOMERSET, PA.;
CAPT.EDWARD LEWIN, NEWBERRY, MICH.;
CAPT.ANDREW HUYCKE, 662 N. MELINDA AVE., PORTLAND, ORE.;
LT. GAIL JACOBSON, 1319 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., DES MOINES, IOWA;
LT.TOM NEELY, EDMONDS, WASH.
SHARED ONE IN AIR:
LT.LLOYD GEREN, 3835 THE MALL, DALLAS;
LT.DON WESTOVER, HASTINGS, PA.

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LONDON, FIRST ADD DECORATIONS (TOP ON AYE) X X X BEEN LAUNCHED."
COL.LOUIS L.MUNDELL, SILVER SPRINGS, MD., WAS AWARDED THE LEGION OF MERIT FOR NEGOTIATING AN EXCHANGE OF WEATHER INFORMATION WITH THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EASTERN COMMAND OF THE U.S.S.A.F.E. WHICH OPERATES FIGHTER AND BOMBER BASES IN RUSSIA.
MAJ.GEN.JACOB E.FICKEL, 249 UNION BLVD., ST.LOUIS, RECEIVED THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL FOR SUPERVISION OF THE ARMY AIR FORCE TECHNICIAN TRAINING PROGRAM.
SJ1148AEW

LONDON--SECOND ADD FIRST LEAD HUNGARIAN X X X LIBERATED HUNGARY.
THE ASSEMBLY'S CALL FOR AN ARMISTICE CAME AS THE RED ARMY WAS STRIKING DEEP INTO WESTERN HUNGARY TO CLEAR THE COUNTRY OF GERMANS.
THE ASSEMBLY DENOUNCED THE SZALASI REGIME AS "USURPERS IMPOSED ON THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE BY THE GERMANS."
IT OFFERED THE PEOPLE A PROGRAM GUARANTEEING "FREEDOM AND WIDE POLITICAL RIGHTS TO THE WORKING MASSES" AND PROMISED LAND REFORM "TO GIVE THE LAND TO THE MANY HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF LANDLESS AND POOR PEASANTS X X X IN ORDER TO CONSOLIDATE FOREVER THE DEMOCRATIC ORDER OF THE HUNGARIAN STATE."
SIMULTANEOUSLY, IT OFFERED TO GUARANTEE THE "INTEGRITY OF PRIVATE PROPERTY AS THE BASIS OF OUR ECONOMIC SOCIAL STRUCTURE."
(NO PICKUP)
TA920PEW

THIRD NIGHT LEAD RUSSIAN

BY RICHARD KASISCHKE

LONDON, SUNDAY, DEC. 24-(AP)-RUSSIAN TROOPS, THRUSTING WESTWARD IN FORTIFIED MOUNTAIN COUNTRY, HAVE REACHED THE IPOLY RIVER ON A 20-MILE STRETCH FROM THE DANUBE TO THE TOWN OF IPOLY SAG, AND NOW STAND WITHIN 100 MILES OF VIENNA AND 72 OF BRATISLAVA, MOSCOW DISCLOSED LAST NIGHT AS VIOLENT ACTION FLAMED ON MANY PARTS OF THE SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN FRONT.

THE SOVIET COMMUNIQUE AND A POST-MIDNIGHT SUPPLEMENT IGNORED GERMAN RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT RED ARMY FORCES HAD ENTERED THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN SUBURBS OF BUDAPEST IN A NEW FRONTAL ASSAULT, BUT DESCRIBED HEAVY FIGHTING AT DISTANCES NORTHEAST, NORTH, NORTHWEST AND SOUTHWEST OF THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL.

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THE DRIVE TO THE OLD CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER ALONG THE IPOLY RIVER GAINED AS MUCH AS 16 MILES FROM PREVIOUSLY-ANNOUNCED POSITIONS AND COST THE GERMANS HUNDREDS OF DEAD.

THE GERMAN DNB AGENCY IN A LATE BROADCAST CONCEDED THAT THE RUSSIANS ACTUALLY WERE A DOZEN MILES WEST OF THE IPOLY AND HAD REACHED THE HRON (GRAN) RIVER VALLEY ON FORMER CZECHOSLOVAK SOIL BUT CLAIMED A COUNTERATTACK HAD CUT OFF THIS SOVIET WEDGE.

WHETHER THIS WAS ABOVE OR BELOW IPOLY SAG THE GERMANS DID NOT SAY, BUT MOSCOW ANNOUNCED THAT IN AN UNIDENTIFIED AREA WEST OF IPOLY SAG THE GERMANS COUNTERATTACKED WITH ELEMENTS OF THREE ARMORED DIVISIONS BUT WERE BEATEN BACK WITH HEAVY MANPOWER LOSSES AND WITH 36 TANKS AND 19 ARMORED TROOP CARRIERS KNOCKED OUT.

THIS FIGHTING WAS ESPECIALLY SANGUINARY, MOSCOW SAID, WITH SOME COMMUNITIES REPEATEDLY CHANGING HANDS.

AMONG THE HUNGARIAN X X X SEVENTH GRAPH.

FOR LONDON - (ASSIGNED XX CLIMAX

THE THRUSTS INTO THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS WERE REPORTED BY COL.ERNST VON HAMMER, GERMAN MILITARY COMMENTATOR, WHO SAID THEY WERE PART OF A MASSIVE TRIPLE RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE, THE OUTER PRONGS OF WHICH WERE AIMED AT COMPLETE ENCIRCLEMENT.

"THE RUSSIANS NOW ARE FIGHTING IN THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN WEICHBILD (SUBURBS) OF BUDAPEST," HE SAID. HE MAINTAINED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS DIRECT FRONTAL ASSAULT WAS SMALL COMPARED WITH THE PINCERS DRIVE NORTH AND SOUTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL, IN WHICH 18 INFANTRY DIVISIONS AND THREE MOBILE CORPS ARE PARTICIPATING.

THE SOVIET ARMIES REACHED THE SOUTHEASTERN SUBURBS OF BUDAPEST IN THE FIRST WEEK OF NOVEMBER, BUT WERE HALTED BY STUBBORN GERMAN DEFENSE. THERE HAD BEEN NO REPORT OF RUSSIAN ADVANCES IN THIS AREA FROM THAT TIME UNTIL TODAY.

THE GERMANS EARLIER TONIGHT SAID THAT MASSIVELY REINFORCED RUSSIAN ARMIES HAD LAUNCHED THEIR ASSAULT ON ALL SIDES OF BUDAPEST.

BY BERLIN BROADCAST ACCOUNTS, THIS LATEST SOVIET ASSAULT BROUGHT LARGE SECTIONS OF THE EASTERN FRONT IN HUNGARY, SLOVAKIA AND LATVIA INTO HEAVY ACTION.

MOSCOW STILL WAS SILENT ON THE RENEWED DRIVE TO TAKE BUDAPEST AND THE REPORTED LATVIAN OFFENSIVE, BUT DISPATCHES SAID THE SOVIET CAPITAL WAS EXCITED OVER PREMIER STALIN'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE RED ARMY HAD INITIATED "SOME BIG AND DECISIVE BATTLES."

AT BUDAPEST, BERLIN SAID, MARSHAL RODION Y.MALINOVSKY BORED IN FROM THE EAST AND NORTH AFTER REGROUPING AND RESUPPLYING HIS FRONTLINE FORCES WHICH HAVE BEEN GRINDING DOWN STRONG POINTS IN BLOODY FIGHTING THROUGH THE CITY'S APPROACHES.

SOUTHWEST OF THE CAPITAL, MARSHAL FEODOR I.TOLBUKHIN'S FORCES STRUCK AGAIN AFTER SEVERAL VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUELS AND THE NAZIS ADMITTED THAT THEY SCORED "SEVERAL BREACHES" IN THEIR DRIVE ON SZEKESFEHERVAR, A LARGE ENEMY BASTION 31 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BUDAPEST AND ONE OF THE VITAL HUNGARIAN COMMUNICATION LINKS WITH AUSTRIA.

A GERMAN BROADCAST OF A FRONTLINE REPORT SAID RUSSIAN ATTACKS AGAINST SZEKESFEHEVAR AND THE WHOLE FRONT BETWEEN THE DANUBE RIVER AND LAKE BALATON HAD "INCREASED TO UNPARALLELED STRENGTH."

"HEAVY RUSSIAN ARTILLERY HAS BEEN BROUGHT UP TO JOIN THE ASSAULT ALONG WITH MULTI-BARRELLED GUNS, FLAME-THROWERS AND MORTARS," IT SAID, "AND THE RED AIRFORCE IS DROPPING ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS. EVERY GERMAN ON THIS FRONT KNOWS THIS--IT WILL BE HARDER IN THE FUTURE, FOR MORE SOVIET MASSES WILL BE UNLEASHED."

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THE GERMANS NOTED WITH UNCONCEALED CHAGRIN THAT THE RUSSIANS WERE HOLDING TO ENCIRCLEMENT STRATEGY AGAINST BUDAPEST, SLASHING ITS LIFELINES TO SLOVAKIA AND AUSTRIA ONE BY ONE, RATHER THAN FALLING FOR GERMAN PLANS TO MAKE THE CAPITAL "ANOTHER AACHEN."

BERLIN, REPORTING ON TWO OF THE SOVIET'S THREE INVASIONS OF SLOVAKIA, SAID THE CENTRAL DRIVE ABOVE BUDAPEST SUCCEEDED IN THROWING TWO BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS THE HRON (GARAM) RIVER AFTER A PUSH WESTWARD FROM THE IPOLY RIVER TOWARD BRATISLAVA, BUT CLAIMED THAT THESE BRIDGEHEADS WERE WIPED OUT.

MALINOVSKY'S INVASION OF EASTERN SLOVAKIA FROM NORTHEASTERN HUNGARY WAS REPORTED BY THE GERMANS TO BE PREPARING TO STORM LOSONC, RAILHUB ON THE HUNGARIAN-SLOVAK BORDER.

WHILE THERE WAS NO REPORT OF LATVIAN FIGHTING FROM MOSCOW, THE BERLIN RADIO SAID A FIERCE BATTLE WAS RAGING ON THE COURLAND

PENINSULA AND THAT THE RUSSIANS WERE STRIKING WITH ARMORED AND AERIAL MIGHT WHICH THREATENED TO WIPE OUT AN ESTIMATED 300,000 GERMANS PENNED BETWEEN LIEPAJA ON THE WEST, TUKUMS ON THE EAST AND THE BALTIC ON THE NORTH.

THE GERMAN REPORT SAID THIS LATVIAN ASSAULT WAS BEING MADE BY 27 RED DIVISIONS.

RQ330PEW

(ADD LONDON XXX DOGFIGHTS

BRITAIN-BASED BOMBERS RUMBLED INTO THE BATTLE AND SWARMS OF FIGHTERS DRONED BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE CHANNEL AS THE ALLIES GOT THEIR FIRST GOOD WHACK AT THE ADVANCING GERMANS AFTER 72 HOURS OF ZERO FLYING WEATHER.

THE GERMAN RADIO SAID THREE BATTLE FLEETS CAME OUT OF THE WEST SHORTLY BEFORE NOON, BUT DISCONTINUED FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS, INDICATING THAT THE BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS WERE SPILLING THEIR CARGOES ON THE FRONTLINES.

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A BRILLIANT SUNSHINE BROKE OUT OVER THE LUXEMBOURG FRONT ENABLING THE PLANES TO ROAR OVER THE GERMAN COLUMNS.

FOUR HUNDRED AMERICAN LIBERATORS AND FORTRESSES DUMPED MORE THAN 1,500 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES THIS AFTERNOON ON RAILROAD YARDS AND ROAD JUNCTIONS BEHIND VON RUNDSTEDT'S OFFENSIVE.

A FIGHTER ESCORT OF 700 MUSTANGS AND THUNDERBOLTS DIVEBOMBED AND STRAFED GERMAN COLUMNS, AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER FAST PLANES BASED IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM JOINED IN THE ATTACK ON THE GERMANS WITH BOMBS, MACHINEGUNS AND CANNON.

AMONG THE HEAVY BOMBER TARGETS WERE EHRANG, NEAR TRIER, AND KAISERSLAUTERN.

FIRST PILOTS RETURNING TO BRITAIN SAID THE GERMAN AIR FORCE WAS UP IN STRENGTH AND THAT THE SKIES WERE ABLAZE WITH FIERCE DOGFIGHTS OVER THE BATTLE FRONT.

CAPT.JOHN E.PENNYBACKER, WINCHESTER, VA., WHO FLEW AS DEPUTY DIVISION COMMANDER, SAID THE TARGET AREA "WAS CLEARLY OUTLINED."

THIRTY-FIVE OF THE GERMAN PLANES REPORTED SHOT DOWN WERE CREDITED TO THE FAMOUS 56TH THUNDERBOLT GROUP HEADED BY COL.DAVID SCHILLING OF TRAVERSE CITY, MICH. TODAY'S KILL RAN THE SCORE FOR THE GROUP TO 626 FOR THE WAR--A RECORD FOR THE EUROPEAN THEATER.

THE RECORD FOR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PLANES KNOCKED DOWN BY A SQUADRON IN A DAY IS 38. IT WAS SCORED BY A MUSTANG GROUP HEADED BY COL. JOE L.MASON OF COLUMBUS, OHIO, LAST NOV. 2.

30. 24 — 21493

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF BETTER WEATHER WHICH HAS HELD GEN.EISENHOWER'S AIR FORCES FOG-BOUND FOR DAYS WHILE THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE PROCEEDED, THE FORTRESSES BOMBED THEIR TARGETS BEFORE 7:30 A.M.

HOWEVER, THE SIZE OF THE ATTACK WAS NOT COMPARABLE TO SOME OF THE HEAVY BLOWS LANDED IN PAST WEEKS. THE TARGETS WERE NOT NAMED IMMEDIATELY.

BRITISH LANCASTERS AND HALIFAXES ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FIRST CLEAR NIGHT TO RAID RAILROAD YARDS AT COBLENZ AND BINGEN, ON THE RHINE BEHIND GERMAN SPEARHEADS.

SIX GERMAN FIGHTERS WERE SHOT DOWN AND THREE BRITISH PLANES WERE LOST IN THE NIGHT OPERATIONS.

RAF MOSQUITO FIGHTER BOMBERS ALSO GOT IN SEVERAL LICKS AT GERMAN TRANSPORT BEHIND THE BELGIAN BATTLEFRONT LAST NIGHT. ONE FREIGHT TRAIN LOADED WITH AMMUNITION "BLEW UP FROM END TO END," THE AIR MINISTRY SAID. ONE PILOT SHOT DOWN A JUNKERS 88 BOMBER NEAR VERVIERS, BELGIUM.

ALTHOUGH A SUPREME HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE SAID CONTINUED ADVERSE WEATHER YESTERDAY AGAIN PREVENTED THE WEIGHT OF ALLIED AIR POWER FROM BEING THROWN INTO THE FIGHT, BRITISH FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS FLEW 300 SORTIES, MOSTLY OVER THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY FRONT.

AMERICAN FIGHTER BOMBERS OPERATING FARTHER SOUTH SHOT DOWN SIX GERMAN INTERCEPTORS BUT LOST FOUR OF THEIR OWN IN A DOGFIGHT EAST OF FREIBURG.

N834AEW

FIFTH NIGHT LEAD AERIAL

BY JAMES F.KING

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LONDON, SUNDAY, DEC. 24-(AP)-AMERICAN FLIERS SHOT DOWN AT LEAST 178 GERMAN PLANES YESTERDAY WHILE FLYING 4,500 SORTIES IN SUPPORT OF U.S. GROUND FORCES SLASHING AT THE FLANKS OF MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S WINTER OFFENSIVE.

SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN PARIS SAID THESE FIGURES--REPRESENTING ONE OF THE MOST DESTRUCTIVE ASSAULTS ON THE GERMAN AIR FORCE OF THE WAR--WERE STILL INCOMPLETE. FIGHTERS AND FIGHTER-BOMBERS HARASSED GERMAN TROOP COLUMNS AND COMMUNICATIONS POINTS, AND LIBERATORS AND FLYING FORTRESSES HAMMERED SUPPLY BASES AND RAIL HUBS IN THE REAR OF VON RUNDSTEDT'S DRIVE.

ROARING OFF BRITISH BASES UNDER SUNNY SKIES, MORE THAN 400 LIBERATORS AND FLYING FORTRESSES OF THE U.S, EIGHTH AIRFORCE DOWNED SIX NAZI INTERCEPTORS, AND THEIR ESCORT OF MORE THAN 700 FIGHTERS PICKED OFF 71 ENEMY PLANES. MEANWHILE, CONTINENT-BASED FIGHTER-

BOMBERS AND MEDIUM BOMBERS OF THE U.S. NINTH AIRFORCE KNOCKED DOWN 94 MORE IN APPROXIMATELY 1,650 SORTIES.

FIGHTING SOME OF THE FIERCEST AIR BATTLES OF THE WAR, THE EIGHTH AIRFORCE ANNOUNCED ITS LOSSES AS THREE HEAVY BOMBERS AND 13 FIGHTERS. THE NINTH'S LOSSES WERE NOT ANNOUNCED.

NEARLY 100 RAF MOSQUITOS CONTINUED THE AIR ASSAULT ON VON RUNDSTEDT'S REAR SUPPLY BASES LAST NIGHT BY DROPPING TWO-TON BOMBS ON RAIL ROUTES NORTHEAST OF BONN AND EAST OF COBLENZ. THESE TARGETS ARE ON THE MAIN RAIL LINES FROM CENTRAL GERMANY TO THE SECTORS WHERE THE GERMANS HAVE PUSHED WESTWARD.

DURING THE DAY, GERMAN FIGHTERS ROSE BY THE HUNDREDS TO TRY TO PROTECT THEIR GROUND COLUMNS AND SUPPLY LINES, AND SKY BATTLES SWIRLED OVER BELGIUM, LUXEMBOURG AND GERMANY.

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RAF LANCASTERS FLEW OUT AGAIN YESTERDAY AND BATTERED TARGETS IN THE RHINELAND. THEIR ESCORTING MUSTANGS AND SPITFIRES STRAFED GROUND TARGETS AND SHOT DOWN ONE GERMAN.

THE LUFTWAFFE X X X FIFTH GRAF 3RD NL.

TA-RW1005PEW

LONDON, DEC. 23-(AP)-TODAY'S GERMAN COMMUNIQUE DECLARED STRONG NAZI FORCES WERE "PURSUING DISLODGED U.S. UNITS" ON BOTH SIDES OF THE OURTHE RIVER IN BELGIUM.

THE GERMAN COMMAND YESTERDAY ASSERTED SEVERAL BRIDGEHEADS HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED ACROSS THE WINDING RIVER, WITHOUT DISCLOSING LOCATIONS.

AMERICANS MOUNTED AS MANY AS 14 "RELIEF ATTACKS" ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF THE GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH BETWEEN ELSENBORN AND STAVELOT, BUT ALL WERE BEATEN BACK, THE BROADCAST BULLETIN ADDED. ELSENBORN IS 13 MILES EAST AND SOMEWHAT NORTH OF STAVELOT.

ON THE THIRD ARMY FRONT, IT CONTINUED, "THE SAAR TOWN OF DILLINGEN WAS LIBERATED FROM THE ENEMY AND THE RIGHT BANK OF THE (SAAR) RIVER WAS CLEARED ON A BROAD FRONT."

A DNB BROADCAST SAID FRESH AMERICAN FORCES WERE THROWN INTO THE FIGHT ON THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE GERMAN THRUST WITH THE INTENT OF CUTTING OFF THE GERMAN SALIENT.

"GERMAN FORCES WERE FORCED TO THE DEFENSIVE TEMPORARILY, BUT REGAINED THE INITIATIVE AT NOON YESTERDAY AND CAPTURED A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT HEIGHTS AND OCCUPIED LARGE AREAS," THE BROADCAST SAID.

AMERICANS PUT UP "A MOST BLOODY AND FEROCIOUS BATTLE" FOR A NUMBER OF TOWNS, IT ADDED.

RQ203PEW

LONDON, DEC. 23-(AP)-BRITONS WHOSE HORSE AND DOG TRACKS HAVE OPERATED THROUGHOUT THE WAR, ALTHOUGHON A RATIONED BASIS, WERE SURPRISED TODAY TO LEARN THAT RACING PARKS WOULD BE CLOSED IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE VIEW ALWAYS HAS BEEN HERE THAT THE LITTLE MAN AT HOME MUST HAVE TWO THINGS TO HELP IN KEEPING UP MORALE--SPORTS AND BEER.

ONLY IN 1940 WAS HORSE AND DOG RACING SUPSENDED FOR THREE MONTHS TO SATISFY CRITICS WHO FELT IT WAS OUT OF PLACE.

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WITH THE EXCEPTION OF STEEPLECHASING, NOT A SINGLE MAJOR SPORT IS BANNED AND EVEN THIS COMES BACK THE DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS.

STEEPLECHASING WAS CALLED OFF BECAUSE IT IS HELD IN WINTER, WHEN THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF TRANSPORT AND HORSES REQUIRE SPECIAL TYPE FEEDSTUFFS WHICH ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

MANY HORSE TRACKS WERE CLOSED, HOWEVER. ONLY FIVE NOW ARE HOLDING REGULAR MEETS IN ENGLAND, COMPARED WITH ABOUT 30 BEFORE THE WAR.

GREYHOUND RACING IS LIMITED TO ONE DAY A WEEK.

MANY STABLE BOYS AT THE HORSE PARKS ARE ELDERLY; GIRLLS SERVE AS KENNEL MAIDS AT THE GREYHOUND TRACKS. THERE HAS BEEN NO NOTICEABLE SHORTAGE OF JOCKEYS. EVEN THOSE CALLED UP FOR MILITARY SERVICE OFTEN RIDE IF STATIONED IN THIS COUNTRY AND ARE ABLE TO GET LEAVE.

TA1245AEW

ADD PARIS (URGENT) X UNFOUNDED

ENEMY PATROLS WHICH CROSSED THE RHINE NORTH AND SOUTH OF STRASBOURG ON THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY FRONT WERE REPULSED, AND FIGHTING TO THE

NORTH ALONG THE SIEGFRIED LINE INSIDE GERMANY WAS CONFINED TO PATROL CLASHES.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED THAT THE FIRST THREE GERMAN SPIES, CAPTURED IN BELGIUM BEHIND AMERICAN LINES WEARING DOUGHBOY UNIFORMS, HAD BEEN STOOD UP BEFORE A FIRING SQUAD AND SHOT.

GAINS ACHIEVED BY AMERICAN RELIEF COUNTERATTACKS IN LUXEMBOURG WERE NOT DISCLOSED, BUT A DISPATCH FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT ROGER GREENE, CABLED FROM BRITISH-CANADIAN HEADQUARTERS SAID THERE WAS REASON TO BELIEVE THE ENEMY'S BIG PUSH HAD "JUST ABOUT SHOT ITS BOLT."

IN LIFTING THE NEWS SECURITY BLACKOUT THE ALLIED HIGH COMMAND ANNOUNCED THAT THE LOWER GERMAN WEDGE HAD REACHED TO WITHIN 16 MILES OF THE FRENCH FRONTIER AT LIBRAMONT, IN THE DIRECTION OF SEDAN, SCENE OF THE BIG GERMAN 1940 BREAK-THROUGH.

LIBRAMONT IS A FIVE-WAY ROAD JUNCTION 16 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BASTOGNE WHERE AN AMERICAN GARRISON STILL WAS HOLDING OUT. A FRONT DISPATCH ALSO SAID THAT THE GERMANS HAD OCCUPIED MOHRET, AN INTERVENING TOWN 10 MILES NORTHEAST OF LIBRAMONT.

AMERICAN TRANSPORT PLANES ESCORTED BY FIGHTERS SWEPT LOW OVER BESIEGED BASTOGNE, ON THE IMPORTANT LIEGE-ARLON HIGHWAY, AND DROPPED SUPPLIES WITHIN THE CITY TO THE YANK TROOPS. PILOTS OF THE ESCORTING PLANES SAID THE SUPPLIES PARCHUTED SAFELY DOWN TO THE GARRISON.

ANOTHER FRONT DISPATCH FILED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT KENNETH L.DIXON SAID THAT EMBATTLED DOUGHBOYS HOLDING THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN WEDGE WERE "TOO BLOODY OBSTINATE" TO GIVE AN INCH SATURDAY DESPITE POWERFUL AND REPEATED ENEMY ATTACKS.

HIS DISPATCH GAVE THE DEFINITE IMPRESSION THE GERMAN DRIVE HAD SLOWED DOWN SOMEWHAT, AND SAID THE GERMANS WERE HURLING IN MORE TANKS ON THE SOUTHERN SIDE IN AN EFFORT TO WIDEN THEIR SALIENT DIPPING TOWARD NORTHEASTERN FRANCE.

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FROM WITHIN THE AREA OVERRUN BY THE GERMANS FILTERED "FANTASTIC STORIES OF ISOLATED AMERICAN TANK AND INFANTRY UNITS FIGHTING A COURAGEOUS, HARASSING BATTLE BEHIND THE ENEMY'S LINES," SAID DIXON'S DISPATCH.

THE GERMAN DRIVE TO LIBRAMONT REPRESENTED A 16-MILE ADVANCE FROM BY-PASSED BASTOGNE, FAR LESS THAN THE PREVIOUSLY-REPORTED 15-MILE-A-DAY PACE OF THE GERMANS. LIBRAMONT IS 7 1/2 MILES NORTH OF ST. HUBERT IN THE FREYR FOREST, ANOTHER SECTOR REACHED BY THE GERMANS.

ON THE BASIS OF THE HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCEMENT THE GERMANS NOW HOLD A 22-MILE-LONG NORTH-SOUTH WEDGE INSIDE BELGIUM, BETWEEN MARCHE AND LIBRAMONT, AND HAVE DRIVEN 40 MILES BEYOND THEIR JUMP-OFF POSITIONS ON THE EIGHTH DAY OF THEIR CAREFULLY PLANNED WINTER OFFENSIVE.

THE WESTERN SIDE OF THIS WEDGE, HOWEVER, IS NOT A SOLID GE[illegible]E, FROM ALL INDICATIONS, BUT MERELY THREE MAJOR SP[illegible] HAVE REACHED THE FOCAL POINTS OF LIBRAMONT ON THE SOUTH, ST. HUBERT IN THE CENTER AND MARCHE IN THE NORTH.

AMERICAN TROOPS ALSO APPARENTLY HOLD AREAS EAST OF THESE TOWNS, WITHIN THE BULGE.

MALMEDY SECTOR--FIRST ADD GALLAGHER'S EYEWITNESS (A72) X X X HILL FROM HERE.

THE GERMANS STILL ARE TRYING TO BREAK-THROUGH THIS VITAL ELBOW WHICH HOLDS UP THEIR DRIVE TOWARD LIEGE, BUT THEIR APPALLING LOSSES FORCED A CESSATION TODAY, AT LEAST FOR A WHILE.

AMERICAN ARTILLERY WAS GIVING THE NAZIS NO REST, HOWEVER, AND THE STILL, COLD AIR SHOOK TO THE THUNDER OF THE GUNS. INDICATING THAT THIS FIRE IS HURTING THE NAZIS, FIGHTER PLANES HAVE JUST ATTACKED AN AMERICAN ARTILLERY SPOTTING CUB PLANE--SOMETHING THEY RARELY BOTHER WITH.

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THE GERMAN AIR FORCE CONTINUES ACTIVE OVER THE WHOLE BATTLEFRONT, GIVING THE ALLIES A REAL FIGHT FOR AIR SUPREMACY. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE LANDINGS IN FRANCE LAST JUNE, TRAVEL ALONG REAR AREA ROADS HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO STRAFING AND BOMBING BY ELUSIVE GERMAN FIGHTERS.

THE GERMAN ADVANCE HAS SLOWED, BUT THE ENEMY STILL HAS A POWERFUL PUNCH IN RESERVE.

IN SOME SECTORS OF THIS ESTABLISHED FRONT THE AMERICANS HAVE SNATCHED THE INITIATIVE FROM THE GERMANS LOCALLY, WITH AGGRESSIVE PATROLLING AND RAIDS ON THE NARROW COMMUNICATIONS LINES OF THE GERMAN PANZERS.

THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN STIRRING UP THE WHOLE FRONT WITH THEIR OWN PATROLS AND SMALL COUNTERATTACKS FROM JULICH SOUTH TO THE HURTGEN FOREST.

BEARDED DOUGHBOYS, HUDDLED IN OVERCOATS, DESCRIBED TODAY WHAT IT TOOK TO HALT THE GERMAN ARMORED DRIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME ON THIS FRONT. IT ALL ADDED UP TO PLAIN COURAGE.

"I HAVE A STORY ABOUT A BOY WHO SHOULD GET THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR," SAID CAPT. DON RIVETTE OF ANN ARBOR, MICH.

"THIS SOLDIER, A PRIVATE AND GUNNER ON ONE OF OUR ANTITANK GUNS, STAYED RIGHT AT THE GUN WHEN ATTACKED BY THREE PANTHER TANKS. HE KNOCKED OUT ONE WITH FOUR QUICK ROUNDS. A SECOND CAME IN SIGHT AND HE GOT IT, TOO. THEN THE GUN JAMMED.

"A THIRD PANTHER CAME RIGHT ON UNTIL THE TANK'S GUN MUZZLE WAS LESS THAN TEN FEET AWAY. IT WAS FOGGY AND DARK, SO THE TANK COMMANDER WAS LEANING OUT TO SEE.

"OUR GUNNER STEPPED AWAY FROM HIS GUN, DREW A PISTOL AND SHOT THE TANK COMMANDER THROUGH THE HEAD. THE GERMAN CREW DIDN'T KNOW WHAT HAD HAPPENED EXCEPT THAT THEIR COMMANDER WAS DEAD, SO THE TANK WITHDREW.

"NEXT MORNING THE GERMANS CUT LOOSE AGAIN WITH ARTILLERY AND MACHINE GUNS, PINNING OUR GUN CREWS DOWN, BUT THIS PRIVATE GOT OUT OF A FOXHOLE, WENT TO HIS GUN ALONE, LOADED IT AND FIRED AT A TANK COMING OVER THE HILL.

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"HE HIT THE TANK BUT A MACHINE GUN IN THE TANK HIT HIM AND HE FELL DEAD ALONGSIDE HIS GUN."

CASUALTY RESTRICTIONS PREVENT GIVING THE GALLANT GUNNER'S NAME.

"THIS POSITION OF OURS IS IDEAL FOR MACHINE GUNS, AND WE'VE BEEN GIVING THE JERRIES A DOSE OF THEIR OWN MEDICINE," SAID LT.COL.J.K. RIPPERT OF 160 CABRINI BLVD., NEW YORK, AN INFANTRY COMMANDER.

"WE JUST SAT UP ON THIS HILL AND MOWED THEM DOWN AS THEY TRIED TO COME UP. THE WHOLE VALLEY IS LITTERED WITH THEIR DEAD."

MAJ.H.G.BROWN OF BROADALBIN, NEW YORK, AN ARTILLERY DIRECTION OFFICER, REPORTED AT LEAST EIGHT OF 25 GERMAN TANKS THAT WERE KNOCKED OUT IN FRONT OF THE DOUGHBOYS' POSITIONS HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY 105 MILLIMETER HOWITZERS AND 155-MILLIMETER ARTILLERY.

"THE 155'S TOOK ABOUT EIGHT ROUNDS EACH TO GET A TANK, WHILE THE 105'S SIMPLY MASSED THEIR FIRE AND KNOCKED OFF TREADS," HE SAID.

BY KENNETH L.DION

WITH AMERICAN ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, DEC. 23-(AP)-ALTHOUGH DOUGHBOYS STILL ARE HOLDING A SOLID LINE ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF HIS OFFENSIVE, MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT TODAY WAS RALLYING HIS PANZER AND INFANTRY POWER FOR ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO STAB OUT OF THE STAVELOT SECTOR.

THE CONCENTRATION OF GRMAN TROOPS ALONG THE STAVELOT-MALMEDY LINE CAME AFTER ARMOR-POINTED ENEMY ATTACKS WERE REPULSED EAST OF MALMEDY IN THE FAYMONVILLE-BULLANGEN AREAS AS WELL AS IN THE MONSCHAU REGION.

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STYMIED TEMPORARILY, THE UPPER FLANK OF THE GERMAN THRUST STILL IS FORGING SLOWLY AHEAD FURTHER SOUTH, ACCORDING TO CENSORSHIP-DELAYED REPORTS WHICH SAID THESE UNITS WADED INTO THE BASTOGNE RIVER ON TOWARD THE ST. HUBERT AREA. SOUTHWARD THEY CUT THE BASTOGNE-ARLON HIGHWAY WHILE NORTHBOUND TANKS REACHED THE LAROCHE VICINITY, THE REPORTS SAID.

HOWEVER, CONCENTRATIONS IN THE STAVELOT SECTOR INDICATED VON RUNDSTEDT STILL WAS HOPING CHIEFLY TO HAMMER HIS WAY THROUGH THE NORTHERN FLANK TO REACH AMERICAN SUPPLY DUMPS--WHICH NOW ARE BECOMING AS VITAL TO HIS OUTSTRETCHED ARMORED FINGERS AS THEY ARE TO THE DEFENDING YANKS.

THESE REPORTS, ALTHOUGH STILL DELAYED, SHOW LESS TIME LAG THAN PREVIOUS OFFICIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS--TESTIFYING MORE TO THE ELIMINATION OF CONFUSION IN ALLIED POSITIONS THAN TO ANY OPTIMISTIC TREND, AS YET.

MORE THAN 30 ENEMY TANKS WERE DESTROYED IN THE STAVELOT SECTOR DURING REPEATED ATTACKS. BOTH SIDES ARE THROWING PUNCHES OF INCREASING STRENGTH IN THIS AREA WHERE HEAVY CONCENTRATIONS OF

AMERICAN ARTILLERY ARE HAMMERING AT THE NORTHERN GERMAN FLANK.

ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK THE SITUATION WAS MORE FLUID, WITH ANOTHER TOWN REPORTED IN ENEMY HANDS AND FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT INCREASING HIS TANK PRESSURE AT THIS POINT OF THE SLOWING DRIVE.

MEANWHILE, FROM WITHIN THE AREA PRESUMABLY UNDER ENEMY CONTROL FILTERED FANTASTIC STORIES OF ISOLATED AMERICAN TANK AND INFANTRY UNITS FIGHTING A COURAGEOUS HARASSING BATTLE BEHIND THE ENEMY'S LINES.

IT WAS A HIGH RANKING GERMAN PARATROOP COMMANDER WHO SURRENDERED IN DISGUST WHEN HIS SUPERTRAINED FORCE FAILED TO OVERRUN "ORDINARY" YANK INFANTRY IN A VICIOUS ATTACK LATE YESTERDAY.

"THESE AMERICANS ARE TOO BLOODY OBSTINATE," HE MUTTERED WHEN HE AND 92 MEMBERS OF HIS SLAUGHTERED OUTFIT WERE MARCHED OFF TO A PRISONER-OF-WAR CAGE.

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ADDING TO HIS ANGER WAS THE CONFUSION OF GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS. HE HAD HEARD THE GERMAN RADIO REPORT THE TOWN WAS IN THEIR HANDS BUT ARRIVED TO FIND IT WAS UNTRUE. THE ENSUING FUTILE ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE REPORT COME TRUE ALSO CONVINCED HIM THAT "THE WHOLE OPERATION WAS BADLY PLANNED AS FAR AS THE PARATROOPERS WERE CONCERNED."

HE WAS INCLINED TO BLAME THE NAZIS FOR HIS PLIGHT BUT AMERICAN ARMY LEADERS STILL WERE NOT AGREEING THAT ANYBODY BUT THE GERMAN MILITARY CHIEFTAINS PLANNED THE OFFENSIVE OR THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY "BADLY PLANNED."

THE OFFENSIVE DID NOT SHOW ANY MAJOR SIGNS OF BEING FOULED UP YET ON THE SOUTHERN SECTOR OR AT PENETRATION POINTS. VICIOUS FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE CONFUSED ST. VITH SECTOR WHILE ENEMY ACTIVITY WAS NOTED ALL ALONG THE FRONTS.

HOWEVER, VON RUNDSTEDT'S CONSTANT EFFORTS TO SWING HIS SPEARHEAD NORTHWARD TOWARD VITAL AMERICAN SUPPLY LINES AND DUMPS AGAIN FAILED ALL ALONG THE MONSCHAU-MALMEDY LINE, WITH ANOTHER POWERFUL PUNCH AT THE LATTER POINT BEING BEATEN BACK BLOODILY IN THE

3o. 24 — 21497

PRE-DAWN HOURS THIS MORNING.

MORE THAN 300 CRACK INFANTRYMEN SUPPORTING UNCOUNTED ENEMY TANKS MADE THIS MORNING'S STABS. BUT THEY PLOUGHED TO A DEAD HALT IN FRONT OF A VETERAN INFANTRY OUTFIT. WHEN THE LINE WAS RESTORED TO EXACTLY ITS FORMER POSITION, THE RETREATING GERMANS LEFT A FEW SMOKING TANKS AND MANY DEAD INFANTRYMEN BEHIND.

THE SAME WAS TRUE NEAR BUZENBACH WHERE 20 TANKS AND COUNTLESS EXPERT INFANTRY WERE REPULSED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. IN ONE INSTANCE, PRISONERS SAID AN ENTIRE REGIMENT HAD BEEN CUT TO SOME 200 MEN--APPROXIMATELY ONE-TENTH OF ITS NORMAL STRENGTH.

THE REMNANTS OF THIS ENEMY REGIMENT REFERRED TO THEMSELVES AS THE "JORDAN" OUTFIT WITH GRIM HUMOR BECAUSE, THEY SAID, SO MANY OF THEM HAD "CROSSED SO MANY RIVERS."

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ELSEWHERE ALONG THE CENTRAL AND NORTHERN SECTIONS OF THE WESTERN FRONT, ARTILLERY DUELS AND LIVELY PATROL SKIRMISHES WERE NOTED AT MANY POINTS.

MEANWHILE, GERMAN PROPAGANDA LOUDSPEAKERS WERE URGING THE SOLDIERS TO "SURRENDER AND SPEND CHRISTMAS SAFE IN OUR PRISONER OF WAR CAMP," ADDING THAT MORE THAN 20,000 FIRST ARMY SOLDIERS ALREADY WERE WAITING THERE.

TA1137PEW

BY WES GALLAGHER

SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM, DEC. 22-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE NAZI HIGH COMMAND HAS IMPROVED ON ITS FIFTH COLUMN AND HAS DEVELOPED A SIXTH COLUMN FOR THE PRESENT OFFENSIVE.

THIS SIXTH COLUMN IS COMPOSED OF A SPECIAL COMMAND OF TRAINED ASSASSINS AND SABOTEURS WHO SPEAK PERFECT ENGLISH AND ARE DROPPED BEHIND AMERICAN LINES DRESSED IN AMERICAN AND BRITISH UNIFORMS.

THIS SIXTH COLUMN WAS ORGANIZED LAST OCTOBER WHEN ALL GERMAN COMMANDERS WERE GIVEN ORDERS TO DETACH ALL MEN IN THEIR SERVICE WHO HAD LIVED EITHER IN THE UNITED STATES OR BRITAIN BEFORE THE WAR

AND SEND THEM TO A HEADQUARTERS NEAR BERLIN.

THERE THEY WERE GIVEN SPECIAL TESTS AND ONLY FEARLESS, RUTHLESS MEN WERE KEPT. IT WAS REQUIRED NOT ONLY THAT THEY SPEAK ENGLISH BUT SPEAK IT WITH A DEFINITE AMERICAN OR BRITISH ACCENT.

AT THE SAME TIME GERMAN COMMANDERS WERE ORDERED TO TURN IN ALL CAPTURED AMERICAN AND BRITISH EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING UNIFORMS AND DOG TAGS.

ORGANIZATION OF THIS FORCE FOR OFFENSIVE ACTION WAS BEGUN LAST OCTOBER, INDICATING THAT FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S OFFENSIVE WAS AT LEAST TWO MONTHS IN THE PLANNING STAGE.

GIVEN A MISSION TO TRY TO KILL HIGH ALLIED OFFICERS AND CARRY OUT SABOTAGE ON A GRAND SCALE, THE FORCE WAS EQUIPPED WITH AMERICAN JEEPS, COMMAND CARS, TANKS AND HALF-TRACKS AND ORDERED TO INFILTRATE AMERICAN LINES.

SOME WERE DROPPED BY PARACHUTE BEHIND THE LINES. SOME WERE DRESSED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND ORDERED TO INFILTRATE TOWNS, START FIRES, FIGHT WITH THE LOCAL GARRISONS, AND THEN FLEE.

SOME OF THESE SIXTH COLUMNISTS WERE UNCOVERED AND CAPTURED IN BELGIUM TOWNS. THEY WERE FOUND EQUIPPED WITH TUBES OF SULPHURIC ACID TO THROW IN THEIR CAPTOR'S FACES AND TRY TO ESCAPE.

RQ516PEW

BY ROGER GREENE

CANADIAN BRITISH ARMY GROUP HEADQUARTERS, DEC. 23-(AP)-THE ALLIED HIGH COMMAND'S POLICY OF DELAYING NEWS 48 HOURS TOOK A NEW TWIST TONIGHT WHEN A 21ST ARMY GROUP OFFICER ANNOUNCED BRIEFLY "THERE IS NO NEWS."

(DEVELOPMENTS IN ADVANCE OF SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCEMENTS HAD BEEN DISCLOSED FROM THE CANADIAN-BRITISH HEADQUARTERS FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS.)

THERE IS REASON TO BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE SITUATION HAS IMPROVED AND AT LEAST SOME BACKGROUND FOR PREDICTING THAT FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S OFFENSIVE HAS JUST ABOUT SHOT ITS BOLT.

WHILE THERE WAS NO INFORMATION HERE ON GROUND DEVELOPMENTS, RAF PLANES FLYING THROUGH WEATHER THAT NORMALLY WOULD HAVE GROUNDED ALL AIRCRAFT TOOK OFF IN CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH TO BLAST THE ENEMY IN SUPPORT OF THE AMERICANS.

SPITFIRES, TEMPESTS, AND TYPHOONS ATTACKED TWO GROUPS OF GERMAN TANKS WITH UNDISCLOSED REULTS, AND STRAFED GERMAN HORSEDRAWN TRAFFIC ENROUTE TO THE FRONT WITH SUCH EFFECTIVENESS THAT IN THE AFTERNOON ENEMY TRANSPORT WENT INTO HIDING.

RQ220PEW

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BY EDWARD D.BALL

WITH AMERICAN FORCES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, DEC. 23-(AP)-DOUGHBOYS ATTACKING FROM A SNOW-POWDERED FOREST TORE INTO THE GERMANS AND INCHED FORWARD TODAY IN SLOW BUT STEADY INITIAL GAINS.

THE ENEMY FOUGHT BACK VIOLENTLY, GIVING GROUND FOXHOLE BY FOXHOLE IN SAVAGE HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.

THE AMERICAN JUMPOFF WAS PRECEDED BY AN ARTILLERY BARRAGE WHICH TURNED THIS FROZEN PICTURE-POSTCARD SETTING INTO A SHATTERED WHITE WILDERNESS.

(WHILE NO LOCATION WAS GIVEN, THIS APP[illegible]NTLY WAS ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN PENETRATION.)

THE GERMANS REPLIED ENERGETICALLY WITH A COUNTER-BARRAGE, THEIR SHELLS SPLINTERING THE STATELY EVERGREENS AND COATING THE DOUGHBOYS WITH SNOW SHAKEN LOOSE FROM THE BOUGHS.

WHILE THE BATTLE WAS IN PROGRESS THE AIR FORCES TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FIRST CLEAR DAY IN WEEKS TO CASCADE BOMBS ON GERMAN POSITIONS.

ONE GROUND OF DOUGHBOYS ON THIS FRONT THOUGHT THEY HAD BLUNDERED INTO A REAL WHITE CHRISTMAS WHEN THEY HEARD BELLS TINKLING AS THEY ADVANCED THROUGH THE SNOWY FOREST.

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"I'D HAVE SWORN THEY WERE SLEIGHBELLS," SAID PFC. JOHN MIORIN OF TROY, N.Y., "BUT WE SOON FOUND THEY WERE TELEPHONES IN A GERMAN OUTPOST THAT HAD BEEN DIRECTING THE BARRAGE AGAINST US."

A NEAT PIECE OF WIRE-CUTTING IN THE REAR SOON SILENCED THE BELLS.

CAPT. JOHN LYNCH, ARTILLERY OFFICER OF CHAMPAIGN, ILL., WAS PAID A TRIBUTE BY HIS COMMANDING OFFICER FOR SMASHING GERMAN PREPARATIONS FOR AN ATTACK OF THEIR OWN DURING THE DAY.

AS SALVO AFTER SALVO FROM THE AMERICAN GUNS ROARED INTO THE ENEMY POSITIONS, THE COMMANDER REMARKED, "JOHN IS MAKING HAY TODAY. HE CAUGHT THEM ON THE LEE SIDE OF A HILL AND NOW HE'S GIVING IT TO THEM."

PFC.JOHN W.SOBIESKI, 53-22 37TH ST., LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y., SAID THAT UNDER MORE PEACEFUL CIRCUMSTANCES HE WOULD LIKE HIS 9-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER JOAN MARY TO BE HERE TO DO SOME SKIING AND ICE SKATING.

SGT.RAYMOND BAILER OF 2211 QUADMAN AVE., CINCINNATI, OHIO, SAID HE HOPED HIS 18-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER, SANDRA DONNA, WHOM HE'S NEVER SEEN, WOULD HAVE W WHITE CHRISTMAS.

"I'M SURE AS HELL HAVING ONE--AND WHAT A ONE!" HE ADDED.

"CHRISTMAS IS JUST ANOTHER DAY OF JERRY-HUNTING AROUND HERE," SAID CPL. THEODORE WHORTON OF 161 POCANTIC AVE., AKRON, OHIO.

IF THEY GET TURKEY UP THIS FAR, PFC. EDWARD MELVIN OF IKSTER, MICH., WILL HAVE TO EAT IT WITH HIS LEFT HAND. HE SPRAINED HIS WRIST WHEN HE DROPPED A CASE OF MORTAR SHELLS AND HIT THE GROUND TO AVOID AN ENEMY SHELL TODAY.

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MK236AEW NM

BY LEWIU HAWKINS (450)

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN FRANCE, DEC 23-(AP)-CHRISTMAS FOR THE AMERICAN SOLDIER IS TIED DEEP INTO THE JOB OF BREAKING THE BLOODY GERMAN BID FOR THE NAZI KIND OF PEACE. THE YULETIDE DAY HERE WILL BE DEDICATED TO THE UGLY AND DEADLY BUSINESS OF WAR.

A FRONT LINE CHRISTMAS ALWAYS HAS A SOMBER BACKGROUND OF HEIGHTENED HOMESICKNESS AND SARDONIC NEGATION OF PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TO MEN. THIS IS TOO BRUTALLY APPARENT EVER TO BE BANISHED FROM THE MIND.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS PARTICULAR CHRISTMAS--WHICH MANY HAD HOPED WOULD COME AFTER THE END OF THE WAR ON EUROPE--MERELY SERVE TO DEEPEN THIS BITTER IRONY.

SO THESE TWO BITS OF INFORMATION ABOUT CHRISTMAS SONG AND CHRISTMAS BELLS CAN ONLY BE VIEWED AS BRIGHT SYMBOLS OF HOPE AGAINST A DARK BACK-DROP OF UNHAPPINESS-AN UNHAPPINESS NONE THE LESS REAL BECAUSE MOST OF THOSE WHO FEEL IT WORSE ARE CONVINCED IT MUST END WITHIN A FEW MONTHS AT MOST.

CHRISTMAS SONGS WON'T BE HEARD MUCH BY EVEN REAR ECHELON TROOPS, MOST OF WHOM WILL BE TOO BUSY TO SIT BY THE RADIO. BUT BECAUSE OF A CHAPLAIN AND SOME YOUNG MEN WHO LOVE TO SING, THE MEN OF ONE DIVISION WILL HEAR THEIR COMRADES SINGING.

A FEW WEEKS AGO CAPT.GERHARD BELGUM, WHOSE HOME IS MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., AND WHO FORMERLY WAS PASTOR OF THE EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN TACOMA, WASH., DECIDED A CHOIR COULD BE FORMED FROM MEN OF HEAD-QUARTERS BATTERY OF THE 35TH DIVISION ARTILLERY.

FRANK JOY, WHO USED TO BE A PRINTER IN MINNEAPOLIS AND PLAYED THE ORGAN IN A LUTHERAN CHURCH, THROUGHT SO TOO.

SO EIGHTEEN MEN PRACTICED WHEN THEY COULD WITH THE IDEA OF BROADCASTING ON THE ARMY HOUR FOR NBC--AN INVITATION WHICH THE WAR WOULDN'T LET THEM ACCEPT.

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WHEREVER THEY ARE ABLE TO GO ON CHRISTMAS DAY THEY'LL GO SINGING SUCH OLD SONGS AS "SILENT NIGHT," AND SOME UNITS WILL HEAR THEM. THEY WILL SING WITHOUT ACCOMPANIMENT AND WITH PFC, ERNEST JOY, FORMER DANCE BAND SINGER FROM WICHITA, KANS., AS SOLOIST.

WHILE THEY ARE SINGING, THE BELLS WILL BE RINGING MANY MILES AWAY IN THE FRENCH VILLAGE OF MITTERSHEIM--RINGING AGAIN BECAUSE THE AMERICANS RESTORED THE BELLS STOLEN BY THE GERMANS.

BELLS WHICH FOR GENERATIONS HAD PEALED THE YULE MESSSAGE WERE REMOVED FROM THE CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF MITTERSHEIM DEC.8,1943, AND TAKEN TO THE NEIGHBORING TOWN OF FENETRANGE ON THE SAAR RIVER WHERE THEY WERE PUT INTO THE RAILROAD STATION, APPARENTLY IN PREPARATION FOR MOVING INTO GERMANY AND FOR MELTING INTO WEAPONS.

FOR SOME REASON THEY NEVER WERE SHIPPED AND WHEN THE FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION LIBERATED MITTERSHEIM AND FENETRANGE THE BELLS WERE FOUND AND THE COMMANDER OF THE FOURTH HAD THEM RESTORED TO THE CHURCHES.

THEY WERE MOUNTED IN TIME FOR THIS CHRISTMAS AND THE TOWN MAYOR

SENT HIS THANKS WHICH SAID IN PART "FOR ALL OF US, BOTH CATHOLIC AND PROTESTANT, IT IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL CHRISTMAS GIFT IMAGINABLE."

BY831PEW

BY THOBURN WIANT

SAVERNE, ALSACE, DEC. 23-(AP)-CHRISTMAS AWAY FROM HOME NEVER SEEMS LIKE CHRISTMAS, BUT GI'S OF THE U.S. 12TH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND GOT A TOUCH OF THAT OLD HOLIDAY FEELING BY COMING TO THIS TOWN AND GIVING A PARTY FOR MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN, INCLUDING MANY ORPHANS.

THEY DECORATED A THEATER WITH FIR TREES, IMPROVISED THE TRIMMINGS AND SPENT THEIR OWN MONEY FOR TOYS FROM PARIS AND FRUIT FROM AFRICA. CANDY WAS DONATED FROM THEIR OWN RATIONS AND PACKAGES SHIPPED FROM HOME.

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THE GI'S PLANNED THE PROGRAM SOME WEEKS AGO WHEN ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE VOSGES MOUNTAINS. THEY HAD ARRANGED TO HAVE A MARIONETTE SHOW IN FRENCH TO GIVE IN SOME TOWN, BUT THE 7TH ARMY ADVANCED SO FAST AFTER ITS JUMP-OFF NOV. 13 THAT THEY HAD TO GO TO STRASBOUGH AND HIRE A SHOW IN GERMAN.

ALSATIANS LIKE THE ROUGH MARIONETTE SHOWS, APPARENTLY BECAUSE IN EACH OF THE FOUR ACTS ONE PUPPET HAS THE DICKENS WALLOPED OUT OF IT, AND THE CHILDREN'S LAUGHTER IS DEAFENING. MAJ. JAY NIELSEN OF 305 SOUTHWAY, BALTIMORE, TRANSLATED THE GERMAN DURING THE SHOW.

AFTER THE MARIONETTES CAME THE ALSATIAN VERSION OF AN ACROBATIC PERFORMANCE BY TWO GIRLS AND ONE MAN. THE MAN DID NOTHING BUT STAND AROUND AND LOOK IMPORTANT, AND THE GIRLS WENT THROUGH GYRATIONS WHICH WOULD BE REGARDED AS ELEMENTARY IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE CHILDREN LOVED IT.

THEN SANTA CLAUS MADE HIS ENTRANCE. HE HANDED A PRESENT TO EACH CHILD AS THEY FILED ACROSS THE STAGE. THE YOUNGSTERS APPRECIATED ANYTHING THEY GOT, BUT ESPECIALLY THE CHOCOLATE, WHICH OVER HERE IS PRONOUNCED CHO-CO-LA.

ONE DOUGHBOY SPENDING HIS THIRD CHRIUTMAS AWAY FROM HOME IS SGT. FRANCIS F. CASERTA OF 27 WALNUT AVE., TRENTON, N.J., WHOSE COMMENT WAS: "I HOPE THIU WILL BE MY LAST CHRISTMAS AWAY FROM HOME. EACH YEAR I THINK THE MISERY WILL BE LESSN BUT IT AIN'T."

OTHER AMERICANS IN THIS AREA FOR CHRISTMAS INCLUDE:

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SGT.WILLIAM C.HAUSE OF 66 ROBBINS AVE., ROCKLEDGE, PA.; PFC HARRY HARRIS OF 1932 63RD ST., BROOKLYN, N.Y.; PVT.LAVERNE WOOLINGTON OF 1061 EAST WILLIAMS ST., DECATUR, ILL.; SGT.ARTHUR G.HUFSCHMIDT OF 2203 ARLINGTON AVE., PITTSBURGH, PA.; CPL. PLOSS M. BROOKS OF COWETA, OKLA.; CPL.TOM DAVIS OF PITTSBURG, TEX.; PVT. ROBERT W. CUNNINGHAM OF 102 NELSON ST., PROVIDENCE, R.I.; SGT. JOLIN E. MORGAGAS JR. OF HATTIESBURG, MISS.; SGT. J.P.KRANAK OF CUMBERLAND, WASH.; CPL. WILLIAM WELSH OF WHITE POST, VA.; PVT. JACK BASS OF MEADLAND, ALA.; PFC PETER FEYEN OF 1814 WEST 13TH ST., CHICAGO; CPL.WALTER EAVES OF ARDMORE, OKLA.; CPL.DORMAN H.MUCHOW OF 302 EAST WASHINGTON ST., ALTAMONT, ILL.; CPL. ROBERT MARTIN OF BROWNWOOD, TEX.; PFC EDWIN H.MEDRICH OF CHICAGO; SGT.KENNETH F.BRECHLER OF FENNIMORE, WIS.; AND SGT.PHILLIP L.VOLAND OF 13 RANDALL AVE., JANESVILLE, WIS.

MK232AEW

PARIS, DEC. 23-(AP)-HUNDREDS OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS WERE DISCLOSED TODAY TO HAVE BEEN ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF HIJACKING AND PILFERING U.S.GASOLINE, CIGARETTES AND OTHER SUPPLIES FOR THE FRENCH BLACK MARKET.

THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF GASOLINE HAVE BEEN LOST TO THE BLACK MARKET DAILY. OFFICERS SAID, HOWEVER, THAT WEEKLY LOSSES REPRESENTED LESS THAN ONE PER CENT OF THE AVAILABLE SUPPLY AND THAT THE PRESENT BATTLE WAS NOT AFFECTED IN ANY WAY.

IN JUST ONE PARIS DETENTION BARRACKS ARE 1,308 U.S.SOLDIERS AND MORE THAN HALF OF THEM WERE CHARGED WITH MISSAPPROPRIATION OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.

RQ350PEW

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 23-(AP)-THE SWEDISH NEWSPAPERS AFTONTIDNINGEN AND EXPRESSEN SAID TODAY THAT REPORTS WERE CIRCULATING IN BERLIN SUGGESTING THAT THE JAPANESE MAINLAND SOON WOULD BE HIT BY CLOUDS OF ROBOT BOMBS.

THE REPORTS SAID THE BOMBS WOULD BE DELIVERED "WITHIN TWO OR THREE WEEKS" FROM AN ARMADA OF ALLIED MERCHANT SHIPS ESPECIALLY DESIGNED TO SHOOT THE BOMBS.

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TA1128PEW

ROME--FIRST ADD ROUNDUP X X ROBBERIES.
TORMARANCIO SUBURB WAS DESCRIBED AS THE "NEST OF ROME'S LOWLIFE" BY THE HEAD OF THE ITALIAN POLICE WHO SAID THERE WERE "NO POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS" FOR THE MASS ARRESTS. NO ALLIED PERSONNEL WAS SEIZED IN THE TORMARANCIO ROUNDUP.

N1003AEW

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, DEC. 23-(AP)-LT. CHARLES W. SHEA, 23, OF NEW YORK CITY WILL RECEIVE THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR FOR SINGLE-HANDEDLY KNOCKING OUT THREE GERMAN MACHINEGUN POSITIONS, EITHER IN A SPECIAL CEREMONY IN ITALY OR WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES.

SHEA WAS AWARDED THE HIGHEST MILITARY AWARD FOR HIS EXPLOIT LAST MAY 11 DURING HIS FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY IN A MAJOR ENGAGEMENT. HE WAS A STAFF SERGEANT THEN AND WAS COMMISSIONED LAST OCTOBER.

TA126AEW

U.S. FIFTH ARMY FRONT, ITALY, SUNDAY, DEC. 24-(AP)- IN A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE FIFTH ARMY, LT. GEN. LUCIAN K.TRUSCOTT TODAY PROMISED TO DO "ALL IN MY POWER TO LEAD YOU TO FUTURE SUCCESSES IN THIS THEATER WHICH CAN CONTRIBUTE SO MUCH TO FINAL ALLIED VICTORY, WITH WHICH WILL COME HAPPY, LASTING REUNIONS AND RESTORATION OF ENDURING PEACE IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF ALL MANKIND."

GEN. TRUSCOTT SAID THAT "UNFORTUNATELY CONDITIONS OF WAR HAVE SEPARATED US FROM HOMES AND LOVED ONES AND HAVE ONCE AGAIN DENIED US THE BLESSINGS OF BEING WITH THEM AT THIS SEASON OF TRADITIONAL FAMILY REUNION.

"THE FORCES THAT HAVE COMPELLED OUR PRESENCE HERE--THOSE WHICH HAVE CHALLENGED THE WORLD AND ENGULFED IT IN AN UNPRECEDENTED STRUGGLE--MUST BE DESTROYED AND ERADICATED SO THAT WITH THE END OF FIGHTING THERE WILL REMAIN NO SHADOW TO CLOUD ANY FUTURE CHRISTMAS."

TA108AEW

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ON THE FIFTH ARMY FRONT, ITALY, SUNDAY, DEC. 24-(AP)-REP. CLARE BOOTHE LUCE, WHO REMAINED IN ITALY AFTER HER COLLEAGUES OF THE HOUSE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES, PLANS A CHRISTMAS EVE VISIT TO A FRONTLINE BATTALION HEADQUARTERS--CLOSER TO THE FRONT THAN THE COMMITTEE WENT DURING ITS OFFICIAL INSPECTION.

SATURDAY SHE ATE IN A G.I. MESS AT A REST CENTER. TODAY'S SCHEDULE INCLUDES LUNCHEON WITH LT. GEN. LUCIAN TRUSCOTT, THE FRONT-LINE VISIT AND A TOUR OF AN EVACUATION HOSPITAL.

TA1127PEW

ATHENS--FIRST ADD FIRST NIGHT LEAD GREEK X X X EXTREME LEFT."
GREEK GOVERNMENT CIRCLES WHO HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF THE CONTENTS OF THE ELAS' LATEST NOTE TO SCOBIE RESUMED THEIR GLOOMY ATTITUDE REGARDING HOPES FOR AN EARLY TRUCE. THEY INDICATED THAT, WHILE THE ELAS REPLY ACCEPTED SCOBIE'S MAIN CONDITIONS, IT IMPOSED A NUMBER OF MINOR CONDITIONS TO WHICH THE BRITISH COULD NOT AGREE.
PIRAEUS HAD QUIETED ENOUGH TODAY TO PERMIT THE OPENING OF SHOPS TO SELL FRUIT AND OLIVE OIL BROUGHT IN FROM NEARBY ISLANDS BY SAILING BOATS. REPORTS REACHING ATHENS SAID THAT YESTERDAY THERE WERE IMPROMTU PARADES IN THE PORT TOWN HONORING THE BRITISH FOR WHAT THE INHABITANTS CALLED "THE SECOND LIBERATION."
TA917PEW

(BARBER)

ADD JERUSALEM- (MORN) XX CHURCHES

THEY WILL HEAR THE CHRISTMAS HYMNS SUNG BY A CHOIR OF 2,000 OLISH ARMY MEN AND THE BETHLEHEM BELLS AND AN AMERICAN CHOIR INSIDE THE CHURCH BROADCASTING TO THE WORLD.

THERE IS LITTLE SIMILARITY BETWEEN THE MANNER OF THESE FIGHTING MEN ON LEAVE AND THOSE YOU SEE ELSEWHERE RELEASED FROM THE

BATTLEFIELD. THEY MYSTERY OF THE EVENT AND THE SCENE TOUCHES THEM ALMOST AS SOON AS THEY ARRIVE.

THEY HAVE COME, NOT FOR A RIOTOUS WEEK-END BUT TO OBSERVE A CEREMONY AT THE PLACE WHERE PEACE ON EARTH AND GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN WAS HERALDED TO THE WORLD.

RQ530PEW

ADD MACE-HOLLIPS-(CHUTESON) XXX ISLAND

IT TOOK A-NEAT BIT OF FLYING TO DO THE JOB. THE TRANSPORT HAD TO POKE ITS WAY THROUGH CLOUD-SHROUDED VALLEYS AND DIP DOWN TO 600 FEET TO DROP ITS LOADS, THEN PULL UP SHARPLY TO CLEAR A HILL AHEAD. FIRST LT.JAKE MCALLISTER OF SEATTLE, DID THE NAVIGATING. T/SGT. JAY WAGGONER, OF JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT SEFFNER, FLA., ENGINEERED THE LOADING AND DROPPING. S/SGT.JACK L.NASO OF POLAND SPRING, ME. , WAS ASSISTANT ENGINEER.

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U.S. BOMBERS AND FIGHTER-BOMBERS WORKED ON JAPANESE SHIPPING AND INSTALLATIONS FROM MINDANAO IN THE PHILIPPINES TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS. HITTING BORNEO, THE MOLUCCAS, THE LESSER SUNDAS, NEW GUINEA AND NEW BRITAIN.

(NO PICKUP)

PM511PPW

BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ (300)

AT A LEYTE AIR BASE, DEC.22-(DELAYED)-(AP)-CLARK FIELD AT MANILA, THE BIG AIRDROME WHICH WAS DEVASTATED BY THE JAPANESE THE FIRST DAY OF THE WAR, WAS IN TURN DEVASTATED TODAY BY YANKS IN THEIR FIRST DAYLIGHT BOMBING OF IT BY LAND-BASED PLANES.

THE "RED RAIDER LIBERATORS" OUTFIT SPILLED THOUSANDS OF FRAGMENTATION BOMBS OVER THE LARGE AIRDROME AREA.

"IT WAS HOLLANDIA ALL OVER AGAIN," SOME FLIERS EXCLAIMED.

THE SAME EMPLOYMENT OF FRAGMENTATION BOMBS WIPED OUT SCORES OF GROUNDED ENEMY PLANES AT HOLLANDIA, DUTCH NEW GUINEA, PREPARATORY TO AMPHIBIOUS INVASION OF THAT AREA LAST APRIL.

THE "RED RAIDERS," EACH CARRYING MORE THAN 200 FRAGMENTATION BOMBS, FOUND CLARK FIELD GLEAMING BRIGHTLY IN THE SUN WHEN THEY REACHED THE TARGET SHORTLY BEFORE NOON. ITS SEVEN RUNWAYS WERE CLEARLY DEFINED FROM 10,000 FEET.

WHILE ESCORTING THUNDERBOLTS TOOK CARE OF INTERCEPTORS, THE BIG BOMBERS SWEPT THROUGH MODERATE ACK ACK TO BLANKET THE AREA. CATCHING PLANES PARKED IN RUNWAYS, REVETMENTS AND HANGARS.

(GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR'S DEC.24 COMMUNIQUE SAID THE MAJORITY OF MORE THAN 100 GROUNDED NIPPONESE PLANES WERE DESTROYED OR DAMAGED AND EIGHT OUT OF NINE INTERCEPTORS WERE SHOT DOWN)

TRUCKS AND MOBILE EQUIPMENT ALONG THE AIRSTRIPS WERE RIDDLED AND BURNED; BARRACKS AND OFFICE BUILDINGS WERE SPRAYED WITH SHRAPNEL.

WHEN THE BOMBERS HEADED FOR HOME, THEY LEFT SMOKE PUFFING UP PAST 7,000 FEET AND FIRES BURNING BRISKLY. EXPLOSIONS STILL COULD BE OBSERVED.

ALL THE LIBERATORS RETURNED TO BASE. THE LIBERATOR CREWS GAVE MUCH CREDIT FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE RAID TO THE HARD-HITTING THUNDERBOLTS IN PREVENTING THE ENEMY AIRFORCE FROM INTERFERING.

ONE OF THESE FIGHTER PILOTS, LT.MICHAEL DIKOVITSKY, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO, BECAME AN ACE IN DOWNING ONE ENEMY PLANE FOR HIS FIFTH VICTIM.

OTHER FLIERS WHO SCORED ONE EACH INCLUDED: CAPTAINS WILLIAM B. FOULIS, HOUSTON, TEX., LOUIS J.REKERS, ERLANGER, KY., LIEUTENANTS ROBERT MCNULTY, HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND, N.Y., ANDREW F.MIX, BROOKLYN, N.Y., DAVID J.MUMPER, HARRISBURG, PA., BERT LEE, VENTURA, CALIF., AND FLIGHT OFFICER HARRY T. MANSFIELD, NASHVILLE, TENN.

PM532PPW

AT A LEYTE AIRBASE, PHILIPPINES, DEC. 23-(AP)-A MARINE NIGHT FIGHTER PILOT FOLLOWED TWO JAPANESE PLANES BACK TO LUZON BASE LAST NIGHT, SHOT BOTH DOWN WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO LAND ON A LIGHTED FIELD, MADE SIX STRAFING PASSES AND THEN RETURNED TO THIU BASE UNSCATHED.

HE IS TECH. SGT. JOHN W. ANDRE (86 NORTHEAST 20TH ST.), MIAMI, FLA., ONE OF 16 ENLISTED MEN FLYING MARINE FIGHTERS HERE. HE HAS A TOTAL OF FOUR VICTORIES, ALL IN THE PHILIPPINES.

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PATROLLING NORTHERN LEYTE SHORTLY AFTER DUSK, ANDRE SPOTTED TWO JAPANESE INTRUDERS. HE WAS PREPARING TO ATTACK WHEN HE SAW A THIRD. ALL THREE TURNED BACK, AND ANDRE FOLLOWED THE FIRST TWO TO SOUTHERN LUZON, THEN LOST THEM IN THE DARKNESS.

"I STARTED MAKING MY TURN BACK HOME WHEN I SAW A FEW LIGHTS BELOW," SGT.ANDRE SAID. "THEY LOOKED LIKE RUNWAY LIGHTS. BY THIS TIME I WAS AT ABOUT 3,000 FEET.

"THEN I SAW ONE OF THE JAPANESE AGAIN. HE HAD HIS WING LIGHTS ON, AND WAS CIRCLING TO LAND. JUST AS I WAS PULLING IN TO GET A BURST IN I SAW A SECOND PLANE COMING IN ABOUT A MILE AWAY.

"I GOT BEHIND THE SECOND ONE AND OPENED UP JUST AS HE WAS MAKING THE TRAFFIC PATTERN. THE JAP CRASHED AND EXPLODED ON THE FIELD.

"I KEPT ON AND GOT THE LEADER 50 OR 60 FEET OFF THE GROUND."

THEN ANDRE MADE SIX STRAFING RUNS ON THE FIELD, STARTING SEVERAL LARGE EXPLOSIONS AND PROBABLY DESTROYING SEVERAL PARKED PLANES AND A GASOLINE TRUCK. ON THE LAST STRAFING PASS THE ENGINE OF HIS HELLCAT CUT OUT MOMENTARILY.

"I COULD SEE MYSELF BEING BOILED IN A STEWPOT," HE DECLARED.

THEN THE ENGINE REVIVED AND ANDRE RETURNED SAFELY.

HE ENTERED THE MARINES IN 1940, SPENT TWO YEARS AS A MECHANIC AND WON HIS WINGS IN MARCH, 1942. HIS PARENTS LIVE AT HOLT, ALA.

XZ/ET111ACW

BY AL DOPKING

SOMEWHERE IN NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA, DEC.24-(AP)-IRVING BERLIN BROUGHT A "WHITE CHRISTMAS" TO AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS HERE LAST NIGHT WITH HIS UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE AT A HOLIDAY PARTY.

THE SONG WRITER ARRIVED UNANNOUNCED ENROUTE TO JOIN HIS TROUPE OF "THIS IS THE ARMY" FOR A TOUR OF THE PACIFIC THEATER, AND OBLIGED THE G.I.'S WITH PIANO NUMBERS AND SOME SONGS WHICH HE HELPED MAKE POPULAR.

BERLIN, WHO TOURED THE EUROPEAN THEATER WITH HIS SHOW, SAID THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE RUGGEDNESS OF THE PACIFIC WAR, AND THAT ITS VASTNESS WAS BROUGHT HOME TO HIM BY HIS DIFFICULTY IN JOINING HIS TROUPE IN TIME TO SPEND CHRISTMAS DAY WITH THEM.

HE HAS BEEN RUSHING BY PLANE TO MEET THEM AND STILL IS A COUPLE OF THOUSAND MILES AWAY.

DESPITE TROPICAL WEATHER AND THE JUNGLES OF NEW GUINEA, BERLIN FOUND A TINSELED CHRISTMAS SPIRIT ALREADY HAD STARTED HERE. THE DOUGHBOYS HAD DECORATED THEIR HALL WITH COCOANUT FRONDS TO GIVE A HOLIDAY ATMOSPHERE, AND ONE OF THE SONGS THEY REQUESTED MOST OFTEN WAS "WHITE CHRISTMAS," FREQUENTLY JOINING BERLIN IN SINGING IT.

BERLIN AND HIS PARTY PLAN TO TAKE THE SHOW TO MOST AMERICAN POSTS IN THE PACIFIC, INCLUDING LEYTE.

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XZ1221ACW

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC.23 (AP)-CHRISTMAS TREES IN THE TROPICS--FLOWN THERE BY NAVY AIR TRANSPORT AS HIGH PRIORITY CARGO--WERE BRINGING SOMETHING OF A HOME TOUCH TO SAILORS AT LONELY ISLAND OUTPOSTS WEST OF HERE TODAY.

SHIPS OF THE FLEET IN PEARL HARBOR AND ALL ISLAND NAVY RECREATION CENTERS ALSO GOT A TREE--OF THE 200 CUT IN NORTHWEST PACIFIC COAST STATES AND BROUGHT HERE BY SURFACE SHIPS.

NATS (NAVY AIR TRANSPORT) THEN TOOK OVER THE JOB OF DISTRIBUTION AND BIG TRANSPORT PLANES DELIVERED THE TREES, COMPLETE WITH TINSEL AND ORNAMENTS, TO THE OUTPOSTS, SCATTERED FROM THE SOLOMONS TO SAIPAN.

AIR CARGO SPACE ORDINARILY RESERVED FOR HIGH PRIORITY TRAFFIC WAS MADE AVAILABLE. THE TREES ON THE AVERAGE WERE 15 FEET HIGH AND WEIGHED 25 POUNDS EACH.

DELIVERY WAS ARRANGED BY THE FLEET RECREATION AND MORALE OFFICE.
PM257APW

(ADVANCE) UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC.23-(AP)-WHOLE BLOOD FROM HOME, TO SAVE THE LIVES OF WOUNDED SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND MARINES ON FAR PACIFIC BATTLE FRONTS, GETS THERE FAST UNDER A NEW AIR DELIVERY SET-UP.

THE FIRST BOTTLES, TAKEN FROM VOLUNTEER DONORS IN PACIFIC COAST CITIES, ARRIVED IN A FEW DAYS AT AN ARMY FIELD HOSPITAL JUST BEHIND THE ORMOC LINE ON LEYTE, PHILIPPINES.

SO GREAT WAS THE NEED THAT THE FIRST DELIVERY WAS EXHAUSTED IN SEVEN DAYS AND A REQUEST TO TRIPLE THE AMOUNT OF SHIPMENTS WAS MADE.

THE REQUEST WAS SENT TO AMERICAN RED CROSS DONOR CENTERS AT SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND AND LOS ANGELES, WHICH HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTING THE ENTIRE SUPPLY TO DATE. RED CROSS OFFICIALS SAID TWO MORE CENTERS, AT PORTLAND AND SAN DIEGO, MAY BE CALLED UPON TO HELP.

NAVY AIR TRANSPORT PLANES NOW DELIVER THE WHOLE BLOOD, WHICH RETAINS APPROXIMATELY 75 PER CENT OF THE EFFICIENCY OF FRESH BLOOD FOR 21 DAYS, TO THE ADVANCED BLOOD BANK FACILITY ON GUAM.

PLANES OF THE ARMY'S AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND AND OF THE TROOP CARRI

ER GROUP, A JOINT ARMY MARINE AIR SERVICE, PARTICIPATE IN MAKING DELIVERIES WEST OF GUAM.

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EIGHTY PER CENT OF THE BLOOD HAS BEEN USED BY THE ARMY THUS FAR.

ARMY AND NAVY MEDICAL OFFICERS SAID AVAILABILITY OF THE WHOLE BLOOD IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITY WILL MEAN REDUCTION IN FATALITIES.

THE SUPPLY FROM HOME ALSO ELIMINATES THE NECESSITY OF SEEKING DONORS, TO MEET EMERGENCY CASES, FROM SERVICE MEN IN THE FIELD, WHOSE TIME AND EFFICIENCY IS NEEDED FOR FIGHTING.

OFFICERS SAID THAT UNDER THE SYSTEM NOW IN OPERATION, IT IS HOPED WHOLE BLOOD WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM GUAM FOR ALL FUTURE BATTLE AREAS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC. IT IS BEING SENT TO ARMY FIELD AND

EVACUATION HOSPITALS, MARINE FIELD HOSPITALS, NAVY BASE HOSPITALS AND HOSPITAL SHIPS. IT WILL ALSO BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL AMPHIBIOUS FORCES AND TO MAJOR COMBAT SHIPS, SUCH AS AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, GOING INTO ACTION.

(END ADVANCE FOR AMS OF SUNDAY, DEC.24)

RV11PCWNM

BY MORRIE LANDSBERG

(ADVANCE) AN ARMY BASE HOSPITAL, HAWAII, DEC.23-(AP)-WHAT THE WOUNDED IN WARD 24 WANT MOST FOR CHRISTMAS IS MAIL FROM HOME.

THEY HAVE A CHRISTMAS TREE IN THE LONG ROOM FOR ORTHOPEDIC CASES. IT'S BARREN OF GIFTS.

MANY PATIENTS ARE FROM LEYTE. THEIR MAIL, WHICH MUST BE FORWARDED FROM THEIR FORMER PHILIPPINE ADDRESSES, HASN'T CAUGHT UP WITH THEM.

THEY CAN'T GET OVER THE IDEA THEY HAD BEEN BROUGHT 5,000 MILES BY HOSPITAL PLANES, AWAY FROM THE HEAT AND DAMPNESS AND DANGER OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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BUT THEY'RE GLAD THEY WERE MOVED SO FAST, EVEN IF IT IS THE REASON WHY THEY -- MEN FROM GENERAL MACARTHUR'S SEVENTH, SEVENTY-SEVENTH AND NINETY-SIXTH INFANTRY FIVISIONS -- WILL HAVE TO GO WITHOUT THEIR MAIL AND CHRISTMAS PACKAGES FROM HOME.

PFC RAYMOND RYCHLINSKI, 20, OF 4993 THIRTY-FIFTH ST., DETROIT, MICH., OF THE SEVENTH DIVISION, LOOKED UP FROM HIS BED. "I ASKED MY FOLKS NOT TO SEND ME ANYTHING," HE SAIF. RYCHLINSKI HAS BEEN TWICE WOUNDED. HE WAS SHOT THROUGH THE SHOULDER AT KWAJALIEN AND THROUGH THE LEFT HAND AT LEYTE.

PFC JACK ADAMS, 19, OF 2830 EIGHTH ST., TUSCALOOSA, ALA., FIGURES HE WAS LUCKY. IN THE FIGHTING ON GUAM LAST JULY, HE RECEIVED A MINOR NICK. AT LEYTE, JAPANESE MACHINE GUNNERS CUT DOWN MEN IN FRONT ANF BEHIND HIM DEC. 1. HE ESCAPED WITH A SHOULDER INJURY.

TWO PATIENTS FROM THE NINETY-SIXTH DIVISION WERE WOUNDED BY THEIR OWN RIFLES. PFC HOLDEN QUEBEDEAUX, 22, ARNAUDVILLE, LA., LOST HIS FINGER WHEN HMIS RIFLE ACCIDENTLY DISCHARGED WHILE HE WAS CLEANING IT. HE WANTED A WRIST WATCH FOR CHRISTMAS BUT WOULD SETTLE FOR A FEW LETTERS.

PFC JIMMY VALENTINE, 35, OF 1215 WEST RACE AVE., CHICAGO, ALSO ACCIDENTALLY SHOT HIMSELF IN THE HAND WHILE CLEANING HIS CARBINE. HE IS THE FATHER OF A NINE-YEAR-OLD SON, USED TO TEND BAR IN CHICAGO. HE GAVE UP A T/5 RATING AS MAIL CLERK TO GET INTO ACTION.

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SECOND LT. ANNE DOUGHERTY, ARMY NURSE FROM 133 RIDGEFIELD AVE., WATERBURY, CONN., ASSURED THE MEN THEY WOULD ALL HAVE A REAL CHRISTMAS DINNER. THE MENU WILL INCLUDE ICED CELEREY, OLIVES, PICKLES, CRANBERRY SAUCE, ROAST TURKEY, DRESSING, WHIPPED POTATOES, FRESH PEAS, CORN, LETTUCE, TOMATO SALAD, ICE CREAM, FRUIT CAKE, ROLLS AND COFFEE.

BUT THE SOLDIERS STILL ASKED: "WHAT ABOUT THE MAIL?"

(END ADVANCE FOR SUNDAY AMS, DEC. 24--MOVED DEC. 22)

XZ1151PCW

MEXICO CITY, DEC.23-(AP)-RACING WILL CONTINUE AT THE HIPODROMO DE LAS AMERICAS TRACK, OFFICIALS SAID TODAY, BUT NOTHING WILL BE DONE TO EXPLOIT THE CLOSING OF TRACKS IN THE UNITED STATES.

"WE DO NOT INTEND TO URGE RACING MEN TO COME HERE," DECLARED BRUNO PAGLIAI, PRESIDENT OF THE TRACK. "THE STOPPING OF RACING IN THE UNITED STATES IS A WAR MEASURE AND WE SHALL DO NOTHING AGAINST IT."

THE HIPODROMO DE LAS AMERICAS, BUILT AT THE COST OF $2,000,000 OPENED ON MARCH 6,1943, AND NOW IS IN THE MIDST OF ITS THIRD

SEASON, A 102-DAY MEETING ENDING MAY 27,1945. THE TOTAL PURSE DISTRIBUTION OF NEARLY $1,000,000 HAS ATTRACTED AN INCREASING NUMBER OF HORSES FROM THE UNITED STATES. AT PRESENT 900 HORSES ARE STABLED HERE.

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BY0140PEW

HAVANA, DEC. 22-(AP)-SUGAR CIRCLES JUDGED TODAY THAT THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT IS SEEKING TO CONTROL FOOD PRICES RATHER THAN DEMAND A HIGH FIGURE FOR THE 1945 AND 1946 SUGAR CROP.

THIS WAS BASED ON A RADIO "FIRESIDE CHAT" BY PRESIDENT GRAU SAN MARTIN LAST NIGHT IN WHICH HE REVEALED THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR SALE OF THE CROP HAD BEEN DELAYED IN ORDER TO GAIN ASSURANCES THAT CUBA WOULD OBTAIN SUPPLIES OF IMPORTED FOOD.

THIS DELAY IN SELLING THE CROP--GRINDING OF WHICH STARTS IN MID-JANUARY--"IS PLAYING A LEADING ROLE IN THE SUPPLY OF IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS," HE SAID, ADDING:

"FAVORABLE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL DEPEND NOT ONLY ON THE PRICE OF OUR SUGAR BUT ALSO ON A GUARANTEE CLAUSE COVERING FLUCTUATIONS ON THESE SUPPLIES."

DR.GRAU IMPLIED THAT CUBA HAD NOT ABANDONED ITS DEMAND FOR AN INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF SUGAR, BUT HIS BRIEF REFERENCE TO THE SUSPENDED NEGOTIATIONS SUGGESTED THAT A MODERATE INCREASE MIGHT BE ACCEPTED IN EXCHANGE FOR IMPORT CONCESSIONS.

CUBA HAS RECEIVED $2.65 A HUNDRED POUNDS OF RAW SUGAR FOR THREE SEASONS BUT GROWERS AND MILL OWNERS ASKED NOT LESS THAN $3.25 FOR THE COMING CROP AGAINST A TOP UNITED STATES OFFER OF $3.

KA52OPEW

NEW YORK, DEC 23-(AP)-CAPT.JOHN J.VOLL, 22, OF GOSHEN, O., LEADING ACE OF THE 15TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, HAS 21 GERMAN PLANES TO HIS CREDIT--THREE OF THEM BECOMING HIS VICTIMS WITHOUT A SHOT FIRED.

THE YOUNG CAPTAIN, WHO SAYS FLYING LEAVES HIM "INDIFFERENT," TOLD TODAY OF THE UNUUUAL KILLS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH HE SHARED WITH COL.YANCEY S.TARRANT, 27, OF BROWNWOOD, TEX., A MEMBER OF THE 31ST FIGHTER GROUP WHICH MAD

E THE FIRST ALL-FIGHTER FLIGHT TO SOVIET RUSSIA LAST AUGUST.

VOLL SAID GETTING TWO OF THE PLANES WAS JUST A MATTER OF DUCKING AT THE RIGHT MOMENT WHILE TWO GERMAN PLANES WERE PURSUING HIM AND MAKING THEM COLLIDE. THE THIRD, HE SAID, HE GOT BY LEADING A PURSUING NAZI CLOSE TO THE GROUND AND THEN DODGING. THE NAZI FLEW INTO THE GROUND.

POASSESSOR OF THE SILVER STAR WITH CLUSTER, THE AIR MEDAL AND THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, VOLL DISMISSED THE HONORS WITH AN "OH, YOU GET THOSE JUST FOR KNOCKING OUT AIRPLANES."

COL.TARRANT, A VETERAN OF 75 MISSIONS AND HOLDER OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS, SAID THE AMERICAN AIRMEN WERE CHEERED BY RUSSIANS WHEN THEY LANDED THERE.

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HIS GROUP FLEW ON TO RUSSIA BECAUSE THEY WERE UNABLE TO CARRY SUFFICIENT FUEL TO RETURN TO THEIR OWN AIRPORT AFTER COVERING 50 P-38'S ON A LONG MISSION FROM THE FOGGIA, ITALY, AREA.

CALLING LONG-RANGE FIGHTER ESCORT WORK "A BUSINESS," HE SAID, "IF YOU KNOW YOUR AIRPLANE--WHAT TO DO--IT'S LIKE OTHER BUSINESS, YOU'LL SUCCEED.

"THOSE WHO GET KILLED--WELL JUST FIGURE THEY GOT RUN OVER BY A CAR BACK HOME OR SLIPPED ON A CAKE OF SOAP IN THE BATHTUB."

JJ214PEW

NEW YORK, DEC. 22-(AP)-THE INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO. TODAY CONFIRMED REPORTS IT IS CONSIDERING SALE OF ITS TELEPHONE PROPERTIES IN SPAIN.

"WE ARE NEGOTIATING THE POSSIBLE SALE OF OUR SPANISH TELEPHONE PROPERTIES," WAS THE BARE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE COMPANY.

IN ADDITION TO THE TELEPHONE SUBSIDIARY, THE COMPANIA TELEFONICA NACIONAL DE ESPANA, INTERNATIONAL TELEPHONE HAS MANUFACTURING PROPERTIES IN SPAIN, BUT THESE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE DISCUSSIONS, THE COMPANY ADDED.

KA114PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC23-(AP)-EMPLOYES OF BRITISH EMPIRE WAR MISSIONS IN WASHINGTON FLOCKED TO BLOOD DONATION CENTERS IN INCREASING NUMBERS TODAY IN RESPONSE TO AN EMERGENCY APPEAL FROM THE NATIONAL RED CROSS FOR PLASMA TO MEET INCRE'SING DEMANDS ON THE EUROPEAN WESTERN FRONT.

MEN AND WOMEN FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM (THERE ARE FIFTEEN MISSIONS

FROM THOSE AREAS IN WASHINGTON) LED THE PARADE OF THESE GROUPS TO THE DONATION CENTERS, WITH THOSE FROM CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND ELSEWHERE APPEARING IN SMALLER NUMBERS ONLY BECAUSE THERE ARE FEWER OF THEM HERE.

CHRISTMAS WILL BE A HOLIDAY FOR THESE IMPORTED WASHINGTON WAR WORKERS, BUT THEY GROUND THROUGH A FULL DAY TODAY AND NEW YEAR DAY WILL BE A WORK DAY, AS IT WILL BE FOR ALL AMERICAN FEDERAL EMPLOYES.

VH627PEW

DENVER,DEC. 23-(AP)-CONVALESCING AT THE FORT LOGAN MILITARY HOSPITAL, S/SGT.EDWARD L.BOGUSLAWSKI OF JERSEY CITY, N.J., TELLS THIS ONE:

WHILE IN LONDON, HE MET A POLISH SOLDIER, CHATTED WITH HIM IN JAW-CRACKING POLISH.

"YOU SPEAK THE LANGUAGE VERY WELL," SAID THE POLE. "WHAT'S YOUR NAME?"

BOGUSLAWSKI TOLD HIM.

"HOLY SMOKE!" SAID THE POLE, OR WORDS TO THAT EFFECT. "WE HAVE A COLONEL BY THAT NAME."

"MAYBE IT'S MY UNCLE," SAID BOGUSLAWSKI. THEY INVESTIGATED, AND SGT.BOGUSLAWSKI REPORTS HIS UNCLE BOGUSLAWSKI, WHOM HE HAD NOT HEARD FROM SINCE POLAND'S OCCUPATION, IS DOING VERY WELL.

ET114ACW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

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THE WESTERN FRONT LAST (SAT) NIGHT:

: CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S. NINTH ARMIES: LINES UNCHANGED.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: SUPPORTED FROM THE AIR, FOUGHT TO STOP GERMAN SPEARHEADS OFFICIALLY REPORTED TO HAVE MADE TWO 40-MILE PENETRATIONS UP TO THURSDAY NOON, ONE STRIKING TO WITHIN 29 MILES OF SEDAN.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: BERLIN SAID ITS FLANKING ATTACK SLOWED THE GERMANS' SOUTHERN BREAKTHROUGH OPERATIONS.

U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: CLUNG TO SIEGFRIED LINE OUTPOSTS IN THE PALATINATE AGAINST SCATTERED SHELLING.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: OCCUPIED LA CHAPELLE, SIX MILES WEST OF COLMAR, REPULSED COUNTERATTACKS AT NEARBY MITTELWIHR.

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BY7 40PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN RONT TODAY:
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S. NINTH ARMIES: LINES UNCHANGED.
U.S.FIRST ARMY: BATTLED TO STOP GERMAN SPEARHEADS OFFICIALLY REPORTED TO HAVE MADE TWO 40-MILE PENETRATIONS UP TO THURSDAY NOON, ONE STRIKING TO WITHIN 29 MILES OF SEDAN.
U.S.THIRD ARMY: BERLIN SAID ITS FLANKING ATTACK SLOWED THE GERMANS' SOUTHERN BREAKTHROUGH OPERATIONS.
U.S.SEVENTH ARMY: RETAINED FRINGE OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE IN THE PALATINATE AGAINST SCATTERED SHELLING.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: OCCUPIED LA CHAPELLE, SIX MILES WEST OF COLMAR; REPULSED COUNTERATTACKS AT NEARBY MITTELWIHR.

N902AEW

THE ROAD TO BERLIN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1. WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2. RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3. HUNGARIAN FRONT: 400 MILES (FROM NORTH OF SZOS).
4. ITALIAN FRONT: 550 MILES (FROM MEZZANO).
MX612AEW

LOG OF THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE (380)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
SATURDAY, DEC. 16--GERMANS STRIKE AT DAWN IN A CRACK-THE-WHIP OPERATION BEGINNING ON THE U.S. NINTH ARMY FRONT AND THEN DROPPING SOUTHWARD AGAINST FIRST ARMY LINES. AMERICANS SMASH THE FIRST ATTACKS.
SUNDAY, DEC. 17--FOUR PENETRATIONS OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG DEVELOP, WITH A MAJOR BLOW DIRECTED TOWARD BELGIAN CITY OF MALMEDY, 14 MILES WEST OF THE GERMAN BORDER AND 23 MILES SOUTH OF AACHEN. LONG-HIDDEN NAZI AIR FORCE RETURNS TO ACTION, ALONG WITH V-WEAPONS.
MONDAY, DEC. 18--BYPASSING MALMEDY, GERMANS DEEPEN THRUST INTO BELGIUM TO AT LEAST 18 MILES DESPITE COUNTERBLOWS BY AIR AND GROUND FORCES. SUPREME HEADQUARTERS CLAMPS A 48-HOUR SCREEN ON NEWS DEVELOPMENTS FOR SECURITY.
TUESDAY, DEC. 19--U.S. AND RAF BOMBERS SPREAD 2,000 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES ON ROAD AND RAIL JUNCTIONS AT NAZI REAR. GERMANS CUT THE LIEGE-BASTOGNE-ARLON ROAD 32 MILES INSIDE BELGIUM AND BUILD UP ANOTHER DEEP WEDGE 35 MILES TO THE SOUTH BY DRIVING THREE-FOURTHS OF THE WAY ACROSS LUXEMBOURG. FIRST ARMY COUNTERATTACKS REDUCE

THE NECK OF THE GERMAN SALIENT BY NINE MILES.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20--GERMANS SPAN LUXEMBOURG, ENCIRCLE BELGIAN CITY OF BASTOGNE AND STAB 10 MILES WESTWARD TOWARD FRENCH FRONTIR, BUT APPEAR SLOWING, PERHAPS FOR MASSING OF REINFORCEMENTS. WEATHER GROUNDS ALLIED PLANES.
THURSDAY, DEC. 21--NAZI ARMOR ADDS ANOTHER FIVE MILES IN THE PUSH ON FROM BASTOGNE, STRIKING TO WITHIN 29 MILES OF SEDAN, AND THE COMPANION WEDGE ON THE NORTH DEEPENS TO 40 MILES. GERMANS ENTER BASTOGNE, BUT AMERICAN GARRISON FIGHTS ON. U.S. ANCHORS AT MONSHAU ON THE NORTH AND ECHTERNACH ON THE SOUTH ARE FIRMLY HELD.

FRIDAY, DEC. 22--GEN.EISENHOWER CALLS UPON HIS FORCES TO TURN THE NAZI GAMBLE INTO THE GERMANS' "WORST DEFEAT." RAF BOMBERS POUNDED GERMAN RAILHEADS. (THE SECURITY SCREEN WITHHOLDS ALLIED REPORTS OF FRIDAY'S GROUND ACTION.) BY BERLIN ACCOUNT, A FIERCE ATTACK BY THE U.S. THIRD ARMY SLOWS GERMAN OPERATIONS ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK, BUT SEVERAL NAZI BRIDGEHEADS ARE ESTABLISHED ACROSS THE OURTHE RIVER IN BELGIUM.
SATURDAY, DEC. 23--U.S. FORTRESSES AND FIGHTERS ATTACK TARGETS IN WESTERN GERMANY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE DAYS. A BERLIN COMMUNIQUE DECLARES STRONG NAZI FORCES ARE PURSUING "DISLODGED U.S. UNITS" ON BOTH SIDES OF THE OURTHE. ENEMY SAYS DILLINGEN ON THIRD ARMY FRONT IS RECAPTURED AND THE RIGHT BANK OF THE SAAR IS CLEARED ON A BROAD FRONT.

UNDATED OSMENA

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC 24 1944

AMERICANS WHO DIED ON PHILIPPINE SOIL FOR PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE "WILL BE A SPIRITUAL BOND" WHICH WILL KEEP THE ISLAND COMMONWEALTH IN CLOSE FRIENDSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES EVEN AFTER POLITICAL SEPARATION, PRESIDENT SERGIO OSMENA SAID TODAY (SAT. PHILIPPINE TIME).

OSMENA ALSO INVITED THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLICS. AT THE SAME TIME HE ASKED CONSIDERATION OF HIS PREVIOUSLY ADVOCATED PLAN FOR THE "RECOGNITION OF A SEPARATE PACIFIC COMMUNITY WHEREIN THE ASIATIC, MALAY ANGLO-AMERICAN AND LATIN-AMERICAN NATIONS BORDERING ON THE PACIFIC MAY PULL TOGETHER FOR MUTUAL HELP AND PROTECTION."

OSMENA, WHO LEFT THE PHILIPPINES WITH GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR IN 1942 AND RETURNED WITH HIM TO LEYTE ISLAND LAST OCTOBER TO REESTABLISH THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT, SPOKE OVER THE VOICE OF FREEDOM RADIO STATION ON LEYTE. THE BROADCAST WAS PICKED UP BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

THE COMMONWEALTH PRESIDENT SAID THE RECONQUEST OF THE ISLANDS WAS EING FACILITATED BY FILIPINO GUERRILLA FORCES WHICH HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED IN EVERY PROVINCE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

REMINDING HIS PEOPLE THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS HAD AUTHORIZED PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO GRANT PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE AT AN EARLIER DATE THAN JULY 4, 1946, THE DATE PROVIDED BY THE PREVIOUS INDEPENDENCE LAW, OSMENA SAID:

"SUCH POLITICAL SEPARATION WILL MEAN ONLY THE BEGINNING OF A NEW AND STRONGER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS AND BETWEEN OUR NATION AND THE WHOLE AMERICAN HEMISPHERES.

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"THE AMERICANS WHO DIED ON OUR SOIL FOR PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE WILL BE AN INDESTRUCTIBLE SPIRITUAL BOND THAT WILL KEEP THE UNITED STATES CLOSER TO OUR HEARTS; WHILE THE FILIPINO SACRIFICE IN LIVES AND PROPERTY WILL KEEP US CLOSER TO THE AMERICAN HEARTS.

"OUR HISTORY AND OUR CULTURE HAVE MADE US THE VANGUARD OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION IN THE FAR EAST AND THE STANDARD BEARER OF THE FLAG OF DEMOCRACY IN THE PACIFIC BASIN. AND IT IS THE TWO BRANCHES OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION, THE LATIN AND THE ANGLO-SAXON, WHICH WE REPRESENT. HENCE FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT WE FEEL THAT WE CAN STRETCH OUR HANDS TO THE SISTER REPUBLICS OF SOUTH AMERICAN BECAUSE FOR CENTURIES WE WERE NURTURED BY THE SAME MOTHER SPAIN."

RA1048PCW

UNDATED JAPANESE PROTEST
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
JAPAN'S DOMEI NEWS AGENCY REPORTED TODAY AN OFFICIAL PROTEST HAD BEEN MADE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OVER THE ALLEGED SINKING OF A JAPANESE HOSPITAL SHIP, THE MURO (CORRECT) MARU BY AMERICAN PLANES IN A RAID ON MANILA HARBOR DECEMBER 13 (PHILIPPINE TIME)
DOMEI SAID THE HOSPITAL SHIP WAS BOMBED AND STRAFED AND THAT IT SANK SEVERAL HOURS LATER AS THE RESULT OF THE ATTACKS.
THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, WHICH PICKED UP THE DOMEI REPORT, SAID IT WAS BROADCAST IN ENGLISH AND INTENDED FOR AMERICAN CONSUMPTION.
DOMEI ASSERTED THE U.S.GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN NOTIFIED LAST JANUARY THROUGH NEUTRAL CHANNELS THAT THE MURO MARU WAS A HOSPITAL SHIP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

GG144PCW

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC 23, 1942---PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL APPEALS TO ITALIAN PEOPLE BY RADIO TO GET RID OF MUSSOLINI.

MANCHESTER BOMBED AGAIN BY GERMAN PLANES, BRINGING THE DEATH TOLL THERE FOR RAIDS TO 500.

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MK614AEW

U. S. Counterattacks Gain Four Points, 7000 Planes Batter German Positions

Eisenhower Throws In His Counter-Offensive

Four Dents Driven Into German Southern Flank Along 25-mile Front—Menace To Capital Of Luxembourg Lifted—Ground Situation Developing Favorably—Yanks Surrounded At Bastogne Hold On.

By James M. Long

PARIS, Monday, Dec. 25 (AP) — Gen. Eisenhower has thrown in his counterattack, and on this fourth American war Christmas the doughboys had driven four dents into the enemy's southern flank along a 25-mile front after bringing the German winter offensive to a standstill since Thursday.

Lashing out 7,000 strong, unleashed Allied air might loosed the heaviest concentrated bombing attack since D-day on and behind the German bulge and Supreme Headquarters declared its destructive weight must certainly have a strong effect on the outcome of the battle.

Situation Developing Satisfactorily

For the first time since the enemy struck in his surprise offensive ten days ago, Supreme Headquarters described the ground situation as "developing favorably."

A front dispatch covering fighting up to late Saturday morning declared American forces storming Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's southern flank had gouged out gains along a 25-mile front in northern Luxembourg, lifting the meance to that tiny Duchy's capital.

The German wedges in Belgium and Luxembourg appeared to be contained, at least for the moment, with the Germans yesterday advancing no more than a mile at any point.

A front dispatch report that up to late yesterday morning, American attacks from the south had driven the Germans almost across the border 17 miles northeast of the city of Luxembourg, and had cleared half of Martelange, 21 miles northwest of the capital, where the Germans cut the vital Bastogne-Arlon highway.

Heavy fighting raged near Rambrouch, five miles east of Martelange.

American Lines Advanced

Sixteen miles due north of the city of Luxembourg, American lines were advanced one to two miles north of Grosbous. (This would indicate a possible nine-mile advance, since the day before the Americans had been operating in the area of Mersch, seven miles south of Grosbous.)

Other gains were announced in an area five miles west and northwest of Diekirch, or about 18 to 19 miles north of Luxembourg.

Yet another force hammered on east of Diekirch, apparently around Berdorf, 17 miles northeast of Luxembourg and less than a mile and a half from the German border.

The western limit of Von Rundstedt's drive still was held at Ebramont, 23 miles northeast of Sedan; at St. Hubert, the point of deepest penetration inside Belgium, and along the road between Marche and Hotton where the Germans were within 20 miles of the Meuse.

Surrounded Yanks Hold On

American forces surrounded at Bastogne in the center of the push held grimly to that key road town, severely hampering enemy operations.

West of St. Vith to the northeast another American force held its ridge line wedge which split the German push in two.

Terrific artillery fire from both sides rocked the Stavelot sector on the north flank 12 miles northwest of St. Vith. The Germans were lashing out, still trying to find a soft spot in the doughboy line.

More paratroopers were landed by the Germans Friday night in Stavelot.

The Germans were patrolling aggressively all along the western front, and were increasing artillery fire and air activity along the now dormant Roer river sectors of the U. S. First and Ninth Armies.

Enemy patrols armed with machineguns were wiped out after crossing the Rhine on the U. S

2,000 Bombers at Work

A record fleet of 2,000 U. S Bombers, with 1,000 fighters in escort, roared out from Britain in one wave, hundreds of medium bombers and fighter-bombers sailed into the attack from continental bases, and it appeared the total force would have exceeded even the 13,000 which flew on D-Day.

The greatest German gain reported up to noon yesterday was about a mile. The situation was described officially as definitely improved as Allied counter-measures began to influence the course of the swirling sanguinary battle.

Berlin Says No Change

(Berlin radio said tonight that "the situation of the great winter battle in the Ardennes has not changed decisively during the last 24 hours." The period covered by the Allied blackout, but admitted that American forces had relieved out advances on the south flank.)

The focus of the fighting swung abruptly yesterday to the enemy's southern flank below Bastogne, where the strength of an American assault forced the Germans to let up their siege of that strategic highway center and rush forces south to meet it.

The Supreme Headquarters security blackout—now shortened to 24 hours—barred reports of progress since then and masked the nature of the Allied counter-measures being taken.

It was not clear, in the absence

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of an official announcement, whether Gen. Eisenhower's forces still were in the stage of stiffening defense or had begun the phase of counterattack to carry out his orders to destroy the enemy on this new field of battle.

There was no official elaboration of disclosure last night that Allied forces had moved up several miles from the vicinity of Arlon and the city of Luxembourg, 13 miles east.

Hard Fighting in Mersch Area

But field dispatches today said there was hard fighting in the Brosbous area, seven miles farther north than Mersch, the area where reinforcements were hitting the German flank the day before. Mersch is eight miles north of Luxembourg.

The American wall on both flanks was firm and it was regarded as likely that flanking blows from one side or the other had a strong bearing on the slackened impetus of the westward push, which at one point was 17 miles from the French border.

Germans Range Far Beyond Ourthe

(The German communique said that its units ranged "far beyond the Ourthe river on the western front yesterday," which runs from 20 to 30 miles east of the Meuse, and acknowledged "strong but vain attacks" against the flanks by fresh Allied forces.)

The enemy had pounded his way into the hilly heart of the Ardennes forest — through which he swept far more rapidly in 1940 — where tank and mechanized movement are difficult except along main roads.

The doughboys were backed into stronger defense positions, and the country ahead of Von Rundstedt is difficult all the way to the Meuse.

The great battle force of Britain-based warplanes pounced upon communications and supply centers supplying the German advance and pounded close-up airdromes from which the enemy air force rose to meet the Allies' warplanes yesterday.

German planes also were active along many sectors of the front but there was no indication whether the enemy was risking another day like yesterday, when he lost 178 planes to Allied armadas totaling almost 4,500 bombers and fighters.

Battle Position

This was the battle position up to mid-day yesterday on the counteroffensive front from north to south:

On the northern flank, American trops struck out anew near Maubach, six miles south of Duren, and made some gains on this Roer River front.

The Monschau-Malmedy shoulder held firm against local enemy thrusts.

The Stavelot wedge remained stabilized. Supreme Headquarters disclosed yesterday's announcement that Stavelot was lost was in error. The town still was in American hands, although there had been see-saw fighting at the outskirts.

The town of St. Vith, at the apex of the American triangle which splits the two German drives, was lost in a Thrusday night attack.

The doughboys, backed by strong forces of tanks, held to wooded ridges to the west, which have kept the Stavelot salient divided from the big Bastogne wedge to the south.

The Americans in Bastogne still held out, were supplied from the air, and were called on the fend off only minor stabs yesterday.

The German thrusts which carried to Marche, 20 miles from the Meuse and 22 miles northwest of Bastogne; to St. Hubert, 15 miles west of Bastogne; and to Libramont eight miles south of St. Hubert and 23 miles from Sedan, either had lost their impetus or had bogged down in the tough doughboy defense.

Single German Gain

The only reported German gain anywhere along Von Rundstedt's offensive front carried only about a mile to the vicinity of Rosieres, eight miles southwest of Bastogne.

Supreme headquarters disclosed that the place where the Germans had cut the Bastogne-Arlon highway was at Martelange, on the Belgian-Luxembourg border about midway between the two towns.

There was increasingly heavy fighting at several sectors along the German southern flank, but the enemy made little if any gains.

Some of the fiercest fighting was near Grosbus, 15 miles northwest of the capital of Luxembourg, and near Savelborn, 14 miles northeast of the city.

Well to the north of the front, the Germans sent patrol after patrol into the British-Canadian 21st Army group positions all the way from 'S Hertogenbosch to Maeseyck in eastern Holland, apparently looking for information on any changes in Allied troop dispositions.

On the U. S. Third Army front, the Germans threw heavy concentrations of artillery into the American lines near Saarlautern, in the western Saarland. There was little change in battle lines.

To the east the Germans tried a counterattack in some force at dawn this morning near Bitche—the Maginot Line fortress—but the thrust was broken up.

The French drive four miles northwest of Colmar in southern Alsace made little progress.

Berlin Radio Admits Allied Advance Made

LONDON, Dec. 24. (AP)—The Berlin radio tonight admitted that advances had been carved into German lines by American forces on the southern flank.

An international information bureau broadcast from Berlin declared the Germans had held an attack "by numerically superior forces" on the northern flank, but conceded that "the situation of the greater winter battle in the Ardennes had not changed decisively during the past 24 hours."

Berlin said American as well as German reinforcements were being fed continuously into the battle.

"Eisenhower's plan to launch a strong attack from the north and south and so cut off the Germans from their rear is beginning to take clearer shape," said the broadcast.

But it declared the German situation on both sides of the Aurthe, at the western tip of the offensive bulge, was still favorable and that German bridgeheads on the west side of the river were enlarged and widened by fresh forces ferried across.

Continuing to claim that the German air forces shot down 115 Allied planes in widespread air battles yesterday, Berlin said "new air assault groups in fast machines" using new tactics had been thrown into the a rifight.

One such group wiped out a Marauder squadron by shooting down 30 planes, Transocean News Agency declared. The new tactics and the new machines were ont described.

Earlier, Berlin claimed that 44 planes out of one Allied squadron of two-engined bombers were shot down.

Yanks' First Christmas In France Today

Some Will Celebrate But Most Will Fight.

By Joseph Dynan

PARIS, Dec. 24 (AP)—American soldiers prepared to observe their first Christmas in France today with turkey dinners, packages from home and parties for French children, who are celebrating their first liberated Noel.

U. S. quartermasters have promised that every doughboy, except those actually fighting in the fornt lines, will have turkey with all the trimmings. Many of the men stationed in French cities will have their holiday feasts with French families who have managed to save a few precious bottles of wine, cognac, and larders of meat and vegetables.

Extra duties entailed in meeting the German counter-offensive will prevent most soldiers from joining French civilians and friends, but for some there will be colorful Christmas eve ceremonies.

"Reveillon"

Thousands of troops, for example, are planning to participate in their first "Reveillon," the traditional French manner of celebrating the holiday eve at midnight, which includes midnight mass, a huge dinner at 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning, then dancing till dawn—or in Paris, until the "Metro" resumes service at 6 a. m.

Part of the Americans' Christmas observance will extend back to the United States by radio from the Olympia Troop Theatre on the Boulevard Des Capucines. Following the Christmas night performance there, a special patriotic and religious program will be broadcast to America.

American WACS stationed in Paris began their holiday celebration this afternoon. They gathered in their barracks at 4 p. m. to sing carols. An hour later a WAC choir was escorted by the French Gardes Republicans, sang carols at the tomb of the unknown soldier under the Arc De Triomphe.

Holiday for Children

Doughboys stationed at Chantilly ushered in the holiday for more than 1,000 children who were their guests at a party Dec. 22. Some of the soldiers dressed up as Donald Duck and the Marx Brothers to entertain the youngtsers until a GI Santa Claus distributed candy which the Yanks had been saving from their Army rations and packages sent from home.

Near Versailles the troops played host to 250 orphans and children of French war prisoners. The GI's treated their young guests to candy, toys and a movie, then topped off the party by taking each youngster for a jeep ride.

Tonight in Paris troops under the command of Brig. Gen. B. P. Rogers, the Seine Base section commander, will give a show for the city's orphans.

82 Are Led Out Of Trap Behind German Lines

WILSON

There a Week, 7th Soldiers Praise Christmas Gift; Barrage Kept Foe Down

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS AT THE GERMAN BORDER, Dec. 24 (AP).—Seventy-nine infantrymen and three officers of the United States 7th Army gave thanks today for "the greatest Christmas present we ever got" after their rescue from the Westwall town of Bundenthal, where they had been trapped for seven days.

The rescue was made possible by the heroism of two Indiana men who slipped through the German lines Friday and found the route by which the rescue troops could pick their way past Westwall pillboxes and guide the gaunt, unshaven and hungry men back to safety. This was done yesterday after a 1,000-round artillery barrage which kept the Germans' heads down during the break-out.

Four men didn't come back. Their bodies are resting in the cold basements of houses on the outskirts of Bundenthal, into which the Americans fought their way on the night of Dec. 17.

Some of the trapped troops lived most of the week on cold potatoes, sharing one loaf of bread among twenty-four men. Others situated more fortunately had rabbit stew, chicken, fresh bread baked by a civilian and cookies raided from a German grocery, and were preparing to get fresh milk from three captured cows.

During the Americans' isolation the Germans were so close that they tossed hand grenades in the windows and pounded the houses with artillery, mortars and machine guns—but they apparently were asleep in their trenches when the Americans slipped out last night at 7 o'clock.

"There wasn't a day or a night that I didn't pray. This is the biggest Christmas present I could get, to be here talking to you now," said Sergeant Robert Jefford, of Philadelphia.

The two men who made the first break back to the American lines to bring the rescue party were Private Allan Guriel, of New Goshen, Ind., and Sergeant William Alter, of Saint Paul, Ind.

Former Football Star a Hero of St. Vith; Blocked Germans Seeking Vital Road Hub

BOYLE

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS, near St. Vith, Belgium, Dec. 24 (AP)—Behind the dramatic fall of this small Belgian crossroads, whose vital highway network was denied to the Germans in a week of steady battling, lies a story of the heroism of a football star turned warrior.

Big Lieut. Col. Thomas Riggs of Huntington, W. Va., proved on the battlefield that he was as able a leader in war as he was on Big Ten gridirons.

The 6-foot 2-inch, 250-pound tackle, captain of the 1940 University of Illinois football team, found it was not a problem of tearing holes in the other side's lines. It was one, instead, of keeping a heavy opponent from breaking through and destroying one's own team.

Colonel Riggs solved it by keeping the enemy off balance. As commander of a unit of combat engineers, he had the assignment of delaying the German armored march into St. Vith, from whose great road net the enemy could spread out swiftly.

Time was needed, precious hours and days, to mass American armor and infantry. Colonel Riggs organized and led a defense that halted the chafing Germans. He thus made a name for himself that will live, so far as his division is concerned, much longer than his football fame.

He stuck to his post, although the Germans shelled the area heavily with giant 240-millimeter shells, destroying a convent in St. Vith and killing many there.

Colonel Riggs knew that the main blow was coming directly from a point where two enemy columns had converged after having surrounded strong infantry formations for his own division.

"He had only ten anti-tank guns and 300 men to halt the Germans," said Lieut. Wilbur R. Wensley of Freeport, L. I. "His engineers built a strong road blockade about two miles east of St. Vith and they were there waiting when the German tanks and infantry hit. Riggs had his guns well placed and he fought the Jerries to a standstill. He wasn't satisfied with just stopping them; he kept counter-attacking them to keep them from getting set and he led practically every counter-attack himself.

While the balked Germans milled around Colonel Riggs' roadblock, American tank and infantry outfits in the vicinity grouped around St. Vith for an all-out assaut. It was not long coming.

Angry at having their timetable upset, the German commanders began to circle with their columns and eventually delivered a grand-scale attack from three directions, north, northeast and east, where Colonel Riggs still held his roadblock.

German Border Battle Dims Christmas Spirit

American Troops Too Heavily Engaged to Think of Yule

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 24 (AP).—There was little Christmas spirit shown on either side today on this swaying front. The Americans were too busy attacking or beating off enemy counter-attacks to give much thought to the holiday.

In kitchens toward the rear, turkeys were roasting and some mess halls had Christmas trees with red and green paper decorations. But this is grim business and the thoughts of all were back home, and there was no effort by any one to hide his feelings.

The one home touch will be the home-grown turkeys. "And the boys up front will get all the white meet they want," said Corporal Fred Cook, of Yakima, Wash., who was working with Private James Lazaris, of Lewiston, Me., in getting them ready to be carted up to the foxholes.

CORRESPONDENT ESCAPES

Broadcasts Account of His Brush With Death in Belgium

George Hicks, chief correspondent of the Blue Network in the European theatre, said in a broadcast yesterday that four men had been killed and he and other news men had narrowly escaped death when the front of a house was blown in during a German bombing and strafing attack yesterday, The Associated Press reported.

Mr. Hicks said that he had received a small cut on the left cheek and other scratches, and that debris had fallen across the back of James Cassidy, another radio correspondent. The identity of the four men killed was not given.

Correspondents and soldiers were in the house, which was on a road leading to the Stavelot-Bastogne sector, he said.

Hitler's Mind Full of Plans, Goebbels Says

New York, Dec. 24. (AP).—Nazi Propanganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels apologized profusely to the German people tonight for the failure of Adolf Hitler to address them directly on Christmas Eve and declared the Nazi dictator had planned and directed the current German offensive.

"The Fuehrer made me his spokesman to greet the 90 million Germans at home who stand behind him like a wall," Goebbels was quoted as saying in a Berlin radio broadcast heard by NBC and CBS monitors. "He brings his wishes to you on this Christmas Eve. All day—and in his sleepless nights—the Fuehrer's thoughts are always with you."

The propaganda minister said Hitler's mind "is clear and vigorous, contrary to the lies put out by propaganda of the Allies," the NBC monitored report said, adding: "He is determined to hit the enemy wherever and whenever possible, and never has the Fuehrer's mind been so full of plans, as has been shown by the new offensive."

As for Hitler's disappearnace from public view, Goebbels said, "The Fuehrer has a lot to say, but he will say it when he thinks the time is ripe," the reports said.

F. F. I. Unit Under Fire

LA TOUR DU PIN, France Dec. 24 (AP).—A French forces of the Interior patrol exchanged shots with a band of a half-dozen civilians believed to be former Vichyite militiamen who attacked them near Soleymien, in the Lyon area, yesterday in an attempt to free fifteen German prisoners. The attackers fled to the woods, where police were hunting them today.

Black Market Of France Is Giant Combine

American Army, Unfortunately, Is Chief Supply Source

By George Tucker

PARIS, Dec. 23, (Delayed), (AP)—The French black market has become a gigantic combine with headquarters in Paris and tenacles extending to every part of France and as far away as the Liverpool docks—and into the United States Army.

In its post-invasion expansion, American soldiers became important links in its operations.

The black market has developed from a patriotic movement during the German occupation when it was fashionable and, indeed, necessary to outwit the boche, to an enormous federation of dealers in stolen goods, counterfeiters, white slavers and speculators.

Chief Source of Supply

Since D-Day, its chief source of supply has been the huge quantities of American gasoline, soap, food and post exchange items intended for the Allied war machine at the front.

These supplies have been diverted largely by American soldiers who, seemingly tempted by easy and fantastically large rewards, have hi-jacked trucks and turned over millions of gallons of gasoline and other goods to French operators who sell it unlawfully at exorbitant prices. The gasoline brings $5 to $10 a gallon.

In some instances there have been running gun fights between drivers and hi-jackers reminiscent of the American gangster era of the twenties.

Literally hundreds of American soldiers have been arrested. Many of them have been convicted and now are serving prison terms of from one to 20 years or life. Hundreds of others are awaiting trial.

But for every American arrested, ten French civilians have been taken into custody. They are charged chiefly with having American equipment in their possession and selling it illegally. However, 95 per cent of this equipment has been delivered to civilian hands by Americans. The French military and civil governments are cooperating in combating the black market to the fullest extent of their ability.

Wholesale Counterfeiting

During the four years of German occupation, French counterfeiters did a wholesale business, not only in currency, but also in passports, identification cards and other papers. They provided the F. F. I. with thousands of spurious papers enabling them to work under the noses of the gestapo.

Then shortly after the invasions of Normandy and Southern France, counterfeit Allied invasion currency began to appear in quantity. This was chiefly in larger denominations and the result was withdrawal of Allied military notes for 500 and 1,000 francs.

Brig. Gen. Nicholas Cobbs of Montgomery, Ala., fiscal director for the European theater of operations, said the withdrawal was ordered to protect the troops. He said some of the counterfeiters produced excellent duplications of Allied money.

"The first I saw was a 500-franc note and it was so good I couldn't tell the difference," he said.

He said the withdrawal was purely an American idea. "The French government never repudiated the Allied military currency, neither then nor now."

17 Captured

The capture of at least 17 members of one counterfeiting ring was brought about by the quick wits of an anonymous American private who was approached by a French bartender and asked to dispose of a number of the bogus notes. The soldier, whose identity was withheld for security reasons, said he had made a practice of dropping by that bar from time to time.

When the bartender made his proposition, he said, "sure, we have a lot of truck convoys leaving the dump outside of town every night. I can get the drivers to pass the notes off along the road."

The bartender handed him a roll of 5,000-franc notes which the soldier promptly turned over to the authorities.

"The French police were called in on the case, but they sprung the trap prematurely and caught only the lesser members of the gang. The soldier was commended for his integrity," Cobbs said.

The black market demand for gasoline is said to have resulted in underground garages for the convenience of drivers who wish to dispose of heir trucks and cargoes simultaneously.

Truck and Gas Sales

The driver runs a truck into one of these garages, is handed $6,000 and walks off. If he wants to sell merely the gasoline, he gets $5,000. The average American gasoline truck holds 1,000 gallons.

One driver, after disposing of his truck and cargo, purchased a brothel. This paid such dividends that he was negotiating for the purchase of a second brothel when he was picked up by the military police.

In considering the number of Americans implicated in black market activities, it should be remembered that they represent only a fraction of 1 per cent of the United States troops in France.

One major general said, "you would get just as many offenders in an equal number of civilains and maybe more. The number seems large because they are compressed into a relatively small area, but it's really infinitesimal."

Glenn Miller Is Missing Over Europe

Maj. Miller Unreported On England-Paris Flight.

PARIS, Dec. 24—(AP)—Maj. Glenn Miller, director of the U. S. Air Force band and a former orchestra leader, is missing on a flight from England to Paris, it was announced today.

No Trace

Miller, one of the outstanding orchestra leaders of hte United States, left England Dec. 15 as a passenger aboard a plane. No trace of the plane has been found since.

His air force band had been playing in Paris. No members of the band were with him on the plane.

Miller's home is at Tenafly, N. J., where his wife lives.

Miller last led his band in a broadcast Dec. 12. His band, scheduled to broadcast over BBC tomorrow at 7 p.m ., (2 p. m., eastern war time) in the "AEF Christmas show," will be conducted by Sgt. Jerry Gray, deputy leader.

Miller, 39, was commissioned a captain in the army specialist corps Sept. 10, 1942, and was promoted to his majority about six months ago.

Native of Iowa

A native of Clarinda, Iowa, he first gained prominence in the popular music field as a trombonist with various orchestras and then as an arranger for many of the top-flight bands. He organized his own orchestra in 1933.

He married the former Helen Burger, a non-professional, in 1928. The couple have two adopted children, Steve, 2, and Johnnie Dee, a girl, four months old.

At Miller's Tenafly home, his secretary, Miss Polly Davis, said his wife, Helen, was notified yesterday by telegram from the War Department that Miller was missing in flight.

Miss Davis said several letters from the major arrived yesterday, dated Dec. 10 and 11. One letter, saying that he expected to leave England as soon as the weather permitted, was undated, but she and Mrs. Miller thought it was written about Dec. 14.

Miller wrote that he had been grounded for several days because of the extremely heavy fogs.

Pershing Hall Reopened

PARIS, Dec. 24—(AP)—Pershing hall, headquarters and club house of the American Legion in Paris, was formally reopened today as the "G.I. Joes and Janes club" for as new generation of American troops.

Consul Gen. Hugh S. Fullerton on behalf of Ambassador Jefferson Caffrey dedicated the buildings where a series of nightly entertainments will be offered by the army's special services section.

encircle the prize city and its savagely-resisting garrison.

The Russians also were only 10 miles from severing the last possible escape route out of the doomed city which has been under siege since the first week in November.

Premier-Marshal Stalin in an order of the day announced the great victory in western Hungary, and a communique later disclosed the simultaneous drive into western Slovakia as tank-tipped spearheads of the two powerful armies swept on toward Austria even while closing their pincers on Budapest.

In three days the two armies had bagged a total of 4,630 Germans and Hungarians, and also had just about completed the conquest of northeastern Hungary along the central Slovakian frontier. Axis troops in that area also were threatened with encirclement by the invasion of western Slovakia.

Within 66 Miles

Toppling Szekesfehervar and Bicske, Marshall Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army drove to within 66 miles of the Austrian frontier, and seized a nine-mile stretch of the Budapest-Vienna trunk railway between Bicske and the Magyar capital.

Berlin said German reinforcements were hurrying to the front in an effort to stop the "Soviet avalanche."

Simultaneously Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army, racing westward above the Danube at a point 50 miles northwest of Budapest, captured the rail junction of Leva (Levice), only 65 miles east of Bratislava, Slovak capital, and 98 miles from Vienna.

In this area the Russians were swarming ahead in two directions, northwestward and westward toward Bratislava and Vienna, and northward into the Slovak mountains in an effort to trap scores of thousands of Germans fighting far to the east in the exposed Losonc-Kassa sectors.

At captured Leva, on the northern edge of Hungarian-annexed Slovakia, the Russians were only 20 miles southwest of Banska Bystrica, until a few months ago the headquarters of a force of 25,000 Czechoslovak patriots. These well-organized guerrillas are now expected to swarm down out of the mountains in this area and join Malinovsky's hard-fighting forces.

Big Offensive Roars

Simultaneously Berlin announced that a big Soviet winter offensive had roared through its fifth day in western Latvia where 30 German divisions are trapped, and German radio commentators also told their listeners not to be surprised if the entire eastern front soon erupts into action.

Berlin broadcasts reminded the homeland of spreading Russian reconnaissance action in German East Prussia and recalled that a year ago the Russians launched their victorious Christmas eve offensive near Kiev in the Ukraine, a blow that swept the Germans out of Russia into Poland and Romania.

Germany admitted the loss of Szekesfehervar, and the penetration of German-Hungarian defense lines southwest of Budapest. Not attempting to minimize the seriousness of Budapest's plight the Germans said that reserve forces were making "forced marches to hurry to the threatened areas in an attempt to stem the Russian avalanche."

"The bitter fighting around Budapest increased to a violence almost never before witnessed," said the Berlin military commentator, Col. Ernst Von Hammer.

Berlin said Tolbukhin was using 18 rifle divisions and three mechanized corps in a smultaneous investment of Budapest and a drive toward Vienna, and the Germans were reported pressing more and more civilians into fortification work on the approaches to the Austrian capital.

Rail Junction Falls

The great 12-way and rail junction of Szekesfehervar, former Hungarian capital and ancient coronation city for Magyar kings, fell after bitter house-to-house fighting. The town not only is a great communications prize but also has aircraft factories, powder mills and other war industries. It is astride a direct route running between the Bakony and Vertes mountain ranges to Vienna, 110 miles to the northwest.

Southwest of Szekesfehervar the Russians moved forward on a 16-mile line running from the fallen stronghold through captured Urhida and Fule to Lake Balaton. At the other end of 48-mile-long Lake Balaton Soviet units hold positions within 48 miles of the lower Aus-

Reds Cut Escape Routes For Nazis In Budapest

By W. W. Hercher

LONDON, Monday, Dec. 25 (AP)—Russian troops in a three-day 25-mile sweep around Budapest yesterday cut the enemy's main escape routes five miles due west of the Hungarian capital, virtually trapping the besieged Axis garrison, while other Soviet forces raced 17 miles inside western Slovakia to within 98 miles of Vienna, Austrian capital.

Overun 160 Locales

Overrunning 160 localities, including the major strongholds of Szekesfehervar and Bicske, 32 miles southwest and 17 miles west of Budapest, one Soviet army had only to close a 17-mile gap in the Danube loop in order to completely

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trian border.

North of Szekesfehervar the Russians cleared the enemy from a 22-mile railway running up to captured Bicske and cleaned out a huge area between Bicske and Budapest, including Torbagy, only five miles west of the Budapest city limits and astride the severed escape highway and railway to Vienna.

Hurl Out Nazis

Between the Torbagy-Bicske link of the trunk railway and the overrun Szekesfehervar-Budapest line the Russians hurled the Germans from Etyek, Soskut and Tarmok, villages from seven to nine miles southwest of the capital's city limits, and also seized Martonvasar, 10 miles from Budapest on the Szekesfehervar railway.

At Torbagy, on the edge of the forested hills adjoining Budapest, the Russians were only 10 miles from the last railway and highway escape route out of Budapest. These routes run northwest from the capital to the Danube and then follow the river's southern bank westward to Vienna. And at Bicske the Russians were only 17 miles south of the Danube loop. When they reach the river they will have sealed off the Axis garrison in Budapest.

Two miles west of Bicske Tolbukhin's men took Obarok, on the Vienna highway, and five miles west of that sixway junction they seized Szar on the trunk railway.

Moving into the Vertes mountains another column captured Verteskozma, nine miles southwest of Bicske, 66 miles from the Austrian frontier and 105 miles southeast of Vienna.

Despite their critical plight there was no indication that the Germans had begun abandoning Budapest.

Other Soviet [illegible] are only a few miles outside the northern, eastern and southern city limits.

Soviet Trade Organ "Concerned" Over Criticism

MOSCOW, Dec. 24—(AP)—Trud, organ of Soviet trade unions, exhibited concern today over American congressional criticism of postwar peace organization and singled out Senator Gillette (D.-Iowa) for voicing "badly concealed attacks on the Soviet Union."

"The overwhelming majority of the American people proved at the last election that they favor a policy of co-operation with the United Nations in the war against Hitlerite Germany and in the organization of the post-war peace," said Trud. "Still there are people like Senator Gillette who, after having failed at the last election, attempt to discredit the results obtained at Dumbarton Oaks."

Trud said Gillette had intentionally exaggerated the differences at Dumbarton Oaks.

'Pravda' Hits Belgian Policy

MOSCOW, Dec. 24 (AP).—The Communist newspaper "Pravda" today deplored the Belgian government's refusal to permit veterans of the resistance movement to join the fight against the German winter offensive. It asked: "Are there still people in Belgium who fear the anti-Fascist activity of the resistance front more than repetition of the German occupation?"

New Teheran Governor Appointed, Says Tass

MOSCOW, Dec. 24—(AP)—A new military governor for Teheran has been appointed a Tass news agency reported today, and said anti-Soviet editors in the Iran capital persisted in a campaign against friendship with Russia.

No reason was publicly given for the removal of Col. Khidjazi as military governor and his replacement by Gen. Shaiban.

An editorial in the newspaper Rakhbar, as quoted by Tass, disclosed that three more Tehran organs were closed "for provocatory slanders, but the same editors issue similar anti-Soviet newspapers under new names."

A movement is continuing among "broad masses" in northern Iran for the creation of a "democratic government, the criminal trial of ex-Premier Mohamed Saed, and the expulsion of his friends in Majlis, Tass reported, adding that these demands were voiced at a meeting of 15,000 persons Nov. 12 at Ardebil, Iran.

Colossal Air Armada Downs 116 In One Day

Enemy's Total Air Losses In Two Days 303—U. S. Loses 39 Heavies, Six Escorts—Two Enemy Bridges Destroyed—Sorties May Exceed Those Of D-day.

By Howard Cowan

LONDON, Monday, Dec. 25 (AP)—Seven thousand Allied war planes—the mightiest display of crushing aerial power in the history of armed conflict—were hurled Sunday at the German winter offensive in thousands of sorties that may exceed the 13,000 flown on D-day.

The German air force lost at least 116 planes trying to protect its ground forces and lifelines from the storm of explosives, running its two-day losses to 303 planes.

The total loss from the 2,000 U. S. heavy bombers and almost 1,000 fighters which paced the smashing attacks were 39 heavies and six escorts.

British Night Fighters Out

British night bombers carried the all-out offensive into Christmas eve, striking railyards at Cologne and an enemy air field at Bonn.

Fourteen air bases sheltering the hundreds of enemy fighters which have been punishing American front line troops were dealt smashing blows by U. S. heavy bombers aiming their explosives from crystal clear skies.

At least one hundred and 16 German tanks were disabled, nearly 800 motor vehicles were wrecked and two bridges were destroyed — only part of the score of the U. S. Ninth Air Force based in Belgium and France.

They destroyed 27 of the German planes shot down today, but lost 23 planes themselves.

The bomber show was monopolized by the U. S. Eighth Air Force which massed 2,000 Flying Fortresses and Liberators in a single formation making up the greatest sky fleet ever put into the air.

Their escort of almost 1,000 long-range Mustangs and Thunderbolts accounted for 70 of the German kills, and bomber crew gunners shot down 18 more.

RAF Joins Fight

The RAF Second Tactical Air Force go 10 enemy planes. RAF's bomber command sent 500 Halifaxes and Lancasters to Essen and Dusseldorf for daylight attacks on air fields.

The Air Ministry said its fighter fleets based in Holland flew more than 1,000 sorties and shortly before midnight announced that still a second bomber force had hit Cologne's railyards and the Bonn air field just after dark.

Eleven cleverly camouflaged air bases in the area of Frankfurt were hammered by Flying Fortresses and Liberators which also scattered destruction among rail and road junctions and supply dumps in the area between Euskirchen and Trier—a vital 65-mile zone in the rear of the German bulge into Belgium.

Medium bombers of the U. S. Ninth Air Force made 400 separate flights without loss, hitting communications. All Ninth Air Force planes made nearly 1,600 sorties.

Germans On Air Patrol

German fighters weer patrolling the skies. One swarm of jet-propelled ME-262S attacked British Lancasters, but they mainly were ineffective.

Observers in Britain said the day's flights apparently were greater than on D-day June 6, when more than 13,000 sorties were made.

The RAF dispatched more than 500 heavy Lancaster and Halifax bombers, with as many Spitfires and Mustangs, in an attack on two Nazi airbases in the Ruhr at Essen and Dusseldorf.

Big American Liberators blasted a dozen roads and rail junctions and supply dumps on a 65-mile front between Euskirchen and Trier, key points on the flanks of the German counteroffensive.

The sky over the channel and the continental targets was clear and sunny. All bombing was done visually.

Provisional Hungary Gov't. Is Formed

Col.-Gen. Miklos Premier Of New Cabinet.

LONDON, Dec. 24, (AP)—A provisional Hungarian government with Col. Gen. Bel Miklos, former commander of the first Hungarian Army, as premier has been formed in the liberated portions of the country, the Moscow radio announced tonight.

"The cabinet includes leading Hungarian military men who have decided on an active fight against German forces,' 'the broadcast said.

Others in the cabinet "are non-party public and leading scientific figures, former parliamentary deputies and representatives of the Hungarian democratic parties."

Takes Oath

After being ratified by the provisional Hungarian National Assembly, the new cabinet ministers took the oath of office and immediately issued an appeal to the Hungarians to fight to break away "the only remaining satellite of Hitler" from the German orbit.

Gen. Miklos was dismissed ahead of the first army after Ferenc Szalaski deposed the regent of Admiral Nicholas Horthy and set up a pro-Nazi regime.

The following were named ministers in the new cabinet:

Dr. A. Gelenczini, justice.
Eric Molnar, social insurance.
Dr. Janos Gyongyosy, foreign affairs.
Dr. Ferenc Erden, home affairs.
Col. Gen. Janos Voros, defense.
Dr. Istvan Vassary, finance.
Imre Nagy, agriculture.
Ferenc Szakos, industry.
Josef Gabor, trade.
Prof. Count Geza Teleki, education and culture.

Prof. Sedeny President

President of the provisional assembly which met at Debrecenon Dec. 21 is Prof. Bela Sedeny of the Miskolc Legal academy, who was unanimously elected by the 230-elected delegates, chosen by Hungarian citizens in liberated territory in balloting from Dec. 13 through Dec. 20, the Moscow radio said.

It remained to be seen whether the assembly would deal directly with the questions of the elimination of the regency system or let constitutional changes await a post-war national vote.

HA[illegible] PEAKS TO PEOPLE

Holds [illegible] Hope of Early Freeing of Norway From Germany

LONDON, Dec. 24 (AP)—King Haakon of Norway, in a broadcast to his people tonight, held out the hope of early victory and liberation before another Christmas.

In a message filled with disappointment, he said that he had hoped to spend this Christmas at home. For most Norwegians, particularly the homeless wanderers sent into the Arctic cold by the ruthless German evacuation of far northern Norway, he said, this Christmas would be the "darkest and most difficult of the whole occupation."

He said that all that he could offer his people this Christmas was faith and confidence in the future and the belief that "we shall cel brate next Christmas together in a free country, when it will once more be the festival of home and peace."

But Their Trip Was Necessary

London, Dec. 24 (AP).—Memo for "A" card holders:

The American Fortresses and Liberators which hit the Germans today used 4,250,000 gallons of gasoline.

Captives' Gifts Reach Sweden

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 24 (AP).—The Swedish motorship Saivo arrived at Gothenburg today from Philadelphia with a cargo of Christmas parcels for Allied prisoners of war in Germany. Red Cross representatives said they expected to transship the parcels to Germany within a few days.

Miracle of Ages Reenacted As Soldiers Kneel in Homage

Bethelehem, Dec. 24 (AP).—The miracle of the ages was reenacted in Bethlehem tonight and symbolically a babe was born again in the very grotto where nearly 2000 years ago Christ was born.

Just as then, men knelt in adoration, with their heads turned toward the spot where the manger once was.

Manger Square was packed tightly with men in uniform—some flown here from the battlefields of France and Italy only yesterday. For miles the road from Jerusalem was lined with military cars and trucks, and at first glance it was like passing a convoy moving up to battle.

Bethlehem glowed with a soft light like a golden crown on the dark hills of Judea.

Here and there were the white burnooses and red tarbooshes of Moslems and the brocaded costumes of Palestinian women.

The pilgrims waited patiently in the square fronting the Church of the Nativity until His Beatitude, the Latin Patriarch, came from Jerusalem.

His procession passed through the historic Jaffa Gate and along the Roman Road past the hill of Tantur and the remains of Herod's palace and the tomb of Rachel.

At Rachel's tomb the procession halted and the mayor of Bethlehem extended the ancient greeting to the Latin Patriarch. Then it continued to Manger Square. The inclosure was lined with hundreds of priests and acolytes in white stoles. The strains of a Latin hymn rose toward the sky and his Beatitude, wearing the purple robe, entered the Latin Church of St. Catherine which adjoins the Church of the Nativity, and the ceremony of celebrating the Christ Child's birth had begun.

It continued throughout the afternoon and early evening in successive rituals.

Climax at Midnight

The high pontificial mass began at 10 o'clock, leading gradually toward its climax at midnight.

Sacred music hung over through the candle-filled church with the altar ablaze with light.

At the midnight hour, the silver voices of the great bells of Bethlehem rang out. This was the moment all Christendom awaited.

On the altar a babe lay revealed, a shining simulacrum of the Christ-child. The miracle was reenecated.

The ancient stone walls of the church quivered with the mighty "hallelujahs" and waves of music broke against its heavy columns—"glory Be to God in the Highest."

The patriarch took the symbol of the Child in his arms and the worshippers knelt in joy and humility."

Placed Upon Silver Star

The majestic procession wound through the church wiht the flames

of the candles glinting and shimmering on the robes of the prelates. The acolytes and choirboys came first, followed by high dignitaries of the church, and last the patriarch himself, carrying the representation of the Son of God.

They went down a short flight of stone steps toward the grotto where Mary had been and upon which the light of the guiding star had fallen.

Candles flickered there just as tthey might have done on that night in the past. Beneath there is a silver star and there the patriarch placed the babe.

Then in the final scene of this drama the child was lifted and placed gently where the manger once stood.

The story wasended.

Outside it turned cold and occasional spatters of rain hissed against the worn walls of Bethlehem.

Nazis Beaten Back In Italy By U.S. 5th

Enemy Counterattack Blunted South Of Bologna.

DEC 29 1944

ROME, Dec. 24. (AP)—Fighting on a cold snow-covered battlefield south of Bologna, American Fifth Army troops have beaten off a sharp German counterattack and retained newly-won gains east of Monte Belmonte, Allied Headquarters announced today.

On the Adriatic sector in Italy, Canadians rushing along the Senio River, north of Highway 9, advanced on both flanks despite stubborn German opposition.

South of the highway Polish patrols crossed the Senio and contacted the enemy in the area of Cuffiano, 3 1-2 miles south of the Rimini-Bologna highway where a German salient slowly is being chopped away.

Merlaschio Captured

The Allied communique said other Eighth Army forces had captured Merlaschio, three miles north of recently-captured Faenza, and half a mile north of Messano which fell yesterday. Monte Della west of Merlaschio was occupied by British forces who turned back a small enemy counterthrust.

Headquarters said Canadian patrols have reached Rossetto, five miles north of Bagnavacallo, and reported the Germans are strongly entrenched in that area.

The German assault against the Americans in the Monte Belmonte area was launched after the doughboys had advanced 500 yards. In brisk fighting, the Americans held their new positions in their slow drive toward Bologna, key German supply center in the Po river valley.

Fighter bombers of the 12th Air Force smashed German communications throughout the Po valley in strong support of the Allied ground forces. Fourteen German planes were reported destroyed. Earlier three night-flying RAF Beaufighters knocked down three German stuka dive-bombers in a brief aerial battle over northern Italy.

Nazis Man Torpedoes

Practice Against Allied Warships Off France and Italy Fails

ROME, Dec. 24. (AP) — German attempts to use manned torpedoes against Allied warships operating off the French Riviera and Italian Riviera have been thwarted, with a French patrol vessel sinking one such projectile and another being tossed up on the beach near Villefranche, Allied headquarters announced today.

The Allied naval comamnd disclosed that warships have been bombarding enemy troops, guns and communications in the neighborhood of the French-Italian frontier in the last eleven days. The American destroyers Hughes, Niblack and Woolsey and the French cruiser Jeanne d'Arc and destroyer, L'Alcyon participated.

Lane Gang Break

ROME, Dec. 24—(AP)—Eight members of the "Lane gang" — Allied deserters held for crimes in Naples and Rome — broke out of prison during the night but two had been caught by this evening. The eight seriously injured a military policeman in making their escape.

Italy Action Leader Hurt

ROME, Dec. 24 (AP). — Emilio Lussu, author and Action party leader, was injured seriously today when his automobile collided with a truck. His wife was hurt slightly, but his six-month-old son was unharmed.

Soldier Plays Santa Claus In Italian Town

ON THE FIFTH ARMY FRONT IN ITALY, Dec. 22. (Delayed) (AP)—For the past week an American sergeant has been playing Santa Claus to the cold, hungry and frightened little children of the war-torn village of Loiano.

Complete with a beard and a tasseled red hat, the G.I. Santa Claus has walked the shattered streets o fthe town with a bag of sweets swung over his back.

"Papa Natale, Papa Natale," cried the children as they scrambled over the rubble of their homes to his side, because it did not take them long to find that he had a piece of candy or chewing gum for each of them. They follow him in droves and mothers bring infants in arms to see him.

When the last gift has been drained from the bag Santa Claus disapepars and becomes Staff Sgt. Vincent Post of Clarksburg, W. Va.

The Santa Claus suit is a gift of Miss Frances Jensen of Corvallis, Ore., who saw that Christmas would be dreary at the front and sent three Santa costumes to the Army Special Service. One of them came here.

Members of the American units stationed in the area chipped in with candy and chewing gum and Pvt. Benjamin Culpan of Pittsburg, Kas., helps Post pack his bag and get into his costume.

"The children believe there is a Santa Claus and so there is one for them," Post said, admitting that "it kind of gets me sometimes when those children trail behind me singing Italian Christmas carols. It's a real Christmas even up here in this ruined town."

5th Army Gets Victory Pledge

5TH ARMY FRONT, Italy, Dec. 24 (AP).—In a Christmas message to the officers and men of the 5th Army, Lieutenant General Lucian K. Truscott promised today to do "all in my power to lead you to future successes in this theater which can contribute so much to final Allied victory, with which will come happy, lasting reunions and restoration of enduring peace in the hearts and minds of all mankind."

Nazi Synthetic Oil Output Cut Heavily

MEDITERRANEAN AIRFORCE HEADQUARTERS, Rome, Dec. 24, (AP)—A total of more than 3,500 tons of bombs dropped by the 15th Airforce from Dec. 17 to 22 has restricted operations of the synthetic oil plants of Austria and Poland which produce an estimated one-third of the gasoline used by the German war machine, it was reported here today.

The Blechhammer, Germany, plant has shown no sign of activity at its north refinery since the last raid there and the south refinery was severely damaged. The plant at Oswiecum, Poland, is officially described as "probably rendered inactive."

The operations against oil producing plants cost the 15th Airforce 64 bombers and five fighters. On Dec. 17, 48 enemy craft were shot down.

Peace Organization Favored By Pope

ROME, Dec. 24 (AP) — Pope Pius XII, in his annual Christmas message today, welcomed proposals for a strong organization, "a society of peoples," to preserve peace and smother any future threat of aggression, but warned that it would fail if "a perpetual burden" were placed on the vanquished of the present war.

Must Assume Rights

While government and peoples to whom responsibility for this war is attributed can reasonably be punished, he said, they must eventually be permitted to assume the rights and duties of members of the family of nations.

He declared that everyone has an immediate duty to "do everything to ban once and for all wars of aggression as legitimate solution of international disputes and as a means toward realizing national aspirations."

"If ever a generation has had to appreciate in the depths of its conscience the call: 'War on war,' it certainly is the present generation" the Pope said.

In his sixth Christmas broadcast of the war, the Pontiff observed that the peoples of the world were seeking democracy, said the best form of government was democracy guided by Christian principles and founded on the obligations as well as the rights of individuals, declared democracy could exist in a monarchy as well as in a Republic, and denounced all systems of state absolutism.

"Thank God," he said, "one may believe that the time has passed when the call to moral and gospel principles to guide the life of states and peoples was disdainfully thrust aside as unreal."

Enemies of Christ

Earlier in an address to the College of Cardinals, the Pope spoke specifically against "the enemy of Christ and His church" who, he said, was trying to "transform himself into an angel of light," using the words liberty, independence, and democracy to "chloroform the vigilance" of the faithful.

He did not, however, identify this "enemy of Christ."

Cautioning the cardinals that turmoil may be widespread after the war, the Pope declared the conflict has brought "restless agitation" and a "frenzy for novelty" to many of the masses, but that it also has brought the world a powerful "desire for reform."

Men as well as frontiers will have changed as a result of war, he declared.

His broadcast message stressed that future peace hangs on recognition of the principle of the unity of all nations and the family of peoples.

Must Be Punished

While acknowledging that nations responsible for war must be punished, he asserted the peace settlement "should not impose any perpetual burden" on the losers if new war is to be avoided.

To deny them the hope of being accepted into the family of nations, the Pontiff said, "would be the reverse of war-seeing wisdom. It would be to assume the grave responsibility of barring the way to a general liberation from all the disastrous consequences . . . of this gigantic cataclysm."

He declared that while the unity of mankind is essential for world reform and peace guarantees, each nation "must retain an equal right to its own sovereignty within the international society.

"Only thus will the spirit of sane democracy be able to pervade the vast and thorny ground of foreign relations," the Pontiff said, asserting that wars will continue to be waged until the greater part of humanity cries out for a war against war.

Insisting that men should not be obliged to obey a government if they are not free to criticize it, he said "the masses are an easy plaything in the hands of anyone who exploits their instincts and impressions, ready to follow in turn, today this flag, tomorrow another." Such men, he added, "are the capital enemy of true democracy and of its ideal of liberty and equality."

Pure Democracy Is Bad

Asserting that very often so-called pure democracy hides the worst defects of democracy, the pontiff stated that democracy could be realized in monarchies as well as republics, provided national leaders "look upon themselves as representatives of the entire people and not as mandatories of the mob."

In speaking of the unidentified "enemy of Christ," the Pope exclaimed, "what a spectacle is that of a democratic state left to the whims of the masses" in which "equality degenerates to the mechanical level of a colorless uniformity' 'wherein survivors are the deluded victims of those "who have known how to use the power of money and organization in order to secure a privileged position above others, and to have gained power."

Declaring that if aggressors feel they will be punished by the whole world, a new world will arise out of the darkness, the papal leader called for economic and military sanctions against such aggressors within the framework of justice.

Keypoints of Influence

In his speech before the College of Cardinals the pontiff denounced those whom he claimed were trying, some by violence, to gain "keypoints of influence" in a war-born out of a "frenzy for novelty."

"At a time when errors, widely spread here by violence, there in poor disguise, strive to secure the direction of public opinion and the keypoints of influence," the Pope said, "at a time when the words liberty, independence and democracy are, for some trends of thought and ambition, only a means to chloroform the vigilance of those whose fidelity would never consciously allow itself to abandon or endanger the heritage left them by their whole Christian past; at a time when more deftly than ever the enemy of Christ and his church, in the words of the apostle of the Gentiles, tries to transform himself into an angel of light; at a time like this, the church and its supreme pastor . . . have, more than ever, a duty to proclaim the truth . . . to open the eyes of men of good will, and especially the faithful . . . to sharpen the perspicacity of their judgment so as to discern in good time the errors which wear the disguise of truth in order that peoples may not have to experience too late, and at their cost, the bitter admonition of the prophet, 'You have ploughed wickedness, you have reaped iniquity, you have eaten the fruit of (the) lying'."

Bloody Scourge

Predicting that men as well as frontiers will have changed as a result of the war, the Pope asked: "Will poor mankind, after the bloody scourge of a world war, have to suffer once again the poisonous bite of civil war?"

"In our days," he continued, "when the victims of error, innocent or guilty, have become legion; when the number of those who through suffering, misery, oppression, injustice, spiritual neglect and bad example, have wandered from the straight path, has increased menacingly, a clear challenge is heard by the church, her ministers and all her sons who are called to the apostolate of word and action."

He declared the church, "which spurns all the proud, narrow-mindedness and vainglorious self-righteousness of the pharisee with its haughty and disdainful aloofness," will stand "vigilant and protecting" when men will have changed "in their intellectual searchings, in the silent secrecy of their hearts, and in their aspirations and judgments and in their sense of values and their tendencies."

Thus, the Pontiff proclaimed the Catholic church and himself as the defenders of "truth against the insidious wiles of prevalent errors."

Restless Agitation

"The souls of a large proportion of men,' he said, "are pervaded by restless agitation such as perhaps has no parallel in any of the graver crises of history. It is agitation in which good and evil are strangely mingled to create and destroy, to set up order and to overthrow it."

"To this agitation there is associated in many minds an almost instinctive aversion to the past, a frenzy for novelty, which often is not fundamentally unsound or ignoble in its motives, but is frequently deficient in clarity and precision of purpose, as well as in discernment as to the choice of means, while with imprudent and

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precipitate optimism more is expected from novelty than it can give." the Pope declared.

Desire For Reform

"With the disquiet which has pervaded the souls of the masses as a result of the war and its attendant trials, there has also entered the world a desire for reform and a powerful urge towards its realization in one form or another," the Pontiff said, asking: "Will this realization follow a course of gradual, orderly evolution, or will it burst forth violently blowing up the bridges between the past and the future?"

"Will it overflow impetuously like a torrent that floods over its sides carying before it the banks of justice and morality?" he asked.

At the close of his address to the world the pontiff thanked the United States for its war relief "despite the extraordinary difficulties of transport," and extended special thanks to President Roosevelt's personal envoy to the Vatican, Myron Taylor, for his work in Italy.

The Pope also thanked Spain, Ireland, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Italy, Lithuania, Peru, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, Uruguay and Switzerland for their response to his appeals for relief. Germany was not among those mentioned.

again serenely, for Christmas is the feast of human dignity, "the wonderful exchange by which the creator of the human race, taking a living body, deigned to be born of a virgin, and by His coming bestowed on us His divinity" (First Antiphon of First Vespers for the Feast of the Circumcision).

But our gaze turns quickly from the base of the crib to the world around us, and the sorrowful sigh of John the Evangelist comes to our lips: "And the light shines in darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it" (John i, 5).

For alas, for the sixth time, the Christmas dawn breaks again on battlefields spreading ever wider ,on graveyards where are gathered the remains of victims in ever-increasing numbers on desert lands where a few tottering towers tell with silent pathos the story of cities once flourishing and prosperous, and where bells fallen or carried off no longer awaken the inhabitants with their jubilant Christmas chimes.

They are so many silent witnesses to denounce this blot on

Pontiff Urges 'Holy Obstinacy' To Outlaw Wars of Aggression

Declares Fight for World Peace Brooks 'No Delay, No Procrastination, No Hesitation, No Subterfuge'; Praises U. S. Aid for Victims of Conflict

VATICAN CITY, Dec. 24 (AP).—The following is the text of an official English translation of Pope Pius XII's Christmas message today entitled "The Sixth War Christmas." It begins citing the Epistle of Titus iii, 4. "The goodness and kindness of God our Saviour appeared."

For the sixth time since the opening of the dreadful war, the Christmas liturgy again hails with these words, redolent of peaceful serenity, the coming into our midst of God our Saviour.

The humble, mean cradle of Bethlehem by its wonderful charm focuses the attention of all believers. Deep into the hearts of those in darkness, affliction, and depression there sinks and pervades a great flood of light and joy.

Heads that were bowed lift

the story of mankind which, deliberately blind to the brilliance of Him who is the splendor and light of the Father, deliberately straying from Christ, has descended and fallen into chaos and into the denial of its own dignity.

Even the little lamp is out in many majestic temples, in many modest chapels, where before the tabernacle it had shared the watches of the divine guest over a world asleep. What desolation! What contrast! Can there then be still hope for mankind?

'Dawn of Hope'

Blessed be the Lord! Out from the mournful groans of sorrow, from the very depths of the heart-rending anguish of oppressed individuals and coun-

tries there arises an aura of hope. Tc an ever-increasing number of noble souls there comes the thought, the will ever cleared and stronger to make of this world, this universal upheaval a starting point for a new era of far-reaching renovation, the complete reorganization of the world, thus while the armed forces continue to engage in murderous battles with weapons ever more deadly, the statesmen, responsible leaders of nations, meet for talks, for conferences to determine the fundamental rights and duties on which should be built a community of states, and to blaze the trail toward a better future, more secure and more worthy of mankind.

A strange paradox this, of a war whose bitterness bids to reach the limits of paroxysm, and of the notable progress made in aspirationsg and proposals for a solid and lasting peace; undoubtedly one may well discuss the worth, the feasibility, the efficacy of this or that proposal; judgment may well be suspended in their regard, but it remains none the less true that the process has begun.

'The Problem of Democracy'

Moreover—and this is perhaps the most important point—beneath the sinister lightning of the war that encompasses them, in the blazing heat of the furnace that imprisons them, the peoples have, as it were, awakened from a long torpor. They have assumed, in relation to the state and those who govern, a new attitude — one that questions, criticizes, distrusts.

Taught by bitter experience, they are more aggressive in opposing the concentration of dictatorial power that cannot be censured or touched, and call for a system of government more in keeping with the dignity and liberty of the citizens. These multitudes, uneasy, stirred by the war to their innermost depths, are today firmly convinced — at first perhaps in a vague and confused way but already unyieldingly — that had there been the possibility of censuring and correcting the actions of public authority the world would not have been dragged into the vortex of a disastrous war, and that to avoid for the future the repetition of such a catastrophe we must vest efficient guaranties in the people itself.

In such a psychological atmosphere is it to be wondered at if the tendency toward democracy is capturing the peoples and winning a large measure of consent and support from those who hope to play a more efficient part in the destinies of individuals and of society?

It is scarcely necessary to recall that, according to the teaching of the Church, "it is not forbidden to prefer temperate, popular forms of government, without prejudice, however, to Catholic teaching on the origin and use of authority," and that "the Church does not disapprove of any of the various forms of government, provided they be per se capable of securing the good of the citizens" (Leo XIII: Encyclical "Libertas," June 20, 1888).

If, then, on this feast day which commemorates both the benignity of the incarnate word and the dignity of man (both in its personal and social aspects), we direct our attention to the problem of democracy, examining the forms by which it should be directed if it is to be a true, healthy democracy answering the needs of the moment, our action shows clearly that the interest and solicitude of the Church looks not so much to its external structure and organization—which depend on the special aspirations of each people—as to the individual himself, who, so far from being the object and as it were a merely passive element in the social order, is in fact, and must be and continue to be its subject, its foundation and its end.

Given that democracy, taken in the broad sense, admits of various forms, and can be realized in monarchies as well as in republics, two questions come up for consideration: First, what characteristics should distinguish the men who live under democracy and a democratic regime? Second, what characterization should distinguish the men who hold the reins of government in a democracy?

I

Characteristics Proper to Citizens in a Democratic Regime'

To express his own views of the duties and sacrifices that are imposed on him, not compelled to obey without being heard, these are the rights of the citizen which find in democracy, as its name implies, their expression.

From the solidity, harmony and good results produced by this between the citizens and the government one may decide which democracy is really healthy and well balanced, and what is its life energy and power of expansion.

If then, we consider the extent and nature of the sacrifices demanded of all the citizens, especially in our day when the activity of the state is so vast and decisive, the democratic form of government appears to many as a postulate of nature imposed by reason itself.

When, however, people call for "democracy and better democracy" such a demand cannot have any other meaning than to place the citizen ever more in the position to hold his own personal opinion, to express it and to make it prevail in a fashion conducive to common good.

'People and "the Masses"'

Hence follows a first conclusion with its practical consequence. The state does not contain in itself and does not mechanically bring together in a given territory a shapeless mass of individuals.

It is and should in practice be the organic and organizing unity of a real people. The people and a shapeless multitude (or as it is called "the masses") are two distinct concepts.

The people lives and moves by its own life energy; the masses are inert of themselves and can only be moved from outside. The people lives by the fullness of life in the men that compose it, each of whom—at his proper place and in his own way—is a person conscious of his own responsibility and of his own views.

The masses on the contrary wait for the impulse from outside, an easy plaything in the hands of any one who exploits their instincts and impressions; ready to follow in turn today this flag, tomorrow another.

From the exuberant life of a true people an abundant rich life is diffused in the state and all its organs, instilling into them, with a vigor that is always renewing itself, the consciousness of their own responsibility, the true instinct for the common good.

The elementary power of the masses, deftly managed and employed, the state also can utilize. In the ambitious hands of one or of several who have been artificially brought together for selfish aims the state itself, with the support of the masses, reduced to the minimum status of a mere machine, can impose its whims on the better part of the real people. The common interest remains seriously and for a long time injured by this process, and the injury is very often hard to heal.

Hence follows clearly another conclusion: the masses—as we have just defined them—are the capital enemy of true democracy and of its ideal of liberty and equality.

In a people worthy of the name the citizen feels within him the consciousness of his personality, of his duties and rights, of his own freedom joined to respect for the freedom and dignity of others.

In a people worthy of the name all inequalities based not on whim but on the nature of things, inequalities of culture, possessions, social standing—without, of course, prejudice to a justice and mutual charity—do not constitute any obstacle to the existence and the prevalence of a true spirit of union and brotherhood.

On the contrary, so far from impairing civil equality in any way, they give it its true meaning, namely that, before the state, every one has the right to live honorably his own personal life in the place and under the conditions in which the designs and dispositions of Providence have placed him.

As against this picture of the democratic ideal of liberty and equality in a people's government by honest and far-seeing men, what a spectacle is that of a democratic state left to the whims of the masses.

Liberty from being a moral duty of the individual becomes a tyrannous claim to give free rein to a man's impulses and appetites to the detriment of others.

Equality degenerates to a mechanical level, a colorless uniformity. The sense of true honor, of personal activity or respect for tradition, of dignity—in a word all that gives life its worth—gradually fades away and disappears.

And the only survivors are, on the one hand, the victims deluded by the specious mirage of democracy, naively taken for the genuine spirit of democracy with its liberty and equality; and on the other the more or less numerous exploiters who have known how to use the power of money and of organization in order to secure a privileged position above the others, and have gained power.

II

'Characteristics of Men Holding Power in a Democratic State?

The democratic state, whether it be monarchical or republican, should like any other form of government be intrusted with the power to command with real and effective authority.

The absolute order itself of beings and purposes, which shows that man is an independent person, namely the subject of inviolable duties and rights, who is the source and end of his own social life, comprises the state also as a necessary society endowed with authority, without which it could neither exist nor live.

And if men, using their personal liberty, were to deny all dependence on a superior authority possessing coercive power, they could by this very fact cut the ground from under their own dignity and liberty, by violating, that is, the absolute order of beings and purposes.

As they are established on this same foundation, the person, the state, the government, with their respective rights, are so bound together that they stand or fall together.

And since that absolute order, in the light of right, reason, and in particular of the Christian faith, cannot have any other origin than in a personal God, our Creator, it follows that the dignity of man is the dignity of the moral community willed by God, the dignity of political authority is the dignity deriving from its sharing in the author-

ity of God.

No form of state can avoid taking cognizance of this intimate and indissoluble connection—least of all a democracy. Accordingly if those in power do not see it, or more or less discount it, their own authority is shaken and social morality and that specious appearance of a purely formal democracy may often serve a a mark for all that is in reality least democratic.

Only a clear appreciation of the purposes assigned by God to every human society, joined to a deep sense of the exalted duties of social activity, can put those in power in a position to fulfill their own obligations in the legislative, judicial and executive order with that objectivity, impartiality, loyalty, generosity, and integrity without which a democratic government would find it hard to command the respect and the support of the better section of the people.

The deep sense of the principles underlying a political and social order that is sound and conforms to the norms of right and justice is of special importance in those who in any kind of democratic regime have, as the peoples delegates, in whole or part, the power to legislate.

And since the center of gravity of a democracy normally set up resides in this popular assembly from which political currents radiate into every field of public life—for good or ill—the question of the high moral standards, practical ability and intellectual capacity of parliamentary deputies is for every people living under a democratic regime a question of life and death, of prosperity and decadence, of soundness of perpetual unrest.

To secure effective action, to win esteem and trust, every legislative body should,—as experience shows beyond doubt—gather within it a group of select men, spiritually eminent and of strong character, who shall look upon themselves as the representatives of the entire people and not the mandatories of a mob, whose interests are often unfortunately made to prevail over the true needs of the common good—a select group of men not restricted to any profession or social standing but reflecting every phase of the people's life; men chosen for their solid Christian convictions, straight and steady judgment, with a sense of the practical and equitable, true to themselves in all circumstances; men of clear and sound principles, with sound and clear-cut proposals to make; men above all capable, in virtue of the authority that emanates from their untarnished consciences and radiates widely from them, to be leaders and heads especially in times when the pressing needs of the moment excite the people's impressionability unduly, and render it more liable to be led astray and get lost: men who in periods of transition, generally stormy and disturbed by passion, by divergent opinions and opposing programs, feel themselves doubly under the obligation to send circulating through the veins of the people and of the state, burning with a thousand fevers, the spiritual antidote of clear views, kindly interest, a justice equally sympathetic to all, and a bias towards national unity and concord in a sincere spirit of brotherhood.

Peoples whose spiritual and moral temperament is sufficiently sound and fecund find it themselves and can produce the heralds and implements of democracy who live in such dispositions and know how effectively to put them into practice.

But where such men are lacking, others come to take their places in order to make politics serve their ambition and be a quick road to profit for themselves, their caste and their class, while the race after private interests makes them lose sight of completely and jeopardize the true common good.

'State Absolutism'

A sound democracy, based on the immutable principles of the natural law and revealed truth, will resolutely turn its back on such corruption as gives to the state legislature an unchecked and unlimited power, and moreover, makes of the democratic regime, notwithstanding an outward show to the contrary, purely and simply a form of absolutism.

State absolutism (not to be confused, as such, with absolute monarchy, of which we are not treating here) consists in fact in the false principle that the authority of the state is unlimited and that in face of it—even when it gives free rein to its despotic aims going beyond the confines between good and evil—to appeal to a higher law obliging in conscience is not admitted.

A man penetrated with right ideas about the state and authority and the power that he wields as guardian of social order will never think of derogating the majesty of the positive law within the ambit of its natural competence. But this majesty of positive law is only inviolable when it conforms—or at least is not opposed—to the absolute order set up by the Creator and placed in a new light by the revelation of the Gospel.

It cannot subsist except insofar as it respects the foundations on which human personality rests no less than the state and the government. This is the fundamental criterion of every healthy form of government, including democracy. It is the criterion by which the moral value of every particular law should be judged.

III

'Nature and Conditions of an Effective Peace Settlement. Unity of Mankind and Society of Peoples'

We were anxious, beloved sons and daughters, to take the occasion of Christmastide to point out along what lines a democracy befitting human dignity can, in harmony with the law of nature and the designs of God as manifested in revelation, secure happy results. Indeed we are deeply convinced of the supreme importance of this problem for the peaceful progress of mankind.

But we also realize the exalted claims that this form of government makes on the moral maturity of the individual citizen; a moral maturity to which he could never hope to attain fully and securely if the light from the cave of Bethlehem did not illumine the dark path along which the peoples are going forward through the stormy present towards a future which they hope will be more serene.

But how far will the representatives and pioneers of democracy be inspired in their deliberations by the conviction that the absolute order of beings and purposes, of which we have repeatedly spoken, comprises also, as a moral necessity and the crowning of social development, the unity of mankind and of the family of peoples?

On the recognition of this principle hangs the future of the peace.

No world reform, no peace guaranty can abstract upon it without being weakened and without being untrue to itself.

If, on the other hand, this same moral necessity were to find its realization in a society of peoples which succeeded in eliminating the structural defects and shortcomings of former systems, then the majesty of that order would regulate and inspire equally the deliberations of that society and the use of its instruments of sanction.

For this reason, too, one understands why the authority of such a society must be real and effective over the member states, in suchwise, however, that each of them retain an equal right to its own sovereignty.

Only thus will the spirit of sane democracy be able to pervade the vast and thorny ground of foreign relations.

'Against Wars of Aggression as Solution of International Disputes'

There is a duty, besides, imposed on all, a duty which brooks no delay, no procrastination, no hesitation, no subterfuge: it is the duty to do everything to ban once and for all wars of aggression as legitimate solution of international disputes and as a means toward realizing national aspirations.

Many attempts in this direction have been seen in the past. They all failed. And they will all fail always, until the saner section of mankind has the firm determination, the holy obstinacy like an obligation in conscience, to fulfill the mission which past ages have not undertaken with sufficient gravity and resolution.

If ever a generation has had to appreciate in the depths of its conscience the call: "War on war," it is certainly the present generation.

Having passed, as it has, through an ocean of blood and tears in a form perhaps never experienced in past ages, it has lived through the indescribable atrocities with an intensity such that the recollection of so many horrors must remain stamped in its memory, and even in the deepest recesses of its soul, like a picture of a hell against which any one who cherishes a sense of humanity desires more than anything else to close the door forever.

Formation of a Common Means to Maintain Peace

The decisions already published by international commissions permit one to conclude that an essential point in any future international arrangement would be the formation of an organ for the maintenance of peace, of an organ invested by common consent with supreme power to whose office it would also pertain to smother in its germinal state any threat of isolated or collective aggression.

No one could hail this development with greater joy than he who has long upheld the principle that the idea of war as an apt and proportionate means of solving international conflicts is now out of date.

No one could wish success to this common effort, to be undertaken with a seriousness of purpose never before known, with greater enthusiasm than he who has conscientiously striven to make the Christian and religious mentality reject modern war with its monstrous means of conducting hostilities.

Monstrous Means of Conducting Hostilities!

Unquestionably the progress of man's inventions, which should have heralded the realization of greater well being for all mankind, has instead been employed to destroy all that had been built up through the ages.

But by that very fact the immorality of the war of aggression has been made ever more evident. And if now, to the recognition of this immorality there is to be added the threat of a judicial intervention by the nations and of chastisement inflicted on the aggressor by the society of states, so that war will always be subject to the stigma of proscription, always under surveillance and liable to preventive measures, then mankind, as it emerges from the dark night in which it has been so long submerged, will be able to hail the dawn of a new and better era of its history.

'Its Constitution Excluding Unjust Imposition'

But only on one condition: namely, that the peace settlement which should be strengthened and made more stable by mutual guaranties and, where necessary, economic sanctions and even armed intervention, should not give definite countenance to any injustice, does not imply any derogation of any right to the detriment of any nation (whether it be on the side of the victors, the vanquished, or the neutrals) and does not impose any perpetual burden, which can only be allowed for a time as reparation for war damage.

That any peoples, to whose government—or perhaps even partially to themselves—the responsibility for the war is attributed, should have for a time to undergo the rigors of security measures until the bonds of mutual trust, violently broken, should be gradually welded together again, is quite understandable from a human point of view, and in practice will in all probability be inevitable.

Nevertheless even these peoples must have a well founded hope—commensurate to their effective collaboration in the work of reconstruction—of being able, together with the other states with equal consideration and with the same rights, to be associated with the great community of nations.

To deny them that hope would be the reverse of far-seeing wisdom, it would be to assume the grave responsibility of barring the way to a general liberation from all the disastrous consequences, material, moral and political, of the gigantic cataclysm which has shaken the poor human family to its very foundations, but which, at the same time, has shown it the road to new goals.

'The Stern Lessons of Suffering'

We will not renounce our confidence that the peoples, who have all passed through the school of suffering, will be able to retain the stern lessons learned.

And in this hope we are strengthened by the words of men who have had a greater share in the sufferings of the war and who have found generous words to express, together with the insistence on their own need of security against any future aggression, their respect for the vital rights of other peoples and their aversion to any usurping of those rights.

It would be vain to expect that this sage judgment, dictated by the experience of history and a high political sense should be—while men's spirits are still burning white-hot—generally accepted by puplic opinion, or even by the majority.

Hatred and the impossibility of mutual understanding have given rise in peoples that have fought against each other, to a mist too dense to hope that the hour has already come when a ray of light may shine out to clear the tragic panorama on either side of its dark wall.

But one thing we know: that the moment will come, perhaps sooner than the people think, when both sides realize that, all things considered, there is only one way of getting out of the meshes in which war and hate have wrapped the world, namely a return to the solidarity, too long forgotten, a solidarity not restricted to these or those peoples, but universal, founded on the intimate connection of their destiny and rights which belong equally to both.

'The Punishment of Crimes'

No one certainly thinks of disarming justice in its relations to those who have exploited the war situation in order to commit real and proved crimes against the common law, and for whom supposed military necessity could at most have offered a pretext, but never a justification.

But if justice presumed to judge and punish not merely individuals but even whole communities together, who could not see in such a procedure a violation of the norms which guide every human trial?

IV

'The Church as Guardian of Man's True Dignity and Liberty'

At a time when the peoples find themselves with duties such as perhaps they have never met before in the course of their his-

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tory, they feel deeply in their tortured hearts the desire, impatient and almost instinctive, to take the reins of their destiny in their own hands with more independence than heretofore, hoping that thus they will find it easier to defend themselves from the periodic invasions of violence which, like a boiling lava torrent, spares nothing of all that they hold sacred and dear.

Thank God, one may believe the time has passed when the call to moral and Gospel principles to guide the life of states and peoples was disdainfully thrust aside as unreal.

The events of these war years have given ample evidence to confute, in a harder way than one could ever have imagined, those who spread such doctrines.

The disdain that they affected toward this supposed unreality has been changed into stark reality: brutality, iniquity, destruction, annihilation.

If the future is to belong to democracy, an essential part in its achievement will have to belong to the religion of Christ and to the Church, the messenger of our Redeemer's word which is to continue His mission of saving men. For she teaches and defends supermatural truths and communicates the supernatural helps of Grace in order to actuate the divinely established order of beings and ends which is the ultimate foundation and directive norm of every democracy.

By her very existence the Church rises before the world as a shining beacon to remind it constantly of that divine order. Her history reflects clearly her providential mission. The struggles, which coerced by the abuse of power, she has had to sustain in defense of the liberty given her by God, were at the same time struggles for man's true liberty.

The Church has the mission to announce to the world, which is looking for better and more perfect forms of democracy, the highest and most needed message that there can be: The dignity of man, the call to be sons of God. It is the powerful cry, which from the manger of Bethlehem to the furthest confines of the earth resounds in the ears of men at a time when that dignity is tragically low.

The holy story of Christmas proclaims this inviolable dignity of man with a vigor and authority that cannot be gainsaid—an authority and vigor that infinitely transcends that which all possible declarations of the rights of man could achieve.

Christmas, the great feast of the son of God who appeared in human flesh, the feast in which heaven stoops down to earth with ineffable grace and benevolence, is also the day on which Christianity and mankind, before the crib, contemplating the "goodness and kindness of God our Saviour" become more deeply conscious of the intimate unity that God has established between them.

The birth of the Saviour of the world, of the restorer of human dignity in all its fullness, is the moment characterized by the alliance of all men of good will. There to the poor world, torn by discord, divided by selfishness, poisoned by hate, love will be restored, and it will be allowed to march forward in cordial harmony, towards the common goal, to find at last the cure for its wounds in the peace of Christ.

V

'Crusade for Charity'

We do not want to close this Christmas message without addressing a word of heartfelt gratitude to all those—states, governments, bishops and peoples—who at this time of untold misfortunes have lent us valiant aid as we hearken to the cry of suffering which reaches us from so many parts of the world and give a helping hand to so many of our beloved sons and daughters whom the misfortunes of war have reduced to extreme poverty and misery.

And in the first place it is but just to record the immense work of assistance achieved in spite of the extraordinary difficulties of transport, by the United States of America, with regard to Italy in particular, by his excellency the personal representative of the President of the Union.

It is a pleasure for us to express equal praise and gratitude for the generosity of the head of the state, the government and people of Spain, and the governments of Ireland, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Italy, Lithuania, Peru, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Hungary, and Uruguay who have vied with one another in noble rivalry of brotherly love and charity, of which the echo will not resound in vain through the world.

While men of goodwill are endeavoring to bridge the gulf and bring the peoples together, this purely disinterested act of charity assumes an aspect and a value of unique importance.

When—as we all wish—the dissonance of hate and discord that dominates the present moment will be but a tragic memory, the good effects of this victory of active and magnanimous charity over the poison of selfishness and enmity will ripen into even a larger harvest of good.

May all who have had a share in this crusade of charity receive as an incentive and a token of gratitude our apostolic benediction and the thought that on the feast of love from numberless hearts in anguish, but not forgetful in their anguish, there rises to heaven the grateful prayer for them: Deign to reward, O Lord, all those who do good to us for your name's sake with eternal life!

Elas In Challenge To British Authority

Demands Establishment Of Greek Government "Of Common Confidence" To Administer Greek Affairs.

By Stephen Barber

ATHENS, Dec. 24 (AP) — Left-wing Elas forces today challenged the right of the British to "restore law and order" in Greece and demanded the establishment of a Greek government "of common confidence" as a prerequisite to laying down their arms.

Conditional Truce

The Elas reply to a British memorandum of Dec. 16 agreed to the cessation of hostilities and the disarmament of Elas supporters in the Athens area but only on condition that followers of other volunteer organizations be disarmed.

British commander Lt. Gen. Ronald Scobie and Harold McMillan, British resident general in the Middle East, were reported drafting a reply to the Elas demands. The British answer will have to receive the approval of Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Allied commander in chief in the Mediterranean.

However, with minor exceptions, Dec. 14 and the latest exchange the Elas reply generally stood pat on their first peace offers made does not appear to bring the civil war closer to a truce, let alone a cessation of hostilities.

In northwestern Greece bitter fighting continued between Elas forces and right-wing troops of Gen. Napoleon Zervas with the Rightists reported suffering heavy losses.

Fighting Continues

Although the British reported Elas forces had been cleared from half of Athens, fighting continued between the two factions in the port of Piraeus where a fresh detachment of Indian troops was landed yesterday under the guns of British warships. Elas forces were strongly entrenched in warehouses and dock facilities of the port and the British were battering at them with tank guns and mortar fire.

After four days of fighting Gen. Zervas' EDES in northern Greece were reported cut from 12,000 to between 4,000 and 6,000. The high proportion of losses for the EDES was believed due to desertions, although the Rightist chieftain in appealing to the British for help said he was suffering heavy casualties. So far the EDES have received no aid from the British.

Forced to Retreat

The forces of Gen. Zervas have been forced to retreat from their stronghold at Ioannina and are attempting to hold a north-south line astride the Ioannina-Arta road from Anovion to Derviziana.

(The London radio in a broadcast heard by CBS said Gen. Zervas may be forced to withdraw to the island of Korfu which is held by his forces and British troops.)

The Elas specified that Greek regular troops in Athens must be withdrawn to an "acceptable area" either in the Cyclades Islands or Syros as one condition for a cession of hostilities. Gen. Scobie has undertaken to confine the Greek regulars to barracks outside of Athens where they were stationed before the fighting started.

Other demands of the Elas included a purge of "all elements which collaborated with the enemy" from the government; the formation of a new regular Greek army, the immediate calling of a general election to permit the "people to decide on the government of their choice."

"All this," the Elas statement said, "must be the task of the Greek government."

Japs Rip Up Rail Lines In Retreat

MYITKYINA, North Burma, Dec. 23. (Delayed)—(AP)—Japanese forces retreating toward the south before British 14th Army troops have ripped up two miles of rails on the main Burma railway line at a point roughly 75 miles northwest of Mandalay.

An American 10th Air Force reconnaissance pilot who scouted enemy territory south of the rapidly advancing British and Indian columns reported that Japanese units had removed the tracks 20 miles north of Shwebo. Many railway bridges in the same area also were destroyed by the enemy, the pilot said.

A southeast Asia Command Headquarters communique from Kandy, Ceylon, announced that the British advance in the Kalewa bridge areas along the Chindwin river valley was continuing along the axis of the Yeu Road against slight Japanese resistance.

British 36th Division troops operating in this jungle zone occupied the town of Tigyaing, 42 miles down the Irrawaddy river from Katha and some 125 miles from Mandalay, Saturday's communique reported.

On the 15th Indian Corps front in the Arakan hills British troops have occupied Donbaik on the West Burma coast eight miles northwest of Foul Point, and enemy units have abandoned a village eight miles south-southeast of Buthedaung, Sunday's communique said said.

Heavy bombers of the Eastern Air Command were out in strength carying out their second attack in three days on military dumps at Taungup, important Japanese supply base 125 miles southeast of Akyab. A second heavy bomber formation blasted railroad yards at Moulmein across the Gulf of Martaban from Rangoon.

Strong forces of Allied aircraft raided camps, stores, roads, bridges and gun positions in the Arakan yesterday and set fire to more than 150 riverboats along the Irrawaddy

Hochih Garrison Repulsed

CHUNGKING, Dec. 24 (AP).—After receiving reinforcements, the Japanese garrison in the Kwangsi Province town of Hochih, on the railroad ninety-five miles west of Liuchow, launched a counter-attack against Chinese positions but was repulsed.

Grace Park Airfield On Luzon Bombed

DAVIS

Yanks Move Ahead Rapidly On Palompon.

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Monday, Dec. 25 (AP) —Liberator bombers smashed at Manila's Grace Park airfield on Luzon, while the American 77th Division moved rapidly in on Palompon, last Japanese strongpoint on Leyte island, a headquarters communique reported today.

And in strange contrast to the bloody battle, transport planes on a peaceful mission dropped Christmas greetings on liberated Filipinos, who waved in holiday spirit to the American airmen.

Explosive Holiday

American airmen gave an explosive holiday greeting to the enemy on northern Halmahera, in the Moluccas, where 280 tons of bombs were dropped on airdromes, supply and communications facilities and defense positions.

Fuel dumps, gun emplacements, warehouses and motor vehicles were destroyed, and the resulting fires sent clouds of smoke 3,000 feet upward, returning airmen reported. One American plane was lost in the operation.

It was the second successive daylight strike by heavy bombers on Manila, and the enemy offered no interception. Sunday's communique reported that the bombers had hit Clark Field, big Manila airdrome, leaving it in partial ruins. On Saturday night Navy Hellcat fighters blasted Bulan airdrome below Manila in a daring single attack.

Leyte's ground fighting appeared fast reaching a conclusion, as Japanese resistance steadily weakened in the face of aggressive attacks by the 77th Division.

More than 13,000 enemy dead have been counted on Leyte in the last eight days, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said. Much material has been captured, including hundreds of trucks, quantities of tanks and heavy artillery weapons.

Although the war's tempo didn't slow for Christmas eve, Filipino youngsters gathered in front of Gen. MacArthur's headquarters and sang carols. MacArthur in a statement wished the Filipinos "all the blessings of Christmas and realization of their fervent hopes for the new year."

American air units sank or damaged 13 more cargo vessels off Mindanao Saturday, the communique said.

In their strike at the Manila drome, the Liberators destroyed an estimated 25 enemy planes. Fighters strafed two Luzon fields without opposition.

100 Planes Damaged

In the earlier blow at Clark Field, Gen. MacArthur said that most of 100 grounded aircraft were wrecked or damaged. Huge fires were kindled among the installations.

The Japanese made another stab at American ground positions on Mindoro, but MacArthur described it as ineffective. Seven of the attackers were shot down.

In the Visayas escorted medium bombers struck at Fabrica airdrome, destroying a fuel dump and three parked planes and damaging others. Carlina airfield and Puerto Princesa on Palawan were harassed by patrol planes.

Heavy and medium bombers blasted airdrome installations on Mindanao, and attacked shipping in Zamboanga Bay and Davao. Cagayan airfield was bombed by Yank fighters.

Oil Fields Attacked

Oil feilds near Balikpapan on Borneo were attacked by patrol planes and the airdrome at Sandakan strafed.

In the lesser Sundas, air patrols bombed airdromes and enemy occupied villages on Timor, and strafed a freighter in the Banda Sea.

American operations extended to New Guinea, where heavy, medium and attack planes dropped more than 30 tons on anti-aircraft defenses, supply areas and small craft in the Wewak region. Results were described as good.

Thirty-five tons of explosives were dropped on enemy personal areas airdromes and waterfront installations in the Rabaul area in the Solomons. A Keravat runway was cratered, fires started and buildings destroyed, the communique noted.

On New Ireland, fuel dumps and bivouac areas were bombed, and anti-aricraft and communications facilities in northern Bougainville were attacked.

U.S. Air Raid Leaves Clark Field In Ruins

Wrath Of Air Arm Is Turned Loose On Luzon.

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Monday, Dec. 25, —(AP)—Clark Field, the big airdrome near Manila, lay in partial ruins today, giving potent notice to the Japanese that the U. S. Army Air Force has turned its wrath on Luzon, the main island of the Philippines.

Liberator bombers hit the field, principal Nipponese air center in the Philippines, Friday in the first daylight raid there by American heavies. The blow, reported by Gen. Douglas MacArthur yesterday, left most of 100 aircraft on the field wrecked or damaged and kindled huge fires among installations.

Only Nine Jap Planes

The attack, made from Leyte Island surprised the Japanese who sent up only nine planes to intercept the raiders. Eight of Nipponese planes were shot down by the Liberators' fighter cover.

(The Liberators' fighter-plane protectors may have joined the aerial expedition from a field on recently-invaded Mindoro Island northwest of Leyte. This field is only 150 miles or less south of Manila, about half an hour's flight from the Philippine capital city.)

It was Clark Field that felt the first devastating blow s of the Japanese air force when the Philippines, like Pearl Harbor, were attacked without warning Dec. 8, (Manila Time), 1941.

Once Enemy Bombs

The enemy bombs knocked out American war planes which would have been welcome support to Yank and Filipino troops on Bataan and Corregidor.

The Friday attack teamed the army's mighty air arm with the navy's in the aerial campaign against Japanese airfields on Luzon. Vice Adm. John S. McCain's carrier task force fliers, using new day-and-night smother tactics, hit the Luzon installations through Dec. 13-15 in support of MacArthur's invasion of Mindoro Dec. 15.

In the three days the navy fliers shot down 61 enemy planes, destroyed 208 on the ground and damaged 192—a total of 461.

Admiral Nimitz' Message

GUAM, Dec. 24. (AP)—Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific fleet, today sent the following mesage to navy men at this forward base:

"First of all I wish to send you Christmas greetings. I have the utmost admiration for the exertions and successes of our forces ashore and afloat everywhere in the Pacific. They have met every expectation. I have only admiration for their courage and resourcefulness."

The message was printed in base and ship papers and broadcast by radio.

Nimitz Warns Of 'Bitter' War Ahead in East

Says U. S. Must Get Fields Near Japan to Combat Foe's Land-Based Planes

GUAM, Dec. 24 (AP).—Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific Ocean areas, said today that "until we have bases close to the Japanese homeland, the tough part of the war will still be ahead of us."

The new five-star admiral, making a surprise Christmas visit t his forces in this forward area talked to correspondents in th quarters of Major General Henr L. Larsen, of Denver, Colo.

With him were Rear Admiral Forrest Sherman, deputy chief of staff, and Vice-Admiral John Hoover, forward area commander.

Speaking quietly and confidently, Admiral Nimitz added:

"I don't wish to give the impression the Japanese Navy has been completely defeated. It has not, but it has not been able to stop our advance.

"We hope and expect that our advance will continue.

"As the war progresses, the supply problem grows and the need for shipping increases.

"This all combines to make it a very major effort—to defeat the Japs."

Admiral Nimitz declined to make a prediction regarding the immediate future.

Japan's means of defending itself, he said, have not been reduced. "We may expect," he continued, "the bitterest kind of opposition from the air as we advance to the homeland and come within range of shore-based aircraft.

"They still have the capacity to deal damage with surface units but we hope to be on hand always with superior naval forces to meet that kind of a threat."

The Japanese navy hasn't attempted counterattacks since its defeat in the Second Battle of the Philippine Sea, Nimitz said, because it has been kept too busy by American forces in areas west of here.

Says Japs Whittled Down

"Vice Admiral Charles Lockwood with his submarines," the admiral added, "has effected attrition of their shipping. Admirals Halsey and Spruance in turn, with the main surface forces of carriers and land-based planes, have taken a tremendous toll of naval air strength and some of the army air strength they encountered in Ryukyu, Shoto, Formosa and the Philippines.

"They have whittled them down so that any (Japanese) expeditionary force toward the Marianas could only be carried out by utilizing nearly all of their resources."

Discussing the European war, Nimitz said the longer it lasts the longer it will be before the forces there can be released to fight in the Pacific.

GUAM, Dec. 24 (AP)—Vice Admiral John Hoover of Great Falls, Mont., and Washington, was presented with a Gold Star in lieu of a second Distinguished Service Medal by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander of the Pacific fleet, here today.

The citation said the award was in recognition of Admiral Hoover's service from Nov. 13, 1943, to Aug. 27, 1944, as commander, Aircraft, Central Pacific Force, during operations to capture the Gilbert and Marshall Islands and as commander, forward area, Central Pacific, during operations to capture the Marianas.

Japs Propose Aid for Korea And Formosa

By the Associated Press

Japan's government, possibly disturbed by unrest in Korea and Formosa, now plans to "improve the political treatment" of those subject areas.

Domei agency, in dispatches reported by the Federal Communications Commission, said Premier Gen. Kuniaki Koiso and his cabinet, "recognizing the necessity for an investigation of a new policy," had created a government committee to devise "reform" measures.

The aim, it was announced, would be to "elevate their status" in order to make the Koreans and Formosans "conscious of the fact that they, too, are citizens" of the Japanese empire.

Koiso himself will head the committee, assisted by Home Minister Shigeo Odachi and Minister of tate Without Portfolio Count Hideo Kadama. Members will be chosen from various ministries, both houses of the Imperial Diet and "scholars and other prominent men."

Domei said the cabinet Friday adopted measures intended to improve the lot of two million Koreans and 28,000 Formosans living in the Japanese home islands.

These measures included removal of travel restrictions between Japan and Korea, improvement of working and welfare conditions and opportunities for higher education.

Iwo Jima Hit By Superforts' Latest Strike

"Heavy Explosions" Set Off—All Return Safely.

DEC 26 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24, (AP)—A force of perhaps a half-hundred Superfortresses set off 'heavy explosions in military installations" in the latest strike at Iwo Jima, enemy island midway between Japan and Saipan, the 20th airforce announced today.

All Return

All of the B-29s returned to their base in the Marianas after encountering only light and inaccurate anti-aircraft fire and no fighter plane opposition, a communique said. This latter reference suggested that more than two weeks of air attacks on the island is reducing its defenses to the point where no serious opposition can be turned on Army and Navy planes visiting Iwo Jima.

This latest attack carried well into the third week a continuing bombardment of the vitally strategic position by Army and Navy bombers and surface ships.

Army B24 Liberators and Navy planes have pounded steadily on the enemy island since early in the month.

The apparent objective is to neutralize the Japanese base in the Volcano Islands from which bombing attacks on B-29 fields have been launched.

Initial Announcement

The initial announcement of the latest attack said:

"B-29s of Brig Gen. H. S. Hansell's 21st bomber command based on Saipan in the Marianas on December 24 (Japanese time) bombed military installations on the Japanese-held island of Iwo Jima, 750 miles to the northwest of Saipan, Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the 20th Air Force, announced at the War Department.

"Future details will be announced when the information becomes available.

"This is the second attack by B-29s, the first having occurred on December 8."

Pacific Fleet Headquarters reported yesterday that Army Liberators hit Iwo Jima on December 20 and 21 (west longitude—U. S. date) for the 14th and 15th consecutive days of raids.

The December strike against the island was of concentrated character, with B-29s, Liberators, Navy planes and surface ships throwing explosives onto the island at various times during the day.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet commander, also has reported that 11th Airforce Liberators based in the Aleutians had bombed Onekotan Island in the Kuriles on Dec. 21.

The Japanese radio also had reported a single Superfortress had bombed Tokyo, with reconnaissance flights by two others over Osaka and Kobe.

The broadcast also mentioned a single Superfortress flying over Hongkong and an American Mustang raid on Canton.

Saipan's B-29s May Bring Out Japanese Fleet

By the United Press

The Japanese fleet may be forced from hiding again—this time to deal with the mounting threat of Saipan-based Superfortress raids on Hirohito's war industries, naval experts said tonight.

The Japanese have made comparatively feeble attempts to knock out the B-29 bases on Saipan. The raids have been ineffective because long-range, land-based bombers were used and the Japs apparently are not equipped to send them over in force.

The experts see three possible countermoves available to the enemy, any or all of them involving the imperial fleet:

1. To neutralize the Saipan bases by carrier aircraft attacks.

2. Bombard the bases from surface warships.

3. Attempt a landing to retake Saipan.

Any of these steps would prove extremely hazardous but the situation is growing so desperate the Japanese may have to take a big gamble.

FDR In Prayer For Victory, Lasting Peace

Says Evil Works Of Enemy Doomed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP)—President Roosevelt prayed that victory will bring lasting peace for the world as thousands grouped today around the national community Christmas tree on the White House lawn.

The President's Christmas message was broadcast to the armed forces over the world in connection with the annual ceremony of lighting the tree.

"Cannot Say When"

"We cannot say when our victory will come," he said. "Our enemies still fight fanatically. They still have reserves of men and military power. But, they themselves know that they and their evil works are doomed. We may hasten the day of that doom if we here at home continue to do our full share.

"We pray that that day may come soon. We pray that until then, God will protect our gallant men and women in the uniforms of the Unted Nations—that He will receive into His infinite grace those who make their supreme sacrifice in the cause of righteousness and love of Him and His teachings.

"We pray tht with victory will come a new day of peace on earth in which all the nations of the earth will join for all time."

A crowd estimated by White House attendants at 2,500 gathered around the 30-foot Norwegian spruce tree on the south lawn and other thousands lined the iron fence outside the grounds.

An hour of music by the United States Marine Band and Christmas carols by a mixed Navy chorus preceded the President's address.

The text of his address as released by the White House:

"Not Easy to Say"

"It is not easy to say 'Merry Christmas' to you, my fellow Americans, in this time of destructive war. Nor can one lightly say 'Merry Christmas' tonight to our armed forces at their battle stations all over the world—or to our Allies who fight by their side.

"Here, at home, we will celebrate this Christmas Day in our traditional American way—because we want our youngest generation to grow up knowing the significanse of this tradition and the story of the coming of the immortal Prince of Peace and Good-will. But, in perhaps every home in the United States, sad and anxious thoughts will be continually with the mililons of our loved ones who are suffering hardships and misery, and who are risking their very lives to preserve for us and for all mankind, the fruits of his teachings and the foundations of civilization itself.

Christmas Spirit Lives

"The Christmas spirit lives to-

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night in the bitter cold of the front lines in Europe and in the heat of the jungles and swamps of Burma and the Pacific islands. Even the roar of our bombers and fighters in the air and the guns of our ships at sea will not drown out the messages of Christmas which come to the hearts of our fighting men. The thoughts of these men tonight will turn to us here at home around our Christmas trees, surrounded by our children and grandchildren and their Christmas stockings and gifts—just as our own thoughts go out to them, tonight and every night, in their distant places.

"We all know how anxious they are to be home with us, and they know how anxious we are to have them—and how determined every one of us is to make their day of home-coming as early as possible. And—above all—they know the determination of all right thinking people and nations, that Christmases such as those that we have known in these years of world tragedy shall not come again to beset the souls of the children of God.

"Deep Darkness"

"This generation has passed through many recent years of deep darkness, watching the spread of the poison of Hitlerism and Fascism in Europe—the growth of imperialism and militarism in Japan—the final clash of war all over the world. Then came the dark days of the fall of France, and the ruthless bombing of England, and the desperate battle of the Atlantic, and of Pearl Harbor and Corregidor and Singapore.

"Since then the prayers of good men and women and children the world over have been answered. The tide of battle has turned, slowly but inexorably, against those who sought to destroy civilization.

"On this Christmas day, we cannot yet say when our victory will come. Our enemies still fight fanatically. They still have reserves of men and military power. But, they themselves know that they and their evil works are doomed. We may hasten the day of that doom if we here at home continue to do our full share.

"We pray that that day may come soon. We pray that until then, God will protect our gallant men and women in the uniforms of the United Nations—that he will receive into His infinite grace those who make their supreme sacrifice in the cause of righteousness and love of Him and His teachings.

"We pray that with victory will come a new day of peace on earth in which all the nations of the earth will join together for all time. That is the spirit of Christmas, the holy day. May that spirit live and grow throughout the world in all the years to come.

Belt-tightening On Home Front Seen Indicated

Review Of World Supply Situation Is Made.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24—(AP)—Further home front belt-tightening, and even possible revisions of military schemes, are the indicated results of an American-British review of the world supply situation.

British Minister of State Richard K. Law has been in Washington a week talking with War Secretary Stimson, Secretary of State Stettinius, President Roosevelt and Harry Hopkins.

The need for relief supplies in liberated Europe is so great, Law told them, that the whole picture of shipping and basic civilian supplies throughout the world must be reshaped.

Shipping Bottleneck

The main bottleneck is shipping, which has been diverted to an increasing extent to the Pacific. The present Philippines campaign will require even more. One official said the shortage is such that Allied military forces could not enter any new theater until shipping loosens up.

Some ships undoubtedly will be taken back from the South Atlantic and South American trade to which they were released after the submarine menace was licked and the early-war shipping scarcity had eased.

This might mean cutting down on U. S. imports, not directly needed for the war effort, such as soffee and sugar. Other non-essential goods, such as liquors, wines and cheeses which have been coming to this country in considerable quantity from Latin America, may be scaled down.

Food, Fuel Essential

While up to now, the army has considered relief supplies secondary to fighting material, many officials are urging that food and fuel are equally essential to keep order in areas behind the front.

Difficulties in reorganizing transportation in the liberated countries and obtaining equipment to get their own industries going have changed estimates of what is needed.

In many cases, the Germans have done a more complete job of destruction and looting than was anticipated.

So many details of entire Allied supply and shipping allocations have to be investigated that conversations probably will continue for some time.

Outcome of the present battle on the western front — which may prolong or shorten the war by months — is likely to be an important factor in the talks, although they necessarily are based on the assumption that the fighting will continue in Europe beyond the spring.

U.S. Sixth Loan Tops Quota by $6,360,000,000

Total, Still Climbing, Will Be Greatest of All Drives; E Bonds Oversubscribed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP).—Henry Morgenthau jr., Secretary of the Treasury, said today the Sixth War Loan drive, which aimed at $14,000,000,000, has hit $20,360,000,000 and the figure is still going up.

His disclosure made it certain that the nation's first Christmas-season war loan will be the biggest in its history.

The total already is only $291,000,000 short of the record of $20,651,000,000 piled up in the Fifth War Loan last June and July.

The impending new record is made more impressive by the fact that the quota this time was set two billion dollars lower than the $1,000,000,000 goal of last summer.

Secretary Morgenthou also told reporters:

1. That the $5,000,000,000 quota for individual bond-buyers has been achieved, with Federal Reserve Banks reporting $5,010,000,000 of individuals' money already on deposit.

2. That on the basis of preliminary figures he was "happy to announce" that the important series E bond quota of $2,500,000,000 will be oversubscribed.

One week remains in the big job of tabulating Sixth War Loan sales. All bonds sales tabulated during November and December count in the Loan though the formal selling campaign was Nov. 20 to Dec. 16. The final figures will be announced Jan. 2.

Secretary Morgenthau commented that despite the unprecedented sales of Christmas merchandise, late reports showed that a very large number of persons had bought war bonds as Christmas gifts.

Morgenthau said that "never before in the history of our war loan program have the people responded so enthusiastically to the nation's appeal."

The secretary, who begins his twelfth year as head of the Treasury in January, made his disclosures informally to the three reporters who had covered the bond drive for the major wire services.

In an unusual gesture, he called these reporters in to express appreciation for the thorough way in which the wire services handled news of the drive.

Congress Takes Pride In Average

Highest Proportion Passed In Modern Times Of Bills Submitted To Lawmakers.

By William F. Arbogast

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP)—The 78th Congress points with pride to the best legislative batting average in recent years.

While it set a new low in modern congressional history for the actual number of pieces of legislation considered, its proportion of bills enacted into law was unusually high.

One Out of Eight

William J. McDermott, bill clerk of the House, figured today that about one out of every eight bills introduced became a law during the two years of the 78th Congress.

The 77th enacted about one out of every nine.

There were 6,635 bills of all kinds introduced in the House and approximately 2,217 in the Senate in the 78th, and 989 of them now are law. About one-half of the laws are in the "private" classification, dealing generally with claims of individuals against the government.

The 77th Congress enacted 1,485 public and private laws from the approximately 12,000 pieces of legislation it considered.

Record Low

The 9,000 bills considered by the 78th was a modern record low, the average of the last 25 Congresses being well above 15,000, with more than 35,000 in the 61st.

The record for laws and resolutions enacted is held by the 59th, which put 6,940 of its approximately 30,000 bills on the statute books.

The low in legislative enactment was the 508 laws approved by the 65th, which considered 16,239 House bills alone.

Although both the 77th and 78th Congresses considered and enacted relatively few measures, they were in session longer than their predecessors. The 77th spent almost two full years in Washington, technically being in session 715 calendar days. The 78th was in session from Jan. 6 until Dec. 21, 1943, and from Jan. 10 until Dec. 19, 1944.

ghters and medium bombers based France, Holland and Belgium took a terrific toll.

The 19th Tactical Air Force destroyed more than 350 Nazi motor vehicles. British Tempests and Spitfires knocked diwn two enemy fighters and destroyed five German tanks near St. Vith.

The tremendous Allied aerial effort apparently continued unabated at night, with Britain-based planes of the RAF carrying on the burden of smashing the German offensive which for a week has moved relentlessly forward, shrouded in mist and fog.

Today's all-out aerial smash at the Germans followed a 4,500 plane assault yesterday during which 178 Nazi planes were shot out of the skies.

Headquarters of the U. S. strategic airforces in Europe announced that "the greatest force of heavy bombers ever flown on a single mission by any air force" attacked communications and supply centers just opposite the bulge driven into the American lines by the Germans.

At the same time formations of the long-range heavy bombers loaded with probably more than 8,000 tons of high explosives and fragmentation bombs, landed a surprise blow at the heart of the rejuvenated Luftwaffe, which was disclosed, is centered around Frankfurt, about 150 miles east of the Belgian battlefields.

Bombs Straddle Runways, Hangars

Bombs from Flying Fortresses straddled runways and hangars of 11 airfields grouped around the city and caught 50 German fighters parked on one.

All the time American fighters kept roaring through the cloudless skies hunting down German fighters wherever they could be found.

The 357th Mustang group, led by Lt. Col. Irwin Dregne of Viraqua, Wis., ran into a group of 50 Focke-Wulfs 25 miles east of Coblenz and shot down 21 of them.

One pilot, Lt. John Kirla, 29 Travers avenue, Port Chester, N. Y., got four.

Col. George T. Crowell of Chicago, Ill., led his 55th Mustang group into a dogfight over Frankfurt and the Americans got 11 of another group of 50 Jerries.

Get Eight Germans

A Thunderbolt formation led by Lt. Col. William B. Bailey of Rochester, N. Y., got eight German planes in the vicinity of Giessen, 30 miles north of Frankfurt.

The massive sky fleet began forming over Britain before noon and when finally it began heading for the continent it took two hours to cross the coast.

For 400 miles they thundred in one huge parade. As they neared the front lines the bombers broke into smaller formations, and headed toward their respective targets.

The mighty blow, a staff officer said, was intended to cripple the Luftwaffe at least temporarily so that the Allied ground forces could wrest the initiative from the Germans.

U. S. Strategic Air Force Headquarters said photographs during yesterday's attack showed severe damage had been inflicted on enemy railyards and rolling stock.

12:01 a. m. Tuesday

The changes—beginning at 12:01 a. m., Tuesday — include a rise in the red point value of butter from 20 to 24 points a pound; cancellation of all red and blue stamps which became good before the first of December, and cancellation of all sugar stamps and home canning certificates except No. 34.

About 85 per cent of all meats will be placed under rationing beginning Dec. 31.

The canned vegetables which will require points are peas, corn, green and wax beans, asparagus and spinach, in addition to tomatoes which already are on the ration list.

"Civilian supplies of sugar, butter and commercially canned fruits and vegetables are at the lowest point since the war began and meat supplies are declining," Bowles said.

To Prevent Run on Stocks

It originally was planned to announce the changes on Wednesday, Dec. 27. OPA said the effective time of the action was advanced 24 hours "to protect existing supplies on store shelves from buying runs."

OPA asserted its action did not means a civilian food crisis and emphasized "there is ample food for all." The step is to insure everyone a fair share of scarce items, it said.

A cut in use of sugar by restaurants, hotels, boarding houses and institutions, effective January 1, was announced. The reduction will be 10 per cent for users who do their own baking and 15 per cent for those who do not. A reduced allowance for industrial users was announced earlier.

Reductions In Meat - Sugar

The sugar allowance will be reduced by stretching the five-pound per person quota from ten weeks to three months. The blue point quota of 50 per person will continue through January.

Greatly Expanded Food Rationing Set

Effective Tuesday—Will Again Include Temporarily Non-rationed Meats, Canned Vegetables—Many Stamps Cancelled.

By Marvin L. Arrowsmith

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP)—A greatly expanded food rationing program, again including canned vegetables, will become effective Tuesday.

Price Administrator Bowles announced this tonight, saying the tighter controls are necessary to assure fairer distribution of "small supplies."

Meat stamps worth a total of 50 points per person will be validated in January, compared with 30 in December. It was done, the OPA said, because about 85 per cent of the civilian meat supply will be rationed compared to about 37 per cent now.

Five new red stamps and five blues will be validated Sunday, December 31. No new sugar stamp will be validated until February 1.

The five red stamps to be validated will be T5 through X5. The new blue stamps will be C2 through G2. Values in both cases will remain at 10 points each.

Broadened meat rationing is necessary, the OPA explained, because "it is estimated that consumers at present high income levels would buy 160 to 170 pounds of meat per person, if available, during 1945, compared to the 126 pounds per person they consumed on the average in the 1935-39 period.

127 lbs. Per Person

"However, the prospect now is that only about 127 pounds per person will be available in 1945."

Butter supplies for civilians recently have been at the lowest point during the war, it was stated.

Supplies of sugar were not large enough to permit spending both 1945 stamps and those carried over from 1944, it was explained, but each consumer will get "his fair share" in 1945.

The statement said butter has been unavailable at times in many sections; sugar stocks in many places are low, and people in many sections "know how hard it has been recently to find bacon and other meats."

The prospect is for about 15 per cent less meat of all kinds for civilians in the first three months of 1945, compared to the last quarter of 1944, the OPA said.

Less Butter

Butter available for civilians the full year 1945 is expected to be smaller than in 1944.

The outlook is for a tight civilian sugar supply in 1945—"at present it is estimated that there will be no more than 5,400,000 tons available for civilians, compared with about 6,100,000 tons consumed in 1944, about 5,700,000 tons in 1943, and a prewar pack of 7,350,00 tons in 1941,' the announcement said.

"For home canning this year the sugar rationing program must be severely tightened. Ration coupons for no more than 700,000 tons can be issued for home canning in the 1945 season, compared with ration stamps and coupons issued for 1,150,000 tons in 1944.

"Pay-As-You-Go"

"Food rationing, in effect, must be placed on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis. During the next few months, and perhaps throughout 1945, ration stamps will be made good only on the basis of the supplies that can be made available to civilians without upsetting the fairest distribution obtainable."

"Shortages in some items, such as butter, may continue. The choice and variety of meats and canned fruits and vegetables may continue to be spotty in some cities. . ."

Point values are being restored to grade D beef, butter cuts and grades of veal, bacon, pork shoulders, spareribs, beef and veal liver, some sausage and meats in glass or tin.

Point values for pork hams and loin cuts now rationed will be increased one or two points. Beef steaks and roasts now rationed will be cut two to three points.

Canned Milk Up

The canned milk point value is being increased slightly. Grapefruit and orange juices will continue point-free. Present values for most canned fruits and juices now rationed are reduced 10 points a can, while tomato catsup and chili sauce goes down from 50 to 30 points.

Values established for vegetables: asparagus, No. 2 can, 10 blue points; green or wax beans, No. 2, 10; vacuum-packed whole kernel corn, 12-ounce can, 20; all corn except vacuum packed, excluding corn on cob, No. 2 can, 20; peas, No. 2, 20; spinach, No. 2, 10.

The impending drastic tightening of rationing coincides with a series of home front moves Saturday, all designed to increase support of the war effort.

Byrnes Directives

Stemming from directives by James F. Byrnes, chief of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, these included:

A War Production Board announcement it will withhold priorities and other operation essentials from firms violating War Manpower Commission hiring restrictions.

A move to tighten employment ceilings on less-essential firms to force release of additional workers to war jobs.

An order banning all horse and dog racing effective Jan. 3.

A directive to Selective Service to review the cases of professional athletes rejected for military service or discharged for physical reasons.

Although OPA has been urging return of point-free foods to rationing for some time, disclosure that supplies of canned vegetables are at such a low level came as a surprise.

When, on the advice of the War Food Administration, all vegetables except tomatoes were taken off the list last September, the announcement said very good supplies made the move possible.

Despite Protests

The September action was taken despite protests by OPA, which several times subsequently sought to have point values re-established. That agency contended that while plenty of vegetables were available for current needs, the stock was selling too fast and would be exhausted before the start of the new pack year next summer.

Party Leaders Reject Dewey LegislativePlan

Congressmen Defer Joint Statement on Principles, to Offer Individual Bills

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP).—Republican Congressional leaders, rejecting a proposal that they join with Governor Thomas E. Dewey, of New York, in a statement of party principles, will go their own legislative way.

That way, it developed today, will preclude the announcement of any general legislative program for the new Congress and leave up to selected individuals the sponsorship of major measures. Then, if all turns out well, the leaders may get together near the close of the next session, sum up what the Republicans have done, and announced what they intend to do in the future.

Governor Dewey's proposal that Senate and House chieftains join with him in signing now a statement of the party's aims was reported to have been rejected speedily by a group which met in New York.

One of those who attended said the principles outlined appeared to have been taken primarily from the Governor's campaign speeches. They were said to have included a general indorsement of the accomplishment of the Dumbarton Oaks international security conference.

One of the chief objections to issuing the statement at this time was that the Congressional leaders were not in agreement on the details of what ought to be said. It might take them a week to sit down and write a document to which all could subscribe, it was argued.

There was some thought among the legislators, also, that the principles Governor Dewey had outlined indorsed too many Administration policies. Republicans were divided during the campaign about Mr. Dewey's advocacy of what some of them described as New Deal innovations in government.

The Governor reportedly did not press the issue in the conference, laying aside his own proposal and expressing himself as willing to aid the members of Congress in carrying out their ideas.

While no assignments yet have been made, the Republican steering committee in the Senate expects to ask certain Senators to sponsor measures the group thinks ought to be offered from the minority ranks. Chairman Robert A. Taft, Republican, of Ohio, said decisions will be delayed until after the new Congress gets under way.

But Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg, of Michigan, the minority conference chairman, already has a personal program outlined. He intends to plug for a Congressional overhauling of Social Security benefits and taxes. He wants stock issues up to $300,000 exempt from Securities and Exchange Commission scrutiny to free little business from red tape. He will offer again his bill which would prevent interference with non-profit broadcasts of music by scholastic groups.

Big-Scale Shift To Peace Jobs DeniedbyC.I.O.

Report on Survey of 28 War Industries Asserts ReportedExodus Is Myth

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP).—The Congress of Industrial Organizations expressed belief today the problem of workers leaving war plants for peace-time jobs "has been greatly overstressed."

A study of the situation, published in the current issue of the C. I. O. "Economic Outlook," characterized the "exodus" of war workers to jobs with better long range outlook as "fictional."

The sturdy labeled the "exodus" as a "creation of the press and certain Army officials."

"The C. I. O. Department of Research and Education, which publishes 'The Outlook,' made a study of the 'quit rate' to expose the fictional character of 'the exodus,'" the C. I. O. said in a statement. The study covered the five months period, May to October, this year in comparison with the like period in 1943.

Twenty-eight war industries were chosen for the survey. Of 328 available reports on quitting rates in those industries, 201 disclosed a decrease in job-leavers in 1944, with no change in thirteen. In only twenty-five cases was the quit rate "appreciably higher" in 1944 than in 1943, the C. I. O. said.

"We do not question the fact that in some instances workers are leaving their war jobs for jobs with peace-time security," "The Outlook" said. "We do believe the seriousness of this problem has been greatly overstressed."

Asserting that it can sympathize with the government in its desire to prevent an exodus from actually taking place, "The Outlook" said that labor repeatedly has suggested methods for prevention.

The most obvious and desirable way, it said, is to assure workers adequate compensation during the period of post-war unemployment and "above all to guarantee that there will be plenty of peace-time jobs to go around."

"Higher wages and improvement of working conditions would also help," "The Outlook" said. "Crying 'Wolf' will not."

War Waif Adopted By Mrs. Roosevelt

NEW YORK, Dec. 24—(AP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has "adopted" her third child war victim — Gabrielle Dore, a French girl in France —Foster Parents' Plan for War Children announced today.

Mrs. Edna Blue, plen executive chairman, said the child was one of 25 found by a plan representative being cared for by an Abbe Noe in a deserted Normandy house. The children, many of them ill, were living on black bread and coffee and had only one blanket for all of them, she said.

The abbe has described Gabrielle, whose age is not known, as one of a family of siv. Her mother is ill. Her father was killed by a mine.

Mrs. Roosevelt's other "adopted" children were Paulette Le Mescam, a French girl, and Rosemary Howard, 6, daughter of a British seaman.

Foster Parents' Plan operates 45 children's hostels in England, France and Malta, each foster parent paying $15 a month for the care of a child.

Bombsight's Overcoat

BRIDGEPORT, Dec. 24 (AP)—Officials of the New Haven area of the Air Technical Service Command and the General Electric Co., last night jointly revealed that whenever the famed Norden bombsight, long a carefully guarded military secret, goes into action on a bombing mission it always wears an electrically heated protective cover which protects its intricate and delicate parts from the biting cold encountered in high altitudes.

Colleges Place Post-War Hopes On Ex-Soldiers

Expect 650,000 Veterans to Enroll Under Plan for Federal Scholarships

CINCINNATI Dec. 24 (AP).—An estimated post-war flow of 650,000 veterans to college campuses for Federally financed studies "represents the chief hope of American colleges and universities for rescue from the present dearth of men students," Dr. Raymond Walters, nationally recognized college statistician, reported today.

Dr. Walters's comment was contained in his twenty-fifth annual survey for "School and Society," education weekly.

As of Nov. 1, Dr. Walters said, there were 608,750 full-time students and a grand total of 925,084 including summer and part-time students in 679 approved institutions. Despite good-sized freshman classes of sixteen and seventeen-year-old boys, new students currently in these schools were from 50 to 94 per cent below figures of 1939, last normal peacetime year.

As of Nov. 1, among institutions which reported to Dr. Walters both this year and last, 648 had 593,271 full-time civilian and Army and Navy students, against 454,759 full-time civilian and approximately 363,000 in Army and Navy units in November, 1943. For 646 institutions reporting grand-total figures for both years, there were 893,883 this fall and 1,099,043 in 1943.

Slightly more than 60 per cent of the current collegiate population are women. In fifty-six publicly controlled universities, 58.4 per cent of the full-time students are women; in fifty privately controlled universities, 53.2 per cent are men, in 142 independent arts and sciences colleges, 74 per cent are women; in fifty-two independent technological institutions, 64.9 per cent are men, and in ninety-two independent teachers' colleges, 75.7 per cent are women.

California, with 15,261 full-time students, continues as the country's largest university in this classification and New York University, with a grand total of 24,722, continues as largest in this group. Columbia University, with 12,039 full-time and 21,979 grand total, is second largest in both classifications.

A large section of Dr. Walters's report is given over to comments, as to prospects for returning veterans, by Omar W. Clark, assistant administrator of the Veterans Administration, Washington.

The peak load for colleges and univerities will probably come a year and a year and a half after Germany's and Japan's defeats, Mr. Clark believes, in warning that veterans willl not arrive on college campuses in a rush, but will be distributed over several years.

Approximately 2,400 disabled veterans are currently studying in colleges and universities.

War Reverses Spur Steel Commitments

Emphasis On Guns, Ammunition, Says "Steel".

3b 24— 21519

CLEVELAND, Dec. 24 — (AP) — Spurred by military reverses on the western front, steel commitments against critical munitions needs are heavy, the Magazine Steel noted today.

Predicting little break in continuity of the trend, the journal said.

"Emphasis is still particularly on guns and ammunition with growing pressure for rockets, mortars, light and medium ammunition and guns, as well as heavy shells and artillery. Increased steel needs for larger shells will be limited by progress of forging and finishing facilities now under way, but for lighter ammunition facilities are ready, contingent on ability to obtain labor lost when cutbacks were made several months ago."

Decline Still Seen

The magazine quoted authoritative sources as saying that despite current plate demand increase, the long-range outlook is for continued decline and sharply reduced output early next year.

"Compared with bars, the flat-rolled products, plates and sheets, are in less demand, the current improvement in plates showing signs of decrease," said Steel, basing its report on reduced needs for maritime commission shipbuilding requirements.

"Meanwhile," asserted the magazine, "total supply of steel is regarded as fully adequate to meet all war and essential civilian requirements as fast as processors can handle it."

Steelmaking operations last week declined 1-2-point to 96 per cent of capacity. Detroit gained one point to 88 per cent, Wheeling five points to 97, and Cleveland 1 1-2 points to 94 1-2 per cent. Pittsburgh declined one point to 90 per cent, Buffalo 4 1-2 points to 83 1-2, Eastern Pennsylvania 1 1-2 points to 94, Chicago one point to 99 1-2, New

Soldier's Candy Back in Time

CHICAGO, Dec. 24 (AP).—The box of Christmas candy Sergeant Rodney McManus's sister mailed to him on Bougainville reached him in time—but not until it had made a round trip. Somewhere in the Pacific the candy and Sergeant McManus crossed paths. The gift went to his battle station. He came home on furlough. But the box was delivered to him today at the home of his sister, Mrs. Marion Hamm, where it started its long round trip. The candy was slightly affected by the tropical heat.

2 Army Deserters Hitchhike From Leyte to Omaha

Omaha, Nebr., Dec. 24 (INS).—Two homesick Army privates who reportedly deserted the armed forces on Leyte Island in the Philippines and hitchhiked almost halfway round the world in the hopes of being home for Christmas were in custody of military police in Omaha tonight.

Maj. Herbert L. Lindstrom, provost marshal, identified the men as Pvt. Joe Sholkoff, 23, of New York City, and Pvt. John M. Anderson, 20, of Toledo, Ohio. They were apprehended in Lincoln, Nebr., while wearing civilian clothes.

The two soliders, Major Lindstrom said, made the 9600-mile trip from the Philippines via Australia. They used three planes and a former luxury liner in reaching the United States, traveling as stowaways on a cargo plane from Australia to Honolulu and hiding aboard the liner from there to the United States.

Women Marines to[illegible] to Hawaii

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 24 (AP) —The first ten enlisted women marines to receive overseas orders at Camp Pendleton have started their furloughs and will report at the Marine Corps base here on Jan. 2 for training preparatory to embarkation for Hawaii, Marine Corps officials reported today. Among them are Helena L. Kzcowski, of Hartford, Conn., and Dana M. Swingler, of Elizabeth, N. J.

ADD LONDON — (COWAN) XREVISUALLY

REPORTS FROM THE CONTINENT SAID FIGHTERS AND MEDIUM BOMBERS BASED IN FRANCE, HOLLAND AND BELGIUM TOOK A TERRIFIC TOLL.

THE 19TH TACTICAL AIR FORCE DESTROYED MORE THAN 350 NAZI MOTOR VEHICLES. BRITISH TEMPESTS AND SPITFIRES KNOCKED DOWN TWO ENEMY FIGHTERS AND DESTROYED FIVE GERMAN TANKS NEAR ST.VITH.

DEC 26 1944

THE TREMENDOUS ALLIED AERIAL EFFORT APPARENTLY CONTINUED UNABATED AT NIGHT, WITH BRITAIN-BASED PLANES OF THE RAF CARRYING ON THE BURDEN OF SMASHING THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE WHICH FOR A WEEK HAS MOVED RELENTLESSLY FORWARD, SHROUDED IN MIST AND FOG.

TODAY'S ALL-OUT AERIAL SMASH AT THE GERMANS FOLLOWED A 4,500-PLANE ASSAULT YESTERDAY DURING WHICH 178 NAZI PLANES WERE SHOT OUT OF THE SKIES.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE U.S. STRATEGIC AIR FORCES IN EUROPE ANNOUNCED THAT "THE GREATEST FORCE OF HEAVY BOMBERS EVER FLOWN ON A SINGLE MISSION BY ANY AIR FORCE" ATTACKED COMMUNICATIONS AND SUPPLY CENTERS JUST OPPOSITE THE BULGE DRIVEN INTO THE AMERICAN LINES BY THE GERMANS.

AT THE SAME TIME FORMATIONS OF THE LONG-RANGE HEAVY BOMBERS LOADED WITH PROBABLY MORE THAN 8,000 TONS OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES AND FRAGMENTATION BOMBS LANDED A SURPRISE BLOW AT THE HEART OF THE REJUVENATED LUFTWAFFE, WHICH IT WAS DISCLOSED, IS CENTERED AROUND FRANKFURT, ABOUT 150 MILES EAST OF THE BELGIAN BATTLEFIELDS.

BOMBS FROM FLYING FORTRESSES STRADDLED RUNWAYS AND HANGARS ON 11 AIR FIELDS GROUPED AROUND THE CITY AND CAUGHT 50 GERMAN FIGHTERS PARKED ON ONE.

ALL THE TIME AMERICAN FIGHTERS KEPR ROARING THROUGH THE CLOUDLESS SKIES HUNTING DOWN GERMAN FIGHTERS WHEREVER THEY COULD BE FOUND.

DEC 26 1944

THE 357TH MUSTANG GROUP LED BY LT.COL.IRWIN DREGNE OF VIRAQUA, WIS., RAN INTO A GROUP OF 50 FOCKE WULFS 25 MILES EAST OF COBLENZ AND SHOT DOWN 21 OF THEM.

ONE PILOT LT.JOHN KIRLA, 29 TRAVERS AVE., PORT CHESTER, N.Y., GOT FOUR.

COL.GEORGE T.CROWELL OF CHICAGO, ILL., LED HIS 55TH MUSTANG GROUP INTO A DOGFIGHT OVER FRANKFURT AND THE AMERICANS GOT 11 OF ANOTHER GROUP OF 50 JERRIES.

A THUNDERBOLT FORMATION LED BY LT.COL.WILLIAM B.BAILEY OF

ROCHESTER,N.Y., GOT EIGHT GERMAN PLANES IN THE VICINITY OF GIESSEN, 30 MILES NORTH OF FRANKFURT.

THE MASSIVE SKY FLEET BEGAN FORMING OVER BRITAIN BEFORE NOON AND WHEN FINALLY IT BEGAN HEADING FOR THE CONTINENT IT TOOK TWO HOURS TO CROSS THE COAST.

DEC 26 1944

FOR 400 MILES THEY THUNDRED IN ONE HUGE PARADE. AS THEY NEARED THE FRONT LINES THE BOMBERS BROKE INTO SMALLER FORMATIONS, AND HEADED TOWARD THEIR RESPECTIVE TARGETS.

THE MIGHTY BLOW, A STAFF OFFICER SAID, WAS INTENDED TO CRIPPLE THE LUFTWAFFE AT LEAST TEMPORARILY SO THAT THE ALLIED GROUND FORCES COULD WREST THE INITIATIVE FROM THE GERMANS.

U.S. STRATEGIC AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS SAID PHOTOGRAPHS DURING YESTERDAY'S ATTACK SHOWED SEVERE DAMAGE HAD BEEN INFLICTED ON ENEMY RAILYARDS AND ROLLING STOCK.

LONDON,DEC.24-(AP)-V-BOMBS FELL ON NORTHERN ENGLAND RECENTLY FOR THE FIRST TIME IT WAS OFFICIALLY DISCLOSED TODAY BY AN AIR AND MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY COMMUNIQUE WHICH SAID BOMBS LANDED IN THE AREA AGAIN LAST NIGHT.

IT WAS THE FIRST MENTION OF THE ROBOT BOMBS HITTING NORTHERN ENGLAND.

TODAY'S GERMAN COMMUNIQUE SAID "MANCHESTER AS WELL AS LONDON AND ANTWERP WERE SHELLED BY OUR LONG-RANGE WEAPONS."

MJ1259PEW

LONDON, DEC 24-(AP)-LT. OTTO D.JENKINS OF 1001 GREEN STREET, HOUSTONN TEX., SHOT DOWN FOUR GERMAN PLANES IN TODAY'S MASSIVE AIR ATTACKS AGAINST THE NAZI BELGIAN BULGE, MAKING HIM THE LEADING SCORER AMONG EIGHTH AIRFORCE PILOTS.

LT. JOHN A.KIRLA, 29 TRAVERSE AVENUE, PORT CHESTER, N.Y., AND LT.ELBY J.BEAL, ANGLETON, TEX., EACH KNOCKED THREE NAZIS FROM THE SKY.

OTHER VICTORIES INCLUDED:

TWO IN AIR:

LT. PAULA PELON, ROUTE 2, FENWICK, MICH.

LT. EDWARD D.HYMAN, 231 BECKER ST., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

LT. JOHNNIE L.CARTER, BOX 214, TERRA BLANCO, TEXAS.

LT.COL. ELWYN G.RIGHETTI, BOX 267, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIF.

ONE IN AIR:

LT. WARNER P.ROBERTS, 2064 PENNINGTON RD., TRENTON, N.J.

LT.WILLIAM R.DUNLOP, 14862 LESURE AVE., DETROIT.

MAJ.GURNSEY CARLISLE, 200 EAST DEWEY ST., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

CAPT. LEONARD K.CARSON, 3308 FRANKLIN AVE., DENVER, COLO.

LT. GEORGE A.DEHLING, 6548 S. CALIFORNIA AVE., CHICAGO.

LT. JESSE R.FREY, 1416 NELL AVE., TOLEDO, OHIO.

LT. JAMES R.SLOAN, EAST TAWAS, MICH.

LT. JAMES T.CRUMP, GOOSE CREEK, TEXAS.

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LT. ROBERT P.WINKS, SUMNER, IOWA.

LT. BYRON K.BRALEY, 4340 COTTAGE GROVE AVE., CHICAGO.

LT. RAYMOND M.BANKS, 2817 SOUTH LAWNDALE AVE., CHICAGO.

LT.COL. IRWIN H.BREGNE, VIROQUA, WIS.

LT. IVAN L.MAGUIRE, 704 CHANDLER ST., DANVILLE, ILL.

LT.JOHN E.JESSUP, 1416 BELAH AVE., LINSAY, CALIF.

LT. GEORGE S.LEE, 1234 KAMANUWAI LANE, HONOLULU.

LT. DONALD G.JACKSON, 121 EAST WATER ST., CIRCLEVILLE, OHIO.

LT. JAMES C.MCVAY, BRIDGEPORT, NEB.

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LT. KENNETH A.LASHBROOK, 1724 EAST FRANKLIN, PASADENA, CALIF.

LT. ROBERT E.WELCH, BROWN CITY, MICH.

LT. FRANK D.BRADFORD, SARATOGA, CALIF.

LT. RUSSELL C.HAYWORTH, CEDAR HILL, TEX.

LT. ROBERT G.OAKLEY, 15106 LAKE AVE., LAKEWOOD, OHIO.

LT. JOHN W.WILSON, 212 PASSAIC ST., TRENTON, N.J.

LT. JOHN E.KEUR, 3111 NORTH KEATING AVE., CHICAGO.

LT. JOHN J.KELLEY, LYONS, CALIF.

LT. NELSON W.BUTLER, 111 ALMOND AVE., TURLOCK, CALIF.

ONE HALF IN AIR:

LT. ROBERT F.MALONEY, 530 SOUTH COLORADO ST., BUTTE, MONT.

CAPT WILSON W.JOHNSON, BASSELL, MINN.

LT.HORACE G.WAGNER, WAGNER, ILL.

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LT. DALE E.KARGER, MCKEE'S ROCKS, PA.

LT. ANDREW T. LEMMENS, 50 CHAPIN STREET, CANANDAIGUA, N.Y. WAS CREDITED WITH SHOOTING ONE ENEMY PLANE FROM THE AIR.

DM10 1PEW

ADD ST.VITH AMF TRPS NR ST.VITH -(BOYLE) -ROAD BLOCK

REALIZING THAT EVERQ DAY THEY WERE HELD UP FURTHER REMOVED THE POSSIBILITY OF ACHIEVING THEIR GRANDIOSE SCHEME, THE GERMANS HURLED ELEMENTS OF ITS CRACK SS PANZER DIVISION AND TWO FULL REGIMENTS OF VOLKSGRENADIERS WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF SUPPORTING TANKU AGAINST THE TOWN.

THEY PROBABLY WERE AIDED BY TREACHERY WITHIN AS WELL AS THE FORCE WITHOUT. UOLDIERS REPORTED PRO-GERMAN CIVILIAN SYMPATHIZERS FLASHED CODE MESSAGES TO THE NAZI INFILTRATING TROOPS.

CAPT. OSWALD D.KARTER OF MOBILE, ALA., SIGNAL OFFICER, FOUND A RADIO SIGNAL SET IN ONE HOME AND LT. WENSLEY ESTIMATED "APPROXIMATELY 80 PER CENT OF THE CIVILIANS WHO STAYED IN THE TOWN WERE NAZI SYMPATHIZERUMZ ST.VITH'S POPULATION HAD A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF GERMANS.

WHEN PRESSURE FROM THE GERMAN THREE-PRONGED DRIVE APPEARED MORE THAN THE COMPARATIVELY SMALL AMERICAN GARRISON WOULD BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND, WENSLEY AND OTHER OFFICERS BURNED ALL RECORDS THEY COULDN'T CARRY AND HEADQUARTERS MOVED OUT TO ORGANIZE ANOTHER DEFENSE LINE.

BUT THE BATTLE FOR ST.VITH CONTINUED.

"WHEN WE LEFT, RIGGS AND HIS MEN STILL WERE COUNTERATTACKING, ALTHOUGH THE GERMANS WERE TRYING TO KNOCK OUT HIS ROADBLOCK WITH A FULL REGIMENT AND MORE THAN A COMPANY OF TANKS," WENSLEY SAID.

AT LAST THE SHEER WEIGHT OF THE COMBINED NAZI ASSAULTS PROVED UNBEARABLE AND THE DEFENDING AND BESIEGED AMERICAN OUTFITS FELL BACK AND ST.VITH, ITS STREETS DESERTED, ITS HOUSES SHELL-RACKED, FELL TO THE ENEMY AT 9:30 O'CLOCK ON THE FOGGY NIGHT OF DEC. 21.

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WESTWARD, THE AMERICAN DEFENSE LINE, HOURLY GROWING STRONGER, BRACED FOR THE NEXT HAMMER BLOW BY THE GERMAN ARMY, GAMBLING ITS LIFE ON WHETHER IT STILL HAD A KNOCKOUT PUNCH.

DISCUSSING THE IMPORTANCE OF ST.VITH, LT.COL. ROBERT P.STOUT, 711 MANHEIM ROAD, KANSAS CITY, MO., SAID:

"THE GERMANS HOPED TO BREAK THROUGH QUICKLY AND ESTABLISH A SIXTY-MILE GAP BETWEEN MALMEDY AND BASTOGNE THROUGH WHICH THEY THOUGHT THEY COULD FLOOD TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES IN DECISIVE QUANTITIES -- PERHAPS EVEN WIN THE WAR.

"THE BATTLE OF ST.VITH UPSET THESE CALCULATIONS, SLOWED THEIR DRIVE IN ITS INITIAL STAGES AND KEPT THEM FROM EXPLOITING THEIR GAP

AT A TIME WHEN THEY NEEDED TO MOST.

"AND LIEUTENANT COLONEL RIGGS GETS MUCH OF THE CREDIT FOR THAT. HE DID A BRILLIANT JOB."

MED 3 PEW

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ADD WITH AM. TRPS. GER. BORDER - GILSON KA IND.

DURING ONE OF THE DAILY SKIRMISHES WITH THE ENEMY, PVT. GEORGE WHITE, WASHINGTON, PA., COMPLAINED HE WAS "GIVEN AWAY BY A DUCK" IN A TENSE MOMENT.

"THE GERMAN AND THE DUCK WERE STANDING TOGETHER ACROSS THE STREET. I HAD THE KRAUT IN MY SIGHTS WHEN THE DUCK SAW ME," HE SAID. "IT SQUAWKED. THE GERMAN TURNED AROUND, BUT ANOTHER ONE OF OUR GUYS GOT HIM. I WAS SO MAD THAT I RAN ACROSS, GRABBED THE DUCK, SHOT IT AND ATE IT."

"THEY SAVED OUR NECKS," SGT. WILLIAM WHITAKER, 20 WEST PORTLAND STREET, PHOENIX, ARIZ., SAID SIMPLY.

THE RESCUE PATROL WHICH LED THE TRAPPED YANKS OUT WAS HEADED BY SGT. WARNER HAYNES, TACONITE, MINN.; PFC. EDGAR INGLETON, 1409 BOULEVARD DRIVE, FLINT, MICH.; CPL. RAYMOND DWYER, 675 GARDEN STREET, ELIZABETH, N.J., AND PVT. JOSEPH LONG, 1360 B STREET, S.E., WASHINGTON, D.C.

WITH MACHINEGUN BULLETS WHINING OVERHEAD, THEY PICKED THEIR WAY THROUGH TRENCHES AND PILLBOXES, BRINGING BACK THE G.I.'S, FOUR OF THEM ON LITTERS, AND THREE GERMAN PRISONERS.

THE OFFICERS AMONG THE RESCUED WERE LTS.CARL BYAS OF NEEDVILLE, TEX.; GLENN TERRY OF CORTEZ, COLO., AND ARTHUR DEWITT, 3473 BEECHER ROAD, FLINT, MICH.

"WE WALKED RIGHT OVER TRENCHES IN WHICH THE GERMANS WERE SLEEPING WHEN WE FIRST WENT INTO THE TOWN," DEWITT SAID.

"MY GROUP OCCUPIED EIGHT HOUSES ON THE OUTSKIRTS, FOUR ON EACH SIDE OF THE STREET. WE GOT INTO THE TOWN JUST AT DAYBREAK. THE GERMANS SOON FOUND WE WERE THERE AND STARTED THROWING GRENADES IN THE KITCHEN WINDOW. WE MOVED TO ANOTHER PART OF THE HOUSE."

ON THE NEXT TO LAST DAY, DEWITT AND PVT. RALPH KINCAID OF WHITTIER, IA., SLIPPED THROUGH A COUPLE OF HOUSES AND BROUGHT BACK THREE STARVING COWS. THEY FED AND WATERED THEM AND WERE ALL SET FOR CREAM IN THEIR COFFEE WHEN THEY WERE RESCUED.

THE BOYS IN JEFFORD'S GROUP IN ANOTHER PART OF THE TOWN DIDN'T FARE SO WELL. THEY FOUND SOME POTATOES, CARROTS AND TURNIPS BUT WERE AFRAID TO EAT THEM THE FIRST TWO DAYS BECAUSE THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN POISONED. HUNGER FINALLY DROVE THEM TO IT.

"TO GET WATER WE HAD TO WAIT UNTIL DARK AND THEN RUN OUT TO A TROUGH AND FILL OUR HELMETS," JEFFORDS SAID.

PFC. LEWIS CROSS OF WASHINGTON, D.C., A VETERAN OF SICILY, SALERNO AND ANZIO, SAID, "THIS BEING CUT OFF LIKE THAT WAS WORSE THAN ANY OF THOSE OTHER SHOWS."

CONSIDERING THAT SOME OF THE HOUSES THEY OCCUPIED GOT AS MANY AS TEN DIRECT HITS FROM HEAVY ARTILLERY AND SOME WERE SET AFIRE BY GERMAN INCENDIARY BULLETS, THE TOTAL CASUALTIES OF FOUR DEAD AND SEVEN WOUNDED WERE EXTREMELY LIGHT. NEVERTHELESS, PVT. JOSEPH LOMBARI A MEDIC FROM 270 SWAN STREET, BUFFALO, N.Y., RAN OUT OF BANDAGES

CPL. WILLIAM GRACE OF RILLTON, PA., WAS CREDITED WITH AT LEAST TWO KNOWN GERMAN DEAD. PVT. JACK HAWK, VANDALIA, ILL.; PVT. WILLIAM FOWLER, MARION, VA., AND PVT. JOHN WILLIAMS, ENID, OKLA.; WERE CREDITED WITH SNAGGING HALF A DOZEN CHICKENS WHICH MADE THE LIVES OF THE TRAPPED MEN A LITTLE PLEASANTER.

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OTHER BOYS WHO WENT THROUGH THE ORDEAL INCLUDED PVTS. FRANK KOCSIS, TONAWANDA, N.Y., LOE LOPRESTO, 2121 BISSELL, CHICAGO, ILL; CHARLES BEST, RAYMONDVILLE, TEX.; LOUIS TUDICO, TOLEDO, O.; EDWARD WILKIN, 45 BELLEVUE AVENUE, LONGMEADOW, MASS.; ALVA WOODRUFF, HOPE, IND.; GLYNN HUNNALL, ORANGE, TEX.; CLETIS WILLIAMS, 300 BRYAN, PEORIA, ILL.

ELTON HUTSON, ORANGE, TEX.; OSCAR BOUFFARD, 53 OAK, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.; RAYMOND HARBOUR, ROME, GA.; ORESS WALKER, 1594 NORTH ALLEN, PASADENA, CALIF.; JOSEPH SALDIS, 345 EAST 151 STREET, NEW YORK CITY; PETER WHITE, CARRIZO SPRINGS, TEX.; JOHN ANDERSON, COKATO, MINN., JOHN ALGRIM, CICERO, ILL.; PERCY CYR, LEWISTON, ME.

PFCS. VITO BIANO, 161 COOPER STREET, BROOKLYN, N.Y.; DEC 26 1944 DONALD ARVIN, 7145 SOUTH UNION, CHICAGO, ILL.; PETER SIALETTA, 1339 ORLIANO, CHICAGO; EUGENE BECK, 1165 CAROLINE, AKRON, O.; GUIDO PALLOZZI, WATERFORD, N.Y.; GLENN BURGESS, ROUTE 9, PORTLAND, ORE.; EDWARD BLIZZARD, FIREBRICK, KY.; GEORGE TURNER, 212 NORTH FULTON, INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

SGTS. GEORGE BROWN, GRANITE CITY, ILL.; LESTER STRAUB, WEST FARGO, N.D., AND CPL. DALE MUNSELL, HUDSON, MICH.

DA446PEW

PARIS, DEC. 24-(AP)-PRINCE PETER OF GREECE, COUSIN AND AIDE-DE-CAMP TO KING GEORGE OF GREECE, TODAY DEPLORED THE POLITICAL STRIFE IN ATHENS AND ATTRIBUTED IT TO THE CONFUSION AMONG THE POPULATION, INDUCED BY YEARS OF PRIVATION AND PERSECUTION.

"IT IS EXTREMELY SAD TO THINK OF PRESENT EVENTS IN GREECE," THE PRINCE SAID IN AN INTERVIEW AT THE RITZ HOTEL HERE, WHERE HE IS STAYING WITH HIS WIFE WHILE ON LEAVE FROM THE BRITISH EIGHTH ARMY.

"I SUPPOSE THEY HAVE GONE OUT OF THEIR MINDS BECAUSE THEY HAVE SUFFERED SO MUCH."

HE SAID HE HOPED A SETTLEMENT OF THE GREEK SITUATION WOULD BE ACHIEVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PRINCE PETER, 36, IS AN OFFICER OF THE ROYAL DANISH GUARDS AS WELL AS A LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE GREEK ARMY. HE FOUGHT WITH THE GREEK ARMY AGAINST THE ITALIANS, THEN WENT TO NORTH AFRICA WITH HIS TROOPS AND JOINED THE BRITISH IN FIGHTING THERE AND IN ITALY.

MQ713PEW

PARIS, DEC.24-(AP)-GEN. DE GAULLE HAS CALLED A HALT TO THE PRACTICE OF NAMING STREETS AND SQUARES FOR HIM. THE MUNICIPAL GAZETTE CARRIED A LETTER YESTERDAY ADDRESSED TO SUBURBAN MAYORS SAYING THE COMPLIMENT WAS APPRECIATED BUT THE GENERAL WAS OPPOSED.

Z513PEW

PARIS, DEC. 24-(AP)-WITH PARACHUTIST SCARES GRIPPING THE PARIS AREA, CROWDS OF MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WERE STARTLED WHEN A PARACHUTE FLOATED DOWN OVER LE BOURGET AIRPORT.

MILITARY POLICE GRABBED TOMMY GUNS. OTHER AIRPORT GUARDS HOPPED INTO JEEPS AND PLOWED ACROSS A MUDDY FIELD, READY TO GIVE A HOT RECEPTION TO THE AUDACIOUS PARACHUTIST.

INSTEAD OF A NAZI, THE MP'S INTERCEPTED A DUMMY BEDECKED IN A SANTA CLAUS OUTFIT. DEC 26 1944

SA-RWT COLBURNS SAT DISPATCH-448PEW

ROME--FIRST ADD ITALIAN (TOP AYE) X X X NORTHERN ITALY.

ONE FORMATION OF THUNDERBOLTS LED BY MAJ.ANDREW R.SCHLINDER OF 2995 BOTANICAL SQUARE, THE BRONX, N.Y., STRAFED AND BOMBED AN AIRFIELD AT MILAN. OTHER FORMATIONS ATTACKED RAIL LINES, DESTROYING NINE LOCOMOTIVES AND NINE ENEMY-HELD BUILDINGS IN THE PO VALLEY.

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LT.ROBERT L.MOSLER, 221 BRIGGU ST., SYRACUSE,N.Y., REPORTED A PERFECT HIT ON ONE LOCOMOTIVE.

LT.ALBERT L.JONES, 428 QUEEN ANN AVE., SEATTLE, WASH., DESTROYED ONE OF THE 14 GERMAN PLANES, AND FLIGHT OFFICER JOHN RUDOVSKY, 58 EAST FOURH ST., CLIFTON, N.J., WHO WAS FLYING WITH HIM AS AN OBSERVER, SAID THE FIRST BURST OF GUNFIRE FROM JONES' PLANE APPARENTLY KILLED THE NAZI PILOT.

"A STREAM OF SMOKE CAME FROM THE PLANE AFTER THE FIRST BURST AND THE PLANE STARTED FALLING," HRE RELATED.

BY SID FEDER (500-UP)

ROME, DEC. 24-(AP)-A THRONG ESTIMATED AT 100,000 JAMMED EVERY AVAILABLE INCH OF ST.PETER'S AND OVERFLOWED INTO THE COURTYARDS ON ALL SIDES OF THE HUGE CHURCH TONIGHT AS POPE PIUS XII CELEBRATED THE FIRST PUBLIC CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS THERE IN 75 YEARS.

NOT SINCE PIUS IX SAID THE LAST PUBLIC CHRISTMAS EVE MASS FOR THE PUBLIC IN 1869 HAD ANY POPE HEARD THE PEOPLE'S CRIES OF "VIVA IL PAPA" UNTIL TONIGHT WHEN PIUS XII WAS BORNE INTO THE NAVE OF THE CATHEDRAL, ACCOMPANIED BY A WILD BURST OF APPLAUSE AND CHEERS FROM THE CROWD, WHICH INCLUDED MANY ALLIED MILITARY PERSONNEL.

THE WIFE OF THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR RECEIVED COMMUNION FROM THE POPE DURING THE MASS. THE ONLY AMERICAN COMMUNICANT WAS COL.JOSEPH O.DAVIDSON OF POTTSVILLE, PA., OF THE ALLIED HEADQUARTERS REPLACEMENT COMMAND. ONE ETHIOPIAN, HAILE MAWAM TESFAU, A MEMBER OF THE ETHIOPIAN COLLEGE AT THE VATICAN, WAS ANOTHER COMMUNICANT.

IT WAS THE FIRST OF THREE CHRISTMAS MASSES TO BE SAID BY THE POPE. THE SECOND WAS CELEBRATED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE FIRST ONE TONIGHT, ALSO PUBLICLY, AND THE THIRD WAS TO BE A PRIVATE ONE CHRISTMAS MORNING.

ALWAYS BEFORE, SINCE 1869, THE ST.PETER'S CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS WAS A PRIVATE ONE FOR CARDINALS, THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND THE KING'S FAMILY.

THE WORSHIPPERS FOUND PLACES TONIGHT TO STAND AND LEAN ALL OVER ST.PETER'S. SOME WERE ON BALCONIES OVERLOOKING THE NAVE AND SOME EVEN WERE LEANING DANGEROUSLY OVER THE RAILING WHICH RUNS AROUND THE CATWALK HIGH IN THE DOME.

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THE DIPLOMATIC SECTION WAS CROWDED WITH THE STAFFS OF THE VARIOUS EMBASSIES AT THE VATICAN, INCLUDING THE JAPANESE, DRESSED IN LONG BLACK ROBES, AND THE GERMANS. THERE WAS A SMALL SECTION TO THE RIGHT OF THE ALTAR FOR ALLIED MILITARY PERSONNEL, BUT THE PRESS OF PEOPLE WAS SO GREAT THAT THIS SECTION SOON HAD MORE CIVILIANS THAN SOLDIERS.

THE GREAT CHURCH WAS SO CROWDED THAT A NUMBER OF PERSONS FAINTED.

THE CHOIR BEGAN TO SING CHRISTMAS HYMNS AT 11 P.M. AS HUNDREDS HAD FLOCKED THROUGH THE DOORS LONG BEFORE MIDNIGHT. THE SWISS GUARDS IN THEIR COLORFUL YELLOW, PURPLE AND RED STRIPED UNIFORMS AND PLUMED HELMETS AND CARRYING PIKES WERE ON DUTY ALL OVER THE CATHEDRAL. MEMBERS OF THE CHAPTER OF ST.PETER, DRESSED IN ERMINE, HELPED ESCORT THE DIPLOMATS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THE SECTION RESERVED FOR THEM.

SUDDENLY AT 11:30 P.M. THE LIGHTS BRIGHTENED AND A RIPPLE OF APPLAUSE, BEGINNING FAR DOWN THE FLOOR OF THE CATHEDRAL, SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE CONGREGATION AS THE PAPAL THRONE WAS BORNE IN, GUARDED BY RED-COATED NOBLE GUARDS, THEIR SWORDS DRAWN AND LONG BLACK STREAMERS HANGING FROM THEIR BRIGHT GOLD HELMETS. THEY LINED BOTH SIDES OF THE NAVE AS THE POPE DESCENDED FROM HIS THRONE AND KNELT

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THERE FOR SEVERAL MINUTES.

THE POPE AND THE CARDINALS KNELT BEFORE THE PAPAL ALTAR. THEN, AS THE CHOIR SENT ADESTE FIDELIS ROLLING THROUGH THE CATHEDRAL, THE POPE DONNED GOLDEN VESTMENTS AND MOUNTED TO THE ALTAR WHERE ONLY THE PONTIFF OR A CARDINAL HE ESPECIALLY DESIGNATES MAY SAY MASS.

HE DISTRIBUTED COMMUNION TO HUNDREDS, PASSING ALONG THE RAIL TIME AFTER TIME AS EACH ROW OF COMMUNICANTS FILED OUT, TO BE REPLACED BY ANOTHER GROUP. FINALLY THE CHIEF CHAPLAIN OF THE ITALIAN ARMY TOOK OVER THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AND THE PONTIFF RETURNED TO THE ALTAR TO COMPLETE THE SERVICE.

AMONG THE HYMNS DURING THE SERVICE WAS SILENT NIGHT, SUNG IN GERMAN BY THE SWISS GUARDS.

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THE AISLES WERE PACKED WITH PEOPLE LONG BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGAN AND HUNDREDS BLOCKED THE DOORS. THERE WAS SPECIAL TROLLEY SERVICE IN ROME FOR THE OCCASION AND IT EVEN WAS ADVERTISED ON POSTERS THROUGHOUT THE CITY FOR SEVERAL DAYS.

-DASH-

(EDS: 2D GRAF, READ XX CHRISTMAS EVE MASS IN 1869 HAD, ETC -- DELETING "FOR THE PUBLIC.")

MQ1142PEW

ROME, DEC. 24-(AP)-HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF POPE PIUS XII:

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OUT FROM THE MOURNFUL GROANS OF SORROW, FROM THE VERY DEPTHS OF THE HEART-RENDING ANGUISH OF OPPRESSED INDIVIDUALS AND COUNTRIES THERE RISES AN AURA OF HOPE. TO AN EVER-INCREASING NUMBER OF NOBLE SOULS THERE COMES THE THOUGHT, THE WILL EVER CLEARER AND STRONGER, TO MAKE OF THIS WORLD, THIS UNIVERSAL UPHEAVAL, A STARTING POINT FOR A NEW ERA OF FAR-REACHING RENOVATION, THE COMPLETE REORGANIZATION OF THE WORLD. . .

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...DEMOCRACY, TAKEN IN THE BROAD SENSE, ADMITS OF VARIOUS FORMS, AND CAN BE REALIZED IN MONARCHIES AS WELL AS IN REPUBLICS. . .

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A SOUND DEMOCRACY, BASED ON IMMUTABLE PRINCIPLES OF NATURAL LAW AND REVEALED TRUTH, WILL RESOLUTELY TURN ITS BACK ON SUCH CORRUPTION AS GIVES THE STATE LEGISLATURE AN UNCHECKED AND UNLIMITED POWER, AND MOREOVER, MAKES OF THE DEMOCRATIC REGIME, NOTWITHSTANDING AN OUTWARD SHOW TO THE CONTRARY, PURELY AND SIMPLY A FORM OF ABSOLUTISM.

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THERE IS A DUTY, BESIDES, IMPOSED ON ALL, A DUTY WHICH BROOKS NO DELAY, NO PROCRASTINATION, NO HESITATION, NO SUBTERFUGE: IT IS THE DUTY TO DO EVERYTHING TO BAN ONCE AND FOR ALL WARS OF AGGRESSION AS LEGITIMATE SOLUTION OF INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES AND AS A MEANS TOWARDS REALIZING NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS.

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NO ONE COULD WISH SUCCESS TO THIS COMMON EFFORT (FORMATION OF AN ORGANIZATION TO PRESERVE PEACE AND SMOTHER ANY THREAT OF AGGRESSION), TO BE UNDERTAKEN WITH A SERIOUSNESS OF PURPOSE NEVER BEFORE KNOWN, WITH GREATER ENTHUSIASM THAN HE WHO HAS CONSCIENTIOUSLY STRIVED TO MAKE THE CHRISTIAN AND RELIGIOUS MENTALITY REJECT MODERN WAR.

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THAT ANY PEOPLES TO WHOSE GOVERNMENT -- O . . EVEN PARTIALLY TO THEMSELVES -- THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WAR IS ATTRIBUTED SHOULD HAVE FOR A TIME TO UNDERGO THE RIGORS OF SECURITY MEASURES UNTIL THE

BONDS OF MUTUAL TRUST, VIOLENTLY BROKEN, SHOULD BE GRADUALLY WELDED TOGETHER AGAIN, IS QUITE UNDERSTANDABLE FROM A HUMAN POINT OF VIEW AND, IN PRACTICE, WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY BE INEVITABLE.

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NEVERTHELESS, EVEN THESE PEOPLES MUST HAVE A WELL-FOUNDED HOPE -- COMMENSURATE TO THEIR EFFECTIVE COLLABORATION IN THE WORK OF RECONSTRUCTION -- OF BEING ABLE, TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER STATES WITH EQUAL CONSIDERATION AND WITH THE SAME RIGHTS, TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE GREAT COMMUNITY OF NATIONS.

TO DENY THEM THAT HOPE WOULD BE THE REVERSE OF FAR-SEEING WISDOM, IT WOULD BE TO ASSURE THE GRAVE RESPONSIBILITY OF BARRING THE WAY TO A GENERAL LIBERATION FROM ALL DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES, MATERIAL, MORAL AND POLITICAL, OF THE GIGANTIC CATACLYSM WHICH HAS SHAKEN THE POOR HUMAN FAMILY TO ITS VERY FOUNDATIONS, BUT WHICH, AT THE SAME TIME, HAS SHOWN IT THE ROAD TO NEW GOALS.

MESSOPEW

WITH THE U.S. FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, DEC. 24-(AP)-REP.CLARE BOOTH LUCE PARTICIPATED IN A CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE TODAY AT THE 94TH EVACUATION HOSPITAL.

AFTERWARD WITH COL.LEE R.PIERCE, WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE HOSPITAL, SHE HELPED TO DISTRIBUTE PRESENTS IN THE WARDS.

MRS.LUCE ATE HER CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER OUT OF A MESS KIT WITH AN INFANTRY UNIT OF THE FIRST ARMORED DIVISION. EARLIER SHE HAD VISITED A 155-MM ARTILLERY UNIT, ESCORTED BY MAJOR J.M. WILSON JR., AIDE TO LT.GEN.LUCIEN K.TRUSCOTT, AND LT.A.A.GOLDSTEIN, BROOKLYN, N.Y.

MQ718PEW

CHUNGKING,DEC.24-(AP)-IN CHRISTMAS MESSAGES TODAY ALLIED LEADERS IN CHINA LOOKED FORWARD TO PEACE AND GOOD WILL FOR THE WORLD FOLLOWING THE END OF THE WAR.

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GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, IN A RADIO MESSAGE TO THE CHURCHES OF CHINA, DECLARED THAT FREEDOM OF ANY KIND IS IMPOSSIBLE UNDER THE RULE OF SUCH MEN AS HAVE LED JAPAN AND GERMANY BACK TO BARBARISM.

THE CHINESE LEADER SAID THAT 15 OR 20 YEARS AGO WHEN THERE WAS A STRONG TREND TOWARD STAMPING OUT RELIGION IN CHINA HE MADE A STUDY WHICH CONVINCED HIM "JESUS WAS NOT ONLY THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND, BUT ALSO THE LEADER OF A NATIONAL SOCIAL RELIGIOUS REVOLUTION."

"THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCE WHICH HE GAVE TO THE WORLD IS NOT UNLIKE THAT WHICH HAS INSPIRED OUR THREE PEOPLES' PRINCIPLES," CHIANG SAID.

"ON THE EVE OF THE DAY TRADITIONALLY DEDICATED TO MUTUAL KINDNESS, GENEROSITY AND PEACE ON EARTH, MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE SUBJECTED AFRESH TO A RULE OF SAVAGERY, AND MANY TEN THOUSANDS WHO ESCAPED THAT HUMILIATION HAVE COME TO US EMPTY-HANDED, COLD AND HUNGRY AS HOMELESS REFUGEES," THE GENERALISSIMO SAID.

HE ADDED THAT NOWHERE IN THE WORLD WAS THERE "GREATER CONFIDENCE THAN AMONG THE PEOPLE OF CHINA THAT THE END OF THIS ERA OF MAD CONFLICT IS ALMOST AT HAND."

CHIANG APPEALED TO THE CHURCHES OF CHINA TO GIVE THEIR ALL IN THE COMING YEAR TO AID WOUNDED AND SICK SOLDIERS AND HOMELESS, DESTITUTE REFUGEES "FOR WE SHALL THEN FULFILL OUR DUTIES AS CHRISTIANS AND AS CITIZENS."

THE AMERICAN COMMANDER IN CHINA, MAJ.GEN.ALBERT C.WEDEMEYER, IN A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE TO CHIANG FOR THE CHINESE PEOPLE, SAID:

"LET US ALL ON THIS DAY LOOK FORWARD TO A WORLD OF PEACE AND GOOD WILL THAT CAN ONLY RESULT FROM AN ALLIED VICTORY. LET US THEREFORE RESOLVE TO WAGE WAR SO EFFECTIVELY THAT WE SHALL BRING AN EARLY END TO THE STRIFE IN CHINA SO THAT SHE IS RESTORED TO THE WAYS OF PEACE, HEALTH AND HAPPINESS."

MJ209PEW

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ADD GUAM — (COEIGER) xx PACIFIC

NIMITZ SAID HE WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED BY THE PROGRESS OF WORK ON GUAM SINCE IT WAS RECAPTURED FROM THE ENEMY. HE VISITED IT AUGUST 10, WHILE THE FIGHTING WAS STILL GOING ON.

"IT HARDLY SEEMS POSSIBLE," HE SAID, "THAT THIS IS THE SAME ISLAND. THE AMOUNT OF WORK DONE IN THE HARBOR IS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE AND THE ENTIRE PROGRESS REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT TO THE ISLAND GOVERNOR AND CAPT. WILLIAM O.HILTABIDLE, JR., AS WELL AS EVERY OFFICER AND MAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE WORK."

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HILTABIDLE, WHOSE HOME IS IN NEWPORT R.I., IS IN CHARGE OF THE CONSTRUCTION.

NIMITZ SAID HE INTENDS "TO DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO SEE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS ISLAND AS A NAVAL BASE IS CONTINUED UNTIL THE LAW OF DIMINISHING RETURNS STARTS TO OPERATE--IN OTHER WORDS, UNTIL THERE IS NOTHING MORE THAT WE CAN PUT ON THE ISLAND THAT WILL BE HELPFUL."

HE SAID WHEN THE WAR STARTED THERE WAS A COMPLETE LACK OF DEFENSES.

QI 7PPW

AT A LEYTE AIRBASE,PHILIPPINES,DEC.5-(DELAYED)-(AP)-A BIG TRANSPORT PLANE WORKED ITS WAY OVER A JUNGLED VALLEY ON WESTERN LEYTE ISLAND UNTIL IT REACHED A 300-YARD CLEARING ATOP A SPINY RIDGE. SUDDENLY IT DROPPED DOZENS OF RED, GREEN, BLUE AND WHITE PARACHUTES. IT WAS THE START OF THE FIRST AMERICAN-ENGINEERED ARTILLERY DROPPING MISSION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC WAR.

QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY AIRBORNE ARTILLERYMEN ASSEMBLED THE 75 MM9 HOWITZERS AND SET THEM UP ON PLOTTED POSITIONS DEEP IN JAPANESE TERRITORY. IMMEDIATELY THEY HAD THE RANGE KEY FOR JAPANESE CONCENTRATIONS ALONG THE COAST SOUTH OF ORMOC.

(THESE CANNON WERE TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN THE COORDINATED STRIKE SET OFF BY YANKEE LANDINGS FIVE MILES SOUTH OF ORMOC TWO DAYS LATER.)

THE DARING MANEUVER WAS CONCEIVED AND CARRIED OUT BY THE AMERICAN 11TH AIRBORNE DIVISION. THE WHOLE OPERATION WAS COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON SURPRISE, ON THE ABILITY OF THE TRANSPORT CREW TO HIT THE FIELD RIGHT ON THE NOSE, AND ON THE FIGHTING STRENGTH OF THE A ARTILLERYMEN TO HOLD THE POSITION AGAINST JAPANESE PRESSURE WHICH WAS SURE TO COME.

DV625PCW

LEYTE,PHILIPPINES,DEC.24-(AP)-MAJ.GEN.VERNE D.MUDGE, FIRST CAVALRY DIVISION COMMANDER, WAS AWARDED THE SILVER STAR TODAY FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION IN THE WEST LEYTE MOUNTAIN CAMPAIGN.

THE ARMY'S DECORATION WAS PRESENTED BY MAJ.GEN.F.L.SIBERT, TENTH CORPS COMMANDER. THE CITATION SAID MUDGE COOLY DIRECTED FRONT LINE TROOPS IN THE FACE OF ENEMY FIRE AFTER A FIVE MILE HIKE INTO THE MOUNTAINS WITH ONLY A SMALL PATROL.

MUDGE IS KNOWN AS "A FRONT LINE GENERAL." HE TOURED TACLOBAN WHILE ENEMY SNIPERS WERE STILL FIRING, A FEW HOURS AFTER DISMOUNTED CAVALRYMEN TOOK THE TOWN THE SECOND DAY OF THE CAMPAIGN.

HE IS THE SON OF MRS.R.E.MUDGE AND THE LATE COL.MUDGE OF FELLSMERE, FLA. HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER OF BRIG.GEN.WALTER C.SHORT, RETIRED, LIVES AT SAN DIEGO,CALIF.

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DV627PCW

PROVINCIAL CAPITAL,LEYTE,PHILIPPINES,DEC.24-(AP)-THE FIRST AMERICAN NEWSPAPER PRINTED IN THE PHILIPPINES SINCE THE FALL OF MANILA-THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE OVERSEAS EDITION WAS DISTRIBUTED TO AMERICAN TROOPS CHRISTMAS EVE.

PLASTIC PLATES CARRYING NEWS AND REGULAR TRIBUNE FEATURES FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 16 WERE FLOWN TO LEYTE WHERE THEY WERE PRINTED IN A CATHOLIC CHURCH PRINTERY ON RICE PAPER LEFT BY THE JAPANESE.

DV527PCW

BY LEIF ERICKSON (160)

U.S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, DEC 24-(AP)-LIBERATORS BASED IN THE MARIANAS BOMBED IWO JIMA ON FRIDAY (SATURDAY, JAPANESE TIME), FOR THE SIXTEENTH STRAIGHT DAY IN THE CAMPAIGN TO NEUTRALIZE THE NIPPONESE BASE NEAREST THE SAIPAN TAKEOFF POINT FOR THE TOKYO-BOMBING SUPER-FORTRESSES.

(THE 20TH U.S. AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON A RAID BY PERHAPS 50 SUPERFORTRESSES ON IWO JIMA SATURDAY (SUNDAY, JAPANESE TIME). IT WAS THE SECOND B29 RAID ON IWO JIMA, AND HEAVY EXPLOSIONS WERE OBSERVED.)

TWO JAPANESE INTERCEPTORS CAME UP BUT OFFERED ONLY SLIGHT RESISTANCE TO THE LIBERATORS, ADM. CHESTER W.NIMITZ ANNOUNCED IN A COMMUNIQUE.

OTHER LIBERATORS FROM LT.GEN.MILLARD F.HARMON'S STRATEGIC AIRFORCE BOMBED WOLEAI IN THE WESTERN CAROLINES IN A "CHECKING UP" SORTIE TO MAKE SURE THE JAPANESE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO FLY IN REINFORCEMENTS.

MARINE CORSAIRS BASED ON PELELIU STRAFED BABELTHUAP IN THE PALAUS, SINKING THREE ENEMY BARGES AND DAMAGING THREE OTHERS.

MARINE FIGHTERS AND DIVEBOMBERS STRUCK THE JAPANESE-HELD MARSHALLS, DYING ON THE VINE SINCE KWAJALEIN WAS CAPTURED NEARLY A YEAR AGO.

ADVANCE ... GUAM, DEC.24-(AP)-THE LIBERATED CHILDREN OF GUAM WERE MADE HAPPY TODAY BY GIFTS OF MARBLES, HAIR BOWS, COLOR BOOKS, CRAYONS, DOLLS AND OTHER ARTICLES BOUGHT WITH PENNIES CONTRIBUTED BY SCHOOL CHILDREN OF AMERICA.

SIMILAR GIFTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE OTHER MARIANAS ISLANDS OF SAIPAN AND TINIAN AS SOON AS SANTA CLAUS CAN ARRANGE CARGO PRIORITY.

THE CLEARANCE FOR THE GIFT SHIPMENTS TO GUAM WAS ARRANGED BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND MILITARY GOVERNMENT SECTION OF THE NAVY AT THE REQUEST OF MAJ.GEN.HENRY A.LARSEN, MARINE CORPS COMMANDER OF GUAM.

HAWAII'S CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN JUNIOR RED CROSS PURCHASED THE GIFTS AT HONOLULU WITH AN ALLOCATION FROM THE ORGANIZATION'S NATIONAL CHILDREN'S FUND. HONOLULU SCHOOL CHILDREN PACKED THE GIFTS.

(END ADVANCE FOR AMS OF MONDAY, DEC.25)

PM505PPW NM

BY VERN HAUGLAND 250.

21ST U.S.BOMBER COMMAND,SAIPAN,DEC.25-(AP)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-IT WAS A SUBDUED CHRISTMAS FOR THE CREW COMMANDED BY MAJ.ROBERT LUMAN, ETNA,CALIF., WHICH FLIES THE B-29 NAMED "THERE'LL ALWAYS BE A CHRISTMAS."

THE PLANE CAME ALL THE WAY BACK FROM JAPAN FRIDAY AFTER THE NAGOYA RAID ON THREE ENGINES, "BUT SHE'LL BE READY TO FLY CHRISTMAS DAY IF THEY NEED HER," SAID LUMAN, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT 511 EAST 3RD ST., MONTGOMERY,ALA.

MOST OF THE CREW MEMBERS SPENT CHRISTMAS EVE SITTING AROUND A QUONSET HUT PLAYING CARDS, DRINKING BEER AND SINGING CAROLS. ONLY THE CHINESE MEMBER, GUNNER PFC GORDON WONG, BOISE,IDAHO, A QUIET, NON-DRINKING BAPTIST WENT TO CHURCH SERVICES.

"I'M RELIGIOUS, BUT WHEN YOU'VE GOT FIGHTING TO DO YOU CAN'T CONCENTRATE ON ANYTHING ELSE," SAID MAJ.LUMAN.

CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER FRED L.WILMOTH, MEYERSDALE,PA., WONG'S BUDDY, SAID "I'M RELIGIOUS, TOO, AND I'M GOING TO CHURCH TOMORROW."

MAJ.LUMAN SAID THE CREW NAMED THE PLANE AFTER A POEM IN A MONTHLY MAGAZINE (ESQUIRE), BY PHIL STACK, BECAUSE ITS WORDS ARE ESPECIALLY APPROPRIATE TO A B-29.

THE CREW INCLUDES 2ND LTS.DONALD E.HARDY, ANDOVER,N.Y., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT SALINA,KANS.; THEODORE R.VON SCHLIEDER, (236 PASSAIC ST.), HACKENSACK,N.J.; FIRST LT.ROBERT E. ELIPHANT, (360 W.CALIFORNIA AVE.), MEMPHIS,TENN.; STAFF SGT.ROBERT H.CRANE, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT (4321 FIFTY-SIXTH ST.) WOODSIDE,LONG ISLAND,N.Y.; AND PFC.F.H.CORBETT, (76 FOUNTAIN ST.) MEDFORD,MASS.

DEC 26 1944

3.24— 21529

IT BEGAN IN BRIGHT MOONLIGHT WHEN A CHORUS OF MEN FROM EACH SANG "SILENT NIGHT." THEN A SUDDEN RAINSTORM DRENCHED CHOIR AND AUDIENCE, BUT NONE LEFT THE THEATER AND CAPT.HAUGSE TOLD THE CROWD "THIS PROBABLY IS THE STRANGEST AND WETTEST CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE YOU'VE EVER ATTENDED."

THE SERMON WAS DELIVERED BY CHAPLAIN CAPT.WILLIAM T.MANSON, JR., OF LOTTSBURG, VA., WHO OCCUPIED A PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PULPIT IN WILMINGTON, N.C.

DEC 26 1944

COOPERATING WERE CHAPLAINS WILLIAM B.BRAY, EDFORD, ORE., A METHODIST; CECIL C.COUDER, BIGLER, PA., HO PREACHES AT A UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH AT COALPORT, PA.; HAVEN AVIS, PRESBYTERIAN OF MONROVIA, CALIF., KENNETH STEWART, OF NESTNUT HILL, WHOSE PASTORATE IS IN A MECHANICSBURG, A., PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

PFC.JOSEPH CILECEK, (HARRYL (Co) DRIVE,) JOHNSON CITY, .Y., GAVE A VIOLIN SELECTION, AND LT.CHARLES WATERMAN, (39 INERVA DRIVE), TUCKAHOE, N.Y., WAS ORGANIST.

CHORAL DIRECTOR WAS TECH.SGT.LUTHER NOSS, (Co) FORMER ORNELL GLEE CLUB DIRECTOR ON LEAVE FROM YALE.

A MIDNIGHT MASS WAS CONDUCTED IN THE SAME THEATER BY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS ARTHUR M.TIGHE, (5141 MAIN ST.), KANSAS CITY, MO.; AND GEORGE NICKEY, (901 WEST TENTH ST.) ERIE, PA.

AT THE MIDNIGHT MASS A COLLECTION WAS TAKEN TO RESTORE SAIPAN'S BOMB-DESTROYED SISTERS OF MERCY CONVENT. REV.TIGHE SAID HE EXPECTED AMERICAN SERVICEMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO EXCEED $10,000.

AT ONE B-29 SERVICE GROUP, STAFF SGT.ED SLUTSKY, (13 ASYLUM ST.), NEW HAVEN, CONN., A JEWISH FORMER ARTIST FOR FLEISCHER STUDIOS AT MIAMI, FLA., ERECTED A FINE CRECHE OR NATIVITY SCENE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF PVT.ROBERT EYLER, PEN MAR, PENN. THEY FASHIONED LIFE SIZE FIGURES OF MARY, JOSEPH AND THE CHILD ON BURLAP COVERED WIRE FRAMES, WITH CAMOUFLAGED SHRIMP NETS FOR MARY'S HOOD.

SEVERAL CAROLLING GROUPS, NEGRO AND WHITE, MADE THE ROUNDS CHRISTMAS EVE.

A SEABEE PARTY FOR 150 CAMORRO CHILDREN GAVE THEM THEIR FIRST SIGHT OF SANTA CLAUS AND CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS, AND ALSO THEIR FIRST TASTE OF ICE CREAM. MICKEY MOUSE AND DONALD DUCK MOVIES WERE SHOWN.

HV1009PCW

UNDATED — AP POLICY — EDUCATION

FURTHERMORE, DOMEI SAID, A BILL "RELATING TO THE REFORMATION OF OTHER POLICIES CONCERNING THE TREATMENT" OF KOREANS AND FORMOSA WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE IMPERIAL DIET.

DOMEI QUOTED PRESIDENT TAKETORA OGATA OF THE JAPANESE INFORMATI BOARD AS SAYING:

"I SINCERELY HOPE AT THIS TIME THAT THE PEOPLE OF CHOSEN (KOREA) AND TAIWAN (FORMOSA) WILL STRIVE ALL THE HARDER TO MAKE THEMSELVES WORTHY AS CITIZENS OF THE EMPIRE, AND THAT THE JAPANESE, FOR THEIR PART, WILL INCLUDE THEM IN THEIR CONSIDERATIONS, GUIDE AN LEAD THEM AS GOOD CITIZENS OF THE EMPIRE, TRANSLATE THE UNITY OF TH 100,000,000 PEOPLE INTO ACTION AND CONTINUE TO WORK FORWARD TO THE FULFILLMENT OF A JUST CAUSE."

DEC 26 1944

QD1258PPW NM

UNDATED JAPANESE-THAILAND

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DOMEI, THE JAPANESE NEWS AGENCY SAID IN A TOKYO BROADCAST THE COMMERCE MINISTER IN THE THAILAND CABINET, IDENTIFIED AS MOMLUANG DET SANITWONG, HAD RESIGNED. VICE MINISTER OF COMMERCE DUR BUNNAK WILL HANDLE THE OFFICE TEMPORARILY. THE BROADCAST WAS HEARD YESTERDAY (SUNDAY) BY THE FCC.

DV628PCW

DEC 26 1944

NAZI FORCES SWEEP TOWARD MEUSE RIVER, SEIZE LIBRAMONT, 23 MILES FROM SEDAN

ENEMY ADVANCES IN POWERFUL NEW ARMORED THRUST

Rundstedt Breaks Stalemate as Big Battle Rages Over Christmas.

YANKS ATTACK FLANKS

German Losses Mount Under Sustained U. S. Aerial, Artillery Fire.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—(AP) The Germans were bursting toward the Meuse in a fierce new show of armored power on this bitter cold Christmas day in which Allied air armadas for the third straight day darkened the skies with one of the mightiest attacks since D-Day and wrought terrific ruin.

On the basis of latest positions disclosed at Supreme headquarters tonight as of midday Sunday, these advances were measured in perhaps one to three miles, but from filed dispatches describing the force of the onslaught it seemed probable they had gone farther in terrific Christmas day battles bloodily costly for both sides.

Against toughened Doughboys resistance, the Germans this time were not reeling off big gains, but they had definitely broken the 48-hour virtual stalemate.

Drive Toward LaRoche

One of the new surges was aimed west of LaRoche toward the Meuse, probably no more than 15 miles ahead of advanced enemy units farther south, reported operating near Rochefort, 14 1-2 miles from the river.

A second was aimed northward from LaRoche in what appeared to be an attempt to outflank the St. Vith wedge which has split in two the big German push in Belgium.

One German force, pressing southward within 16 miles of the French border, finally seized Libramont, 23 miles northeast of the French gateway city of Sedan, and drove the Americans from Rosieres, eight miles to the east.

As these forces traveled south, an American relief force some four miles farther east was fighting north in an attempt to relieve Doughboy forces cut off in the Belgian road center of Bastogne, six miles ahead of its advanced positions.

Along the 25 miles of Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's southern flank in the Ardennes hills, Gen. Eisenhower's counter-attack kept up its steady battering but there were no further gains reported since this morning's announcement of the capture of three towns.

U. S. Forces Hammer Flanks

(The Berlin radio said U. S. forces in great strength, paced by veteran divisions of the Third and Seventh armies, went over to the attack Sunday on a broad front against the southern flank and had forced some German withdrawals).

Striking in almost as great force as yesterday's 7,000-plane blow, Allied warplanes today wrecked at least 56 tanks, destroyed or damaged 791 other armored vehicles and motor transport in a renewed aerial onslaught that lacked only the full weight of the heavy bomber effort of the two previous days.

Von Rundstedt still was throwing his greatest weight due west.

Bastogne, in the center of his southern most wedge, still was denied him by an epic American defense which scorned surrender and was being supplied by air.

Supreme headquarters said a particularly heavy battle developed near Marvie, a mile and a half southeast of the town, where the Germans fell upon the perimeter of the Doughboy defenses with tanks and infantry.

On the north, the strong German drive reached the vicinity of Lierneux and Grandmenil, 14 and nine miles southwest of Stavelot at the apex of the American triangle splitting the German drives.

It was not immediately disclosed what had happened inside the Doughboy triangle, but it was apparent that the American forces holding strong ridge positions there were in increasing danger of being cut off.

Along the north flank, the enemy was driven from the village of La Gleize, three miles west of Stavelot, and 150 prisoners were taken.

The line running west from Malmedy through Stavelot and Stoumont still was firmly held by the Americans.

Besides the terrific ruin wrought by the Allies from the air, the Germans were losing heavily in men and armor and it seemed clear that American losses too were running into costly figures.

One front dispatch reported an entire German division had been destroyed on an unnamed sector.

Nazi Tank Losses Mount

A second dispatch, possibly referring to the same action, said an armored division which speared the drive originally aimed at the fortress of Liege lost 178 tanks, armored vehicles and guns.

American prisoners released by their comrades said today their captor officers told them the offensive's schedule called for arrival in Paris Jan. 17, after which, they were told, perhaps "Roosevelt will talk peace terms."

Most of the front line action elsewhere — now that Eisenhower's Winter offensive has been stopped —was German patrol probing for secrets of Allied troops shifts.

The Germans crossed the Maas (Meuse) river at numerous points in eastern Holland, and also were active in the Saar.

The Americans reported a flare-up of small arms and mortar fire across the Roer from Linnich, but no attack developed.

To the south, Doughboys cleared the enemy from most of Winden, four miles south of Duren, and mopped up Obermauback, on the Roer bank a mile farther south.

The French gained slightly at Bennwihr, four miles northeast of Colmar, but lost ground to German counterattacks northwest of Colmar.

30.24— 21531

Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt lashed back yesterday at southern flanking assaults which had swept to within six miles of encircled Bastogne and narrowed the base of the entire Bastogne bulge to possibly 27 miles in Belgium and upper Luxembourg.

(The German High command said both sides had thrown fresh forces into the great Winter battle, that its troops had won "further successes," and launched a concentrated attack on Bastogne. It admitted strong U. S. assaults on the south flank).

Yanks Are Confident

A dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Tom Yarbrough with an armored outfit spearheading the Bastogne relief thrust quoted a staff officer tonight as describing the situation as "a bit more promising," and "we are confident about the outcome."

As of tonight, the staff officer asserted, no further broad enemy movements had been reported, although another front dispatch reported strong German pressure at all points of the western tips of the penetration had succeeded in making some gains.

Yarbrough declared the armored outfit was "one of the most famous and spectacular in the entire U. S. army."

Ahead of them the beleaguered American garrison of Bastogne had sent back to the German lines a flat "no" in reply to a surrender ultimatum and still was denying the use of that all-important road center to the enemy, hampering his westward push.

Bloody Bastogne—where the Americans had knocked out at least 55 enemy tanks which made a supreme effort to drive them out—may perhaps be one of the turning points in the battles of the bulge.

There still had been no large enemy advances through the 48 hours up to Sunday dawn—the last positions disclosed by Supreme headquarters under its 24-hour security blackout—but front reports said the Germans were striking again with infantry and armor.

Flying weather was not quite so good as the previous two days, but it was clear enough for a morning bomb and rocket onslaught which suggested the day's total might approach yesterday's 7,000-plane attack.

32 Tanks Destroyed

Ninth Air force fighterbombers alone before noon had destroyed 32 tanks and 80 other armored vehicles, blasting and blackening an armored column just as it was swinging into battle.

AP Correspondent Wes Gallagher described the enemy's offensive as passing from the "critical" phase into one of impending action with most of the front showing signs of stabilization.

In the Stavelot sector, he said, the Americans handed Hitler a grim Christmas present by tearing the heart out of one of his panzer divisions, destroying more than 178 armored vehicles, guns and tanks in eight days of savage fighting.

Supreme headquarters told of German tanks and troop carriers operating between Marche and Rochefort, the latter 14 1-2 miles from the Meuse, but gave no hint that Rochefort had been reached.

It was emphasized at headquarters that the momentary checking of the enemy's impetus did not mean his terrific assault force yet was exhausted. Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt has powerful forces concentrated in the whole Bastogne area.

Nazis Reach Point Between Marche And Rochefort

Dec 26 1944

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—Strong German tank columns and infantry units today jabbed westward into Amercian lines in Belgium, a front dispatch declared, and Supreme Allied Headquarters disclosed the Nazi push had knifed near a town 14½ miles from the Meuse River.

Allied headquarters, which releases information 24 hours late under a security news lag, reported German tanks and troop-carrying vehicles had reached points between the Belgian towns of Marche and Rochefort.

The section of the road between Marche and Hotten, within 20 miles of the Meuse, had been the enemy's previous point of deepest penetration in this sector. Rochefort, 14½ miles from the Meuse, is 5½ miles southwest of Marche. Headquarters did not locate the specific positions reached by Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's hammering counteroffensive.

Probing Westward Jabs.

Associated Press Correspondent Kenneth L. Dixon reported this morning that the Germans were sending powerful tank and infantry patrols in probing jabs westward into Allied lines.

While the Allies maintained fairly solid lines on the northern and southern flanks of Von Rundstedt's main penetration, Mr. Dixon said, tank-supported enemy infantry units managed to push forward along the center in considerable strength.

The German high command said both sides had thrown in fresh troops and reported continuing heavy American attacks o na broad front against the southern flank of the Nazi wedge in Central Luxembourg.

The Germans said they had opened a concentric attack on surrounded but strong American units in Bastogne, by-passed Liege-Arlon road city.

The Nazis claimed American relief attacks in the Stavelot sector along the northern rim of the penetration had been broken off.

Skies Are Clearing.

German planes were out in strength again during the night, field dispatches reported. Skies were clearing this morning and Allied planes roared out to the attack.

Headquarters said the destructive weight of yesterday's heavy aerial assault blows must certainly have a strong effect on the battle's outcome.

Mr. Dixon reported that American tanks beat off several strong Nazi assaults last night at points on the penetration rim. At least at one point, the dispatch said, American artillery spotted an enemy concentration of infantry and tanks and laid down a heavy barrage, breaking up a counterthrust before it formed. In another area American patrols found 34 burned German tanks and 200 enemy dead.

On the southern rim of the German drive, he added, the Americans are running into steadily-increasing resistance and are "being forced to beat off several tank-supported counterattacks in order to make headway."

100 Americans Freed.

American tanks cleaning out one pocket of Germans killed more than 400 Nazis, captured 150 and freed 100 Americans taken prisoner earlier by the enemy.

Gains in South Confirmed.

The Allied communique confirmed that American troops had scored gains into the southern flank of the German drive. The Americans have cleared the Germans from the Luxembourg town of Heiderscheid, 4 miles north of Grosbous.

(This would indicate a possible two to three mile advance, since previously the Americans were reported to have pushed their lines one to two miles north of Grosbous.)

An earlier front dispatch covering developments up to late Saturday morning indicated the American counterattack had halted the German offensive, at least temporarily, and had driven four dents into the enemy's southern flank along a 25-mile front. The Americans appeared to have lifted the menace from the city of Luxembourg.

A mile and a half north of cleared Heiderscheid the Germans hurled tanks and infantry into a sharp counterattack near Tadler, and headquarters said "heavy fighting resulted," a front dispatch said.

Chaumont Cleared.

The Americans bit into the German advance south of Bastogne. Chaumont, a village 6 miles south of that city, was cleared and fighting raged as the enemy counterattacked.

Six miles more to the south the Americans pushed in from the Liege-Arlon road, driving 3 miles northeast of Martelange to Bigonville, a field report said.

On the 3d Army front Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's forces gained 300 yards in the Saarlautern sector, on the east bank of the Saar River.

For the first time since the Germans launched their surprise drive 10 days ago, Allied headquarters described the ground situation as "developing favorably."

Picture of Attacks.

Reporting on developments up to late Saturday morning, a front dispatch gave this picture of the American attacks from the south:

American units had cleared half of Martelange, on the Belgian-Luxembourg border 21 miles northwest of the city of Luxembourg. It was at Martelange that the Germans cut the vital Bastogne-Arlon highway. Heavy fighting raged near Rambrouch, 5 miles to the east inside Luxembourg.

Sixteen miles due north of the capital of the duchy American lines were advanced.

(A possible 9-mile advance was indicated, since on Friday the Americans had been operating in the area of Mersch, 7 miles southeast of Grosbous.)

Gains Above Diekirch.

Gains were made in an area 5 miles west and northwest of Diekirch, or about 18 to 19 miles above the city of Luxembourg.

Yet another American force hammered on east of Diekirch, apparently around Berdorf, 17 miles northeast of the city of Luxembourg and less than a mile and a half from the German border.

Supreme headquarters disclosed last night that the German drive virtually had been stalled for 48 hours up to late Saturday. The only reported German gain anywhere along the offensive front carried only about a mile to the vicinity of Rosieres, 8 miles southwest of Bastogne.

Enemy troops were in the hilly heart of the Ardennes Forest, where tank and mechanized movement are difficult except along the main roads.

West of St. Vith an American force held its ridge line wedge which has kept the enemy's Stavelot salient divided from the big Bastogne wedge to the south. The Germans took the town of St. Vith in a Thursday night attack.

In the Stavelot sector, on the north flank 12 miles northwest of St. Vith, there were heavy exchanges of artillery fire. The Germans landed more parachute troops Friday night in areas north and northwest of Stavelot. Supreme headquarters disclosed that Saturday's announcement that the Americans had lost Stavelot was in error, although there had been seesaw fighting at the outskirts.

HEAVY U.S. ATTACKS REPORTED BY NAZIS

O'QUINN

LONDON, Dec. 25—(AP) The Berlin radio said tonight that U. S. forces in "great strength," with seasoned divisions from both the Third and Seventh armies, went over to the attack on a broad front yesterday and advances had been scored up the Arlon-Bastogne road.

The broadcast admitted that the attack on Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's southern flank had forced the Germans from the village of Warnach, 10 miles south of the Belgian road center of Bastogne.

The capture of Warnach was reported by Supreme headquarters in Paris in tracing developments up to early Sunday. Berlin said the Germans cleared out "after a prolonged struggle."

Enemy accounts claimed a rapid departure of heavy weapons and fast units from the Third and Seventh army fronts had been spotted, and that these had been thrown into the southern attack.

Berlin radio claimed progress elsewhere on the front, including an assault on Bostogne itself, and asserted that Allied attacks on the north flank had simmered down to local action.

The broadcast said the Germans had cleared the east bank of the Saar river in the Saar basin with the exception of a small American bridgehead near Fraulautern.

NON-COMBAT UNIT FIGHTS OFF NAZIS

Firing at Enemy First Time, They Help Hold Belgian Town Three Days

BARKER

SOMEWHERE IN BELGIUM, Dec. 24 (Delayed) (AP)—The adjutant of an anti-aircraft automatic weapons battalion explained today how cooks, clerks and mechanics of his headquarters battery, pinch-hitting as infantrymen, had fought bravely in the front lines for seven days to help hold back German armor that had made a deep penetration of an American sector.

"It was the first time any of these boys had ever fired at the enemy, yet they fought like veteran infantrymen and I'm sure proud of them," Lieut. Charles Boevers of West Bend, Iowa, said wearily.

"Our battery was moving out when a Tiger tank shot up in front of our column in a Belgian town," he added. "So we joined up with a cavalry troop. The cavalry colonel then gave orders to dig in and hold the town at all costs—there would be no retreat. Our mission was to hold the road open so other troops could get out with technical equipment which couldn't be replaced.

"With cavalry, ordnance and quartermaster troops we held that town for three days and three nights. All we had were carbine rifles, so we borrowed some bazookas and a platoon of light tanks.

"Finally we had to evacuate the town because the Germans started bombing us. So we moved back into foxholes and dug in for the first time in our lives.

"It was so cold that the water in our canteens froze and my boys were soaking wet. Some of them had only two blankets and others had none at all. They'd wake up in the morning with a mass of white frost on their faces—yet they stuck it out—and at one time they even went on an offensive patrol.

"All told," he continued, "we didn't kill more than ten Germans, but we kept the rest of them from coming in. Now I'm busy trying to find the rest of our battalion. I haven't the faintest idea where it is."

U. S. Troops in Bastogne Reject German Demand to Surrender

TOM YARBROUGH

AMERICAN TROOPS ON THE ROAD TO BASTOGNE, Belgium, Dec. 22—(Delayed)—(AP) The first major counter-blow against Germany's admittedly serious offensive was launched with tanks and infantry before dawn today and our forces advanced (distance censored) against light resistance in three inches of snow.

American forces in the Bastogne area, who have been encircled by the Germans since Wednesday, rejected at 11:30 a.m. today a German demand that they surrender while this rescue expedition plodded ahead over the roads and rolling hills and fire forests. The steady snowfall had suddenly turned the scene into one of breath-taking beauty.

Nazi Tanks Mounted

The American garrison holding the Bastogne sector has knocked out 55 German tanks and that is described as "a conservative estimate." It shows how badly the Germans want the road network that centers in that little town just inside Belgium near Luxembourg's frontier.

When a German carrying a white flag came forward with the demand for surrender, he gave the American commander a false report that three towns far to the west were in German hands. The American commander sent him right back with "no" for an answer.

The armored outfit spearheading this thrust into the hard underbelly of the German salient is one of the most famous and spectacular in the entire U. S. army.

With Jack Bell of The Chicago Daily News, I entered a small village late this afternoon while it still was being cleared in a house-to-house search. The Germans have been holding back all day and the snowy, frozen stillness was broken only by occasional crackles from rifles and machineguns.

There is a general feeling of confidence without cockiness reflected throughout our command in these parts and it is not deflated by the fact that our surrounded forces' withdrew from St. Vith today. St. Vith is 27 miles northeast of Bastonge. American troops there were ordered back to a stronger line.

Along with the feeling of confidence that this grave challenge to American arms will be mastered there is an acute sense of history among the commanding officers concerned. Time and again they glance at each other and say, "history is being made fast."

Divisions Recover Balance

Our divisions, including an especially gallant few which were badly mauled, have recovered their balance and now we are kicking back. If there ever was any desire on our side to lure the Germans into this move, they have come as far as we want them to come.

The Americans in Bastogne and St. Vith were not the only ones surrounded by Nazi tank columns which cut through our lines for six days like hot knives through butter. Another sizeable group of men also is holding fast (13 words censored).

The skies are leaden and so dense with fog or snow clouds that it is impossible for planes to fly.

As we followed the great dark noisy tanks to the front today, the scene on every side was like that of a picture postcard—with unspoiled miles of solid white and, shimmering in the background, endless masses of snowfilled evergreen trees of even size.

Skirting the western fringe of the German bulge all day yesterday on our way to this area, we found Belgians still waving enthusiastically in all the little towns, and we took it as evidence that the American prestige has not gone down too much with them because of this temporary setback.

They have seen some hurried departures from certain places and some of these civilians have bundled their belongings and hit the road themselves — but not many. Last night at dusk we saw a pitiable old woman wheeling along in the mud in a wheelchair.

When the full story of the last seven days can be told, there will be some new "hero" divisions whose deeds will live long in the nation's memory.

In the beginning, some of our forces were spread so thinly over the long front that at certain places the lines we held only by patrols. When massed enemy tanks and infantry hit, them, they suffered. In some places confusion and costly disorganization was inevitable, but our soldiers regained their balance. Tonight they are hitting back — and trying to keep warm around little fires beside their dark tanks that dot the moonlit snow.

AA GUNNERS FOIL GERMANS

BANKER

Two Marylanders In Group That Beats Off Tanks

DEC 26 1944

[Two Marylanders are mentioned in this dispatch]

Somewhere in Belgium, Dec. 24 *[AP—Delayed]*—Anti-aircraft gunners who stayed and fought after the infantry withdrew played a vital role in preventing the German breakthrough from going any farther by knocking out the first enemy tanks they had ever seen.

One of the standout jobs in the vicinity of Stavelot was that of an anti-aircraft battery commanded by Lieut. Leon Kent, Los Angeles, which destroyed five German tanks —including one "King Tiger"—in two to three hours.

Two Panther tanks were knocked out with borrowed bazookas by a pair of ack-ack boys who never had fired a bazooka before. Never given to wasting ammunition, they nailed the tanks with a total of four rounds. The successful gunners were Pfc. Roland Seamon, Clarksburg, W.Va., and Private Albert Darago, of 7805 Oak avenue, Parkville, Md. Their battery had been assigned to defend a crossroads with a 90-millimeter gun normally used against German planes.

"The first thing you know, a King Tiger tank, which is twice as big as our Shermans, came rolling up the road," said Lieut. Donald McGuire, Seattle, Wash., battery range officer. "We waited until it got in full view, and then let them have it. It caught fire and we killed the crew as they ran out.

"After our infantry retreated with word that they'd send up reinforcements, two more Panthers came along. We got them both with good, old 90-millimeter treatment."

Then McGuire added: "We'd still be there if the Germans hadn't brought up machine guns. We had no machine guns—just carbines. So we had to pull out after putting our 90-millimeter out of action with a rifle grenade."

Baltimore Sergeant There

Other Americans who helped destroy the enemy tanks were: Sergt. Alexander Sarkowski, of Baltimore; Sergt. John Davis, Coon Rapids, Iowa; Sergt. Guy Welch, Bakersfield, Cal.; Corporal Kenneth Humphrey, Waterloo, Iowa; Corporal Clement Guigar, Peck, Mich.; Pfc. Julius Fidram, Youngstown, Ohio; Pfc. Lawrence McGaffney, Akron, Ohio; Private Michael Breznak, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Private Arthur Giesinger, Canton, Ohio.

Tech. 5/g Kenneth Moore, Waynesburg, Pa., won Lieutenant Kent's praise for carrying casualties out of a building under fire from a machine gun which was only 15 yards away. Moore is the battery medical aid.

Tank destroyer units also did plenty of shooting in this sector. While covering a bridge, a tank destroyer platoon led by Lieut. Ellis McGinnis, Dallas, Texas, knocked out four "King Tigers."

His platoon included: Sergt. Clyde Gentry, Chickasha, Okla.; Corporal Buel, Sheridan, Texas; Pfc. P. B. Gonzales, San Antonio, Texas; Pfc. Raymond Clements, Jacksonville, Fla., and Tech. 5/g Fred Berrara, Corpus Christi, Texas.

Major Lee And His Men Trap 30 German Tanks

With American forces in Belgium, Dec. 23 *[AP—Delayed]*—Because of a daring exploit by Major John C. H. Lee, Jr., a convoy of 30 German tanks and a battalion of infantry are being whittled down in an American-made trap.

Major Lee, whose father, Lieut. Gen. John C. H. Lee, is deputy commander of the European theater of operations, worked his way with six men through the enemy lines and blew up a bridge over a small stream.

The enemy armor had crossed this bridge in an effort to strike north. Destruction of the bridge cut off the Germans' one escape route when they were met head-on by American infantry.

Major Lee, then a captain, was captured by the Germans during the Normandy landings last June 6, but escaped.

Paris In January, Germans Assert

In the Stavelot Sector, Belgium, Dec. 25 (AP)—German officers have told American prisoners that the Germans are scheduled to arrive in Paris January 17, according to Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's plan, after which maybe "your Roosevelt will talk peace terms."

This was revealed after eight days of heavy fighting in a valley during which the Americans released 130 soldiers who earlier had been taken prisoner and wiped out their captors almost to the last man.

Had Been Looting a Bit

WITH THE THIRTIETH INFANTRY DIVISION, in Germany (AP)—"I've been looting a little bit," Pvt. Frank Lewis, Wilkes-Barre, Pa., told his battalion officer. He wasn't reprimanded, however, because his loot consisted of three German officers, one sergeant and three pistols. Spying a pistol sticking out of the hay in a hayloft, Lewis had flushed the four Germans from their hiding place.

German Truce Request Answered By Mortars

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With the Canadian 1st Army in Holland, Dec. 25 (AP)—French-speaking Canadian troops on the German border answered a German bid for a Christmas truce with a reply of mortar bombs and machine-gun fire, it was disclosed today.

A front dispatch said the German bid for a 24-hour respite from fighting was broadcast over a public-address system in front of the positions held by the French-speaking Canadians about 10.30 P.M. Christmas Eve. The request was followed by a recording of "Silent Night."

"The boys waited until the music ended and then replied with mortars," said Sergt. Ned Ozimblowsky, of Montreal.

Headquarters' Units Held Nazis at Bay for 2 Days

Signal and Engineer Companies Battled Tanks at Hotton

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN BELGIUM, Dec. 23 (Delayed) (AP).—For two days headquarters' signal and engineer companies, which had been left behind when headquarters moved, fought a close-quarters battle with Germans in Hotton, with nothing heavier than bazookas to halt enemy tanks.

None had expected to be in the front lines, but when the crisis came they fought like veterans and turned houses into a series of small strongholds which the signal men connected by an ingenious hookup. Over this network they were able to call on devastating artillery fire when infantry finally took over.

Major Frank Martine, of 140 Roseville Avenue, Newark, who had been with the infantry outfit since it landed in France, described the action as the hottest he had seen.

One soldier who emerged from one of six German tanks smashed during the forty-eight-hour fight was in an American uniform and was killed by a rifleman. Examined later, he was found to have an American soldier's wallet in his pocket, in which were pictures of the American's children.

Pravda On Western Front War

Moscow, Dec. 25 (AP)—In a lengthly review of the German counter-offensive on the Western front, *Pravda* took the line today that General Eisenhower would deal with the situation, and gave the impression of every confidence in the Western Allies.

ARMY DISCLOSES DETAILS OF SALES IN BLACK MARKET

By GEORGE TUCKER

PARIS, Dec. 25—(AP) Army authorities made public today some details of black market cases involving American soldiers.

As disclosed by the Army, these included the following particulars:

Pvt. Morris L. Fredericks, white, serial No. 33552566, Pvt. Herman Coleman, negro, serial No. 391318-06, and Pvt. Turner Harris, negro, serial No. 14050807, went AWOL and lived two months in a Paris hotel allegedly supporting themselves on profits from the sale of government gasoline to the black market.

On the night of Oct. 13, Harris and Fredericks held up a cafe in the Montmartre district of Paris and obtained 2,100,000 francs ($42,000) worth of jewelry, bonds and cash.

The following night they were arrested by military police, and the night after that Coleman was picked up by MP's at another hotel. A general court convicted them and sentenced Harris and Fredericks to 30 years and Coleman to ten.

Case No. 2 involves Pvt. Herchel Maze, Jr., negro, serial No. 33784290, Pvt. Calvin Perry, negro, serial No. 38280457, and Pvt. Robert T. Williams, negro, serial No. 38278802.

These men moved into a hotel in the Paris suburb of Malakoff with 11,000 packages of American cigarettes and smoking tobacco which they said they bought from a negro truck driver. They operated a black market of their own.

For illegal possession and sale of government property, Maze and Perry were convicted and sentenced to 15 years imprisonment and Williams to ten years.

At the time of his arrest Williams carried 165,000 francs ($3,300). After his conviction this was returned to him on the ground that the court never had proved this particular currency was obtained illegally.

Case No. 3: Pvt. Homber B. Cardwell, white, serial No. 14068698, was convicted of being AWOL, selling government property and impersonating a non-commissioned officer, and sentenced to 25 years.

Case No. 4: Pvt. Walter L. Gordon, white, serial No. 36766050, was convicted of desertion and selling a government pistol and clothing to French civilian and sentenced to 25 years.

Case No. 5: Pvt. Raymond Maddox, negro, serial No. 33553286, was convicted of selling 600 gallons of gasoline to the black market. Arrested with him were three French civilians, one of whom had a U. S. Army automatic pistol Maddox was sentenced to 25 years.

Case No. 6: Pvt. Robert S. Jackson, negro, serial No. 33283486, was convicted of attempting to get gasoline under faked orders and sentenced to ten years.

Case No. 7: Pvt. Elbert L. Hufendick, negro, serial No. 37371117, was a truck driver on the famed Red Ball supply route. He was sentenced to 10 years for selling 285 gallons of gasoline to a French civilian. When arrested he had 14,000 francs and carried two German automatics.

Case No. 8: Pvt. Efrid King, negro, serial No. 34647109, was convicted of going AWOL with a trucklaod of American food rations, cigarettes and PX supplies and disposing of them in the black market. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Case No. 9: Pvt. Eddie Hackworth, negro, serial No. 34615763, was sentenced to five years for attempting to obtain gasoline on forged tickets while impersonating a non-commissioned officer.

Case No. 10: Pvt. Edward Frazier, negro, serial No. 34094576, was convicted of disposing of 1,055 gallons of gasoline in the black market and sentenced to five years imprisonment.

No addresses are available here.

Many records of old cases have been sent to Washington, so that detailed accounts are unavailable here.

Maj. Glenn Miller Lost In Flight Over Channel

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, Dec. 25.—Maj. Glenn Miller, director of the American Army Air Forces Band and a former popular orchestra leader in the United States, is missing on a flight from England to Paris, it was announced yesterday.

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Maj. Miller, whose home is in Tenafly, N. J., left England on December 15 as a passenger aboard a plane. No trace of the plane has been found since. His air force band has been playing in Paris—but no member of the band was with him on the flight.

NURSE AND HUSBAND REUNITED IN FRANCE

PARIS, Dec. 25 — (AP) Brown-eyed Capt. Jean Dickinson's Christmas gift was a reunion with her husband.

Capt. Dickinson, an air evacuation nurse from Taunton, Mass., was based in England and her husband, Maj. Frank Carroll, of North Platte, Neb., was stationed on the continent. Prospects were dim for their getting together on Christmas day.

A sudden change in orders brought Capt. Dickinson to the Paris area in mid-afternoon today. They met in a crowded Red Cross hut.

"We won't need mistletoe," Carroll said with a grin when correspondents pointed out that a green sprig hung in an adjoining room.

55 Pilots All Return For Christmas Dinner

CHAMBLEE

Eighth Air Force Fighter Station, Dec. 25 (AP)—When 55 Thunderbolts streaked off this field, banked into the sun and headed

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for Germany today, cooks began preparing turkey for Christmas dinner.

It was their job to guess how many places to set. They set 55 places. At dusk, the 55 places were filled.

The famed 56th Fighter Group—52 of its pilots are aces with five or more kills in combat—had returned without loss. Two planes were an hour late, but their pilots made it for dinner.

Ranging over the Cologne area on patrol duty, the group shot down eight enemy planes, bringing its three-day total to 45 and its two-year total to a record-breaking 800.

Fighter Group Passes Goal Of 500 Germans

A U.S. Fighter Station, Dec. 25 (AP) — The United States 8th Air Force's 357th Mustang Group shot down 31 German planes in yesterday's big air battles and thereby exceeded its Christmas goal.

For several days a sign had been hanging on the bulletin board—"500 by Christmas." The day's kills gave them 514.

The group, commanded by Lieut. Col. Irwin H. Dregne, of Viroqua, Wis., went into combat over Europe last February.

RUSSIANS CUT LAST LINE OUT OF BUDAPEST

KASTELHAZ

Drive To West Limits; Now Within 10 Miles Of Encircling City

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—The Red Army drove to the western city limits of Budapest today, cutting the last railway escape routes westward from the Hungarian capital, which was within 10 miles of complete encirclement.

A Soviet communiqué, announcing these successes, also reported a continuing Red Army surge westward in southern Checkoslovakia along the Hron (Garam) River in the vicinity of Leva (Levice) in a drive toward Vienna and Bratislava, now less than 98 and 65 miles distant, respectively.

List 12,000 Of Enemy Slain

The communiqué emphasized the clamping of the vise on Budapest, however, and announced that in fighting west and southwest of that city December 21-24 the Russians had slain 12,600 German and Hungarian soldiers, captured 5,468, and destroyed or seized vast quantities of war material. This included 291 tanks, 106 planes and 147 cannon destroyed, plus capture of 154 planes, many in first-class condition, 21 tanks and 101 cannon.

On December 24 alone 61 German tanks were knocked out southwest of Budapest, the Russians announced.

The Soviet drive brought capture of Piliscsaba, 13 miles northwest of Budapest, through which runs the electric railroad to Vienna. This was the last rail escape route remaining to the Germans.

Last Gap Roadless Tract

The enemy has remaining a gap of 9.9 miles between Piliscsaba and the Danube River, but this is a roadless tract of wooded hills, and the Russians north of the Danube already are driving westward with a view to cutting even that doubtful pathway.

The Budapest suburbs which the Russians announced they had captured along with more than 40 communities west and southwest of the capital were Budakeszi and Diosd. Buakeszi adjoins the city limits of Buda, western half of the city of Budapest while Diosd lies to the south. Soviet troops also captured Leanyvar, 18 miles northwest of Budapest.

Although their rail routes of escape were lost, the Germans in Budapest still controlled at least one or two airfields.

Spread Along River

Northwest of Budapest, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukraine Army was spreading out along the Hron on both sides of Leva, apparently preparing to storm that last important river barrier before Austria. Seven places were captured in that area, the Russians announced.

The Germans reported that they were contesting Malinovsky's westward drive through southern Czechoslovakia bitterly. In taking Leva, however, the Russians had seized the junction of railroads from Bratislava and Budapest, as well as control of a main crossing of the Hron.

Dispatches from Moscow said that it was apparent that in the five-day Soviet offensive southwest of Budapest the Germans had suffered one of their biggest reverses on the southeastern front, especially in the loss of machines and badly needed tanks.

Report 250 Places Taken

The reports reaching Moscow said that in the sweep through the Nazi defense line west of Budapest which had hinged on Szekesfehervar, Marshal Feodor Tolbuhkin's 3d Ukraine Army had captured approximately 250 populated places and brought in thousands of German and Hungarian prisoners.

Col. Ernst von Hammer, German military commentator, conceded in a broadcast that Tolbuhkin's tank spearheads had made significant gains northward, but claimed that fighting still was heavy southwest of Budapest.

He reported that the Russians Sunday had lunged as far as Felsogalla, 24 miles west of Budapest and about 13 miles south of the Czechoslovak border, as Tolbuhkin's tanks and motorized troops were "tearing up the front" west of the capital.

Germans Admit Retreat

He also admitted new German retreats north of the Danube bend above Budapest and from the Matra Mountains below Losonc and northeast of Budapest.

In the battle of western Latvia, where the Germans reported that Russians were attacking for the fourth day in an effort to wipe out 30 Nazi division penned against the Baltic coast, von Hammer said the Germans scored "full defensive success in thwarting every Russian attempt to break through in bitter fighting."

Moscow still was silent regarding that northern front.

Axis Retreat Roads Are Cut by Russians West of Budapest

Other Soviet Forces Reported 17 Miles Inside Slovakia

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—The Axis garrison in beleaguered Budapest faced entrapment today at the hands of Russian forces which, a Soviet communique said, have cut roads of retreat to the west after a swift 25-mile advance in three days.

At the same time other Red Army troops were reported to have stabbed 17 miles inside Western Slovakia and captured the rail junction of Leva (Levice), only 65 miles east of the Slovak capital of Bratislava and 98 miles from Vienna.

Strongholds Overrun.

The threat to the Budapest garrison was mounted by troops of Marshal Feodor I. Tobukhin's 3d Ukraine Army, which overran the important enemy strongholds of Szekesfehervar and Bicske, respectively, 32 miles southwest and 17 miles west of Budapest.

In the advance the Russians drove the enemy from 160 populated ploces, the Soviet war bulletin said, and seized a 9-mile stretch of the main Budapest-Vienna trunk railway between Bicske and Budapest. Only 17 miles now separates the tips of the pincers the Russians are closing around the Magyar capital.

Marshal Tobukhin's vanguards were reported within 7 miles of Budapest's city limits.

Meanwhile, Leva fell to Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2d Ukrainian Army, smashing westward above the Danube about 50 miles northwest of Budapest.

Seek to Trap Nazis.

While Marshal Malinovsky's main body pressed on beyond Leva on the road to Vienna, a part of his force fanned out northward into the Slovak Mountains in an effort to trap German units fighting far to the east in the exposed Losonc-Kassa sectors.

The Soviet communique said the two Russian armies had captured 4,630 Germans and Hungarians in the last three days.

Berlin reported without confirmation from Moscow that a big Soviet winter offensive was entering its sixth day in Western Latvia, where about 30 German divisions are trapped. German radio commentators told their listeners not to be surprised if the whole eastern front erupts.

RUSS-HUNGARY PEACE LIKELY

GILMORE

Parleys Held With Regime Set Up In Liberated Area

Moscow, Dec. 25 (AP)—Political observers in Moscow believe an armistice will be effected soon between the Soviet Union and the new provisional Government of Hungary formed at Debrecen.

All negotiations between this new Government and the Soviet Union are being reported fully to United States and British representatives in Moscow. Representating cobelligerents against Hungary, W. Averill Harriman, United States Ambassador, and John Balfour, British Minister, certainly will sit in on the coming armistice conference.

Military Men At Head

Two strong military men—Col. Gen. Bela Miklos as Prime Minister and Col. Gen. Jarosc Veresc as Foreign Minister—head the new provisional Government.

Its attitude should give the Soviet Union another friendly neighbor in the Balkans.

The Russians have said they wanted a strong Hungary, just as they wanted a strong Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia—strong enough to put down Fascism wherever it should rise again.

Admits Former Guilt

The first declaration of the new Government appeared patterned after the Romanian and Bulgarian armistice moves. The Hungarian leaders admitted the guilt of the nation's former leaders and declared Hungary should repay damages.

The Government is believed moving for the quickest possible armistice, in order to get Hungarian troops into battle against their former Nazi masters as soon as possible.

assault, the U. S. 8th air force based in England today sent 800 warplanes—half of them heavy bombers—streaking across the channel in renewed blows at the railroad and highway lifelines of the German counteroffensive.

Allied Losses Mount

Thirteen bombers and 19 fighters were missing from today's operations, bringing American and British losses for the three days of furious air action to 198 planes. Fifty-five were heavy bombers, 39 medium bombers and 104 fighters.

American fliers today bagged 44 German planes and brought the total of enemy planes destroyed during the same period to 375. On Saturday 183 Nazi planes were shot down. Yesterday 148 more were accounted for by Allied pilots.

Simultaneously, the U. S. 9th air force sent hundreds of its speedy bomb and rocket equipped Mustangs and Thunderbolts into clear blue skies over western Germany to hammer at forward Nazi troops and vehicles probing American lines in Belgium. By noontime more than 400 fighterbombers blasted advancing enemy armored columns from close range destroying 32 tanks, including three Tigers. Nine more tanks were knocked out, and 80 other armored vehicles were destroyed in bombing and strafing runs.

American targets today included road and rail junctions just opposite the bulge driven into the U. S. First army lines by the German push and a number of railway bridges west of the Rhine on vital enemy supply routes.

had hit enemy transport routes," reported Maj. Norman R. Crosson, of Pleasant Ridge, Cincinnati, O., a Liberator group leader.

The continent-based 19th tactical air force joined in the pummeling of German lines, destroying 282 motor vehicles, 11 tanks, two bridges and attacking 26 towns vital to the enemy drive in more than 300 sorties. 1944

As incomplete results of the day's victories came in tonight it was apparent that during the last three days of tremendous air action close to 400 German fighter planes have been destroyed. On Saturday 183 Nazi planes were shot down. Yesterday 148 more were accounted for by Allied pilots, and with only a partial tabulation of today's score available, 29 more Nazi aircraft were listed as definitely destroyed.

As German tanks and troop-carrying vehicles knifed westward many were set afire and exploded by Mustang, Thunderbolt and Lightning divebombers which caught the enemy vehicles as they rolled over the sunny, snowswept roads of Belgium. In attacks near Coblenz, squadrons of RAF Spitfires and Mustangs shot up military trains.

The Christmas day assault saw more than 1,500 tons of explosives poured on German installations—but only after violent combat over the battle area. Once more the *Luftwaffe* came up to intercept the raiders, and one 30-minute battle was fought over Cologne with a swarm of Messerschmitt 109's and Focke-Wulf 190's described by returning pilots as "unusually aggressive."

At least eight airdromes in the Frankfurt area were rendered unserviceable, and a number of parked enemy planes were destroyed, the communiqué reported.

Huge Allied Air Fleets Blast Nazi Supply Lines

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U. S., British Plane Losses Reach 198 in Three-Day Aerial Offensive.

LONDON, Dec. 25—(AP) Allied fliers rocked the Germans with a lightning one-two punch today as Britain-based bombers and fighters lashed out at vital enemy supply lines and swarms of fighters based in France, Belgium and Holland poured bombs and rockets on Nazi troops and armored vehicles in the third straight day of clear-weather attacks.

Following on the heels of the gigantic 7,000-plane Christmas Eve

Anti-aircraft fire generally was meager to moderate and there only were a few scattered attacks on the bombers by fighters, returning crewmen reported.

"The weather was clear and cold and the formations were the best I have seen in some time," said Lt. Col. Gibson E. Sisco, of Fort Wayne, Ind., air commander of the Liberators on the attack. "I think the boys delivered the goods in right places today for I could see a number of good bomb hits.

Nazi Transport Pounded

"All over the German countryside, little towns and crossroads were smoking where our bombers

Allied Bombers Resume Raids On Counterattacking Germans

Daylight Assault Follows Yesterday's 7,000-Plane Hammering of Nazis

BULLETIN.

LONDON (AP).—Eight hundred American planes—half of them heavy bombers—today dropped 1,500 tons of bombs on railroad bridges and road and rail junctions behind the German battle lines in renewed blows at the lifelines of the Nazi counteroffensive. Most of the bombing was visual, indicating the 48-hour stretch of good weather had held over at least into part of today.

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Waves of Allied bombers and fighters swept out from Britain today to renew their assaults on the German spearheads in Belgium and Luxembourg despite reports from the front that the skies were clouding after a 48-hour stretch of good weather.

Flying Fortresses of the United States 15th Air Force from Italy also were reported attacking the Reich from the south, German radio stations declaring bomber formations were over Austria and heading north.

At noon headquarters of the United States 8th Air Force in Britain announced that "heavy bombers are over Germany."

Approximately 7,000 Allied planes took the air over the western front yesterday in support of ground troops battling to stem the German counteroffensive. It was estimated unofficially that approximately 13,000 sorties were flown.

Allied losses yesterday were 39 bombers and 51 fighters. On Saturday Allied losses were 47 bombers—including eight heavies—and 26 fighters.

German plane losses for the two days were put at 326, but this was only a fraction of the destruction wrought by the Allied airmen.

Captive Yanks Bombed By Americans, Nazis Say

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—A Berlin broadcast today declared United States bombers set fire to an American prisoner-of-war camp on the Lahn river Sunday and that many Americans were killed.

"Direct hits were scored on several barracks, one of which was a hospital for the wounded and sick United States prisoners, and all of them were killed," said the broadcast by Transocean, Nazi propaganda agency.

"Out of 60 American officers, the greater part were killed. Others were seriously injured. Still other American prisoners of war who were just being transferred to the camp from a train were machine gunned," the German report said.

Swiss Town Reported Bombed By Americans

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—An American squadron bombed Thayngen, Swiss town on the southwest German border today, an official communiqué broadcast by the Swiss radio reported. The bombing damaged the German rail station on the frontier, some factories and a number of houses, the communiqué said. One German was killed and four Swiss were injured, according to the report.

The communiqué said that the last of three eight-plane squadrons of twin-engined bombers which crossed the town dropped explosives making "some twenty hits with medium and heavy bombs."

Thayngen is situated in the Canton of Schaffhausen, for whose bombing by mistake earlier in the war the United States has paid an indemnity.

An American four-engined bomber was shot down by Swiss anti-aircraft when an air fleet crossed over Wuerlingen in the Aargau Canton, also on the German border, the communique reported. Eight of the crew of ten bailed out but one of them drowned in the Aar river. Two were found dead in the plane. The surviving seven were interned, the Swiss said.

American Fighter Pilot Downs Three Germans

By The Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 25 — Lieut. George W. Gleason of Montrose, Col., shot down three German planes today to pace United States Eighth Air Force fighters escorting bombers in their Christmas raids against the German winter offensive.

Seven pilots scored double kills in the air. They were Lieut. Robert E. Welch of Brown City, Mich.; Capt. Bertrum E. Ellingson of Rosholt, S. D.; Capt. Richard J. Spencer of Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Capt. C. M. Hart of Westfield, N. J.; Lieut. Arnold G. Helding of West Missoula, Mont.; Flight Officer W. J. Charbo of Williston, N. D., and Lieut. Bernard H. Howes of Stoughton, Mass.

Each of the following shot down one plane: Lieut. Col. Donald A. Baccus of Los Angeles; Capt. Donald J. Strait of Montclair, N. J.; Major Arthur F. Jeffrey of San Francisco; Capt. M. J. Jackson of Plainfield, N. J.; Lieut. Richard O. Creighton of Los Angeles; Lieut. Eugene Sears of Beatrice, Neb.; Lieut. K. C. Batson of Playa del Ray, Calif., and Lieut. Horace Waggoner of Waggoner, Ill.

V-Bomb Raids Extended To Northern England

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—Berlin assertions that Manchester had been attacked by Nazi "long-range weapons" coincided today with an official British disclosure that the Germans have extended their V-bomb assaults to Northern England.

The twin developments recalled reports that the Nazis have been working to complete V-2 rocket launching sites in Norway.

It was not clear from reports whether the Germans were employing V-1 flying bombs, rockets or both in their latest attacks.

Former Army Leader Heads New Cabinet

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—A provisional Hungarian Government headed by Col. Gen. Bela Miklos, former commander of the Hungarian 1st Army, has been established in portions of the country liberated from German domination by the Red Army, according to the Moscow radio.

General Miklos was dismissed as head of the 1st Army after Ferenc Szalaski deposed Admiral Nicholas Horthy as regent and set up a pro-Nazi regime.

Named As Minister

The following were named ministers in the new cabinet:

DR. A. GELENCZINI, Justice.

ERIC MOLNAR, Social Insurance.

DR. JANOS GYONGYOSY, Foreign Affairs.

DR. FERENC ERDEN, Home Affairs.

COL. GEN. JANOS VOROS, Defense.

DR. ISTVAN VASSARY, Finance.

IMRE NAGY, Agriculture.

FERENC SZAKOS, Industry.

JOSEF GABOR, Trade.

PROF. COUNT GEZA TELEKI, Education and Culture.

After being ratified by the provisional Hungarian National Assembly, the new Cabinet ministers took the oath of office and immediately issued an appeal to the Hungarians to fight to break away "the only remaining satellite of Hitler" from the German orbit.

Queen Of Holland's Message Of Hope

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—Queen Wilhelmina today sent to the people of the Netherlands a Christmas message of hope for a better and peaceful future "in the sure expectation of speedy and complete liberation," the Dutch news agency Aneta reported.

The Queen, speaking over Radio Orange, Netherlands station in London, said "the message of Christmas enables us to call a courageous and convincing 'no' to the dark powers that threaten us with destruction."

JAPS CLAIM SUBMARINES OPERATE ON U. S. COAST

LONDON, Dec. 25.—(AP) Japanese submarines "are again operating along the United States Pacific coast," a Japanese broadcast heard by BBC said today.

The Domei broadcast said submarines were "striking in force" after a two-year period of "behind-the-scenes" supply operations.

The enemy report said four submarines alone, since the return of the offensive, had sunk four aircraft carriers, two destroyers and four transports.

Summarizing submarine activity since Pearl Harbor, the Japanese claimed 15 aircraft carriers, three battleships, five cruisers, three destroyers, two submarines and 200 transports, a total of 2,000,000 tons of shipping, had been "definitely confirmed as sunk."

Soviet Ratifies French Pact

London, Dec. 25 (AP)—The Moscow radio announced tonight ratification of the French-Russian mutual-aid pact by the presidium of the Supreme Soviet.

YULE CELEBRATION DISRUPTED BY WAR

LONDON, Dec. 25.—(AP) This was Christmas, Anno Domini 1944.

A mighty organ filled the vaulting darkness of London's Westminister cathedral with the throb of "Silent Night" at midnight mass.

(Westward an American defense line braced for the next hammer blow of a German army gambling on a knockout punch.)

Bright Christmas trees and lights cheered GI's far from home in Red Cross clubs and canteens.

(An infantry colonel said, "we just sat up on this hill and mowed them down. The whole valley down there is littered with their dead.")

The lilt of carols, traditional as Yuletide, echoed through deserted streets.

(German V-bombs struck northern and southern England. One hit a row of houses. A number of children were killed.)

Santa Claus came for the first time in this war to the Lambeth Walk home of the "three little littles"—Brenda, Bobby and Charles—who were thrice bombed out by the Germans.

(Berlin radio said: "Scientists responsible for the development of German V-weapons have been decorated with the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross.")

Postal staff worked overtime to distribute gradually diminishing mountains of mail for U. S. soldiers overseas.

(At a fighter base in England a tight-lipped commander reported: "Three of our lads are missing.")

It was turkey and fixin's for GI's behind the lines.

(Allied headquarters said "our forces isolated in Bastogne continue to hold out.")

LONDON'S RAIL SYSTEM IS CRIPPLED BY STRIKE

LONDON, Dec. 25 — (AP) A Christmas day strike in London's vast underground railway system seriously crippled the capital's transportation, stranding holiday crowds at main railway stations, and keeping war workers from jobs.

Buses on curtailed holiday schedule and taxicabs proved inadequate and many persons had to walk as much as five miles to reach home or work.

The tube workers had demanded two days holidays at Christmas time, and defied instructions of union leaders to remain on their jobs when management refused their demands.

London Subway Workers Quit

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Dec. 25.—London's subway system was paralyzed today as workers quit their jobs after a dispute over a two-day holiday.

Union leaders described the walkout as unauthorized. It was expected to last for one day only.

CANADIANS GAIN ON ITALIAN FRONT

ROME, Dec. 25—(AP) A heavy Christmas snowfall carpeted the Italian front today, confining activity to probing stabs at enemy positions after heavy German artillery, mortar and machine gun fire throughout the night.

The northward and westward push of the Eighth army above highway nine has whittled the strong, broad enemy salient east of Senio river from a width of 10 miles to less than five.

Canadian units advanced along the heavily-mined lateral road on the Senio's east bank, rooting the enemy from many fortified buildings in the area of Rossetta, 10 miles northwest of Allied-held Ravenna. They encountered thick German mortar and machinegun fire.

Ten miles to the south, the Eighth army captured Pieve di Cesata, five miles northeast of Faenza, yesterday, lopping the German bulge from the lateral road all the way to the Naviglio canal. Other forces spreading out from captured Bagnocovolla, five miles north of Pieve di Cesato, continued to clear the enemy from strong points along the Senio's east bank.

Due west of Faenza, Polish patrols slipped across the Senio, inflicted casualties on the enemy, and then withdraw. This stab was in the vicinity of Monte Chebrio, 5 1-2 miles south of Imola, the next important objective of the drive along the Via Emilia.

The Christmas eve snow brought relative respite to American Fifth army troops who had spent the previous day battling off Nazi counterattacks on newly won positions east of Monte Belmonte.

But there were a number of patrol clashes in the Fifth army sector, and in one hot action the enemy suffered a number of casualties at Monterumici, south of Bologna.

Snow sharply curtailed air activity.

Snowfall Stalemates Operations in Italy

By the Associated Press.

ROME, Dec. 25.—A heavy snowfall stalemated ground operations on the Italian front yesterday, Allied headquarters announced today, giving a respite to American 5th Army troops who spent the previous day battling off German counterattacks on their newly-won positions east of Monte Belmonte.

Air activity also was sharply curtailed, but Allied fighter-bombers attacked an enemy airdrome northeast of Vicenza, destroying 15 aircraft and damaging two others aground. Other fighters also strafed German transport, but heavy and medium bombers were grounded.

Aerial operations over the Balkans were limited to an attack on a railyard north of Mostar in Yugoslavia.

Pope Calls On World For Society of Peoples To Ban Future Wars

By the Associated Press.

ROME, Dec. 25.—Pope Pius XII, in his annual Christmas message last night, called on the peave-loving peoples of the world to do everything possible to ban future wars and indorsed the formation of a strong organization—a "society of peoples"—as a logical means to this end.

"If ever a generation has had to appreciate in the depths of its conscience the call to 'war on war', it certainly is the present generation," the Pontiff said in an address broadcast by the Vatican City radio.

He warned, however, that attempts to preserve peace would fail if a "perpetual burden" were placed on the defeated nations at the end of the present conflict.

People Must Have Hope.

The Pope said it was "understandable and probably inevitable" that those responsible for the war

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should have for a time to undergo the rigors of security measures until the bonds of mutual trust, violently broken, are gradually welded together again."

"Nevertheless," he cautioned, "even these peoples must have a well-founded hope—commensurate to their active collaboration in the work of reconstruction—of being able, together with the other states with equal consideration and with the same rights, to be associated with the great community of nations.

"To deny them this hope would be the reverse of far-seeing wisdom. It would be to assure the grave responsibility of barring the way to a general liberation from all disastrous consequences, material, moral and political, of the gigantic cataclysm which has shaken the poor human family to its very foundations, but which, at the same time, has shown it the road to new goals."

The Pope expressed belief that out of the depths of the present global conflict is rising "an aura of hope," a desire on the part of an ever-increasing number of people to make the war a starting-point for a "complete reorganization of the world."

"Taught by bitter experience," he said, "people are more aggressive in opposing the concentration of dictatorial power that cannot be censured or touched, and call for a system of government more in keeping with the dignity and liberty of the citizens."

Democracy in Monarchies.

The Pontiff declared that considering "the extent and nature of the sacrifices demanded of all citizens," the democratic form of government "appears to many as a postulate of nature imposed by reason itself."

He added that "democracy, taken in the broad sense, admits of various forms, and can be realized in monarchies as well as in republics."

After delivering his broadcast address the Pope celebrated the first public Christmas Eve mass to be held in St. Peter's in 75 years. A throng estimated at 100,000 jammed every available bit of space in the famous cathedral and overflowed into the courtyard.

GAME LINE-UPS SET FOR SPAGHETTI BOWL

SPAGHETTI BOWL HEADQUARTERS, Italy, Dec. 25 (AP)—The possible starting line-ups for the New Year's Day football game between the Fifth Army and the Twelfth Air Force, scheduled in the Spaghetti Bowl at an unannounced site, are filled with former college players.

The opening array, announced today, shows the Air Force Blockbusters boasting a backfield averaging 201 pounds behind a line stacking up at 214. The doughboys will rely on an all-corporal batch of ball-toters averaging 197, operating behind a forward wall averaging 218.

The contest will be staged in a stadium seating somewhere between five persons and 25,000.

The probable line-ups, with home towns and colleges:

FIFTH ARMY

L. E.—Corp Joe Czajka, Nemacolin, Pa. (West Virginia U.).
L. T.—Sgt. Cecil Sturgeon, Des Moines (North Dakota State and Philadelphia Eagles).
L. G.—Corp. John Powers, Chicago (DePaul).
C.—Sgt. Harry Karales, Chicago (Drake).
R. G.—Lieut. Charles Henke, Kerrville, Tex. (Texas Aggies).
R. T.—Corp Frank Chismar, West Franklin, Ill. (Southern Illinois semi-pro Redbirds).
R. E.—Lieut. Art Lemke, Irvington, N. J. (Georgetown U.).
Q. B.—Corp. Edward Brennan, Rochester, N. Y. (Syracuse).
L. H.—Corp. Gene Stauver, Indianapolis (Toledo U.).
R. H.—Corp. Laddie Lukas, Bonder, Tex. (Texas A. & M.).
F. B.—Cpl. John Moody, Freeport, Pa. (Morris Brown College).

TWELFTH AIR FORCE

L. E.—T/5 Antonio Solorzano, Los Angeles (Webster semi-pro Bears).
L. T.—Sgt. John Ramsey, Center, Tex. (Sam Houston Teachers).
L. G.—Lieut. Raymond Songaylo, Los Angeles (Loyola, Calif.).
C.—Sgt. Aldo Paletti, Clarksburg, W. Va. (Marshall).
R. G.—T/5 Robert Leonetti, Mount Carmel, Pa. (George Washington).
R. T.—Sgt. Joseph McShane, Bellerose, L. I. (Dayton U.).
R. E.—Sgt. Robert Geier, Cincinnati (University of Cincinnati).
Q. B.—Sgt. Martin Daugherty, East Pittsburgh, Pa. (St. Vincent and Appalachian).
L. H.—Corp. Arthur Faircloth, Washington, D. C. (North Carolina State).
R. H.—Capt. Billy Madden, Buckley, Wash. (Puget Sound).
F. B.—Lieut. Edward Shanks, Inglewood, Calif. (Texas Tech).

CHURCHILL, EDEN ARRIVE IN ATHENS TO ACT ON DISPUTE

ELAS Invited to Send Delegates to General Meeting Today.

FIGHTING CONTINUES

Leftists Pound British Positions with Artillery, Battle in Piraeus

ATHENS, Dec. 25—(AP) Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden arrived dramatically in embattled Athens today and immediately began conferences seeking to settle the 23-day-old Greek conflict.

Even as the British Prime Minister and his Foreign Secretary were arranging for a general meeting of all factions for 4 p.m. Tuesday, the Left-Wing ELAS group continued furious fighting with British and Greek government forces throughout this Christmas day. Cannon fire and rocket blasts reverberated in the city.

ELAS to Send Delegates

The ELAS was invited to send three or four representatives to the conference, with promises of safe conduct.

Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens, mentioned as a possible regent for Greece in previous attempts to settle the conflict, will preside at the Tuesday meeting.

The seriousness with which the Greek situation is regarded was indicated by the announcement tonight that Churchill and Eden had arrived and disclosure that Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Allied commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean; and Harold MacMillan, British resident minister in the Mediterranean, both were in Athens also.

Churchill, who has vigorously defended against numerous critics his action in using British troops against the Greek Leftists, immediately held conferences with these British officials, the Greek royal government premier and others.

News of the arrival of Britain's top leaders in Athens was the first intimation to the world of their personal intervention in the Greek internal crisis, which has involved three weeks of civil war.

Hefetofore they had dealt through MacMillan, and Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander-in-chief in Greece.

Armistice dealings with the Leftist ELAS have thus far been fruitless and fighting has continued.

Eden's Second Visit

This was Eden's second visit to Greece within a few months. He went to Athens with the late Lord Moyne, British minister resident in the Middle East, Oct. 26 a few days before the latter's assassination in Cairo and after Churchill and Eden had seen Marshal Stalin in Moscow.

The following communique was issued in Athens tonight and a copy forwarded the headquarters of the ELAS central committee:

"Mr. Churchill and Mr. Eden arrived in Athens today.

"After communication with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, commander-in-chief of the Allied forces in the Mediterranean, with the British resident minister for the central Mediterranean (Mr. Harold MacMillan) and the British Ambassador, (Mr. Reginald Leeper), they interviewed the Greek Prime Minister (M. Papandreou) and informed him that they proposed to convene a conference, representative so far as possible, of Greek political opinion."

"The conference is to enable her to resume her place among the United Nations. The central ELAS committee is being invited to send delegates to take their part in this conference. The necessary safe conduct will be given to these delegates. The archbishop of Athens has consented to preside at this conference as chairman."

At the same time as the communiqué was issued, a message to the ELAS central committee, in which General Scobie invited the ELAS faction to send three or four delegates to the conference, also was released.

"General Scobie received at 8 P.M. on the evening of December 22 a reply from the ELAS central committee to his statement of December 16. He is forwarding for the information of the committee a copy of a communiqué issued in Athens this evening.

"The central committee are accordingly invited to send delegates to take their part in the proposed conference.

"All necessary arrangements will be made for their safe conduct.

"It is suggested that they should send three or four delegates as they may prefer. The meeting will be at 4 P.M. on December 26."

The arrival of the Prime Minister and his Foreign Secretary brought no let-up in the fighting that raged bitterly on Christmas day.

ELAS Positions Hit

British Beaufighters blasted the ELAS concentrations with rockets and cannon in the northern suburbs of the Greek capital.

Artillery fire also was heard resounding in the central part of the city.

The ELAS forces were reported employing 37 mm. light anti-tank guns as field artillery for bombardment of the British perimeter of defenses. But their firing has become less frequent.

In the square 1,000 yards from British headquarters and around the American billet, heavy mortar and sniper duels raged. Sherman tanks made a series of raids on sniper nests west of the square.

Earlier the British in Athens' port, Piraeus, captured the main refrigerating plant for the capital area after a stiff fight during which the plant was damaged. Meanwhile, tank-supported British parachute troops increased their hold on the western sections of central Athens.

Greek Archbishop Damaskinos broadcast a Christmas appeal to Athenians for a cessation of hostilities, and charged Italians with having sown seeds of discord.

Tonight the fighting subsided somewhat and the city became quieter, but evidence that the struggle was not ended was the red glow of fires over the district a mile from where Churchill and Eden held their meetings today.

British Troops Seize Refrigerating Plant For Athens Section

ELAS' Note to Scobie Offers Little Hope for Ending Civil Strife

By the Associated Press.

ATHENS, Dec. 25.—British troops in the port of Piraeus today captured the main refrigerating plant for the Athens area after a stiff fight during which the plant was damaged.

Meanwhile, tank-supported British parachute troops increased their hold on the western quarters of Central Athens.

These operations came after the right of the British to intervene to "restore law and order" in Greece was challenged by left-wing ELAS leaders yesterday.

ELAS Make Demands.

In a message sent to Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander, the leftists again demanded the establishment of a Greek government "of common confidence" as a prerequisite to laying down their arms. They agreed to a cessation of hostilities only on condition that followers of other volunteer militia organizations be disarmed.

The note, dispatched in reply to a British memorandum of December 16, failed to alter materially the original stand of ELAS leaders and seemed to hold no hope for an immediate end of the civil strife.

Cleared From Half of Athens.

The British said yesterday that ELAS forces had been cleared from approximately half of Athens, but the Leftists still were strongly intrenched in warehouses and port buildings at Piraeus. A fresh detachment of Indian troops was landed at Piraeus over the week end under the guns of British warships.

In Northwestern Greece bitter fighting continued between ELAS forces and rightwing troops of Gen. Napoleon Zervas, with the Rightists reported suffering heavy casualties. After four days of fighting Gen. Zervas' Edes were said to have been reduced from 12,000 to between 4,000 and 6,000—partly due to desertions.

British In Burma Advance 10 Miles

Southeast Asia Headquarters, Ceylon, Dec. 25 (AP)—British 14th Army troops have pushed 10 miles toward the town of Yeu, only 70 miles northwest of Mandalay, in a Burma jungle advance against slight opposition, southeast Asia headquarters said today.

In central Burma, British units advanced southward from Kokkogon, some 18 miles southwest of the Irrawaddy River town of Tigyiang, a communiqué said. Chinese 30th Division troops operating in the northern combat area occupied two villages about 2 miles south of the Namhkam road near Daizik, just west of the old Burma road, it added.

American 10th Air Force planes again supported ground elements. One formation bombed a Japanese supply area near Maymyo, on the Mandalay-Lashio railroad, yesterday and hit rolling stock on the same line, the communiqué said.

Medium and fighter-bombers destroyed or damaged eight bridges in central Burma December 23, and heavy bombers last night attacked railroad yards at Phulangthuong, northeast of Hanoi, in French Indo-China, the communiqué said.

DEAD JAP SOLDIER BURIED UPSIDE DOWN

U. S. TENTH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, North Burma, Dec. 24—(Delayed)—(AP) Lt. Col. G. Robert Dodson, Air force liaison officer of Portland, Ore., returned today from a forward liaison plane strip in north Burma and reported seeing 15 pairs of Japanese feet sticking out of the ground.

Villagers said the Japanese had buried their own soldiers that way. Thirty Japanese feet, and several inches of legs, were all that was visible of the 15 enemy buried upside down in neat rows.

Chinese Batter Jap Supply Lines

Chungking, Dec. 25 (AP)—A series of stabbing attacks at Japanese supply lines northeast and northwest of enemy-held Kweilin, capital of Kwangsi province, was announced tonight by the Chinese high command.

While the main body of Chinese forces still battled for Hochih, in western Kwangsi, knifelike attacks struck at two important Japanese communications hubs deep in enemy-held territory.

The high command announced that hit-and-run Chinese troops attacked the Japanese west of the Hunan-Kwangsi railroad town of Chuanhsien, about 70 miles northeast of Kweilin. The Japanese suffered more than 120 casualties.

Other Chinese attacked Japanese positions north of Hengyang on the Canton-Hankow railway, killed 120 of the enemy and seized a quantity of supplies.

Chinese positions near the Kwangsi-Kweichow border were attacked by the Japanese based in Lungsheng, 40 miles north of Kweilin. The high command said the thrust was driven off.

Yanks 'Mopping Up' in Leyte Campaign; 'Greatest Jap Defeat,' Says MacArthur

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Tuesday, Dec. 26. — (AP) Gen. Douglas MacArthur declared today that the Leyte-Samar campaign "was closed except for mopping up" yesterday after American doughboys had captured Palompon in a water-borne assault which sealed the fate of the Japanese and closed their last escape port on north western Leyte island.

Asserting that Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita (Nipponese commander in the Philippines) "has sustained perhaps the greatest defeat in the military annals of the Japanese army," MacArthur's communique said the Japanese had lost an estimated 112,728 killed and 493 captured in the 67-day campaign.

Unparalleled Jap Defeat

"The completeness of this destruction," said MacArthur, "has seldom been paralleled in the history of warfare."

The magnitude of the American victory in the first phase of the campaign to liberate the Philippines was further borne out by Gen. MacArthur's assertion that 2,748 enemy planes were destroyed in the islands, since the landing on Leyte, by the Third and 7th fleet carrier planes, the Army's Fifth air force, Marine units and American shore and ship anti-aircraft guns.

A total of 27 warships and 41 transports sunk during destruction of 10 Leyte-bound Japanese convoys does not include enemy losses in naval battles in Leyte gulf Oct. 25. The American casualties of 2,623 killed, 8,422 wounded and 172 missing covered only the American ground force losses.

The coup de grace was given the Nipponese on Leyte Christmas morning (Philippine Time) when a 77th division force entered Palompon bay and stormed ashore while escorting U. S. Seventh fleet PT boats beat a tatoo against the beach and the division's own artillery laid down a heavy bombardment from advanced positions inland from Palompon.

The enemy had little with which to reply to the two-way barrage. By the time the 155 millimeter "Long Toms" had lifted their barrage, Japanese survivors of the blasting were doomed just as their comrades were on Dec. 7 when the 77th landed just below Ormoc, on Leyte's western coast, to provide the anvil iron on which the Seventh U. S. infantry division smashed the Japanese 26th division.

By nightfall of Christmas, the 77th's commander, Maj. Gen. A. D. Bruce, was able to message Army headquarters:

"The 77th infantry division's Christmas contribution to the Leyte campaign is the capture of Palompon, last main Japanese port on Leyte. We are grateful to the Almighty on this birthday of His Son."

Yanks Capture Palompon

The capture of Palompon on Christmas morning followed cleaning out of a small Japanese pocket around San Isidro 25 miles to the north. Most of the Japanese there were relics of reinforcing convoys destroyed before they could reach the port of Ormoc.

The capture of Palompon brought to a close the active military phase of the task MacArthur set for the Americans on Leyte three days after landing when he envisaged "the preparation of a great base for all arms for future operations."

In achieving this goal MacArthur committed—in addition to Army engineers, Navy Seabees, aviation construction units and supply troops—seven combat divisions: the 7th division, the 77th, the first cavalry, the 11th airborne, the 24th, 32nd, and 96th divisions.

Seventh fleet carrier planes, the fifth air force and Marine air units provided direct support, and Adm. William F. Halsey's Third fleet carrier units have given strategical air assistance from the beginning. Once they were called in to smash an enemy convoy approaching Leyte.

In support of the reconquest of Leyte, the U. S. Navy not only committed the most powerful carrier force involved in any Pacific operation, but early Oct. 25, when the fare of the central Philippines hung in precarious balance for several dark hours, Vice Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid's Seventh fleet met and defeated a Japanese battle force in the largest fleet action of the war in any theater.

The communique reported another of the daily strikes at Clark Field, near Manila, where 18 of 50 or 60 Japanese interceptors were shot down by American planes Sunday.

Yanks Close In on Japs' Last Leyte Strong Point

GEN. MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 25 (AP).—American doughboys, picking up enemy dead by the thousands, today rapidly closed in on Palompon, last Japanese strong point on Leyte Island, as Gen. MacArthur announced a 280-ton bombing attack on Halmahera in the Moluccas and fresh attacks on the Manila area.

Yanks of the 77th Division, pressing westward toward Palompon Port from the sealed-off Ormoc corridor, found Japanese resistance "weak and sporadic," Gen. MacArthur reported, and captured great quantities of tanks, trucks, ammunition, artillery and even construction material.

In one day's fighting 2,640 Japanese were killed and 28 captured as the Leyte cleanup neared a conclusion. It the last eight days more than 13,000 enemy dead have been counted.

Ineffective Jap Assaults.

Action at Mindoro Island was confined to ineffective Japanese air assaults on American ground positions. Seven enemy aircraft were shot down.

The devastating bombing of Halmahera was carried out by heavy, medium and light bombers which struck airdromes, warehouses, motor pools, communications facilities, fuel dumps and gun emplacements with such effect that smoke rose 3,000 feet. One American plane was lost on the raid, one of the heaviest on a single target in this theater.

Liberator bombers with a fighter escort wiped out an estimated 25 planes on Grace Park Airdrome at Manila Saturday. They encountered no aerial opposition in this second successive daylight raid by heavy bombers on airdromes in the Manila area. On Friday a flight of Liberators hit Clark Field, destroying or damaging more than 50 Japanese planes on the ground and setting fires in airdrome installations.

13 Freighters Are Hit.

Thirteen small freighters were destroyed or damaged in the bay at Zamboanga and Davao as heavy and medium bombers raked that Southern Philippines Island. Fires were set in wharf areas.

Central Philippines aidromes were cratered anew, petroleum installations on Northern Borneo took another pounding, and Japanese positions on New Guinea were effectively hit with 50 tons of bombs. Rabaul on New Britain took 35 tons.

In strange contrast to the bloody pre-Christmas greetings to Japan, American transport planes dropped Christmas salutations on liberated Filipinos, who waved back cheerily.

Filipino children gathered in front of Gen. MacArthur's headquarters on Christmas eve and sang carols.

In a statement, Gen. MacArthur wished the Filipinos "all the blessings of Christmas and realization of your fervent hopes for the New Year."

Story in Brief Of MacArthur's Leyte Victory

6th Army Landed Oct. 20 to Begin 2-Month Drive to Smash Japanese Power

By The Associated Press

High lights of the Leyte campaign in the Philippines (all dates given in Philippine time):

Oct. 20—United States 6th Army lands on east coast of Leyte.

Oct. 23—General Douglas MacArthur announces establishment of temporary seat of Philippine Commonwealth government at Tacloban, proclaiming authority of the commonwealth government.

Oct. 23-28—Second battle of the Philippine Sea, in which the Japanese fleet was soundly thrashed when it attempted to interfere with Leyte operations.

Oct. 25—American forces spill over to Samar, seizing southern coast of island just northeast of Leyte.

Oct. 30—MacArthur says liberation of 1,500,000 Filipinos on Leyte and Samar is virtually accomplished.

Nov. 3—Carigara, on Leyte's north coast, captured, virtually ending battle for Leyte Valley and eastern half of island.

Nov. 6—Battle for the Ormoc corridor of northwest Leyte starts.

Nov. 9—Series of typhoons hits Leyte, stalemating operations.

Nov. 12—First of ten Japanese convoys destroyed by United States air power when they attempt to land reinforcements at Ormoc, western Leyte.

Nov. 24—United States 32d Infantry Division captures Limon, northern anchor of Yamashita (Ormoc Corridor) line.

Dec. 8—United States 77th Infantry Division makes surprise landing just south of Ormoc against negligible resistance.

Dec. 11—77th captures Ormoc; enemy forces to south trapped and annihilated.

Dec. 15—Announced Japanese casualties on Samar and Leyte reach 82,554; American, 10,409.

Dec. 20—77th Division captures Valencia, Japanese headquarters in Ormoc Corridor.

Dec. 21—Destruction of Yamashita line completed; enemy broken into small units, flees into hills.

Dec. 22—United States 10th and 24th Corps pincers close on Ormoc Corridor; remnants of enemy force flee west.

Dec. 25—77th Division captures Palompon, last enemy supply port.

Dec. 26—General MacArthur announces Leyte campaign closed.

Carols Are Sung Despite Jap Raid

General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, Dec. 25 (AP)—Raiding Japanese planes interrupted Christmas Eve carolers singing "Silent Night" at General MacArthur's Leyte headquarters.

Three warning blasts of the air-raid alert system failed to halt the singers but they were stilled when the heavy ack-ack batteries opened a torrent of fire.

A cross beam of searchlights caught one enemy plane and illuminated him as bright as tinsel. Shortly thereafter the intruder burst into flames in midair and seemed to hang an instant in the moonlight like the star of Bethlehem. Then he dropped into the sea.

Hundreds of GI's watching the sky performance let out a roaring cheer.

Then the imperturbable WAC and GI choristers resumed their caroling, this time with "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas."

"You can't beat people like that," remarked one soldier.

Iwo Jima Under Attack

Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 25 (AP)—Iwo Jima, Japanese base in the Volcano Islands 750 miles south of Tokyo, was shelled by United States warships and bombed by Superfortresses and Liberators Saturday in a second co-ordinated sea-air assault, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The task force warships bombarded coastal defenses of the lava rock island and shore guns "offered some" return fire, Nimitz reported. None of the American ships was damaged, however.

A Japanese destroyer escort vessel was caught in the raid and sunk by shellfire. A patrol craft and a medium-sized landing ship also were sunk by gunfire.

Iwo Jima was last hit in a joint ship-and-air assault on December 7 designed to halt raids on the Superfortress base of Saipan which the Japanese made from Iwo. The enemy has been unable to attack Saipan from the air since that pounding.

The communiqué did not specify the size of the B-29 force that participated in Saturday's assault, merely saying that planes of the 21st Bomber Command joined strategic air force bombers and fighters.

Lightnings As Escort

Lightning fighters escorted the Liberators on the nearly 1,500-mile round-trip flight and strafed Iwo's airstrips and shore defenses. One enemy plane was destroyed on the ground and six others damaged.

Only two Nipponese fighters attempted to intercept the raiders. Anti-aircraft fire was reported meager. All the planes returned.

Chichi Jima in the Bonins, to the north of Iwo, also was hammered Saturday by strategic air-force bombers. The airstrips were the major target.

Marine fighter planes swept over Babelthuap Island in the Palaus group the same day, setting several buildings afire, and Marine and Navy bombers continued neutralizing attacks on isolated enemy bases in the Marshall Islands.

Today's communiqué was the first report that the B-29's had teamed with Liberators and surface ships to blast Iwo. It had been announced in Washington yesterday only that the Superfortresses had hit the island, which has been bombed daily since December 7.

Iwo Jima Hammered By B-29s and Liberators

PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 25 (AP).—A heavy weight of American bombs fell over the week end on Iwo Jima, closest Japanese base to Saipan, home grounds of the giant Super Fortresses which have been blasting Tokyo.

B-29s teamed up with Liberators in the twofold raid on the Japanese island in the Volcano Group. On Saturday (Sunday, Japanese time), a force of perhaps 50 Super Fortresses attacked Iwo Jima, and "heavy explosions in military installations" were observed. The raid was announced by the 20th Air Force.

All B-29s Return.

The assault followed an attacked on the island Friday (Saturday, Japanese time), when four-engined Liberators blasted it for the 16th consecutive day in the American drive to remove its threat to the Saipan base.

The B-29s all returned to their Marianas base, and airmen reported anti-aircraft fire was light and inaccurate. Their reports suggested the unremitting air attacks may have reduced Iwo Jima's defenses to a point where no further serious resistance can be expected from that source.

On the later raid the Liberators encountered only two Japanese interceptors which offered nominal resistance, said Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's communique.

Iwo Jima, 750 miles south of Tokio, has been bombed 20 times this month.

Woleai Also Attacked.

Another Liberator group from Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's Strategic Air Force attacked Woleai in the Western Carolines in a reconnaissance to make sure the enemy has not been able to fly in reinforcements.

Three Japanese barges were sunk and three more damaged as Marine Corsairs strafed Babelthuap in the Palaus. Marine fighter planes and divebombers bombed Japanese-held islands in the Marshalls which have been largely inactivated by the Allies nearly a year ago.

2 COLONELS LOST IN B-29 TOKYO RAID

Major, Nine Others in Crippled Superfortress Believed to Have Died Also

U. S. 21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Saipan, Dec. 3 (Delayed) (AP)—A Superfortress was lost over Tokyo today, carrying two colonels, a major and nine others to almost certain death.

It was the second B-29 downed in combat there. Among those lost were Col. Byron Elias Brugge, 35 years old, son-in-law of the late

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Maj. Gen. Clarence L. Tinker; Col. Richard Thomas King Jr., 36, and Maj. Robert Flood Goldsworthy, 27, of Rosalia, Wash., the pilot.

Disabled by the gunfire of a Japanese plane, the Superfortress went down with two engines smoking and enemy fighters trailing it closely. One wing was apparently buckling when last seen. Nobody was seen to parachute.

Colonel Brugge, a native of Brooklyn, lived in Tampa, Fla., with his wife and their two young sons. He was deputy chief of staff in charge of operations for a Twenty-first Bomber Command unit.

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A graduate of West Point in 1934, Colonel Brugge trained for flying at Randolph and Kelly Fields, Tex., and Chanute Field, Ill. He served in the Canal Zone for three years. His wife, Madeline, is the daughter of General Tinker, the full-blooded Indian general who commanded the United States Seventh Air Force and was killed in the Battle of Midway in June, 1942.

Colonel King, a native of Georgetown, S. C., commanded a combat unit in the Twenty-first Bomber Command. His wife, Claire, and their 6-year-old son, Richard, live in Tampa. Major Goldsworthy had a wife and son in Thornton, Wash.

Santa Claus on Guam

GUAM, Dec. 25 (via Navy Radio) (AP).—Santa Claus came to Guam today for the first time in three years. He wore a Seabee uniform under his brilliant red suit, and passed out gifts to the Chamorro children from the back of a carabao while American soldiers played boogie woogie for the natives from an improvised stage.

Last year, recalled thirteen-year-old Herman Perez, "there was no party, no cake, no candy, no rations and the Japanese beat me when I didn't work fast enough on their airfield."

Guam Nurse Says Japs Beheaded Children

In a U.S. Hospital, Guam, Dec. 25 (AP)—Flanked by Doctors William B. Ruocco, of Paterson, N.J., and Jack Doval, of Sacramento, Cal., Nurse Sizuenza who remained in Guam during the Japanese occupation told today how Japanese beheaded native youngsters.

Naming two of them, she said: "Beatrice Perez and Juan Cabrera, about 16, were found one day almost beheaded and in terrible condition. The Japanese had accused them of being spies because they were not living in the compound.

"So just before you Americans arrived," she said, "the Japanese struck them with swords and tried to behead them and tossed them in a grave where they were left for dead and partially buried.

"They were found seven days later," she said, "with thirteen other children who had been beheaded."

Allied Warships Shell Bonins, Japs Report

Attack Carried Out By Destroyers and Cruisers, Tokyo Says

By the Associated Press.

The Tokyo radio reported today that about a dozen Allied warships shelled the Bonin Islands 600 miles south of Japan yesterday.

The unconfirmed broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said "10 and several more enemy cruisers and destroyers" fired on shore installations from 10:20 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Japanese time). Simultaneously a series of raids were carried out by various types of enemy planes.

The specific islands in the group under attack were not announced.

If confirmed it would be the fifth naval attack on the Bonin-Volcano Island groups along the road to Tokyo.

RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON AUSTRALIAN RACING

SYDNEY, Australia, Dec. 25.—(AP) A spokesman for the Australian Jockey club, chief racing body in Sydney, said today Australia had placed restrictions on racing for purposes similar to Washington's decision to close tracks during wartime.

In order to save labor and critical materials, the spokesman said, Australia dropped her race fixtures from a normal 111 annuallly to 40 at one stage. Recent modifications have restored the number to 55.

YULETIDE MARKED BY TROOPS ABROAD

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans in London, grimly following reports of the great battle in Belgium, joined their British friends yesterday in what probably was the quietest Christmas celebration on record there. A one-day strike of workers on London's vast subway system paralyzed the capital's transport network, and Americans and British alike had to give up their plans or walk miles to keep their Christmas engagements.

Hundreds of American airmen in action at noon had their Christmas turkey dinners and celebrations later in the day at bases scattered all over Britain.

In the Far East other Americans celebrated the day. In north Burma, the land of jungles and Buddha temples, some units built Christmas trees of bamboo and others received real Christmas trees flown in from India by 10th Air Force planes.

In Myitkyina there were 11 church services, attended by Americans, British, Indians, Chinese, Burmese and Kachins. The Red Cross presented a pageant of the birth of Christ. It was staged only a few dozen yards from a statue of Buddha.

All the Americans in Myitkyina had turkey for dinner.

China's war capital, Chungking, spent its eighth Christmas of the conflict heartened by the failure of the Japanese to make good a boast that Kunming and Chungking would be theirs by Christmas. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek gave a Chinese-American Christmas luncheon for about 20 guests, including Maj. Gen. Patrick Hurley, President Roosevelt's representative; Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, U. S.-China theater commander, and Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, chief of staff of U. S. forces in China.

At a U. S. 14th Air Force base somewhere in China, the Chinese adapted an old custom of their land to the western Christmas. They made ceremonious presentations of fattened cattle and Chinese delicacies to the American army establishments there. Maj. Gen. Claire I. Chennault thanked the townpeople on behalf of the men for 10 steers, 100 bottles of Chinese gin and such gifts. The animals wore red cardboard Christmas bells around their necks and their horns were festooned with red and green decorations.

Except for a prominent report of President Roosevelt's Christmas message to the people of the United States Sunday night, Christmas scarcely was noticed in the Soviet Union.

The Russian Christmas is almost two weeks away and the general celebration takes place then. The British embassy held an official reception Monday night. The Americans held theirs Sunday night.

BRITISH MONARCH PRAYS FOR PEACE

Hope for End of Hostilities Within Year Voiced by George VI

DEC 26 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Around the world last night a prayer went up in all Allied nations and on all Allied battlefronts—a prayer for quick victory and enduring peace—on the sixth Christmas day of bloody global warfare.

King George VI of England voiced the prayer of all Allied peoples. In an address from the royal fireside, heard in the United States and the Commonwealth, the Monarch expressed the hope that "before the next Christmas the story of liberation and triumph will be complete."

In his most optimistic wartime Christmas message to his people, the British ruler said that "the lamps which the Germans put out all over Europe, first in 1914 and then in 1939, are being slowly rekindled," and he added that "we long for a new birth of freedom and order among all nations so that happiness and concord may prevail and the scourge of war may be banished from our midst."

In like vein, Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands sent her people a message of hope and of confidence in speedy liberation, telling them that "the message of Christmas enables us to call a courageous and convincing 'no' to the dark powers that threaten us with destruction."

300 ITALIAN CIVILIANS MASSACRED AT MONCHIO

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Office of War Information reported last night (Monday) that members of the German SS. elite guard and Italian Fascists had massacred about 300 civilians at Monchio, in the Reggio Emilia region of northern Italy, according to reports received from abroad.

The OWI said the persons massacred were accused of sympathizing with Italian patriots, according to Italian partisans who reached Florence after passing through the enemy lines.

Japs Report Tokyo Raid

San Francisco, Dec. 25 (AP)—Scouting Superforts gave Tokyo a blazing Christmas in the wake of a heavy naval and aerial bombardment of the Bonin Islands on the southern approaches to the imperial capital, Japanese broadcasts reported today.

About a dozen "enemy cruisers and destroyers" shelled the Bonins for about two and a half hours around midday Sunday (Japanese time), the broadcasts said. The islands, unnamed in the report, were simultaneously bombed in a series of air attacks.

Early this morning three B-29's, the radio said, poured incendiaries on Tokyo, Yokohama and Shizuoka perfecture southwest of the capital.

B-29 Attack on Tokyo And Adjacent Areas Reported by Japs

By the Associated Press.

The Tokyo radio reported today that three Super Fortresses paid Christmas visits to Tokyo and nearby areas, dropping incendiary bombs.

The domestic broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said the capital, Yokohama and Shizuoka prefecture lying southwest of Tokyo, were hit "by single planes in three waves."

The B-29s, apparently on weather observation flights from Saipan, were over Japan from 2 to 3 a.m. (Tokyo time).

HIROHITO OFFICIATES AT PALACE CEREMONY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emperor Hirohito of Japan officiated today at a palace ceremony marking the 18th anniversary of the death of his father, Emperor Hoshihito, Domei news agency reported from Tokyo.

"His majesty paid homage to the soul of the late emperor" Domei said in the broadcast heard by the Federal Communications commission.

Hirohito succeeded to the throne Dec. 26, 1926, the day of his father's death, to introduce the era the Japanese have named Showa—"era of enlightened peace."

N.A.M. Reports Russia Cutting Lend-Lease Tie

DEC 26 1944

Moscow Is Expected to Place All U. S. Trading Under Amtorg Agency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 (AP).—"The N. A. M. News" says high government officials expect Russia to withdraw from lease-lend at the end of the pending commitments.

The organ of the National Association of Manufacturers predicts that Amtorg, Soviet trading agency with headquarters in New York, will take over all Russian buying and selling in this country. It adds that officials expect the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, which is distinct from Amtorg, to be liquidated by next summer.

The manufacturers' weekly quotes "sources close to Russian officials in Washington" as saying the Administration will present to Congress several proposals for government guaranty of foreign credits extended by American business. It adds:

"That the Russians expect one or more of these proposals to be passed by Congress as a prelude to a United States-Soviet commercial treaty, is evidenced by their intention to keep most of their purchasing commission officials in the United States to handle Amtorg business."

The protocol covering lease-lend for Russia expired June 30 at the end of the fiscal year, "The N. A. M. News" says, and the renewal has not yet been signed.

The lack of an effective protocol, the story says, "has created some confusion among American manufacturers handling Russian lease-lend orders, and apparently some concern among State Department and Foreign Economic Administration officials."

France's Ambassador Arrives At Washington

Washington, Dec. 25 (AP)—Henri Bonnet, France's first Ambassador to Washington since her liberation from the Nazis, has assumed his duties here.

With Madame Bonnet, he arrived by air last night from Paris. French affairs here previously were in charge of Henri Hoppenot, chairman of the French delegation, who departed several days ago. Bonnet is not related to the former Ambassador and Finance Minister, Georges Bonnet.

PAN-AMERICAN ENVOYS TO MEET IN SPRING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—(AP) A Pan-American foreign ministers conference to discuss hemisphere problems may be held either immediately before or after a United Nations meeting, probably in March or April.

Argentina has asked a conference to discuss her diplomatic isolation. The delay of most nations in answering her request and the vagueness of replies sent in make it certain that the meeting will not be on Argentina's terms, according to diplomats here.

Heretofore the State department has favored a conference, but opposed discussing the Argentine position for the time being.

It seems likely now that the United States will agree to take up the Argentine case, under special conditions.

MESH LEAGUES, PROPOSAL ASKS

Idea Is To Continue Functions Of Old In The New

DEC 26 1944

Washington, Dec. 25 (AP)—A proposal that League of Nations functions be incorporated in the new world peace organization may be submitted to the forthcoming United Nations conference.

It was learned today that the League committee has decided that the World War I peace agency should continue functioning until its duties can be assumed by the projected United Nations security group. This committee was selected to run the League during the war.

At a London meeting just concluded the committee agreed that League functions should be meshed with the peace agency envisaged by the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

Several Still Operating

Several League agencies still are operating, including the interna-

tional labor organization, financial and economic sections and part of the secretariat.

The League's 45 members must be consulted on its dissolution. This probably will be done through diplomatic channels, since a League meeting is not feasible.

Disposition of the League's buildings and money will be settled finally by all its members. The palaces at Geneva probably will be sold.

Geneva Unlikely As Site

It seems certain that the new peace organization will not be established at Geneva. Russia is supporting Vienna as the site, Washington diplomats say. Brussels and Luxembourg have been suggested.

About 500 treaties referring to the League must be changed to the future peace agency.

Washington officials say nothing definite can be done about dissolving the League until the new organization is created.

Neutrals Among Members

One problem is that several neutral countries are League members. While the Dumbarton Oaks plan provides for admission to the new peace agency of "all peace-loving nations," it is not expected that nonmembers of the United Nations will participate until the war settlement is completed.

No enemy country still is affiliated with the Geneva organization. Japan, Italy, Germany and even Spain and Argentina withdrew over differences with the League.

Russia quit before the war. The United States never joined.

The status of the former Axis satellites—Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary—is unclear.

They never formally withdrew but ceased to take part as they fell under Nazi domination.

RECRUITING OF WACS TO CONTINUE IN 1945

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—(AP) Recruiting for the Women's Army corps will continue in 1945 with emphasis on obtaining qualified hospital technicians.

The War department, announcing this today, said there is an acute need for medical and surgical technicians. WACS recruited for this duty will be given specialized training.

Women with other special skills also are needed.

Conjecture Centers on Wallace to Replace Miss Perkins in Labor Department Post

DEC 26 1944

By the Associated Press

Postmaster General Walker wants to quit the cabinet, and there may be other changes when the fourth term begins.

Mr. Walker has been variously reported as ready to step out and then as having reconsidered, but his intimates insist that he means business this time—unless, of course, President Roosevelt asks him to stay.

Robert E. Hannegan, Democratic National Committee chairman, has been considered in Washington political circles as Mr. Walker's logical successor.

But some hitches may have developed. There is talk that former Senator Sam Jackson of Indiana, who was chairman of the 1944 Democratic convention, is in the picture as a possible appointee. Senator Jackson was defeated in November for Governor of Indiana.

Some resentment against Mr. Hannegan has developed on Capitol Hill. A number of Democrats were displeased by the way he ran the campaign and his actions since. The national chairman is understood to have demanded that all patronage be cleared through his office, a proposal that some Senators dislike.

Reports have circulated on Capitol Hill that Secretary of Labor Perkins also may leave the cabinet after the inaugural. Such talk has prompted conjecture that Henry A. Wallace, the retiring Vice President, may be offered the labor post and a chance to consolidate all the Government's multiple labor agancies under his direction.

Mr. Wallace's friends say he has not decided on his future and has no definite knowledge of President Roosevelt's plans for him, if any, despite a two-hour conference between the two recently.

At that time Mr. Roosevelt was represented as suggesting that any decision on Mr. Wallace's future be put off until January 4, after Congress convenes again.

Walker Reported Ready to Quit; Other Cabinet Changes Seen

Washington, Dec. 25 (AP) — A world organization to promote aerial commerce would be established under plans drawn up by a group of international airline operators.

The group has just sent to several hundred airline officials all over the world a tentative draft of articles of incorporation for the world association, plus an invitation from Cuba to meet in Havana on April 16 and complete the organization.

The movement to establish such a body was begun at Chicago on the last day of the International Civil Aviation Conference. An eight-member drafting committee was appointed and met in Washington the week of December 11 to draw up articles of association.

The association would probably have its headquarters in Chicago. The proposed articles list its objectives as:

1. To promote safe, regular and economical air commerce.
2. To provide means for collaboration among air transport enterprises.
3. To co-operate with other international organizations.

The draft, along with statements by the committee and by Col. Edgar S. Gorrell, president of the Air Transport Association of America, are included in a booklet being mailed out from Gorrell's office.

Airlines Begin Organization For International Commerce

when their powers expire at midnight January 2.

The special committee investigating un-American activities, better known as the Dies Committee, is one of the oldest and certainly the best known of the group. Its chairman, Representative Martin Dies, of Texas, did not seek re-election. Without the colorful Texan to lead the biennial renewal fight, other members have decided to call it quits.

Records To Be Retained

Several hundred filing cabinets packed with Dies Committee records will be turned over to the House clerk early in January for safekeeping and posterity.

The "select committee to investigate the Federal Communications Commission" is expected to follow the Dies Committee into oblivion.

Created by the Seventy-eighth Congress, it competed with the Dies Committee for newspaper headlines. Its original chairman, Representative Cox (D., Ga.), resigned amid a controversy with James L. Fly, then FCC chairman. Cox was succeeded by Representative Lea (D., Cal.), who promptly ran into a committee row over whether its hearings should be open or closed.

Another headline-making committee, the "select committee to investigate acts of executive agencies beyond the scope of their authority," likewise is expected to die. Its chairman is Representative Smith (D., Va.), father of many committee reports lambasting the OPA and other executive agencies.

Chairman Vinson (D., Ga.) has said he would not seek continuance of special investigating groups within his House Naval Committee.

End Of Dies Committee And Other Groups Likely

Washington, Dec. 25 (AP)—The Dies Committee and a dozen other special House investigating groups seem headed for quiet burial next week.

On Capitol Hill the current mood is to deny them an extension of life

Chairman May (D., Ky.) is expected to ask that the House Military Committee be allowed to continue its special investigatory work.

Other special groups which may not even ask for renewal include the Ramspeck committee investigating Government seizure of Montgomery Ward & Co., and the Boren committee investigating newsprint. The functions of the latter group may be assigned to the House Interstate Committee.

Likely To Be Continued

Likely to be continued—although a fight is in prospect on some—are special House committees on the problems of small business, the merchant marine, conservation of wildlife resources, postwar economic policy and planning, and postwar military policy.

Records of the Accounts Committee, which finances House committees, show that at one time or another more than 30 special committees were operating in the House during the Seventy-eighth Congress.

"That's entirely too many, and almost all of them ought to be abolished," commented Chairman Cochran (D., Mo.).

REPUBLICANS ASK APPOINTMENT OF FOOD DIRECTOR

DEC 26 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—(AP) House Republicans renewed today their suggestion that a food "czar" be appointed with almost unlimited authority over pricing and distribution.

Their recommendation came from Representative Jenkins of Ohio as he announced renewal of a Republican Food Study committee named last year.

Jenkins, chairman of the 44-man House group, did not comment specifically on OPA's announcement over the week-end of tighter food rationing. But he said the present food situation was due to failure of the Administration to appoint a single man to supervise the handling of food as the committee recommended some time ago.

"A single individual, free from the Administration's whims, could coordinate and regulate all ramifications of the food industry, eliminating many shortages and providing better distribution," the Ohioan said in an interview.

The proposed food "czar" would have the assistance of experts on wheat, corn, fruit and vegetables.

"No one now has direct control over food," Jenkins declared. "The War Food administration is subject to veto from other agencies and there is no single person responsible for a coordinated program. We have ten or fifteen men handling production, processing, distribution and rationing, with no single head. With that kind of setup there's bound to be overlapping operations and confusion."

Jenkins listed food as one of the major problems he said would face the world after the war.

"Right now, while the war is on, munitions are first in importance and food is thought of as secondary, but after the war food will be the most important thing," he said.

Present and future problems, he added, will keep the Republican Food Study committee in operation during the 79th Congress and probably will require it to broaden its program. The committee soon may decide, he said, whether to inquire into the cotton and tobacco programs, which it heretofore disregarded.

He warned that the United States soon may lose its world cotton market because of increased international competition and said the current cigarette shortage indicated that something was wrong in the tobacco industry.

WAR LOAN DRIVE HITS 20 BILLION

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 — (AP) Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr., said today the Sixth War Loan drive, which aimed at $14,000,000,000, has hit $20,360,000,000 and the figure is still going up.

His disclosure made it certain that the nation's first Christmas-season war loan will be the biggest in its history.

The total already is only $291,000,000 short of the record of $20,651,000,000 piled up in the Fifth War loan last June and July.

The impending new record is made more impressive by the fact that the quota this time was set two billion dollars lower than the 16-billion dollar quota of last Summer.

Secretary Morgenthau also told reporters:

1—That the five-billion dollar quota for individual bond-buyers has been achieved, with Federal reserve banks reporting $5,010,000,000 of individuals' money already on deposit.

2—That on the basis of preliminary figures he was "happy to announce" that the important Series E bond quota of two and a half billion dollars will be oversubscribed.

One week remains in the big job of tabulating Sixth War loan sales. All bonds sales tabulated during November and December count in the loan, though the formal selling campaign was Nov. 20-Dec. 16. The final figures will be announced January 2.

Secretary Morgenthau commented that despite the unprecedented sales of Christmas merchandise, late reports showed that a very large number of persons had bought war bonds as Christmas gifts.

Morgenthau said that "never before in the history of our war loan program have the people responded so enthusiastically to the nation's appeal."

Morgenthau, who begins his twelfth year as Secretary of the Treasury in January, made his disclosures informally to the three reporters who had covered the bond drive for the major wire services.

In an unusual gesture, he called these reporters in to express appreciation for the thorough way in which the wire services handled news of the drive.

LABOR NOT QUITTING WAR JOBS, CIO SAYS

DEC 26 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 — (AP) The CIO expressed belief today the problem of workers leaving war plants for peace-time jobs "has been greatly overstressed."

A study of the situation, published in the current issue of the CIO Economic Outlook, characterized the "exodus" of war workers to jobs with better long range outlook as "fictional."

The study labelled the "exodus" as a "creation of the press and certain Army officials."

"The CIO department of research and education, which publishes the Outlook, made a study of the 'quit rate' to expose the fictional character of 'the exodus'," the CIO said in a statement.

The study covered the five months period, May to October, this year in comparison with the like period in 1943.

Twenty-eight war industries were

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chosen for the survey. Of 328 available reports on quitting rates in those industries, 201 disclosed a decrease in job-leavers in 1944, with no change in 13. In only 25 cases was the quit rate "appreciably higher" in 1944 than in 1943, the CIO said.

"We do not question the fact that in some instances workers are leaving their war jobs for jobs with peacetime security," the Outlook said. "We do believe the seriousness of this problem has been greatly overstressed."

Asserting that it can sympathize with the Government in its desire to prevent an exodus from actually taking place, the Outlook said that labor repeatedly has suggested methods for prevention.

The most obvious and desirable way, it said, is to assure workers adequate compensation during the period of postwar unemployment and "above all guarantee that there will be plenty of peacetime to go around."

"Higher wages and improvement of working conditions would also help," the Outlook said. "Crying 'wolf' will not."

Greetings From Roosevelt

Washington, Dec. 25 (AP)—President Roosevelt in his annual Christmas message emphasized that America's enemies "still have reserves of men and military power."

"We cannot say when our victory will come," the President said. "Our enemies still fight fanatically. But they themselves know that they and their evil works are doomed. We may hasten the day of that doom if we here at home continue to do our full share."

The message was broadcast yesterday to the armed forces throughout the world in connection with the lighting of the national community Christmas tree on the White House lawn.

Text Of Message

The text of the President's broadcast follows:

It is not easy to say "Merry Christmas" to you, my fellow Americans, in this time of destructive war. Nor can one lightly say "Merry Christmas" tonight to our armed forces at their battle stations all over the world—or to our allies who fight by their side.

Here, at home, we will celebrate this Christmas Day in our traditional American way—because of its deep spiritual meaning to us; and because we want our youngest generation to grow up knowing the significance of this tradition and the story of the coming of the immortal Prince of Peace and good will.

But, in perhaps every home in the United States, sad and anxious thoughts will be continually with the millions of our loved ones who are suffering hardships and misery, and who are risking their very lives to preserve for us and for all mankind, the fruits of His teachings and the foundations of civilization itself.

Christmas Spirit Lives

The Christmas spirit lives tonight in the bitter cold of the front lines in Europe and in the heat of the jungles and swamps of Burma and the Pacific islands. Even the roar of our bombers and fighters in the air and the guns of our ships at sea will not drown out the messages of Christmas which come to the hearts of our fighting men.

The thoughts of these men tonight will turn to us here at home around our Christmas trees, surrounded by our children and grandchildren and their Christmas stockings and gifts—just as our own thoughts go out to them, tonight and every night, in their distant places.

We all know how anxious they are to be home with us, and they know how anxious we are to have them—and how determined every one of us is to make the day of home-coming as early as possible. And—above all—they know the determination of all right-thinking people and nations, that Christmas such as those that we have known in these years of world tragedy shall not come again to beset the souls of the children of God.

Years Of Deep Darkness

This generation has passed through many recent years of deep darkness watching the spread of the poison of Hitlerism and fascism in Europe—the growth of imperialism and militarism in Japan—the final clash of war all over the world. Then came the dark days of the fall of France and the ruthless bombing of England and the desperate battle of the Atlantic and of Pearl Harbor and Corregidor and Singapore.

Since then the prayers of good men and women and children the world over have been answered. The tide of battle was turned, slowly but inexorably, against those who sought to destroy civilization.

On this Christmas Day, we cannot yet say when our victory will come. Our enemies still fight fanatically. They still have reserves of men and military power. But, they themselves know that they and their evil works are doomed. We may hasten the day of that doom if we here at home continue to do our full share.

Prays For Early Victory

We pray that that day may come soon. We pray that until then, God will protect our gallant men and women in the uniforms of the United Nations—that he will receive into His infinite grace those who make their supreme sacrifice in the cause of righteousness and love of Him and His teachings.

We pray that with victory will come a new day of peace on earth in which all the nations of the earth will join together for all time. That is the spirit of Christmas, the Holy Day. May that spirit live and grow throughout the world in all the years to come.

Mrs. Roosevelt 'Adopts' Third Child War Victim

New York, Dec. 25 (AP)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has "adopted" her third child war victim—Gabrielle Dore, a French girl in France—Foster Parents' Plan for War Children announced.

Mrs. Edna Blue, Plan executive chairman, said the child was one of 25 found by a Plan representative being cared for by an Abbe Noe in a deserted Normandy house. The children, many of them ill, were living on black bread and coffee and had only one blanket for all of them, she said.

The Abbe has described Gabrielle, whose age is not known, as one of a family of six. Her mother is ill. Her father was killed by a mine.

Mrs. Roosevelt's other "adopted" children were Paulette Le Mescam, a French girl, and Rosemary Howard, 6, daughter of a British seaman.

650,000 VETERANS TO GO TO COLLEGE AFTER END OF WAR

CINCINNATI, Dec. 25—(AP) An estimated postwar flow of 650,000 veterans to college campuses for federally-financed studies "represents the chief hope of American colleges and universities for rescue from the present dearth of men students," Dr. Raymond Walters, nationally recognized college statistician reported today.

Dr. Walters' comment was contained in his 25th annual survey for school and society, education weekly.

As of November 1, Dr. Walters said, there were 608,750 fulltime students and a grand total of 925,084 including summer and part-time students in 679 approved institutions. Despite good-sized freshman classes of 16 and 17-year-old boys, new students currently in these schools were from 50 to 94 per cent below figures of 1939, last normal peacetime year.

As of November 1, among institutions which reported to Dr. Walters both this year and last, 648 had 593,271 full-time civilian and Army and Navy students, against 454,759 full-time civilian and approximately 363,000 in Army and Navy units in November 1943. For 646 institutions reporting grand-total figures for both years, there were 893,883 this fall and 1,099,043 in 1943.

Slightly more than 60 per cent of the current collegiate population are women. In 56 publicly-controlled universities, 58.4 per cent of the full-time students are women; in 50 privately-controlled universities, 53.2 per cent are men, in 142 independent arts and sciences colleges, 74.0 per cent are women; in 52 independent technological institutions, 64.9 per cent are men; and in 92 independent teachers colleges, 75.7 per cent are women.

California, with 15,261 full-time students, continues as the country's largest university in this classification and New York university, with a grand total of 24,722, continues as largest in this group. Columbia University, with 12,039 full-time and 21,979 grand total, is second largest in both classifications.

A large section of Dr. Walters' report is given over to comments, as to prospects for returning veterans, by Omar W. Clark, assitsant administrator of the Veterans Administration, Washington.

The peak load for colleges and universities will probably come a year and a year and a half after Germany's and Japan's defeats, Clark believes, in warning that veterans will not arrive on college campuses in a rush, but will be distributed over several years.

Approximately 2,400 disabled veterans are currently studying in colleges and universities.

46 Red Cross Workers Arrive In Australia

Alexandria, Va., Dec. 25 (AP)—Forty-six American Red Cross workers have arrived safely in Australia.

The workers, augmenting thou[illegible] already overseas, will act as assistant field directors, hospital aides, recreation workers, etc.

The arrivals include John C. Ballard, Patricia H. Tilton and Edward J. Welch, all of Washington; Harold Stewart Meeker, Indianapolis; Mary E. Smith, Silver Spring, Md.; Wilson Berry, Cincinnati; George T. Knabb, Allentown, Pa.; Elmer Joseph Eggert, New Cumberland, Pa.; Evelyn Patti Sutton, Philadelphia; John MacConnell, Springfield, Pa., and Otto A. Gullickson, Huntington, W. Va.

1,500 Shipyard Men Give Up Yule Holiday

Brunswick, Ga., Dec. 25 (AP)—More than 1,500 shipyard employés voluntarily gave up their Christmas holiday today to work without pay on a cargo-carrying vessel as a Christmas gift to the men on the fighting fronts.

An additional 500 volunteered similarly for the night shift.

The workers are among the 13,000 employés of the J. A. Jones Construction Company. Those who volunteered today helped to speed construction on the seventh merchant vessel built at the yard here this month.

Scores of other office workers joined with members of Brunswick families in helping serve the employés free meals donated by the shipyard cafeteria.

Government regulations require that the workers be paid, but sponsors of the move requested a separate pay roll so that those who worked today could indorse their checks over to the Treasury Department.

25 NAZI CAPTIVES ESCAPE IN ARIZONA

Break Follows Celebration Of Christmas, German Drive

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 25 (AP)—Twenty-five German submarine officers and men broke out of the Papago Park camp near here during the week end after a brief demonstration of Nazi prisoners.

Col. William A. Holden, commander of the camp, said the demonstration Saturday afternoon "ostensibly was a combination celebration of von Rundstedt's success and Christmas."

The action was "broken up with clubs," Holden said. Some of the prisoners may have escaped during the demonstration, about 4.45 P.M. Saturday, but more than likely about 7.30 P.M. Sunday, Holden said.

Scaled Fence, Possibly

Apparently they all scaled an eight-foot barbed-wire fence.

"We hesitate to say exactly what happened," Holden said, "but the break may have occurred during a heavy rainstorm that swept the camp here yesterday about dusk."

The German sailors were all held in the same compound and Holden explained the "old boat crew morale apparently held them together and enabled them to execute what appears to have been a carefully planned escape."

Major Eugene Tays, director of security and intelligence at the camp, denied a report current in Phoenix that the escapees included Guenther P. Prien, Nazi submarine commander credited with sinking the British battleship Royal Oak at Scapa Flow in 1939, who is at the camp.

Six of the prisoners have been recaptured. "Those we have seen were freshly shaven," Holden added, "indicating they probably got away Sunday."

No Violence

Several score of the Nazis assembled Saturday afternoon in the stockade and started a vocal demonstration about the recent German success on the Western front.

"There was no violence," the commandant said. "We broke the demonstration up with clubs."

Holden said the camp was "alerted and precautionary measures taken Saturday morning because I felt something was in the wind."

The demonstration occurred later in the day and may have screened the escape of some of the Germans.

Holden denied an account published in the Phoenix *Gazette* saying the escape of the 25 prisoners was to decoy the flight of two or three "big shots" in the Nazi party.

Twelve of those who fled were officers and the rest were enlisted men. All six who have been recaptured were nonofficers.

Prien, Nazi U-Boat Ace, Disclosed to Be Prisoner

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Disclosure that Guenther Prien is a prisoner of war in Arizona lifts partly for the first time in three and one-half years the total mystery covering the fate of this most famous of Germany's U-boat commanders.

It was on Oct. 14, 1939, when the war was less than six weeks old, that Prien, then a lieutenant commander, startled the world by slipping into the closely-guarded British naval base at Scapa Flow and sinking the 29,000-ton British battleship Royal Oak with a torpedo. Eight hundred and ten of the Royal Oak's officers and men were killed.

Prien then managed to get his submarine safely out of the British stronghold and returned to Germany where Adolf Hitler personally decorated him with the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross and promoted him to the rank of commander. Prien then was 32.

Prien claimed to have torpedoed and damaged the British battle cruiser Repulse at the same time he sank the Royal Oak, but this the British denied.

How he got in and out of Scapa Flow has never been satisfactorily explained, although many legends quickly grew up about the exploit.

Subsequently, during several cruises in 1940, Prien was credited by the Germans with sinking more than 50,000 tons of British shipping. He was the German underseas service's hero of heroes.

Then came a curiously anticlimactic denouement. On May 2, 1941, the British radio reported that he had been missing since April 13, 1941. How the British knew this never was disclosed.

Reluctantly the German high command on May 23, 1941, acknowledged that Prien and his submarine had failed to return from a cruise. Presumably he was dead. His name never was mentioned publicly again.

Now it is disclosed that Prien, the toast of the German navy, suffered a fate that many submariners consider worse than death—he was captured. How and when remain secret.

Wounded Ma[illegible] Print[illegible] 'MerryChristmas' on Cast

12,000 Patients at San Diego Get 16,000 Gift Boxes

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Dec. 25 (AP).—There were no long faces among the wounded today at the United States Naval Hospital. It was Christmas but, more important, Christmas in the United States.

Lying in the first bed of an orthopedic ward, Private James E. Cody jr., marine from East Syracuse, brought smiles to all who walked by him with the greeting, "Merry Christmas," printed in bright green across the cast which covered his chest.

A few beds farther along a wounded sailor had decorated in red and green the suspension which held his bullet-riddled leg aloft.

On every bed was at least one present from the Red Cross and other groups which sent 16,000 gift

boxes to the 12,000 patients.

Each ward had a large Christmas tree. A tree beside the bed of Corporal James L. Anderson, of Elkhart, Ill., was only one foot high, but he surrounded it with brightly decorated presents and tied a piece of mistletoe to the brace he used when raising his body from his bed. He was wounded at Guam.

Today's turkey dinner climaxed a full home-like week end for the men. The Christmas observance started earlier in the week with Bing Crosby visiting the wounded to sing "Silent Night," at their request.

DEC 26 1944

ADD LONDON- CORRECTION XXXREPORTED

A CHECK ON ALLIED LOSSES TONIGHT SHOWED THAT IT IS COSTING GEN. EISENHOWER SOME FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS TO WAGE THE CURRENT PHASE OF THE AERIAL WAR, BUT THE PERCENTAGE OF LOSS IS REMARKABLY LOW CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF THE FORCE HE HAS HURLED INTO THE BATTLE.

WITH TODAY'S OPERATIONS EXCLUDED, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN AIR FORCES HAVE LOST 176 PLANES. FIFTY-NINE WERE HEAVY BOMBERS, 39 WERE MEDIUMS OR LIGHT BOMBERS, AND 78 WERE FIGHTERS.

DEC 26 1944

YESTERDAY'S GREAT ALLIED SKY ARMADA--MIGHTIEST SINCE D-DAY--SHOT DOWN 120 NAZI PLANES. ALLIED FLIERS SAID THEY HAD SIGHTED ABOUT 700 LUFTWAFFE AIRCRAFT DURING THE DAY'S MISSIONS.

SECOND NIGHT LEAD RUSSIAN

BY RICHARD KASISCHKE

LONDON, TUESDAY, DEC 26-(AP)-THE RED ARMY DROVE TO THE WESTERN CITY LIMITS OF BUDAPEST YESTERDAY (MON) AND, IN A 15-MILE ADVANCE, CUT THE LAST RAILWAY ESCAPE ROUTE WESTWARD FROM THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL AND CAME WITHIN 10 MILES OF COMPLETELY SURROUNDING IT.

THE RUSSIANS ALSO SURGED WESTWARD THROUGH SOUTHERN CZECHOSLOVAKIA TOWARD THE HRON (GARAM) RIVER NORTH AND SOUTH OF LEVA (LEVICE) IN A DRIVE WITHIN LESS THAN 65 MILES OF BRATISLAVA AND 98 MILES FROM VIENN.

THE SOVIET COMMUNIQUE, ANNOUNCING THESE SUCCESSES LAST NIGHT, SAID THEY WERE ACCOMPLISHED WITH SEVERE COST TO THE NAZIS IN BOTH MEN AND MATERIAL, INFLICTED BY RUSSIAN BOMBERS AS WELL AS GROUND TROOPS.

THE TOLL OF GERMAN AND HUNGARIAN DEAD IN THE FIVE DAYS OF FIGHTING SOUTHWEST OF BUDAPEST HAS RISEN, BY RUSSIAN ACCOUNT, TO MORE THAN 14,000 AND HUNDREDS OF NAZI DEAD WERE LEFT ON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF SOUTHERN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

THE COMMUNIQUE STRESSED X X X THIRD GRAF NIGHT LEAD.

LONDON, DEC. 25-(AP)-IN A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BROADCAST TO THE WORLD, KING GEORGE VI DECLARED TODAY THAT "THE LAMPS WHICH THE GERMANS PUT OUT ALL OVER EUROPE, FIRST IN 1914 AND THEN IN 1939, ARE BEING SLOWLY REKINDLED."

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"ALREADY WE CAN SEE SOME OF THEM BEGINNING TO SHINE THROUGH THE FOG OF WAR THAT STILL SHROUDS SO MANY LANDS," THE MONARCH SAID.

KING GEORGE BROADCAST FROM A CHRISTMAS FIRESIDE, WHERE HE SAID "THE QUEEN AND I, AND OUR DAUGHTERS, ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE SPENDING A CHRISTMAS AT HOME."

IN A MESSAGE OF HOPE AND GOOD CHEER, THE KING SAID:

"ANXIETY IS GIVING WAY TO CONFIDENCE, AND LET US HOPE THAT BEFORE NEXT CHRISTMAS DAY, GOD WILLING, THE STORY OF LIBERATION AND TRIUMPH WILL BE COMPLETE."

LOOKING AHEAD TO POSTWAR PROBLEMS, HE SAID THAT "LABOR AND DEVOTION, PATIENCE AND TOLERANCE, WILL STILL BE NEEDED FOR THE EXPERIMENT OF LIVING AS NATIONS IN HARMONY."

"THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY AND JAPAN IS ONLY THE FIRST HALF OF OUR TASK. THE SECOND IS TO CREATE A WORLD OF FREE MEN, 'UNTOUCHED BY TYRANNY.'"

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THE KING CONTINUED:

"WE HAVE GREAT ALLIES IN THIS ARDUOUS ENTERPRISE OF HUMAN SPIRIT--MAN'S 'UNCONQUERABLE MIND AND FREEDOM'S HOLY FLAME.' I BELIEVE MOST SURELY THAT WE SHALL REACH THAT GOAL."

THE TEXT OF KING GEORGES VI'S CHRISTMAS DAY BROADCAST TO THE EMPIRE AND THE WORLD: (700WORDS)

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ONCE MORE, ON CHRISTMAS DAY, I SPEAK TO MILLIONS OF YOU, SCATTERED FAR AND NEAR ACROSS THE WORLD. AS ALWAYS I AM GREATLY MOVED BY THE THOUGHT THAT SO PAST AND FRIENDLY AN AUDEIENCE HEARS THE WORDS I SPEAK IN THIS ROOM WHERE THE QUEEN AND I, AND OUR DAUGHTERS, ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO BE SPENDING CHRISTMAS AT HOME. I COUNT IT A HIGH PRIVILEGE TO BE ABLE TO USE THIS MOMENTS TO SEND THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE OF GOODWILL TO MEN AND WOMEN OF WHATEVER CREED AND COLOUR, WHO MAY BE LISTENING TO ME THROUGHOUT OUR COMMONWEALTH AND EMPIRE, ON THE BATTLEFIELD, ONE THE HIGH SEAS, OR IN FOREIGN LANDS. AT THIS CHRISTMAS TIME WE THINK PROUDLY AND GRATEFULLY OF OUR FIGHTING MEN WHEREVER THEY MAY BE-- MAY GOD BLESS AND PROTECT THEM AND BRING THEM VICTORY.

21531 TEXT OUR MESSAGE GOES TO all WHO ARE WOUNDED OR SICK IN HOSPITAL, AND TODOCTORS AND NURSES IN THEIR LABOUR OF MERCY. AND OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE ALSO WITH OUR MEN WHO ARE PRISONERS OF WAR, AND WITH THEIR RELATIVES IN THEIR LONELINESS AND ANXIETY. TO CHILDREN EVERYWHERE, WE WISH ALL THE HAPPINESS THAT CHRISTMAS CAN BRING.

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AMONG THE DEEPEST SORROWS WE HAVE FELT IN THESE YEARS OF STRIFE, AND THE ONE WE FEEL MOST, IS THE GRIEF OF SEPARATION--FAMILIES RENT APART BY THE CALL OF SERVICE, PEOPLE SUNDERED FROM PEOPLE BY THE CALAMITIES THAT HAVE OVERWHELMED SOME, WHILE OTHERS HAVE BEEN FREE TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT. WE HAVE REJOICED IN THE VICTORII OF THIS YEAR NOT LEAST BECAUSE THEY HAVE BROKEN DOWN SOME OF THE BARRIERS BETWEEN US AND OUR FRIENDS, AND BROUGHT NEARER THE TIME WHEN WE CAN ALL BE TOGETHER AGAIN WITH THOSE WE LOVE.

21531 FOR A MOMENT WE HAVE A FORETASTE OF THAT JOY AS WE ENTER INTO THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTMAS DAY.

AT THIS GREAT FESTIVAL, MORE, PERHAPS, THAN AT ANY OTHER SEASON OF THE YEAR, WE LONG FOR A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM AND ORDER AMORNG ALL NATIONS, SO THAT HAPPINESS AND CONCORD MAY PREVAIL, AND THE SCOURGE OF WAR MAY BE BANISHED FROM OUR MIDST.

YET, THOUGH HUMAN INGENUITY CAN SHOW US NO SHORT-CUT TO THAT UNIVERSAL CHARITY, WHICH IS THE VERY HEART OF THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE, THE GOAL IS STILL BEFORE US, AND I FOR ONE BELIEVE THAT THESE YEARS OF SACRIFICE AND SORROW HAVE BROUGHT US NEARER TO IT.

WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT AWAITS US WHEN WE OPEN THE DOOR OF 1945.

BUT IF WE LOOK BACK TO THOSE EARLIER CHRISTMAS DAYS OF THE WAR WE CAN SURELY SAY THAT THE DARKNESS DAILY GROWS LESS AND LESS.

41531 THE LAMPS WHICH THE GERMANS PUT OUT ALL OVER EUROPE, FIRST IN 1914 AND THEN IN 1939, ARE BEING SLOWLY REKINDLED.

ALREADY WE CAN SEE SOME OF THEM BEGINNING TO SHINE THROUGH THE FOG OF WAR THAT STILL SHROUDS SO MANY LANDS. ANXIETY IS GIVING WAY TO CONFIDENCE AND LET US HOPE THAT BEFORE NEXT CHRISTMAS DAY, GOD WILLING, THE STORY OF LIBERATION AND TRIUMPH WILL BE COMPLETE.

THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE, MEN AND WOMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS THROUGH HARD WORK AND MUCH SELF SACRIFICE HAVE ALL HELPED TO BRING VICTORY NEARER. WE HAVE SHARED MANY DANGERS, AND THE COMMON EFFORT HAS BOUND US TOGETHER. YET LABOUR AND DEVOTION, PATIENCE AND TOLERAN WILL STILL BE NEEDED FOR THE EXPERIMENT OF LIVING AS NATIONS IN HARM

THE DEFEAT OF GERMANY AND JAPAN IS ONLY THE FIRST HALF OF OUR TASK, THE SECOND IS TO CREATE A WORLD OF FREE MEN, "UNTOUCHED BY TYRANNY." FIFTH 1531 WE HAVE GREAT ALLIES IN THIS ARDUOUS ENTERPRISE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT--MAN'S "UNCONQUERABLE MIND, AND FREEDOM'S HOLY FLAME" I BELIEVE MOST SURELY THAT WE SHALL REACH THAT GOAL.

IN THE MEANTIME IN THE OLD WORDS THAT NEVER LOSE THEIR FORCE, I WISH YOU, FROM MY HEART, A HAPPY CHRISTMAS: AND , FOR THE COMING YEAR, A FULL MEASURE OF THAT COURAGE AND FAITH IN GOD WHICH ALONE

30.24— 21543

ENABLES US TO BEAR OLD SORROWS AND FACE NEW TRIALS, UNTIL THE DAY WHEN THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE-PEACE ON EARTH AND GOODWILL TOWARDS MEN--FINALLY COMES TRUE.(ENDS)

DEC 26 1944

LONDON, DEC. 25-(AP)-THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND DECLARED TODAY THAT BOTH THE AMERICANS AND NAZIS HAD THROWN FRESH FORCES INTO THE GREAT WINTER BATTLE IN BELGIUM, AND ASSERTED THE GERMANS HAD WON FURTHER SUCCESSES YESTERDAY.

THE GERMAN COMMUNIQUE DECLARED A "CONCENTRIC ATTACK" HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AGAINST SURROUNDED AMERICANS HOLDING OUT IN THE BELGIAN ROAD HUB OF BASTOGNE.

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ON THE NORTHERN RIM OF THE FRONT, THE BROADCAST BULLETIN SAID, AMERICAN ATTACKS BETWEEN ELSENBORN AND STAVELOT WERE BROKEN OFF "AFTER YESTERDAY'S DEFEAT."

STRONG U.S. ASSAULTS ARE CONTINUING, HOWEVER, AGAINST THE SOUTHERN FLANK OF FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S WEDGE INTO LUXEMBOURG, IT ADDED.

"BETWEEN THE SAAR AND THE RHINE, GERMAN TROOPS THREW THE AMERICAN TROOPS FROM A NUMBER OF LOCALITIES AND HOTLY PURSUED THE RETREATING ENEMY," BERLIN ADDED.

KA1009AEW

LONDON, DEC. 25-(AP)-COMMENTS OF FLIERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN SUNDAY'S RECORD ASSAULTS AGAINST THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE INTO BELGIUM:

COL.HARRY P.LEBER, JR., NEW YORK CITY, WHO LED THE FIRST BOMBARDMENT DIVISION IN ATTACKS ON GERMAN AIRFIELDS NEAR FRANKFORT: "THIS WAS MORE LIKE IT. JERRY GOT IT BACK WITH INTEREST. ABSOLUTELY PERFECT WEATHER."

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T/SGT.LOUIS M.GERSTEN, NEW YORK CITY: "AERIAL TRAFFIC OVER GERMANY WAS TERRIFIC. SNOW COVERED THE AIRFIELD THAT WAS OUR TARGET, BUT AFTER THE BOMBS HIT IT EVERYTHING TURNED BLACK."

T/SGT.HAROLD W.MCDONALD, ROME, GA.: "SUDDENLY I HEARD AND FELT AN EXPLOSION AND THE TAIL WAS FULL OF SMOKE. SOMETHING HIT THE TURRET AND FOR A MINUTE I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER I WAS HIT OR NOT--BUT I WASN'T. I LOOKED OUT AND SAW THE RIGHT TAIL AND ELEVATOR HAD BEEN SHOT OFF. WE WENT ON TO BOMB THE TARGET AND RETURNED HOME SAFE."

DEC 26 1944

FROM A FLYING FORTRESS GROUP WHICH FOUGHT OVER BELGIUM:

SGT.EDWARD J.BUTNER, JR., 150 MAIN ST., WESTPORT, CONN.: "I WAS MANNING THE RIGHT WAIST GUN WHEN A SOLID BLACK ME-410 CAME IN LOW AT US. I STARTED FIRING AND AT 400 YARDS HIT THE RIGHT ENGINE. IT CAUGHT FIRE AND THEN HIS LEFT ONE. A FEW SECONDS LATER HIS WINGS BUCKLED AND HE WENT DOWN IN A BALL OF ORANGE FLAME."

SGT.SHERWIN G.BOSSE, ST.LOUIS, MO.: "ABOUT 20 FW-190S CAME IN ON US FROM THE REAR WITH THEIR GUNS BLASTING AWAY. THREE PORTS WERE CRIPPLED AND FELL OFF. I PICKED OUT ONE FIGHTER AND POURED THREE LONG BURSTS INTO HIS BELLY AND THEN WATCHED HIM GO DOWN IN FLAMES."

IN A FIGHT OVER BONN, FIGHTER PILOT LIEUT.ELBY J.BEAL, ANGLETON, TEXAS, SHOT DOWN THREE GERMANS.

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"MY FLIGHT OPENED THE ATTACK WHEN WE SPOTTED ABOUT 12 FW-190S ABOUT 2,000 FEET BELOW US AS THEY WERE LINING UP FOR AN ATTACK ON THE BOMBERS," HE SAID. "I GOT INTO A TURN WITH FOUR FW-190S AND SHOT TWO OF THEM DOWN FROM EXTREMELY CLOSE RANGE. I SAW BOTH OF

THEM CRASH INTO THE GROUND. AS I WAS CHASING A ME-109 ANOTHER FW-190 CUT IN BETWEEN US. I GAVE THE 190 A LONG BURST AND PIECES OF HIS AIRCRAFT FLEW OFF. THEN I SAW HIM ROLL OVER AND GO DOWN OUT OF CONT

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THE 357TH FIGHTER GROUP LED BY LT.COL.IRWIN H.DREGNE, CIROQUA, WIS., (EDS: UNLISTED POSTAL GUIDE), ESCORTED BOMBERS TO THE VICINITY OF FRANKFURTER AND FULDE. THE GROUP ENCOUNTERED MORE THAN 50 ME-109'S AND FW-190S NEAR FRANKFURT AND NEARLY 100 NAZI PLANES IN THE FULDE AREA. MUSTANG PILOTS ACCOUNTED FOR 31 GERMAN PLANES, PUTTING THE 357TH GROUP OVER THE 500 MARK IN GERMAN PLANES DESTROYED.

"WE ENGAGED ABOUT 50 ME-109S AND FW-190S WHICH WERE STEAMING TOWARD THE TAIL END BOX OF BOMBERS," DREGNE SAID. "THERE WERE DOGFIGHTS ALL OVER THE SKY. TWENTY GERMAN FIGHTERS CAME DOWN TO FIGHT AND 30 STAYED UP FOR TOP COVER. WE TOOK THE 20 FIRST AND THEN WORKED AROUND TO THE OTHER 30."

DEC 261944

JS246 PEW

ADD PARIS-(LONG) XXAREA

WHATEVER HIS PROSPECTS OF BATTERING THROUGH TO THE MEUSE--AND THE TERRAIN BEFORE HIM IS RUGGED AND DIFFICULT--IT WAS CLEAR THAT VON RUNDSTEDT'S PLANS WOULD BE INFLUENCED INCREASINGLY BY THE AMERICAN COUNTERATTACK LOOSED AGAINST 25 MILES OF HIS SOUTHERN FLANK AND ALREADY REPORTING GAINS OF "SOME MILES."

DEC 261944

THE GERMANS WERE FORCED TO SEND STRONG FORCES SOUTH FOR A COUNTERATTACK AFTER THE AMERICANS SEIZED THE VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT, ONLY SIX MILES SOUTH OF BELEAGUERED BASTOGNE. THE AMERICANS LAST WER REPORTED HOLDING THEIR GROUND YESTERDAY.

VON RUNDSTEDT SENT OTHER FORCES TO MEET A MENACE TO THE BASE OF HIS WEDGE, AFTER THE AMERICANS SEIZED HEIDERSCHEID IN NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG AND PRESSED ON TOWARD TADLER, NEARLY TWO MILES BEYOND, WHERE SAVAGE FIGHTING BROKE OUT.

(THIS WOULD INDICATE A POSSIBLE FOUR-MILE GAIN FROM LAST REPORTED POSITIONS NORTH OF GROSBOUS.)

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TADLER, 21 MILES NORTH OF LUXEMBOURG'S CAPITAL, IS ABOUT 27 MILES FROM THE RIDGE POSITIONS WEST OF ST.VITH, WHERE THE AMERICANS STILL FIRMLY CONTAINED THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE BASTOGNE BULGE.

THE ENEMY LAST WAS REPORTED CLINGING TO ABOUT HALF OF THE TOWN OF MARTELANGE, 10 MILES SOUTH OF BASTOGNE ON THE LIEGE-ARLON ROAD, BUT THE DOUGHBOYS SWINGING AROUND IT CAPTURED WARNACH, ABOUT TWO MILES TO THE NORTH.

IN A THREE-MILE PUSH NORTHEAST OF MARTELANGE THE AMERICANS REACHED BIGONVILLE.

ALL THESE GAINS WERE REPORTED BY SUPREME HEADQUARTERS IN BRINGING EVENTS UP TO EARLY SUNDAY.

DEC 261944

YARBROUGH DISCLOSED FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT GEN. EISENHOWER'S FLANK COUNTERATTACK ACTUALLY WAS LAUNCHED DEC. 22 AND THRUST (DISTANCE CENSORED) MILES THROUGH LIGHT OPPOSITION THE FIRST DAY. FURTHER GAINS WERE MADE LATER AGAINST STIFFENED RESISTANCE.

AT THE OUTSET, HE ADDED, THE GERMANS HAD HIT ALONG A FRONT WHICH WAS SO THINLY HELD AT POINTS THAT ONLY PATROLS COVERED SOME PLACES.

WHEN MASSED TANKS AND INFANTRY HIT THEM, THEY SUFFERED AND IN SOME PLACES CONFUSION AND COSTLY DISORGANIZATION BECAME INEVITABLE. BUT THE AMERICANS REGAINED THEIR BALANCE AND BEGAN HITTING BACK.

VON RUNDSTEDT AGAIN WAS HURLING HIS GREATEST WEIGHT TO THE WEST, ALTHOUGH ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT KENNETH L.DIXON REPORTED

STRONG INFANTRY AND ARMORED UNITS WERE VEERING NORTH TO BROADEN THE FRONT OF ASSAULT AGAINST THE MEUSE--BEST NATURAL BARRIER IN EASTERN HOLLAND.

BATTLES HEAVY IN CHRISTMAS DAY CASUALTIES FOR BOTH SIDES WERE FLARING ANEW.

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FOCAL POINTS OF THE LATEST GERMAN ONSLAUGHT--BY THE 24-HOUR-OLD ACCOUNT--WERE BETWEEN MARCHE AND ROCHEFORT AND NORTHWEST FROM LAROCHE, 10 MILES EAST OF MARCHE.

ANOTHER SECTOR ERUPTED INTO HEAVY FIGHTING NEAR LIERNEUX, NINE MILES SOUTHWEST OF STAVELOT, ON THE NORTH FLANK. UP TO MIDNIGHT SATURDAY THE PUSH WAS BEING HELD.

DIXON, REPORTING ON TODAY'S FIGHTING WITHOUT SPECIFYING LOCALITIES, SAID THAT AMERICAN TANKS BEAT OFF SEVERAL STRONG GERMAN ASSAULTS "ALONG THE RIM OF THE PENETRATION" AND AT ANOTHER UNDISCLOSED POINT ARTILLERY BROKE UP GERMANS MASSING FOR A COUNTERTHRUST.

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AMERICANS PATROLS LANCING INTO THE ENEMY'S LINES FOUND 34 BURNED OUT GERMAN TANKS AND 200 ENEMY DEAD. U.S. TANKS CLEANING OUT ONE POCKET KILLED 400 GERMANS, CAPTURED 150 OTHERS AND LIBERATED 100 AMERICANS WHO HAD BEEN TAKEN PRISONER.

OVERNIGHT A CONSIDERABLE FORCE OF MOSQUITO BOMBERS KEPT UP THE AERIAL ONSLAUGHT, PUMMELING GERMAN COLUMNS MOVING UP ALONG THE ROADS. THEY BLEW UP AN AMMUNITION DUMP, SET MORE THAN 100 FIRES AND SHOT DOWN SIX ENEMY PLANES.

AMERICAN HEAVIEST WERE OUT AGAIN BY DAYLIGHT, SOME 400 OTHER SIMILAR ESCORT ATTACKING RAILROAD BRIDGES, ROAD AND HIGHWAY JUNCTIONS AND OTHER TARGETS BEHIND THE ENEMY'S FRONT.

MEDIUM, LIGHT AND FIGHTERBOMBERS BY NOON HAD DESTROYED 177 MOTOR TRANSPORTS, SHOT DOWN 14 ENEMY PLANES, DAMAGED A RAILWAY BRIDGE AT BULLANGE AND BOMBED 15 GERMAN-HELD TOWNS IN THE BATTLE ZONE.

ON THE U.S. THIRD ARMY FRONT IN THE SAAR BASIN, LT. GEN. GEORGE S.PATTON'S FORCEX GAINED 300 YARDS IN THE SAARLAUTERN SECTOR ON THE EAST BANK OF THE SAAR RIVER.

THERE WAS "NOTHING TO REPORT" ON THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY'S SIEGFRIED LINE FRONT, HEADQUARTERS SAID. THE GERMANS MADE SLIGHT GAINS IN A COUNTERATTACK AGAINST THE FRENCH FIRST ARMY NORTHWEST OF COLMAR, IN SOUTHERN ALSACE.

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KA406PEW

THIRD LEAD WESTERN FRONT (210)

BY EDWARD KENNEDY

PARIS, DEC. 25-(AP)-POWERFUL ALLIED AIR FLEETS IN BRIGHT CHRISTMAS DAY SUNSHINE RIPPED SAVAGELY AGAIN TODAY AT THE GERMAN COUNTER-OFFENSIVE, WHICH HAD SENT FORWARD ELEMENTS STABBING CLOSE TO A TOWN ONLY 14 1/2 MILES FROM THE MEUSE RIVER.

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A FRONT DISPATCH DECLARED GERMAN TANKS AND INFANTRY UNITS WERE JABBING AT U.S. LINES AGAIN TODAY. BUT THE LATEST INFORMATION AT SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, WHERE A SECURITY NEWS DELAY OF 24 HOURS STILL WAS BEING ENFORCED, SAID THE ENEMY HAD MADE NO GAINS OF ANY IMPORTANCE IN THE 48-HOUR PERIOD UP TO SUNDAY MORNING.

THE U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE BY NOON HAD THROWN MORE THAN 400 FIGHTER BOMBERS INTO DIRECT ATTACKS ON GERMAN ARMORED COLUMNS GOING INTO BATTLE, DESTROYING 32 ENEMY TANKS, INCLUDING THREE TIGERS. NINE MORE TANKS WERE DAMAGED AND 80 OTHER ARMORED VEHICLES DESTROYED.

FOUR HUNDRED U.S. HEAVY BOMBERS RISING FROM BRITISH BASES HAMMERED RAILROAD BRIDGES, AND RAIL AND ROAD CENTERS SUPPLYING THE GERMAN PUSH IN THIS THIRD DAY OF TREMENDOUS AIR ASSAULTS.

TODAY'S ALLIED COMMUNIQUE SAID NAZI TANKS AND TROOP-CARRYING VEHICLES HAD KNIFED WESTWARD IN BELGIUM TO POINTS BETWEEN THE BELGIAN

TOWNS OF MARCHE AND ROCHEFORT, THE LATTER ONLY 14 1/2 MILES FROM THE MEUSE RIVER. THIS NEWS WAS AT LEAST 24 HOURS OLD, AND SUBSEQUENT EVENTS WERE NOT DISCLOSED.

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THE SECTION OF THE ROAD BETWEEN MARCHE AND HOTTON, WITHIN 20 MILES OF THE MEUSE, HAD BEEN THE ENEMY'S PREVIOUS POINT OF DEEPEST PENETRATION IN THIS SECTOR. ROCHEFORT IS 5 1/2 MILES SOUTHWEST OF MARCHE.

HEADQUARTERS DID NOT LOCATE THE SPECIFIC POSITIONS REACHED BY FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S HAMMERING COUNTEROFFENSIVE.

DRIVING UP FROM THE MARTELANGE SECTOR, A DOZEN MILES FROM ENCIRCLED BASTOGNE WHERE U.S. FORCES ARE HOLDING OUT, OTHER AMERICANS HAVE PUSHED THE GERMANS TWO MILES BACK TO WARNACH TOWARD THE SURE RIVER. ANOTHER ADVANCE OF THREE MILES NORTHEASTWARD FROM THE SAME AREA BIT INTO THE GERMAN LINE AS FAR AS BIGONVILLE.

AMERICANS PRESSING NORTHWARD TOWARD BESIEGED BASTOGNE HAVE REACHED AND CLEARED THE VILLAGE OF CHAUMONT, ONLY SIX MILES SOUTH OF THE LIEGE-ARLON HIGHWAY CITY. HEAVY FIGHTING IS IN PROGRESS AROUND BASTOGNE ITSELF. OTHER ISOLATED AMERICAN GROUPS IN THIS AREA ALSO WERE REPORTED HOLDING THEIR OWN.

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THE ENEMY HAS POWERFUL FORCES CONCENTRATED IN THE BASTOGNE AREA AND IT WOULD BE FAR TOO OPTIMISTIC TO SAY THE MOMENTUM OF VON RUNDSTEDT'S DRIVE HAD BEEN HALTED PERMANENTLY. ON THE CONTRARY, ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT THE GERMANS ARE GOOD FOR NEW AND POWERFUL PUNCHES.

IT WAS SAID HERE, HOWEVER, THAT THE TEMPORARY HALT TO THE GRINDING GERMAN PUSH FOR THIS PERIOD CERTAINLY HAS COMPELLED THE ENEMY TO REVISE HIS PLANS. ALLIED PRESSURE ON BOTH HIS FLANKS HAS REDUCED THE AMOUNT OF FORCE HE CAN MUSTER FOR HIS SPEARHEADS.

THIS PRESSURE HAS BEEN MOST EFFECTIVE ON THE GERMANS' SOUTHERN FLANK. THE AMERICANS IN LUXEMBOURG HAVE MADE LIMITED NEW GAINS IN THE DIEKIRCH AREA AND BETWEEN DIEKIRCH AND ECHTERNACH.

ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE GERMAN DRIVE THE ALLIES ALSO MAINTAINED STRONG PRESSURE AGAINST THE ENEMY IN THE STAVELOT-MALMEDY SECTOR. GERMAN ATTACKS WEST AND NORTHWEST OF LAROCHE AND AT LIERNEAUX, BETWEEN LAROCHE AND STAVELOT, HAVE BEEN HELD BACK SUCCESSFULLY.

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ASSOCIATED PRESS XXX FOURTH GRAF AS BEFORE.

KA101PEW

ADD 8TH AF FIGHTER STAT- -(CHAMBERLAIN) 1 1/2 800

LT.WARREN LEAR, VALPARAISO, FLA., LT.WILLIAM DALEY, ONANCOCK, VA., AND LT.SANBORN BALL OF SALEM, MO., WERE IN THE MIDST OF A DOGFIGHT OVER THE RHINE WITH 12 FOCKEWULFS WHEN THEIR RADIO BLARED THE GOOD NEWS:

DEC 261944

"TURKEY DINNER ON THE FIRE--GOOD LUCK."

THE THREE PILOTS TORE INTO THE NAZIS WITH RENEWED VIOLENCE. DALEY KNOCKED DOWN TWO AND THE REST TURNED TAIL AND FLED BEFORE HIS TWO BUDDIES COULD DRAW A BEAD.

SO, ONE BY ONE, THE 55 CAME BACK HOME FOR CHRISTMAS DAY, THEIR 50 CALIBER MACHINEGUNS STILL WARM FROM PUMPING LEAD AT THE LUFTWAFFE. THEY PILED THEIR PLATES HIGH AND DUG IN AND SOON ALL THE TURKEY WAS GONE. THE COOKS WERE VERY HAPPY.

G9906PEW

BY WES GALLAGHER

IN THE STAVELOT SECTOR, BELGIUM, DEC. 25-(AP)-FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S OFFENSIVE PASSED FROM THE "CRITICAL" INTO NEW PHASES OF IMPENDING ACTION TODAY, WITH MOST OF THE FRONT SHOWING SIGNS OF STABILIZATION.

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30. 24— 21547

IN THIS SECTOR GI COURAGE GAVE HITLER A GRIM CHRISTMAS PRESENT BY TEARING THE HEART OUT OF ONE OF HIS PANZER DIVISIONS, DESTROYING MORE THAN 178 ARMORED VEHICLES, TANKS AND GUNS.

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THE NAZI ARMORED SPEARHEAD, DRIVING TOWARD LIEGE, WAS DECIMATED IN A MOUNTAIN VALLEY IN EIGHT DAYS OF SAVAGE FIGHTING DURING WHICH VETERAN GI'S RELEASED 130 AMERICAN SOLDIERS TAKEN PRISONER EARLIER AND WIPED OUT THEIR CAPTORS ALMOST TO THE LAST MAN.

THE GERMAN OFFICERS TOLD THEIR AMERICAN PRISONERS THAT THEY WERE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN PARIS JAN. 17, ACCORDING TO VON RUNDSTEDT'S PLAN, AFTER WHICH MAYBE "YOUR ROOSEVELT WILL TALK PEACE TERMS."

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE HAD BEEN DESCRIBED AS A MOVE TO INFLICT SUCH HEAVY CASUALTIES THAT THE ALLIES WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK PEACE TERMS.

KA350PEW

BY THOBURN WIANT

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, DEC 25-(AP)-THE GERMANS HAVE GAINED SLIGHTLY IN A COUNTERATTACK NORTHWEST OF COLMAR, BUT ON THE PLAIN NORTH OF THE CITY HAVE GIVEN GROUND A LITTLE UNDER AMERICAN AND FRENCH PRESSURE, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

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RESPECTING ACTIVITY ON THE SEVENTH ARMY'S SIEGFRIED FRONT, HEADQUARTERS MERELY SAID "NOTHING TO REPORT."

THUNDERBOLTS SUPPORTING THE SEVENTH BOMBED AND STRAFED FROM DAWN TO DUSK IN CLEAR WEATHER TODAY. INCOMPLETE REPORTS SAID 19 LOCOMOTIVES, 270 FREIGHT CARS AND 40 MOTOR TRANSPORT WERE DESTROYED.

COL.DORR NEWTON, SAN ANTONIO, TEX., STAFF OFFICER OF THE TWELFTH TACTICAL AIR COMMAND, SAID THE GERMAN AIR FORCE OFFERED COMPARATIVELY LITTLE OPPOSITION. AT LEAST TWO ENEMY PLANES WERE DESTROYED. THE TWELFTH ALSO FLEW IN SUPPORT OF THE FRENCH IN THE COLMAR AREA.

PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED VICTORIES CREDITED LTS.HENRY JONES, 1936 FIRST STREET NW, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND RICHARD BIRNIE, GENEVA, ILL., WITH ONE ENEMY PLANE APIECE.

DEC 261944

THE FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE'S MARAUDERS SCORED AT LEAST FOUR HITS ON A 350-FOOT RAILROAD BRIDGE AT SINGEN, GERMANY, 35 MILES NORTHWEST OF CONSTANCE. THE BRIDGE IS PART OF A RAIL NETWORK OVER WHICH TROOPS ARE ROUTED TO AND FROM ITALY.

LT.T.O.BROOKS, ROCKLAND, ME., ONE OF THE NAVIGATORS, SAID BAD WEATHER FORCED THE MARAUDERS TO MAKE TWO RUNS OVER THE TARGET.

"THAT WAS UNFORTUNATE," HE SAID, "BECAUSE ON THE FIRST RUN A TRAIN WAS CROSSING THE BRIDGE. ON THE SECOND RUN, WITH THE TRAIN SAFELY PAST, WE SCORED SEVERAL HITS."

THE FRENCH RETOOK BENNWIHR, NORTH OF COLMAR, AFTER TWO DAYS OF FIGHTING. THE TOWN WAS LOST TO A COUNTERATTACK TEN DAYS AGO.

MORE GERMAN PATROLS CROSSED THE RHINE INTO ALSACE. ONE ABOUT 30 STRONG WITH MACHINEGUNS WAS HOLDING A SMALL BRIDGEHEAD NEAR BEINHEIM.

THE GERMANS WERE VIOLENTLY COUNTERATTACKING SOUTH OF KAYSERSBERG, NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND RESISTING ELSEWHERE IN THE COLMAR-MULHOUSE AREA.

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ONE OF TWO ENEMY PLANES DESTROYED DURING THE DAY WAS CREDITED TO LT.CARL BROS, 1525 SOUTH 51ST AVE., PORTLAND, ORE.

ADD CHUNGKING XXXOFF

(A DISPATCH FROM HEADQUARTERS OF THE U.S. 14TH AIR FORCE SAID GEN. GEORGE C.MARSHALL, U.S. CHIEF OF STAFF, HAD SENT CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO MAJ.GEN.CLAIRE L.CHENNAULT IN AN INFORMAL NOTE EXPRESSING HOPE EVENTS OF THE NEW YEAR WOULD GIVE THE 14TH AIR FORCE BACK ITS LOST BASES IN CHINA AND ENABLE IT TO PLAY A LEADING PART IN THE DEATH BLOW TO THE JAPANESE EMPIRE."

DEC 261944

("YOUR MEN HAVE KEPT THE JAPANESE FULLY AWARE OF OUR GROWING AIR POWER IN CHINA," MARSHALL'S NOTE SAID.)

MJ215PEW

KANDY, CEYLON--FIRST ADD BURMA XXX FRENCH INDO-CHINA, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

(JAPANESE TROOPS TRIED TO LAUNCH A SURPRISE ATTACK ON CHINESE POSITIONS NEAR THE CHINA-BURMA BORDER TOWN OF WANTING THE NIGHT OF DEC. 20, BUT ALL RAFTS, ON WHICH AN ENEMY COLUMN ATTEMPTED TO CROSS THE SHWELI RIVER, WERE SUNK, THE CHINESE HIGH COMMAND ANNOUNCED TONIGHT. THE SAME NIGHT CHINESE FORCES REPULSED A NEW JAPANESE ATTACK IN THE MANGPENG AREA, 12 MILES NORTHEAST OF WANTING.)

DEC 261944

JS451PEW

MAC'S Hq., PIPS--FIRST ADD 3RD NL PIPS XX PLANES SUNDAY.

5&3 77TH CAPTURED PALOMPON BY AN AMPHIBIOUS MOVEMENT FROM ORMOC. THE YANKEES LANDED IN THE ENEMY'S REAR AND CAUGHT HIM COMPLETELY BY SURPRISE, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID. THE JAPANESE FORCE WAS CAUGHT BETWEEN THE 77TH AND ANOTHER AMERICAN ELEMENT ADVANCING OVERLAN FROM THE EAST, AND WAS ABLE TO OFFER BUT SCANT RESISTANCE.

DEC 261944

MEANTIME, TROOPS OF THE 24TH DIVISION CLEANED UP THE WEST COAST NEAR SAN ISIDRO. TROOPS OF THE 7TH AMERICAN DIVISION LANDED AT PUERTO BELLO ON THE WEST SHORE OF ORMOC BAY, AND THE 32ND DIVISION AND FIRST CAVALRY (DISMOUNTED) MOVED RAPIDLY WEST TOWARD THE COAST, MEETING PRACTICALLY NO OPPOSITION.

AT MINDORO, WHERE THE AMERICANS LANDED ALMOST UNIMPEDED, THERE STILL WAS LITTLE ACTIVITY EITHER ON THE GROUND OR IN THE AIR, THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED.

IN THE STRIKE AT CLARK FIELD, THE AMERICAN AIRMEN DROPPED APPROXIMATELY 40 TONS OF BOMBS. ONLY ONE AMERICAN PLANE WAS LOST IN DOWNING THE 18 JAPANESE SHIPS.

ELSEWHERE AMERICAN AIR UNITS WERE ACTIVE. PATROLS DESTROYED THREE ENEMY PLANES OFF THE COAST OF LUZON, AND IN THE VISAYAS ESCORTED HEAVY BOMBERS DROPPED 132 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES ON SIX NEGROS AIRDROMES, LATER STRAFING FROM LOW LEVEL.

DEC 261944

RUNWAYS WERE BADLY CRATERED AND 16 PARKED PLANES WERE DESTROYED OR DAMAGED. MANY FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS WERE REPORTED.

OPERATING IN BAD WEATHER, MEDIUM BOMBERS BLASTED INSTALLATIONS AT ZAMBOANGA ON MINDANAO, WHILE OTHERS STRUCK AT THE DAVAO WATERFRONT, WRECKING WAREHOUSES AND JETTIES AND SINKING THREE SMALL FREIGHTERS.

NIGHT RAIDING NAVAL UNITS SANK AN ENEMY MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT OFF THE NORTH COAST OF MINDANAO.

IN THE MOLUCCAS, THE LOLOESAEA AND MATETABAKO AIRDROMES WERE BLASTI BY FIGHTERS AND MEDIUM BOMBERS WITH GOOD RESULTS. IN THIS AREA LIGHT NAVY PATROLS DESTROYED AN AMMUNITION-LADEN JAPANESE BARGE.

DEC 261944

THE ATTACKS EXTENDED TO THE LESSER SUNDAS WHERE LUGGERS AND BARGES WERE BOMBED OFF TIMOR, AND ENEMY-OCCUPIED AREAS BOMBED.

ENEMY VEHICLES AND SMALL WATER CRAFT NEAR WEWAK IN NEW GUINEA WERE ATTACKED.

DEC 261944

HEAVIES AND MEDIUMS DROPPED 115 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES ON VUNAKANAU AND TOBERA AIRDROMES AT RABAUL, WHILE OTHER PLANES STRAFED VEHICLES AND WRECKED SEVERAL BUILDINGS. LIGHT BOMBERS ASSAULTED TROOP CONCENTRATIONS AND AN AMMUNITION DUMP IN NEW IRELAND AND BOUGAINVI

WHEN APPOINTED COMMANDER IN THE ARCHIPELAGO LATE IN OCTOBER, YAMASHITA WAS SAID BY THE ENEMY CONTROLLED MANILA RADIO TO HAVE BOASTED HE WOULD DEMAND "UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER" OF MACARTHUR. THE TOKYO RADIO HAD SAID THAT JAPANESE MILITARISTS VIEWED THE BATTLE FOR LEYTE AS "THE DECISIVE BATTLE FOR OUR HOMELAND."

YAMASHITA COMMANDED THE SUCCESSFUL DRIVES THAT RESULTED IN CAPTURE OF THE MALAYA PENINSULA AND SINGAPORE EARLY IN THE WAR.#

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, TUESDAY, DEC. 26-(AP)-AMERICAN AIR POWER KEPT THE JAPANESE PINNED DOWN FROM MANILA TO NEW GUINEA IN SUPPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN AS GROUND FORCES CLOSED IN TODAY ON THE LAST ENEMY STRONG POINT ON LEYTE.

THE SUSTAINED AND SYSTEMATIC AIR ATTACKS REACHED A NEW PEAK OF FURY, WRECKING MANY ENEMY PLANES ON THE GROUND, SMASHING INSTALLATIONS AND BATTERING ENEMY SHIPPING. DEC 26 1944

(A COMPILATION BASED ON DAILY COMMUNIQUES SHOWED THAT IN THE PHILIPPINES ALONE THE JAPANESE HAVE LOST 1,869 PLANES IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 743 OF THEM THIS MONTH. IN ADDITION THERE WERE 80 PROBABLES. AMERICAN LOSSES FOR THE SAME PERIOD TOTALLED 94 IN THE PHILIPPINES.)

HEAVIEST BLOWS REPORTED BY MONDAY'S COMMUNIQUE WERE AT HALMAHERA, IN THE MOLUCCAS, AND AT MANILA'S GRACE PARK AIRDROME.

HEAVY, MEDIUM AND LIGHT PLANES HIT HALMAHARA WITH 280 TONS OF BOMBS IN SUSTAINING DECEMBER'S DAILY STRIKES AT THE MOLUCCAS. THE HEAVIEST PREVIOUS RAID WAS 100 TONS ON DECEMBER 8.

SOME 25 ENEMY PLANES WERE DESTROYED ON THE GROUND AS THE PHILIPPINE BASED HEAVY BOMBERS RAIDED THE MANILA FIELD. NO JAPANESE PLANE ROSE TO CHALLENGE THE BOMBERS' FIGHTER ESCORT.

OTHER AMERICAN BOMBERS RAIDED MINDANAO AND THE VISAYAS GROUP IN THE PHILIPPINES, LESSER SUNDAS, BORNEO, NEW GUINEA AND BISMARCK AND SOLOMONS ISLANDS TARGETS.

THE 77TH INFANTRY DIVISION ON LEYTE CLOSED IN ON PALIMPON, WEST COAST PORT AND LAST ESCAPE POINT FOR THE SHATTERED ENEMY. AMERI TROOPS COUNTED 2,640 MORE ENEMY DEAD. ADDITIONAL LARGE QUANTITIES OF MATERIAL WERE SEIZED.

OCCUPATION OF MINDORO ISLAND CONTINUED ALMOST UNOPPOSED. SEVEN JAPANESE PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN IN AN INEFFECTIVE RAID ON THE NEW SAN JOSE AIRFIELD, ONLY HALF AN HOURS FLYING TIME FROM MANILA.

X1117APW NM

BY CAPT.EARL J.WILSON, CHEVY CHASE,MD., A MARINE CORPS PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER, ATTACHED TO MARINE AVIATION UNITS IN THE PHILIPPINES. DEC 26 1944

(DISTRIBUTED BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS)

LEYTE, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS (DELAYED)-TACLOBAN, CAPITAL OF LEYTE, IS THE FIRST REAL TOWN GI'S AND LEATHERNECKS HAVE ENTERED IN THEIR MARCH ACROSS THE PACIFIC. YOU CAN'T COUNT CARAPAN ON SAIPAN OR AGANA ON GUAM, BECAUSE BOTH WERE MERE RUBBLE HEAPS WHEN OUR TROOPS ENTERED. DEC 26 1944

TACLOBAN IS DIFFERENT.

WITH A POPULATION OF 30,000, THE CITY SPRAWLS ALONG THE SHORES OF CANCABATO AND SAN PEDRO BAYS ON THE NORTHEAST COAST OF LEYTE. ITS HOUSES ARE A CONGLOMERATION OF NATIVE NIPA HUTS, BOARD SHANTIES, AND GRACEFUL SPANISH-TYPE HOUSES OF THE MORE PROSPEROUS RESIDENTS.

STREETS ARE FILLED WITH MUD, NATIVES AND TROOPS. THIS IS THE MONSOON SEASON. DURING THE LAST MONTH MORE THAN 23 DRENCHING INCHES OF RAIN HAVE FALLEN. DEC 26 1944

THE ENDLESS PROCESSION OF MILITARY VEHICLES MOVING INTO TOWN ALMOST INVARIABLY CARRIES FILIPINOS, MANY WEARING CAST OFF BITS OF GI CLOTHING. IF IT IS THEIR OWN, IT IS EXTREMELY CLEAN, BUT USUALLY IN TATTERS. MOST CARRY SOME ARTICLE OF FOOD.

NATIVE WOMEN SLOSH THRO[illegible] KNEE-DEEP MUD BALANCING GUNNY-

SACKS OF RICE ON THEIR HEADS. HARDLY ANY WINDOW OR PORCH IN TACLOBAN IS WITHOUT ITS QUOTA OF SMILING FILIPINOS AND NUMEROUS BRIGHT-EYED CHILDREN WATCHING THE TRUCKS GO BY. DEC 26 1944

STORES ARE OPEN, BUT HAVE PITIFULLY LITTLE TO SELL. IN ONE SHOP A BOX OF TINY CELLULOID FIGURES OF SANTA CLAUSE WERE PRICED AT 40 CENTAVOES EACH, ABOUT 20 CENTS.

SEVERAL SAILORS, SHOPPING FOR SOUVENIRS, FOUND THE BEST ARTICLE TO BE A LARGE ROUND ORIENTAL WOVEN GRASS HAT. THE HAT, HOWEVER, TURNED OUT TO BE NOT PART OF THE STOCK-IN-TRADE, BUT THE HEADGEAR OF A FILIPINO WOMAN DOING A LITTLE SHOPPING HERSELF. SHE SOLD THE HAT.

IN THE STREET CHILDREN GREET GI'S WITH, "JOE, GIMMEE CHEWIN' GUM," A REQUEST MADE FAMOUS IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER. AND JOE, WHO IS FOND OF CHILDREN, PAMPERS THEM AND PLAYS WITH THEM AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY. DEC 26 1944

TACLOBAN IS COMING BACK TO LIFE.

HY737AEW NM

ADD U.S. DIST BOMB-EMD, SAIPAN

OTHERS ABOARD INCLUDED LT.BENJAMIN F.EDWARDS, 25, THE NAVIGATOR, OF MONROE, LA., WHO FLEW 44 COMBAT MISSIONS AND 306 COMBAT HOURS IN NORTH AFRICA; LT.WALTER S.PATYKULA, 25, TRENTON, N.J., FORMER MEMBER OF THE PHILADELPHIA AMERICAN SOCCER CLUB; LT. HENRY H.WARDE, 23, FLIGHT ENGINEER, WHOSE MOTHER LIVES AT 106 LINDEN AVE., ARLINGTON, N.J.; SGT.THOMAS GOFFERY, CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL OFFICER, OF RIDGEWOOD, QUEENS, N.Y.; SGT. JOHN A.WRIGHT, 21, RADIO OPERATOR, 23 ELMO GROVE AVE., LYNN, MASS.; CORP.HAROLD O.SCHROEDER, 21, LEFT GUNNER, APPLETON, WISC.; STAFF SGT.JAMES P.CORRIGAN, 21, TAIL GUNNER, 320 RIDGE ST., FREELAND, PA.; STAFF SGT.CARL T.WELLS, 24, PORTAGEVILLE, MO.; CORP. ROBERT R.ABEL, 20, RING GUNNER, TAFT, CALIF.

HEADQUARTERS,ALASKA DEPARTMENT, DEC.29-(AP)-FOUR DOTS IN THE BERING SEA--ST.PAUL, ST.GEORGE, ST.MATTHEW AND NUNIVAK ISLANDS--HAD THEIR CHRISTMAS TODAY BECAUSE OF A SPECIAL FLIGHT MADE THROUGH BITTER WEATHER BY LT.S.J.TREVISANI OF SAN FRANCISCO.

WITH PILOT TREVISANI ON THE TRIP MADE TO DELIVER 2,400 POUNDS OF CHRISTMAS MAIL AND PACKAGES WERE S.SGT.LANDIS, KANSAS CITY, RADIOMAN; S.SGT.CIGLIO, BROOKLYN, ENGINEER; CPL.NELME, PENNSAUKEN, N.J., ASSISTANT ENGINEER, (INITIALS NOT REPORTED) AND LTS. O.H.BEASLEY OF ROANOKE, VA., E.C.BOYCE OF MEDFORD, MASS., AND JOSEPH SNIDDY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEX., OF THE INSTRUMENT TRAINING SQUADRON.

THE TRAINING SCHOOL BOXED THE CARGO IN 100-POUND LOTS, STRAPPING PARACHUTES TO THE BOXES.

THE PLANE MET TEMPERATURES AVERAGING 15 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND LOWER, BATTLED POWERFUL WINDS, WORKED 12 HOURS AGAINST THE ELEMENTS WITHOUT FOOD OR DRINK. WATER TAKEN ALONG FOZE SOLID. AT ONE STOP THEY RUSHED TO A COOK SHACK FOR A GOOD MEAL AND SPENT AN HOUR THAWING OUT OIL STOVES BEFORE COOKING COULD BE STARTED.

"IT WAS NECESSARY TO CIRCLE NUNIVAK THREE TIMES BEFORE WE COULD DROP THE CARGO," SAID ONE CREWMAN. "THE SPOT DESIGNATED AS THE TARGET WAS OVERFLOWING WITH A SHOUTING MOB, ALL WITH THEIR HANDS OUTSTRETCHED (CQ), WAITING FOR MAIL FROM THE SKY."

EW930PCW

UNDATED CHRISTMAS (500)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS DEC 26 1944

AMERICA'S FOURTH WARTIME CHRISTMAS FOUND THE NATION IN A SOBER MOOD TODAY WITH ITS ATTENTION FOCUSED ON THE WESTERN FRONT, WHERE AMERICAN TROOPS HAVE HALTED,
TEMPORARILY AT LEAST, THE GERMAN WINTER OFFENSIVE.

AROUND THE WORLD THE MEMBERS OF AMERICA'S ARMED FORCES WHO WERE NOT IMMEDIATELY OCCUPIED WITH FIGHTING CELEBRATED THE HOLIDAY. SOME OF THEM WERE WITH NEW-FOUND FRIENDS IN ALLIED COUNTRIES. OTHERS PLAYED SANTA CLAUS TO HUNGRY, FRIGHTENED CHILDREN OF WAR-TORN VILLAGES.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND POPE PIUS XII LED WORLD LEADERS AND THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE ALLIED NATIONS YESTERDAY IN PRAYERS FOR A LASTING PEACE.

DEC 26 1944

THE PRESIDENT'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE WAS BROADCAST TO THE ARMED FORCES OVER THE WORLD IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF LIGHTING THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE ON THE WHITE HOUSE LAWN.

"WE CANNOT SAY WHEN OUR VICTORY WILL COME," HE SAID. "OUR ENEMIES STILL FIGHT FANATICALLY. THEY STILL HAVE RESERVES OF MEN AND MILITARY POWER. BUT, THEY THEMSELVES KNOW THAT THEY AND THEIR EVIL WORKS ARE DOOMED. WE MAY HASTEN THE DAY OF THAT DOOM IF WE HERE AT HOME CONTIN TO DO OUR FULL SHARE.

"WE PRAY THAT THAT DAY MAY COME SOON. WE PRAY THAT UNTIL THEN, GOD WILL PROTECT OUR GALLANT MEN AND WOMEN IN THE UNIFORMS OF THE UNITED NATIONS--THAT HE WILL RECEIVE INTO HIS INFINITE GRACE THOSE WHO MAKE THEIR SUPREME SACRIFICE IN THE CAUSE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOVE OF HIM AND HIS TEACHINGS.

"WE PRAY THAT WITH VICTORY WILL COME A NEW DAY OF PEACE ON EARTH IN WHICH ALL THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH WILL JOIN FOR ALL TIME."

30.24— 21551

POPE PIUS DECLARED THAT THOSE NATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WAR SHOULD BE PUNISHED, BUT ADDED THAT THE PEACE SETTLEMENT "SHOULD NOT IMPOSE ANY PERPETUAL BURDEN" ON THE LOSERS IF NEW WARS WERE TO BE AVOIDED. THE POPE SAID THAT THE FUTURE PEACE RESTS ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF THE UNITY OF ALL NATIONS AND THE FAMILY OF PEOPLES.

DEC 26 1944

LATER THE PONTIFF CELEBRATED MASS IN ST.PETERS. IT MARKED THE FIRST TIME IN 75 YEARS THAT ANY POPE HAD CELEBRATED A PUBLIC CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS THERE. SINCE 1869 THIS MASS HAD BEEN A PRIVATE ONE FOR THE CARDINALS, THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND THE KING'S FAMILY. THE GREAT CATHEDRAL WAS CROWDED BY A THRONG ESTIMATED AT 100,000.

KING HAAKON OF NORWAY IN A BROADCAST TO HIS PEOPLE FROM LONDON LAST NIGHT HELD OUT THE HOPE OF EARLY VICTORY AND LIBERATION BEFORE ANOTHER CHRISTMAS.

DEC 26 1944

HE SAID THAT ALL HE COULD OFFER HIS PEOPLE THIS CHRISTMAS WAS FAITH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE AND THE BELIEF THAT "WE SHALL CELEBRATE NEXT CHRISTMAS TOGETHER IN A FREE COUNTRY WHEN IT WILL ONCE MORE BE THE FESTIVAL OF HOME AND PEACE."

IN CHUNGKING GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, IN A RADIO MESSAGE TO THE CHURCHES OF CHINA, CALLED ON THE CHURCHES TO DO ALL THEY COULD IN THE COMING YEAR TO AID WOUNDED AND SICK SOLDIERS AND HOMELESS, DESTITUTE REFUGEES "FOR WE SHALL THEN FULFILL OUR DUTIES AS CHRISTIANS AND AS CITIZENS."

IN BETHLEHEM THE MIRACLE OF THE AGES WAS REENACTED LAST NIGHT. MANGER SQUARE WAS PACKED TIGHT WITH MEN IN UNIFORM.

ONE OF LONDON'S GAYEST HOLIDAY PARTIES WAS HELD DEEP UNDERGROUND IN ONE OF THE CITY'S MOST BLITZED BOROUGHS. IT WAS FOR 70 CHILDREN SHELTERED IN THREE SUBWAY STATIONS. MANY OF THE THREE-YEAR-OLDS PRESENT HAD SPENT EVERY NIGHT OF THEIR LIVES WRAPPED IN BLANKETS ON THE SMUTTY PLATFORMS LULLED BY THE ROAR OF PASSING TRAINS.

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

DEC 26 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED.

U.S. NINTH ARMY: NO REPORTED CHANGE IN ROER RIVER LINE.

U.S. FIRST ARMY: GERMANS SEIZED LIBRAMONT; PROBED NEAR TOWN WITHIN 14 1/2 MILES OF MEUSE RIVER; AMERICANS MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON FLANKS OF COUNTEROFFENSIVE; ALLIED AIR MIGHT LASHES HEAVILY AT GERMANS AGAIN.

U.S. THIRD ARMY: GAINED SLOWLY IN SAARLAUTERN SECTOR ON EAST BANK OF SAAR RIVER.

U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: NO REPORTED MAJOR CHANGE IN FIGHTING IN WISSEMBOURG GAP.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: GERMANS MADE SLIGHT GAIN IN SOUTHERN ALSACE COUNTERATTACK.

G925PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

Y THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC 26 1944

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U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: NO REPORTED MAJOR CHANGE IN FIGHTING IN WISSEMBOURG GAP.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY: MADE SLIGHT GAIN IN ADVANCE ON COLMAR.

KA110PEW

-FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY-

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC.25, 1940--CHRISTMAS DAY BRINGS LULL IN AIR WAR IN WESTERN EUROPE AS BRITISH AND GERMAN PLANES REMAIN GROUNDED, BUT RAF POUNDS ITALIANS IN ALBANIA AND NORTH AFRICA.

BRITISH PLANES DROP GIFTS TO CHILDREN ON CORFU.

BZ559AEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC 26 1944

1--WESTERN FRONT; 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).

2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).

3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 368 MILES (FROM LEVA).

4--ITALIAN FRONT: 549 MILES (FROM NORTH OF MEZZANO).

BZ559AEW

Blanke

V

30. 24 — 21553

Nazis Rip 11 Miles Deeper into Belgium, Wipe Out American Salient at St. Vith; Reds Complete Encirclement of Budapest

DEC 27 1944

PARIS UNDERGOES AERIAL ATTACK BY SEVERAL PLANES

KENNEDY

Rundstedt Sweeps Within Four Miles of Meuse River Near Namur.

YANKS HOLD IN BASTOGNE

Enemy Employing Two Full Armies in Mighty Winter Offensive.

DEC 27 1944

PARIS, Dec. 26—(AP) As Paris underwent an aerial bombardment, Supreme Allied headquarters reported tonight that Field Marshal Karl Gerd Von Rundstedt's infantry and armored forces had burst from the western end of their salient after a 48-hour lull and smashed 11 miles deeper into Belgium.

The latest battlefield information available at Allied headquarters, 48 hours old, said the Nazi attacking force had driven within four miles of the Meuse river south of Namur and were being engaged by Allied troops 50 miles inside Belgium.

Drive Toward Meuse

So far as was known here, the Germans had not yet reached the Meuse tonight.

The bombing of Paris was by a few unidentified planes which coasted in over the capital to drop their loads. The fact that there were few of the attacking planes virtually precluded any chance that the bombs might have been dropped by Allied aircraft through accident as happened shortly after the liberation of the city.

The news of the new German punch deeper into Belgium was coupled with the disclosure that Von Rundstedt has two full German armies and probably a third employed in his offensive.

The American salient at St. Vith near the northern end of the battle line had been wiped out and the Germans held a solid 35-mile assault front across Belgium. At Celles, a village 10 miles northwest of Rochefort, Von Rundstedt's forces were only eight miles from the French frontier.

The Nazis threw their new punch after furious American resistance aided by bludgeoning air power virtually had held the enemy to a standstill for two days.

Two columns struck from the area between Rochefort and Marche, at the extreme point of the enemy's penetration of Belgium. One force shot west and a little north to reach Ciney, nine miles from the Meuse. The other drove due west to the vicinity of Celles, four miles from the city of Dinant on the Meuse.

Nothing was available at Allied headquarters on what progress the Nazis might have made since Sunday night, in keeping with the time lag imposed on news from the front.

Yanks Trapped in Bastogne

Several thousand Yank troops encircled at the important Belgian road hub of Bastogne on the enemy's southern flank continued to hold out valiantly against powerful German pressure while an American relief force driving up from the south reached a point only four and half miles from the city.

Heavy fighting was in progress southeast of Bastogne in the vicinity of Arsdorf and Eschdorf, and American troops were reported to have gained some ground, including heights west of Eppeldorf, four and a half miles southeast of Diekirch and three miles from the German-Belgium border.

Although the weather deteriorated somewhat today, swarms of Allied planes again were out over the battle area, blasting at enemy armor and troops and engaging in swirling dogfights with the Luftwaffe. Up to noon planes of the Ninth tactical air force had destroyed six tanks, six other armored vehicles and 237 motor transport, while shooting down 22 Nazi craft.

It now is believed at Allied headquarters that Adolf Hitler personally planned the German Winter offensive, as the Nazis claimed ever since it began, and it no longer can be doubted that the onslaught had disrupted the schedule of the Allied drive on Germany.

A qualified military expert said Von Rundstedt, who is brilliantly directing the smash across Belgium, has thrown at least two seasoned armies into the great effort and probably a third. It previously was announced that between 13 and 15 German divisions were lashing at the American First army and elements of the Third.

Drive Aimed at Namur

Field dispatches indicated that Von Rundstedt now was seeking to break through toward the large Belgian city of Namur rather than toward Liege, 34 miles northeast of Namur. The enemy column which reached Ciney on Sunday was approximately 14 miles from Namur and was striking in that direction.

It was disclosed that American forces which had held up the German advance near St. Vith, four miles from the German-Belgian border, were withdrawn in the last two or three days to avoid threatened entrapment. This enabled the two jaws of a German pincers to come together and wiped out what had been a troublesome salient in the enemy's front.

The northern line of the German front now runs from Ciney through Marche, Hotton and Grandmenil, then northwest of Lierneux to near Stavelot, then 14 miles east to Bullingen and on to Monschau in Germany.

One German attack near Bullingen, 10 miles east of Malmedy, failed Christmas Eve, but to the west a strong German force attacked on a two-mile front and took Manhay.

Enough has been learned of the enemy's program to prove that the current offensive, which was personally planned by Hitler during a three-months period in which he withdrew from other activities, was in its conception not merely a thrust to relieve Allied pressure on Germany but was an ambitious scheme to break through and roll up the entire Allied front in Belgium and Holland, the military expert quoted above said.

It thus is a daring gamble to inflict decisive defeat on the Allies on the Western front.

The expert said that the Germans had failed to achieve all they planned in the initial phases of the offensive and had been compelled to revise their plans.

DEC 27 1944

The ability of the Nazi forces to achieve anything like Hitler's grandiose plan is highly unlikely, but there is no question that he already has driven a wedge which has compelled the Allies to drop their own Winter offensive and concentrate on coping with the enemy breakthrough.

The dispatch does not necessarily mean the war will be prolonged. On the contrary, it may bring the end sooner, as the Germans have come out of their pillboxes and trenches and have placed a powerful force in the open for what may be a showdown battle.

Drive Executed by Generals

Hitler left the execution of the offensive to his generals, notably Von Rundstedt, who personally is directing it with a highly professional touch.

In a delayed dispatch from the Stavelot sector on the northern flank, dated Dec. 25, Wes Gallagher of the Associated Press said "there is a feeling that the tide of battle has turned in this sector after eight days of desperate fighting."

He told of roads strewn with the wreckage of German tanks and vehicles after Monday's great Allied air attack and quoted an American officer as declaring "we have given the German panzers their worst beating since the Argentan gap debacle." He described German troops in the assault as young and tough.

Officers at Allied headquarters said the Germans might not begin to feel the full effect of the air blows of recent days for another 48 hours. Yesterday's attacks by more than 4,000 Allied planes were aimed mainly at sealing off the battle bulge from the Germans' sources of supply.

At least 56 German tanks were destroyed and another 791 other armored vehicles and transports were destroyed or damaged in air action which cost 13 heavy bombers, seven medium and light bombers and 45 fighters. Seventy-eight Nazi planes were shot down.

(Tuesday's German High command communique claimed more than 700 American tanks and armored vehicles had been captured or destroyed in the present offensive. It declared that American forces trying to fight through to the relief of isolated yanks in Bastogne had been repulsed and the ring around the town tightened).

DEC 27 1944

U. S. Blacks Out News

There was almost a complete blackout of news from the northern, central and southern sectors of the long front. A dispatch from the Seventh army front near Wissenbourg in the German Palatinate said tersely that there was "nothing to report." There was no indication that the Third army in the Saar had registered gains.

Thunderbolt fighters supporting the Seventh army destroyed at least three locomotives and damaged 27 others.

Von Rundstedt had thrown into the break in Allied lines the Fifth Panzer army and the Seventh army—the latter rebuilt since it was badly decimated in France—and probably has still another army at his disposal.

He has some crack units in these forces and also some Volksgrenadier units, far inferior to the Americans in training and not well equipped.

Commanding the Fifth Panzer army is Gen. Hasso Eccard Von Manteuffel—the devil man—a typi-anian family whose main business anian family! whose main business for centuries has been the waging

of war. He served in the last war, and in this war he fought in the first battle of France, on the Russian front and in Africa. He is 48 and one of the ablest German generals.

roe 50 Miles Inside Belgium; 2d U.S. Force Trapped

DEC 27 1944

Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—Two German armored columns by Sunday night had plunged 50 miles into Belgium, reaching within 4 miles of the Meuse River. The Nazis wiped out the American salient at St. Vith and formed a solid front 35 miles wide.

Supreme headquarters disclosed this information today. Two and possibly three Nazi armies have been flung into the battering counteroffensive, believed at supreme headquarters to have been planned by Hitler himself in an effort to shatter Allied forces in the West. Backed up by infantry, the twin German tank pushes had careened 11 miles more into Belgium since the last previous headquarters report.

They had pinched out the American stand west of St. Vith—a salient that had split the German offensive prongs—and formed a single bulge 35 miles wide and now 50 miles or more deep.

Germans At Ciney And Near Celles

Punching due west, one Nazi tank column neared Celles, only 4 miles from the Meuse at Dinant and just 8 miles northeast of the French border.

Another column struck west and north, reaching Ciney in a 10-mile gain. Ciney is 9 miles from the Meuse and 14 from the jutting northeast corner of France. Ciney and Celles are 6 miles apart.

The security news cloak covered any further progress these thrusts have made since Sunday night. At latest reports a battle was raging in this general area, with the Germans building up forces west of Rochefort and south of Marche.

The deep Sunday gains came after the invaders had been held almost to a standstill for 48 hours.

American Force Surrounded At Bastogne

Allied planes hit again today at the German columns, and up to noon the 9th Tactical Air Force alone had destroyed six tanks, six armored vehicles and 237 motor vehicles, besides downing 22 enemy planes.

In the heart of the German bulge a surrounded American force several thousand strong fought doggedly to hold the important Belgian road hub of Bastogne after rejecting a surrender ultimatum. It is under incessant Nazi armor and infantry attacks.

The whole hope of this isolated force focused to the south, where General Eisenhower's counterassault had beaten back up the Arlon road within 5 miles of Bastogne—and was still gaining ground.

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The St. Vith Withdrawal

The American wedge west of St. Vith had kept Field Marshal von Rundstedt's drives split.

German stabs had veered north of Laroche through to Grandmenil and Lierneux, threatening to cut off Americans dug in on ridges west of St. Vith and keeping Rundstedt's assault prongs from merging.

These forces had to be pulled out in rear-guard fighting the last two or three days, supreme headquarters said, and the German junction had been formed by yesterday morning.

There were no reports whether this withdrawal was completely successful or whether some of the American armor and infantry that had held the pocket for almost a week had been left behind.

Namur Now Believed German Goal

The northern line of the German bulge now runs from north of Rochefort, 15 miles from the Meuse, northeast through Marche, Hotton and Grandmenil, then northwest of Lierneux to near Stavelot, then 14 miles east of Bullingen and on to Monschau in Germany.

A field dispatch declared Rundstedt apparently now was seeking a breakthrough toward Namur rather than Liege, 34 miles northeast of Namur. The Germans were more than 30 miles from Namur by Sunday.

Besides pounding into Rochefort, German armor and infantry farther southeast had taken Libramont, only 23 miles from Sedan and 16 from the French border. Prisoners said the German timetable called for Paris by January 17.

Yanks Gain Below Duren

Even as the German offensive bit deeper into Belgium, Americans to the northeast had entered Windem, 4 miles below Duren, on Sunday, and cleared Obernaubach, a mile farther down.

While the huge ground battle in Belgium raged on, the 8th Air Force got in its fourth straight day of attacks.

Thousands of German vehicles and 500 enemy planes have been knocked out by Allied flyers since the start of the counteroffensive.

For the first time the main German pressure in Belgium appeared to be turning from the west, where there still were slight gains, to the northwest or north.

Tide Turning At Stavelot

A field dispatch dated yesterday, however, said the tide seemed to be turning against the Germans in the Stavelot sector, along the northern rim of the German breakthrough.

Americans counted 600 German dead and 34 tanks knocked out on the armor-churned snowfield near St. Aumond, five miles west of Stavelot, where the Germans had been held to a standstill. United States forces pinched the Nazis out of La Gleize, three miles west of Stavelot, taking 200 prisoners and wrecking or seizing 15 tanks.

Farther east the Germans lost bloodily in a vicious Christmas Eve assault near Bullingen that failed to gain.

Nazi 'Chutists Wiped Out

The Germans dropped parachutists near Stavelot and Beauraing, intent on disrupting Allied communications, but all were wiped out.

Eisenhower's counterassault along the 25-mile southern flank was striking heavily toward Bastogne, and against the Echternach shoulder of the Nazi bulge. Gains of one to three miles were reported in 24 hours up to yesterday morning.

Fierce fighting thundered around American-captured Chaumont just west of the Arlon-Bastogne road, and the Americans were making steady gains east of the road. They pressed north of Bigonville, cleared Arsdorf, and pushed close to Neuenhausen, two miles farther northeast.

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Other U.S. Successes

A few miles farther east Americans gained near recaptured Heiderscheid, eight miles west of Diekirch. German attacks were repulsed at Heiderscheid and at Kehmen, three miles northeast.

In other advances south and east of Diekirch, Americans took Mostroff, four miles south of Vianden, where the Nazis originally broke across the Luxembourg border in their Bastogne drive. Mostroff is nine miles northwest of Echternach.

Elsewhere on the Western front, German patrols were active along the Maas River in Holland. Patrols were active on the 7th Army front near Wissembourg and along the Rhine, and north of Colmar the Allies entered Bennwier.

[Berlin said Schiesseck fort of the Maginot Line north of Bitche, on the 7th Army's front, had been recaptured by the Germans, with Bundenthal, seven miles northwest of Wissembourg, also retaken.]

Air Blows Dealt At Rear

The Allies yesterday sent out more than 4,000 planes, some 600 of which directed their blows at sealing off the battle bulge in the real line rather than in front-line attacks.

For this reason, officers at headquarters said, the full effect of air blows may not begin to be felt heavily on the actual front line for 48 hours or more.

The Allied planes yesterday wrecked at least 56 tanks and destroyed or damaged 791 other armored vehicles and transports.

GERMAN ATTACK SWEEPS FORWARD

GALLAGHER

WITH U. S. FORCES IN BELGIUM, Dec. 26—(AP) Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt hammered ceaselessly at General Eisenhower's northern flank today, embroiling more men in the great struggle in Belgium.

At the same time, there was a sharp increase in patrol activity all the way from Onschau to the Canadian army positions in Holland in a great battle unequalled previously in this war.

Despite the fearful beating the German airforce has absorbed—losing nearly 600 planes since the Nazi offensive started — it continued to fight and the 29th American tactical airforce in a few hours this morning shot down 13 German planes and damaged four more, giving this American unit the biggest day it has had since its organization.

American combat forces chopped off at least two of von Rundstedt's extended Western prongs, capturing 13 assault guns in one place, but Von Rundstedt threw two more in their place.

In general, the northern flank is being held, forcing the German commander even farther west in his efforts to turn north against Liege and Antwerp, while, in the south, American armor and infantry made steady progress toward Bastogne.

German losses have mounted steadily, but von Rundstedt has ignored them in the typical Prussian fashion that cost the Kaiser 400,000 men at Verdun in the last war.

There are more and more indications that the German High command has decided to risk the heart of the German army in this Western front effort. At the present moment, Eisenhower's forces have more or less contained the original penetration and the battle has passed from the "critical stage."

Von Rundstedt still has substantial reserves, reserves that two months ago were thought impossible by most Allied military experts.

If he commits them either in the break-through or in a new attempt farther north, the struggle on the Western front will have a life or death aspect. It will strain every Allied resource.

But if von Rundstedt fails, the German army will be in exactly the same crippled condition it was after the abortive Paris offensive of 1918.

The next few days should tell the story, with strong prospects for the greatest battle of the Second World war in the offing.

GERMANS DECLARE AMERICAN TROOPS STEP UP ATTACKS

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LONDON, Dec. 26.—(AP) American commanders in Europe have sent several divisions of the Ninth army into the First army area to join up with units which were rushed in from the Third and Seventh armies, the Berlin radio claimed tonight.

Broadcasting this report, perhaps in an effort to fish for information, the German radio went on to say that the Americans had stepped up their fierce onslaught against the southern flank of Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's offensive during the past 24 hours.

The enemy Supreme command announced that the focal point of the fighting in the west had shifted to the area of western Luxembourg, and claimed Allied attacks around Bastogne were repulsed during grim battles. The encirclement of American troops in the Bastogne area was further narrowed, Berlin said.

U. S. forces, after receiving fresh reserves which presumably were taken from other frontline sectors, tried to press back the Nazi southern wing in order to relieve the Bastogne forces, but the attacks were repulsed, the Berlin radio said.

West of the Ourthe river the Germans claimed their assault spearheads were making headway after warding off numerous enemy counterattacks. Since the beginning of our attack in the west, on Dec. 16, the broadcast said, more than 700 American tanks or armored vehicles were either captured or destroyed.

The German radio also claimed Nazi fighter squadrons had intercepted strong enemy formations yesterday and prevented them from aimed bombing. German fighters and flak artillery destroyed 4 Anglo-American planes, the Nazi High command said.

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HITLER CONCEIVED NAZI OFFENSIVE

PARIS, Dec. 26—(AP) The current German counteroffensive on the western front, employing at least two and possibly three armies, is believed at Allied headquarters to have been conceived and planned by Adolf Hitler himself, just as Nazi propagandists have been contending.

According to information available here, the Hitler design was to burst through to the Meuse river all the way between the French frontier and Liege, Belgium, and thus virtually pinch off the Allied forces in the Aachen sector.

It cannot be doubted any more that the German onslaught, which got off to a brilliant start but since has slowed down, has disrupted the Allied schedule for their drive in Germany.

A qualified military expert at Allied headquarters said this ambitious Nazi gamble, which is believed to have been mapped out by Hitler during three months when he withdrew from all other activities, was boldly conceived not merely as a push to relieve Allied pressure but in the hope of rolling up the entire Allied front in Belgium and Holland.

This expert credited German Marshal Karl Gerd Von Rundstedt with brilliant direction of the Hitler plan for decisively defeating the Allies in the west.

He is using the reorganized Seventh army that was so badly cut up by the Allies in Normandy, plus the Fifth Panzer army and probably also another Panzer army.

The Allies admittedly were hit in a thin spot, but the Allied expert said the Germans had failed to achieve as much as they had expected in the initial stages of their offensive and had been forced to revise their program.

There is no inclination at Allied headquarters to suppose that the Germans have yet been brought to a complete standstill, but it is suggested that for all its bold conception and smart execution, the Nazi plan already has begun going wrong and that Von Rundstedt is having to improvise in the field.

There is, however, no question that the Germans have compelled the Allies to concentrate on coping with this counteroffensive rather than on their own Winter offensive in Germany.

GERMANS ATTEMPT TO SPLIT ALLIES BY PROPAGANDA

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LONDON, Dec. 26 — (AP) The German propaganda machine is trying to make capital of the military situation on the Western front:

A broadcast tonight by the propaganda agency International Information said that "Eisenhower is forced to meet the German onslaught mainly with American divisions" because Field Marshal Montgomery "so far has given up none of his Canadian or British formations."

"The behaviour of the British command in the West is a most significant sign among the developments in the area of the German offensive," the broadcast said. "The Maas front of the 21st army group (Montgomery's command) has been the quietest in the west for weeks. Montgomery has taken all measures to ensure that the collapse of the (U. S.) First army should have no repercussions on his own front.

"Only two days ago he had to send one division to the area of the First army, but the British commanding general still is anxious to avoid taking part in the campaign of the Americans."

Such propaganda was considered here an attempt to split the Allies and fish for information about Montgomery's dispositions.

A dispatch from Paris, seat of Supreme Allied headquarters, by Associated Press Correspondent Edward Kennedy said:

"German patrols have been probing for weak spots on the British-Canadian fronts in Holland and any big withdrawals from that area would serve German interests.

"French and U. S. Seventh army troops in the south have the job of containing the Germans in the Alsace pocket and in the past 24 hours have enaged in brisk fights northwest of Colmar and cleared up a large German infiltration into their lines.

"Further information on this subject is naturally not permissible at the moment, as it would involve data on the disposition of troops."

In London, a British military commentator, discussing scarcity of information concerning the part taken by British forces in the current crisis, said:

"In the first place we don't know that British troops are not being used by the Supreme commander (Gen. Eisenhower) to help stop the Germans, but whether they are or not and why obviously is a question to be put to Supreme headquarters."

NAZI OFFENSIVE BELIEVED AIMED AT CHANNEL PORTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — (AP) Unfolding German strategy, in the opinion of military men here, indicates the enemy's counter-offensive is aimed at the channel ports, probably Antwerp.

Success would snap Allied supply lines from the coast and throw a huge noose around the armies on the northern sector of the Western front.

The objective of the German drive has been a mystery since it was launched ten days ago. One German prisoner suggested that Paris was the goal.

But on the basis of the latest news from the front, military spokesmen said the Germans evidently are going to try to cross the Meuse river in the area from Namur south to a point west of Rochefort, then swing to the northeast and northwest.

Here along the Meuse the greatest battle in the offensive—possibly the most decisive battle of the Western front—may develop, these observers say. News dispatches saying that two entire armies are participating in the German offensive—a larger force than first estimated—indicate the extreme importance the Nazi High command is attaching to the drive.

A crossing of the Meuse by small German forces is quite likely, it is said here, although the conviction is expressed that the Meuse will mark the greatest extent of the main German offensive forces.

Despite apparent continued German progress, analysts in Washington saw some favorable aspects in the situation. These included:

1—The width of the German front has been narrowed, particularly in the south.

2—Good weather has given Allied forces a chance to pound the enemy's supply lines and combat forces, inflicting severe losses in personnel and supplies.

3—The rate of advance of the enemy spearheads has been slowed considerably since the opening of the offensive.

Drive Costs Nazis 13,273 Prisoners

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Washington, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—The War Department reported today that at least 13,273 Germans have been taken prisoner during the current German counter-offensive.

This report, the department said, is a preliminary one.

Disclosure of the figure was made in an announcement which said that the 800,000th German prisoner had been taken on the western front since the landings in Normandy on June 6. This covered the period up to Christmas Eve.

SUPPLIES DROPPED TO BASTOGNE YANKS

By EDWARD D. BALL

WITH AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 26—(AP) Hundreds of C-47 transports flew through ack-ack to drop ammunition, supplies and plasma to our troops surrounded in the Bastogne pocket today.

They came in just over the treetops and soon were unburdening themselves, pitching out clusters of cannisters which swayed earthward beneath silken parachutes.

Watching the proceedings were a batch of hardbitten young Nazis who stomped about to keep warm. They were an arrogant and sneering lot, all except Hans, who was smiling.

"Hans," commanded one of his comrades, and Hans wiped that smile off his face.

"They try to look tough, but like the German army they're not as tough as they used to be," said Capt. Henry H. Burchard, New Rochelle, N. Y.

Burchard said, "individually they were pretty good when we first tangled with them up in Normandy. They were fair later. Now they are plain lousy. (35 words censored) during the first few days of the German breakthrough, they fought well and then they began surrendering like that bunch you're looking at.

"We soon found out why. Their ranks have been filled with everything from piccolo players to ham actors."

"Some of these prisoners didn't even know they were having a hand in the German counterattack," added Sgt. Werner Danby, New York City. "All they knew was that they were fighting. That tough front they're putting on is just a front. Some of those taken in the last few days conceded that all they hoped for was better peace terms."

Planes Drop Supplies To Cut-Off Americans

With U.S. Troop Carrier Forces On The 1st Army Front, Dec. 23 [*AP—Delayed*]—More than 200 troop carrier C-47's, escorted by Thunderbolt fighters, bucked headwinds and flak over the German-Belgian border to drop food and ammunition to stranded American troops today.

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The hard-pressed ground forces, veterans who have been cut off from outside aid for nearly a week, are caught in the tightening pincers of Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt's offensive.

The mass carrier formation left English bases on its 200-mile journey and arrived over its snow-covered objective this afternoon.

Parachutes were dropped in excellent concentration. The large red chutes dotted the snow like poppies. The GI's rushed from their foxholes and shelters, waving to the planes and retrieving the supplies with jeeps and trailers.

DOUGHBOYS BITE INTO NAZI FLANK

By LEWIS HAWKINS

WITH AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 26—(AP) Infantrymen are digging into the Germans' vital southern flank north of Luxembourg despite foot-freezing weather and back-breaking hills and the Nazis are fighting fiercely to save their communications lines to the Bastogne area and westward.

"If these hills were ten feet higher, they'd be mountains," said one weary GI outside the village of Kehman, 21 miles north-northeast of Luxembourg city.

He wasn't exaggerating and Maj. James H. Hayes, a regimental operations officer from Philadelphia, explained why it is not just their height that handicaps the Americans:

"The ridges we're in all run roughly east and west and we are advancing south to north, so we have to go over every ridge and face the fire of everything from six-barrelled mortars and 88's to machinepistols."

These steep hills, so ideally adapted to defensive warfare, are covered by forests of beech, oak, spruce and fir and in some places the latter is so thick that it is almost as dark as night when the sun is shining brightly above.

In one such dense wood a unit which had just taken a town near Kehman had its command post and Capt. Gerald Crowthers, of Coshocton, O., its executive officer, said, "we had to clean the krauts out house by house and the town is all torn up now. They were fighting as hard as I have ever seen them fight."

This unit's boss, Maj. James A. Craig, New Cumberland, Pa., was up ahead in the town consolidating his troops' hold on it.

The troops have moved about 14 miles in the last four days, cutting the main Bastogne-Trier supply road in the capture of Heiderscheid, 19 miles north of Luxembourg, and now threaten a secondary road line at Bourcheid.

German troops now trying to stem this northward push include some first class units which had been headed west into the Bastogne area but had to be diverted to meet this threat from the south.

Nazis Blow Up Armored Vehicles As Yanks Retake Belgian Town

DEC 27 1944

By HAL BOYLE

NEAR STAVELOT, BELGIUM, Dec. 25—(delayed)—(AP A slim major who spent more than 72 hours as a prisoner of a trapped German armored force told today how 800 Nazi survivors tried to break out of an American encirclement after abandoning and blowing up more than 100 of their own tanks and vehicles.

"I was determined to get back here in time for a real Christmas dinner," said Maj Hal D. McCowan of Ruston, La., as he sat at a Christmas table loaded with turkey and cranberry sauce and related his experience to his commanding general.

Had 4 Dogbiscuits

"All I had for Christmas with them yesterday—they eat theirs a day before we do—was four tough dogbiscuits and two nips of apple cognac."

Doughboys who enveloped the small village of La Gleize, west of here, after three days of a hammering battle, found 152 burning Nazi armored vehicles, including 38 tanks of which 16 were royal tigers and 22 panthers.

"The bulk of those were destroyed by the Germans themselves before they pulled out the last 800 men—only about a third of their original force," McCowan said to the division staff officers grouped around the festive Christmas table.

As a result of the German withdrawal the besieging Americans who retook the town captured 150 Nazi wounded and freed 140 imprisoned Yanks who were left behind by the enemy.

"I was captured Dec. 21 when German machinegunners surrounded me, my radio operator and an orderly near Stoumont, west of Stavelot," said the 30-year-old McCowan.

"They were cutting grass above our heads with those machineguns.

"They took us to La Gleize where I found they had about 140 other captured Americans. They abided by the Geneva conventions in every way in dealing with us."

Give Major Third Degree

Although employing no force the Nazis subjected McCowan to a psychological third degree, placing him in a chair under a bright light while one of the questi[illegible]ostentatiously pulled out a p[illegible]nd put it on a table as an unvoiced threat.

McCowan said the SS officers tried to bluff him, but after they found out I didn't bluff, their commander took quite a fancy to me."

The commander, in subsequent chats with McCowan, related how the Germans planned to break through and divide the American armies. He expressed hatred of the Russians, who, he said, took no prisoners and said he preferred fighting the Americans because "they are gentlemen." He spoke with horror of the devastating pow-

et of American artillery which he described as "inhuman."

"He was worried about our attitude toward the SS troops and wanted to know if we regarded them as criminals and gangsters," said McCowan, "and he wanted to know if we also regarded Hitler and Himmler in this light."

The major, with the other American captives, had to sweat out the artillery shelling of La Gleize village before their comrades entered it

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Surrounded by American tanks and infantry, the German commander was told by his commanding general late Dec. 23 to withdraw. At 3 o'clock the next morning he launched two sharp counter-attacks to deceive the Americans.

Nazi Blow up Vehicles

Two hours later his column of 800 men, armed with mortars and machineguns began to pull out. Behind them their rear guard began blowing up their abandoned vehicles at five minute intervals.

"The whole village was a sea of flame," said McCowan. "The German commander looked back at his burning armored column and if he had been capable of it he would have cried, but he didn't."

"He led us south across the Ambleve river, over a small footbridge, and right through our lines in a single column, a file of 800 men—all in perfect silence without a shot fired."

All that day the German column circled warily through the hills, marching steadily without rest.

Last night, after a series of brushes with American patrols, the Nazi column engaged in a fight with a company of Doughboys. As the Germans fled, McCowan ran toward the American lines until a voice challenged him.

"For Christ's sake, don't shoot," called McCowan, and soon he was back with his own division.

As he finished his story, McCowan, freshly bathed and rested, looked around the Christmas table and told the general:

"My wife would be proud of my waistline now. I'll never be so small again."

And he took another helping of turkey.

Nazis Trapped Ferrying 25 Tanks Over River

Near Stavelot, Belgium, Dec. 25 [*AP—Delayed*] — American artillery and dive bombers surprised a German force today attempting to ferry 25 tanks across the Ambleve River from a Nazi armored formation trapped a week ago west of Stavelot.

"They managed to float one tank over before we caught them," said Lieut. Col. H. E. Hassenfelt, of Oconto, Wis., "but then we began plastering them with artillery and working them over with dive bombers.

"They had to build pontoon rafts because there were no bridges left for them to escape across the river to the south.

"We have both the east and west entrances to the pockets sealed and they can't get out to the north because of impassable swamps and wooded mountains."

Ruins Of Equipment

A scene of some of the fiercest fighting since the German breakthrough was the village of La Gleize, three miles west of Stavelot. The Americans now have recaptured the town.

In and around the town the doughboys found the ruins of many enemy guns, tanks and vehicles. These included eight tanks—Royal Tigers, Panthers and Mark IV's—halftracks, self-propelled anti-aircraft guns, armored cars and half-ton trucks, three .75-mm. anti-tank guns, one ambulance and one .88-mm. anti-tank gun.

During the battle for the village the Americans took 150 prisoners, Hassenfelt said, "and killed more of the enemy than we have been able to count. Eight hundred survivors managed to escape over small foot bridges across the Ambleve."

"Ended Up In Trap"

Discussing the reasons for the Nazi debacle in this sector, Hassenfelt said:

"As smart as they were in the original advance, they didn't protect their own flanks and so they ended up in a trap. And they stuck their own noses into the noose. All we had to do was pull the string."

In the streets of the battered village this afternoon the doughboys celebrated their victory with an old-fashioned Christmas dinner—turkey, cranberries, mashed potatoes and all the other trimmings.

Nazis Take Big Fuel Dump

With U. S. Forces in Belgium, Dec. 21 [*AP—Delayed*]—The Germans have captured one substantial American gasoline dump—a total of 35,000 gallons, or about enough to run one armored division for two days.

It is evident that the Germans are short of gasoline. Thirteen Nazi self-propelled guns were captured west of Bastogne when they ran out of fuel.

GENERAL HELD COMMAND POST

With American Troops in Belgium, Dec. 22 (Delayed) (A. P.).—When the enemy threatened to overrun one divisional command post, the commanding general forgot all about his dignity. "We are going to hold this post," he said grimly.

He personally rallied his cooks, orderlies, drivers and clerks, and threw them into a hurried defense line. He directed traffic and supervised, while under heavy artillery and tank fire, the placing of strategic anti-tank defenses.

German Tiger tanks drove to within 200 yards of the post but the "mess shack" army never wavered. They held and knocked out so many Nazi vehicles the enemy finally had to retreat.

He was cut off and the Germans were thirty feet away—but he refused to give up. He grabbed a bazooka and for twenty-four hours held on, although four of his men were killed or wounded.

A private with his hand smashed by an enemy bullet sneaked back to his company command post through the German lines for more ammunition.

"I told him we had to evacuate—but he said to hell with that. Widener needed him and ammunition and he went back carrying it,' declared the company commander.

Charge Chateau.

Wounded men with Sergt. Weidener who were unable to fight kept contact with the command post by telephone until they died. The young private with the smashed hand picked up a revolver in the other hand and, with Sergt. Weidener, charged the chateau. The private was shot in the chest, shoulders and face and only then could his comrades get him into an ambulance.

It was this sort of courage which drove the crack German troops—dazed and beaten—back into a small town in the valley. The Germans established a defense in the town and placed 130 G. I. prisoners in the cellar of a church.

An American tank battalion hauled a giant 155-millimeter self-propelled cannon up on a ledge overlooking the village 800 yards away. They blew houses down on the Germans' heads with direct fire.

Sergt. William Keller, Chicago, Ill., one of those taken prisoner subsequently freed in the final assault late yesterday, said:

"It was terrible—that fire from our guns, particularly that 155. The Germans just stood there and shook and just before the final assault our guards asked us to make a white flag."

The Germans were short of food and all the Americans had to eat for three days were raw potatoes.

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"Due" in Paris January 17.

The German captors were young, tough troops and very talkative, according to Sergt. Bruce Tate, Columbus, S. C., another American captive who was released.

"The lieutenant who marched us back said their schedule called for them to reach Paris by January 17," Tate said. He said, 'maybe your Mr. Roosevelt will make peace terms then.'"

Sergt. Tate and other prisoners told American officers that the Germans indicated the present offensive had been designed to inflict crushing casualties on the Allies so Germany might get a soft peace.

"Many Germans had never seen American soldiers before," Sergt. Tate continued. "They asked us why we were fighting Germany and examined our clothes and weapons with great interest. They had been fighting on the Russian front." Among the other released American prisoners were Sergt. Donald Kenshalo, Los Angeles, Cal.; Private Howard J. Spark, Jasper, Tex., and Sergt. Bascom Perdue, Kempton, Ind.

Before the final assault upon the German position a handful of Germans who were left alive despite our artillery fire tried to swim the river and escape in American uniforms. Only a few got through.

In an area of less than two miles were found the wrecks of 39 tanks, 75 half-tracks, eight armored cars, four flak wagons, six self-propelled 150 mm. howitzers, six anti-tank guns, six mortars and a variety of other equipment.

It was apparent that Von Runstedt had lost the heart of one of his armored divisions here.

"We've just started," promised Lieut.-Col. Robert Herlond of Johnston, S. C., a battalion commander who participated in the final assault. Included on his staff were Lieut. Roger Bradley of Plainville, Conn.; Lieut. Nelson Wallers, Columbus, Ohio; Capt. Albert Daykin, 33 West 67th street, New York city, and Capt. Allen Hubbard, 192 West End avenue, New York city.

Heroic Deeds by Doughboys Turned Tide in Stavelot Zone

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Germans There Said Timetable Calls for Capture of Paris by Jan. 17 When Roosevelt Will Talk Peace.

By WES GALLAGHER.

In the Stavelot Sector, Belgium, Dec. 25 (Delayed) (A. P.).—There is a feeling that the tide of battle has turned in this sector after eight days of desperate fighting. The Allied air forces delivered a stupendous attack today that left the roads strewn with wrecked German tanks.

"We have given the German Panzers their worst beating since the Argentan gap debacle," declared Major C. S. Sonesifer, of Harrisburg, Pa.

That is the big picture—but it has been etched with the individual exploits of scores of heroic American doughboys.

There was Sergt. William Weldener of Loganport, Ind., who with five other men saw two command posts overrun on each side of him, but held fast to his position in a barn outside a chateau

Tank Fires At One-Foot Range, But Yanks Escape

DEC 27 1944

By Harold V. Boyle

With American Troops in Belgium, Dec. 22 [*AP—Delayed*]—It isn't often that anyone can claim they escaped alive after an enemy tank fired at them from a one-foot range. But one American officer and three enlisted men did it.

They were in a jeep carrying 300 pounds of TNT to the front to blow up a bridge and halt the German advance. Driving was Tech 5/g Drady O. Berryhiff, of Palestine, Texas. His passengers were Sergt. Joe A. Broadstreet, of San Angelo, Texas, and Pfc. Adolph E. Johle, of Schwertz, Texas, and Lieut. Charles F. Lawyer, of 722 East North avenue, Baltimore.

A tank suddenly roared out of a side road and Berryhiff slammed on the brake, halting the jeep one foot short of the tank. A second later, the tank's gun roared with a blast that bounced Johle clear out of the jeep.

Berryhiff swiftly swung the jeep around and shot down the road, pulling off at the first path and hiding behind a barn. Johle scampered into a doorway and got away, too.

"Mess Shack" Army Clicks

When the enemy threatened to overrun one divisional command post, the commanding general forgot all about his dignity. "We are going to hold this post," he said grimly.

He personally rallied his cooks, orderlies, drivers and clerks, and threw them into a hurried defense line. He directed traffic and supervised, while under heavy artillery and tank fire, the placing of strategic anti-tank defenses.

German Tiger tanks drove to within 200 yards of the post, but the "mess shack" army never wavered. They held and knocked out so many Nazi vehicles the enemy finally had to retreat.

Engineers In New Role

Never before had the two combat engineers fired a bazooka—but then never before had Nazi tanks overrun their positions.

So Tech. 5/g Claofas Hernandez, of San Antonio, Texas, and Tech. 5/g Jack Hoge, of Dunlap, Tenn., took the weapon, knelt behind a fallen tree at the roadside, and waited for a target.

They had three projectiles. Hoge agreed to fire and Hernandez to load.

Down the road came several tanks. The two engineers blasted away, but they forgot to pull the pin and the first projectile didn't explode. Hernandez quickly rammed in a second round and at 50-yard range—an orthodox bazooka man would call if "suicide"—Hoge pulled the trigger.

It was a perfect hit. Smoke billowed from the tank, which later blew up.

"We tried again at another tank with our third shell," Hoge said, sadly, "but it was wide of the mark."

Overcomes His Surprise

Tech. 5/g Arnold A. Betcher, of Red Wing, Minn., was so surprised when the first German tank rolled past him with the commander half-exposed in the turret that he didn't fire a shot.

But he didn't make the same mistake twice. When the second tank of the Nazi column came along Betcher sighted his carbine just above the turret and pulled the trigger. Blood spurted and the commander fell dead back into the tank.

Then Betcher ducked behind a barn and escaped before other tanks could spot him.

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NAZI-MANNED P-47S ATTACK YANK PLANES

HEADQUARTERS, FIRST TACTICAL AIR FORCE, European Theatre — (Delayed) — (AP) Two captured German-manned P-47s attacked an American flight of the same type planes from this air force but were beaten off.

Second Lt. Alvin D. Johnson of Nashville, Tenn., related the incident. He said the Americans were flying north of Strassburg when the pair of planes were sight-

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ed. "Of course, we were not suspicious," he added.

Then, he said, the Germans maneuvered above and behind the flight, dived, and started firing.

"One of them opened fire on my wingman, who peeled off and fired back," he said, "but the Germans had lost their chance. They put on speed and we lost them almost immediately in the haze."

Nazi Patrols Cross Rhine.

With the United States Seventh Army, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—German patrols are keeping the Yanks along the Rhine alert, usually crossing the river by motorboats at night and returning the following night.

Private William Elliott of Des Moines, Iowa, told how fifteen Germans crossed one night in his area. Private Elliott and his comrades killed twelve of them, and captured one, while two escaped.

Another group of twenty Germans was intercepted by Americans including Private First Class Bernard Oltrogge, also of Des Moines.

"We did not do so good," Private First Class Oltrogge said. "We killed only three and captured only one."

Three Divisions Commended

With the 7th Army, Dec. 26 (AP)—Seventh Army divisions which took part in the breakthrough of the Germans' Vosges winter line were commended for "outstanding achievement" by Lieut. Gen. Alexander M. Patch. The divisions are the 3d, 45th and 36th.

AP Correspondent Meets Son On Front In France

Somewhere in Alsace, Dec. 26 (AP). An Associated Press correspondent driving along an Alsatian road noted something familiar about the GI in a near-by jeep.

The correspondent stopped his own jeep, crossed the road and shook hands with the private (first class) sitting at the wheel, saying: "Hello, son," to George Carleton Werner.

"Hello, dad," said the 22-year-old private to Wade Werner, veteran Associated Press staff writer who has served fourteen years abroad in Moscow, Vienna, London and Geneva.

Werner, whose wife lives in Alexandria, Va., had not seen his son, an infantry man, in a year and a half. Another son of the Werners has been lost in the war.

U.S. ARMY AUTHORITIES PROBE THEFT OF MAIL

PARIS, Dec. 26—(AP) The U. S. Army is investigating the theft of mail in connection with black market activities as the result of finding 28 pouches and 56 sacks of mail along with other government property in an abandoned army truck located on the premises of a civilian home in suburban Nantes.

Also recovered were 4,950 cartons of cigarettes, 150 gallons of gasoline, 2,000 empty cans—indicating at least 10,000 gallons of gasoline had been disposed of—and large quantities of army trucks tires, food and clothing.

The truck driver, missing three weeks, was discovered badly injured in a civilian hospital where he had been taken by civilians. Authorities said it had not been ascertained whether the driver was implicated in the theft or had been injured defending the truck and its contents.

Blow At Black Market Set

Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Finance Ministry is preparing a double blow against the black market, war profiteers and counterfeiters by calling in old banknotes up to 300 francs for exchange, according to members of the finance committee of the consultative assembly.

The Bank of France already has printed 130,000,000,000 francs worth of new banknotes for the exchange, which will be the Government's first step following the "liberation" bond issue which took 155,000,000,000 francs ($3,100,000,000) out of heavy excess currency circulation.

According to the assembly men, sometime in January the Finance Ministry will make an even exchange up to 300 francs per individual in new bills for the old. Persons holding more than 300,000 will be forced to turn the balance to the Government for bonds carrying one and one half per cent interest and the old bills will be declared void.

Persons holding more than 300,000 francs will be required to show their source of income and prove that the money was not from illicit sources. This will be accompanied by an investigation of all purchases of real estate since 1940, the assembly men said.

Tanks Fuelless, Gas Peddled, Is Charge

TUCKER

Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—A high-ranking American officer predicted today th[illegible] "slimy" details would [illegible]ded in February when th[illegible]y brings to trial another bat[illegible] United States service men accused of selling cigarettes, gasoline and other military supplies to the French black market.

"I know of tanks sitting empty without a drop of gasoline while soldiers behind the lines peddled it by the gallon," the officer said as he discussed thefts and hijacking activities for which scores of soldiers already have been sentenced to prison terms ranging from one year to life.

May Shed New Light

His statement indicated that new light might be shed upon the extent of American soldiers' participation in the black market, although many general officers have denied that the loss of supplies or gasoline—estimated at several hundred thousand gallons a week—has affected the current military situation.

They pointed out that the losses have occurred for the most part many miles behind the battle lines and that fuel supply levels in combat areas are high.

Nevertheless, details already unfolded have revealed fantastic incidents of army truck drivers being ambushed on lonely roads and relieved of vehicles and cargoes at gunpoint, or of drivers delivering loaded trucks to black-market operators at fees reportedly ranging up to $6,000.

Cigarette Traffic

Black-market operations have been so extensive that they are said to have caused the recent breakdown of the cigarette supply for the Allied forces by funneling millions of packages into French brothels, restaurants and private homes.

More than 90 per cent of the cigarettes reached the black market by way of the armed forces, it was disclosed.

Developing from operations that had a patriotic basis under German occupation, the French black market expanded in post-invasion days into a gigantic combine of dealers in stolen goods, counterfeiters, white slavers and speculators. It reached staggering proportions and American soldiers were drawn into its operations.

Since D-day its chief source of supply has been the Army, from which it has drained gasoline, soap, food, cigarettes and post-exchange items.

Civilians Involved

For every American arrested for black-marketing, ten French civilians have been taken into custody, charged chiefly with having American equipment in their possession and selling it illegally. However, 95 per cent of this was delivered to their hands by Americans.

French military and civilian governments have stepped up their efforts to combat the situation.

A total of 184 American officers and men are awaiting hearings at the new series of trials scheduled to open the first week in February. All are members of two special battalions operating French railroads.

Hufendick Not a Negro

Army Private Was Convicted for Selling U. S. Gas in France

An Associated Press dispatch from Paris, dated Dec. 25, which reported the conviction of Private Albert L. Hufendick for selling 225 gallons of Army gasoline to a French civilian, erroneously identified him as a Negro.

War Department records show that Hufendick is white. They list his address as 1434 Sullivan Avenue, St. Louis.

A court-martial sentenced Hufendick, a truck driver on the United States Army's Red Ball supply route across France, to ten years' imprisonment.

FRANCE IS SENDING DELEGATE TO LUBLIN

PARIS, Dec. 26.—(AP) Perhaps foreshadowing future diplomatic moves the French government announced today that it was sending a delegate to the Polish Lublin committee to handle repatriation of Frenchmen escaping from the Nazi lines.

The French news agency in reporting the decision said that the foreign office had found that Polish territories taken by the Russians were being "effectively administered" by the Lublin regime.

The foreign office said that a constantly-increasing number of French war prisoners was being liberated by the Soviet advances, particularly in former Polish areas. Some 1,500 Alsatians already have been repatriated by the Russians to France. They were drafted originally into the German army.

French recognition of the Lublin committee as the Polish government was reportedly one of the agreements reached by Gen. de Gaulle and Premier Stalin during their recent negotiations in Moscow. French resistance leaders have been campaigning for recognition of the Lublin regime instead of the London government in exile.

Paris Subway Accused

Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Paris Liberation Committee demanded today that the Government confiscate the sprawling Metro subway system because it charged the management had collaborated with the Germans during the occupation.

8 In Bony-La Fonte Gang To Be Executed

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Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—Eight members of the Bony-La Fonte gang, convicted of collaborating with the Gestapo during German occupation, will face a firing squad early tomorrow.

A late reprieve was given a ninth man because he fought the Germans after his Gestapo activity.

RUSSIAN FORCES STAB 2 MILES INTO DOOMED CAPITAL

HERCHER

Nine Buda Suburbs Seized in Fierce House-to-House Fighting.

DEC 27 1944

100,000 NAZIS TRAPPED

Soviet Army Cracks German Winter Line on Way to Austria.

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 27—(AP) The Red army yesterday completed the encirclement of Budapest and battled two miles into the city limits from the west in house-by-house fighting against the stubborn but doomed German and Hungarian garrison that originally numbered an estimated 100,000 men.

Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army troops, thrusting to the Danube both above and below Budapest, seized at least nine of the solidly-built-up suburbs of Buda, that section of the Hungarian capital on the river's west bank, and penetrated the city limits at numerous points.

Smash Into City

One of these, Lipotmezo, was two miles inside the city and only two and one-half miles west of the Margaret bridge (Margithid) in the center of the city. Another, Zugliget, one and one-half miles inside Budapest, was but three and one-half west of the famous Chain bridge (Lanchid).

Although death or capture were the alternatives for the completely-cut-off enemy garrison, with the scanty possibility that a few top men might yet flee by air, the Moscow communique which announced the Red army successes conceded that the Germans were putting up a ferocious resistance.

Budapest's outer and inner rings of fortifications were gone, but the enemy was fighting furiously from the shabby stone buildings that make up most of hilly Buda.

How many of the garrison remained alive was problematical, but Moscow referred to their numbers as still "large."

Already looking ahead, however, a late Moscow supplemental bulletin stressed Tolbukhin's capture of Csakvar, 25 miles west of Budapest and 14 miles north of Szekesfehervar. The garrison of that important strong point was annihilated, Moscow said, and thus the enemy's so-called Winter line before the 2,000-foot mountains of the Bakony forest was cracked.

On that front 32 German tanks and 47 cannon were destroyed during the day, the Russian bulletin said.

Simultaneously with the sealing of Budapest's fall, and the cracking of the Winter line on the way to Austria, another Russian army struck ahead towards Austria from due east.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army captured at least 13 towns in southern Czechoslovakia along the Hron (Garam) river, reaching within 63 miles of Bratislava and within 96 of Vienna.

Other elements of that Red army operating in northern Hungary near the Czechoslovak border above Gyongyos, reported capture of 16 Hungarian communities, virtually wiping out the enemy-held fringe of Hungarian soil in all the vast expanse northwest and east of the Danube.

Nazi Toll Mounts

The Moscow communique which announced this series of smashing successes disclosed that in fighting Monday on the front west of Budapest alone 2,340 Germans and Hungarians were captured. This brought the bag for Tolbukhin's men alone to more than 7,800 since Dec. 21, with more than 14,000 of the enemy listed as slain in that same period.

The isolation of Budapest was reinforced by a continuing Soviet drive northwestward which reached and seized the Danube river city of Esztergom, 20 miles above the capital.

The Russians have not yet announced a crossing of the Danube in that sector but stand on the north bank almost opposite Esztergom and control the stream with heavy artillery for as much as 50 miles, so that no enemy vessel could run the gauntlet from Budapest.

They cover the river solidly on the south and today took the river bank suburb of Budafok. Directly north of Budapest they were within a mile of the river in the suburbs of Urom, Pilisborosjeno and Pomaz.

Marshal Malinovsky's men, spreading out on the direct westward path toward the Slovak capital, Bratislava, and storied Vienna, still apparently had not crossed the Hron, last important water barrier in their path. They and Tolbukhin's men on the south were in positions, however, to move in conjunction right up both banks of the Danube, on which sit both Bratislava and Vienna.

Tolbukhin's army, in addition, by taking Esztergom, stood opposite the Hron's mouth, so that a Danube crossing there would out flank the Hron line.

The Russians were silent concerning other fronts, except to say that fighting of local importance went on. The communique announced however, that on all fronts Dec. 25 the Germans lost 48 tanks, bringing to 543 the German tank losses since Dec. 21, at least 291 of these were knocked out by the Third Ukraine army that now is within the gates of Budapest.

Budapest Great Prize

Budapest is a great economic as well as a political and military prize. It contains iron and steel works and engineering, textile, chemical, shipbuilding and food industries. A large munitions plant is located in the southern suburb of Csepel. The Germans already have hauled away much of the machinery from these enterprises, but a considerable amount remains.

Enemy resistance northwest of Budapest still was furious, but apparently it lacked strength to hold

back the Soviet spearheads thrusting toward Bratislava and Vienna from Szekesfehervar, the fallen Nazi bastion southwest of Budapest, and Leva (Levije) in southern Czechoslovakia.

On both sides of Leva Malinovsky's men were spreading out along the Hron (Garam) river, the principal water barrier on the approaches to the Bratislava gap.

Dispatches from Moscow said that the German High command apparently was moving to set up a defense line through the Bakany forest and extending from the northeast to the southwest, paralleling the Austria border. They were believed to be placing reserve forces there instead of attempting any relief of the Budapest garrison.

But there was an impression in Moscow, however, that the Germans would make a stand in the Hungarian capital and perhaps turn it into a battlefield. Defenders of the city are likely to receive devastating fire from big Soviet guns now in position to rake all of Budapest if their resistance continues. The capital has been under siege for six weeks.

Colonel Ernst Von Hammer, German militafy commentator, said in a broadcast today that a battle still raged on the Courland peninsula in western Latvia where an estimated thirty Nazi divisions have been caught with their backs to the sea.

Von Hammer stated that the Russians had thrown in at least eight fresh infantry divisions and three major tank formations to achieve a penetration of nearly one mile through the Nazi line in Latvia.

The Courland offensive, according to German reports, began last Thursday, the same day that Tolbuhkin began his break-through southwest of Budapest, but it has not yet been mentioned in Soviet communiques.

Moscow Announces Final Encirclement of the Hungarian Capital.

EIGHT DIVISIONS IN TRAP

Panic Reported in City as Red Forces Capture Suburbs of Magyar Metropolis.

London, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—The Russian Army completed its encirclement of Budapest today with the capture of nine western suburbs of the Hungarian capital, Moscow said tonight.

Esztergom, big Hungarian religious center on the Danube River twenty miles northwest of the capital, was one of the places which the broadcast Soviet communique announced had been seized today.

In this same sweep Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's forces enveloped the last remaining land escape routes for the enemy garrison estimated at 100,000 in Budapest.

Russians Closing Trap On Foes In Budapest

Moscow, Dec. 26 (AP)—Eight to ten divisions of Germans and Hungarians were reported trapped in Budapest today—cut off from escape except by air or possibly one road usable only by night—as the Red Army drove to the western city limits in a fifteen-mile advance.

The encirclement of the Hungarian capital was virtually completed, and front dispatches said Soviet guns had begun a systematic shelling of two airports still held by the enemy, while Stormoviks and medium bombers flew incessant sorties over the strife-torn capital.

Panic In City Visible

Great panic was reported from inside the city in full view of Russian units that yesterday drove to the lofty hills of Budakesz, adjoining the city limits of Buda, western half of the capital straddling the Danube.

The Germans were reported to have seized all available automobiles and busses and put them under strict military command, ordering the Hungarian drivers to stand by with blankets and all the warm clothing possible. This led to the speculation that large enemy units might try to make a break for it.

Escape Route To Esztergom

The last narrow escape corridor that appeared still open to them extended 19 miles northwest from the capital to Esztergom, on the southern bank of the big Danube bend.

The ring around the capital was completed in all other directions—at distances ranging from less than 2 miles on the west to about 9 miles on the east.

Today's communiqué also disclosed a continuing Red Army surge westward in southern Czechoslovakia along the Hron (Garam) River in the vicinity of Leva (Levice) in a drive along the routes to Vienna and Bratislava, now less than 98 miles and 65 miles distant, respectively.

14,000 Killed

But the war bulletin emphasized the squeeze on Budapest, declaring that in the last five days of fighting west and southwest of the capital the Russians had slain 14,000 German and Hungarian soldiers, captured 5,468 and destroyed or seized vast quantities of war material, including 101 self-propelled guns, yesterday.

Despite the possibility of an attempted breakout from Budapest the impression in Moscow was that the Germans intend to make a stand and turn the city into a battlefield.

There were no indications that the Russians had yet commenced to shell anything but the airports and suburban escape routes to the northeast, but big Soviet guns were in position to open up fire on the defenders inside the city if resistance keeps up much longer.

11 Miles From Junction

In the drive west of the Danube the Russians, with the capture of Many, got within eleven miles of Felso Galla, an important railway and highway junction on the path to the Austrian border. Forty communities were overrun.

The German high command appeared to be attempting to set up a defense line based on the Bakany Forest, which runs from the northeast to the southwest, parallel with the Austrian border. Here the Nazis were piling up reserves for a defense of Austria, rather than an attempted drive to relieve the beleaguered garrison at Budapest.

Reds Amazed by Japan's Weak Air-Raid Defense

Fleet Newspaper Says B-29's Are Cutting Foe's Strength

MOSCOW, Dec. 26 (AP).—The Soviet Navy newspaper "Red Fleet," in a study of American B-29 operations against Japan expressed amazement today at the weakness of Japanese ground defenses.

"Both sides are very reserved in publishing details of operations and results," the newspaper said. "Direst hits possibly are not very numerous, because the flights are made at night or at extremely high altitudes in the daytime.

"However, it is impossible to understand or explain the weak anti-aircraft defense of the Japanese. Is this due to a deficiency in personnel or technique, or is it a Japanese desire to conceal their anti-aircraft defense system?

"The American super-long-range bombers now are systematically reducing the military potential of the Japanese, disorganizing the life of the people and diverting a part—and no small part—of the Japanese armed forces to defense of vital centers and adjacent areas."

ALLIED BOMBERS LASH NAZI TROOPS

Explosives Dropped Directly on Fighting Units; Supply Lines Blasted.

LONDON, Dec. 26 — (AP) American and British bombers and fighters today hit communication and supply lines and attacked German troop concentrations participating in the Nazi offensive, carrying all-out aerial support of the Allied ground armies into the fourth straight day.

A force of 150 heavy bombers of the U. S. Eighth Air force struck the Coblenz area and returned without a loss. A communique said most of the 300 escorting fighters encountered no enemy planes, but one Thunderbolt group battled about 20 Messerschmitts northeast of Malmedy. Reports on this skirmish were incomplete tonight. Another Mustang group met four German interceptors near Bonn and shot down three.

Drop Bombs on Troops

After American planes had attacked behind the lines, R.A.F. Lancasters and Halifax bombers in the afternoon flew to the St. Vitn area where, escorted by Tactical Air Force Spitfires, they dropped high explosives directly on concentrations of German troops and armor.

Resistance by the German air force slacked off today after three days of stiff air battles.

No enemy fighters were sighted by the R.A.F. bomber fleet, described as large in comparison to the size of the force usually sent on a major attack of a German industrial city.

Visibility was excellent and the airmen reported good results against columns of German transport. "It was just like a furnace," exclaimed one pilot. "Not a bomb was out of place and there was only scattered transport left on the roads."

From Italy the 15th air force bombed three Nazi synthetic oil refineries in the campaign to check the flow of fuel to the Germans' motors of war.

22 Nazis Downed

The Ninth airforce, rising from continental bases despite bad weather there today, found some German planes in the air and had shot down 22 by noon, Supreme Allied headquarters announced. The Ninth's pilots also were credited with destroying six tanks and 237 motor transports today.

Two railyards in the Coblenz area and bridges on rail lines between Coblenz and Bonn were attacked by about 150 Liberators accompanied by more than 300 Mustangs and Thunderbolts who kept the air offensive from Britain alive and raised the Allied sorties to near the 15,000-mark just since early Saturday.

Returning Eighth air force pilots said they encountered little opposition, in contrast to the previous three days, which were packed with dog fights over the continent. One bomber pilot said his fighter colleagues had had a field day shooting up the enemy's ground transportation.

The lack of Nazi opposition might mean that the German air force had been bled deeply by the Allied air attack—the Germans have lost more than 500 planes since their offensive began Dec. 16—or it could mean that Marshal von Rundstedt was facing a shortage of gasoline and was saving his supply for tanks and motorized firepower on the ground.

Refineries Heavily Bombed

The Germans' oil refineries were heavily bombed in the weeks preceding their westward push, and are still being hit regularly. Those hit today by the Italy-based planes were at Oswiecim, Poland and at Blechhammer and Odertal in German Silesia. They were pounded by fighter-escorted Liberators and Fortresses.

The bombing today was almost all done visually. Fifteenth air force headquarters reported it was the first time in many weeks that the skies were clear enough to make visual bombing possible.

All three of the refineries hit had been damaged in earlier attacks, but the Germans had been observed busily repairing the plants.

Eighth air force headquarters announced today that 78 German planes were shot down yesterday, making a total of 404 since the all-out aerial offensive started Saturday.

Today's activity pushed the number of Allied sorties since Saturday to near the 15,000-mark. There were nearly 5,000 Saturday, 7,000 Sunday and nearly 2,500 yesterday and today by the Eighth and Ninth air forces alone.

A communique from the Eighth airforce today reported that in its Christmas day attacks it hit eight road and rail junctions behind the battlefront with good results and scored hits on four railway bridges on routes carrying supplies to the German offensive forces.

Supplies Are Dropped

Allied transport aircraft dropped more supplies to the encircled American garrison at Bastogne today.

The R.A.F. announced that during the Christmas period Spitfire bombers scored direct hits on an apartment building near an occupied Dutch town which was believed to have been used as a billet for Nazis working on V-weapon installations.

Other aircraft bombed a V-weapon storage place and launching sites elsewhere in Holland.

American fighter pilots returned from today's mission with vivid descriptions of fighting in the Belgian-Luxembourg wedge.

"Thousands of shellbursts left a wierd pattern on the snow-covered ground," said Lt. Col. Roy W. Evans of San Bernardino, Calif. "We could see the flaming wreckage of tanks dotting the fields. Along the highways were burning wrecks of trucks and automobiles and half-tracks. Several small villages were in flames."

U.S. Bombers Attack Rail Targets In Coblenz Area

London, Dec. 26 (AP)—In strong support of American troops battling the German offensive, United States bombers and fighters for the fourth day attacked enemy communication and supply lines.

Headquarters of the United States Strategic Air Force announced that the targets included two railroad yards in the Coblenz area and bridges and rail lines between Coblenz and Bonn.

The communique said 150 Liberators and Flying Fortresses, accompanied by more than 300 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, participated in the attacks. The targets, through which most of the traffic for the German western forces flows, were bombed visually.

78 Planes Destroyed

The powerful four-day Allied aerial assault was designed not only to help the hard-pressed American forces but to knock the *Luftwaffe* out of the skies. Supreme headquarters said that 78 enemy planes were destroyed yesterday. American losses were thirteen heavy bombers, seven medium bombers and 43 fighters.

Up to 500 Fortresses and Liberators of the United States 15th Air Force, based in Italy, made a heavy attack yesterday on a synthetic oil refinery at Brux, 50 miles north of Prague, while rocket-firing Thun-

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derbolts blasted rail lines, fuel dumps and trains on the Brenner Pass route. Twelve bombers were lost in the Brux raid.

[A Rome dispatch said the big Nazi synthetic oil refineries at Oswiecim, Poland, and Blechhamer and Ordertal, in German Silesia, were pounded today by fighter-escorted Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the 15th Air Force.]

Fighters of the 12th Air Force also attacked the Milan-Bresso airdrome and railyards in Austria.

A dispatch from Switzerland said an Allied air attack yesterday afternoon was believed to have demolished the largest powder factory in northern Italy. Heavy blasts in the Milan area shook houses on the Swiss-Italian border, the report said.

FIGHTER GROUP FELLS 804 PLANES

London, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—The United States Eighth Air Force's Fifty-sixth Fighter Group, commanded by Col. David C. Schilling of Traverse City, Mich., has become the first in the command to destroy more than 800 enemy aircraft, it was announced today.

Pilots of the Fifty-sixth shot down eight enemy planes Christmas Day, after destroying thirty-seven Saturday. Their total now is 804—641 in aerial battles and 163 by strafing.

Col. Schilling himself shot down five Nazi planes Saturday making his total kills 34½.

The Thunderbolt Group began operations in this theater on April 13, 1943.

Three U. S. Flyers Become Generals

London, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—Three United States Eighth Air Force combat leaders, all pioneers in heavy bombardment in the European theater, have been elevated to the rank of brigadier-general, it was announced today.

They are Archie J. Old of Atlanta, Tex., Frederick W. Castle of Washington, D. C., and John W. Wood of Riverside, Cal.

Gens. Old and Castle are bomber wing commanders and Gen. Wood is chief of staff of the Fifteenth Bomber Wing.

An American bomber station in England, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—Lieut. Loye J. Lauraine, 25 years old, of Mount Calm, Tex., the pilot of a Flying Fortress, ran into trouble high in the flak-filled skies over Merseburg, Germany. His bomber was badly crippled. The control cables were shredded beyond repair, the automatic pilot was shot away. The plane dropped out of formation and headed toward the English Channel.

Lieut. Lauraine made contact with his home base, described the damage and gave his position.

This was the conversation:

Control: See if you can head the ship out to sea.

Pilot. It's all I can do to keep it going. We tried to tie the control cables together to save the plane, but we can't save it.

Control: Use your own discretion.

Pilot: We'll try to turn around and head out to sea. We have no bombs.

Control: Keep in touch with us.

Pilot: We're ready to bail out.

If I don't make it, good luck to you.

Control: I won't need the luck—good luck to you.

Lieut. Lauraine thereupon ordered his crew to bail out. He held the balky bomber level long enough for them to jump from 7,000 feet. He couldn't make it himself.

He was the son of Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. L. J. Lauraine of Gonzales, Tex. His father is serving in China. The young pilot wore, when he died, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters.

GERMAN ROCKET BOMBS HIT NORTHERN ENGLAND

SOMEWHERE IN NORTHERN ENGLAND, Dec. 26.—(AP) Untouched by enemy air activity for two years, some areas of northern England were attacked by V-bombs in the pre-dawn hours of Christmas.

The weapons killed men, women and children and flattened homes.

Christmas trees, tinsel and decorations are visible in the debris along ruined streets and families who awaited servicemen coming home on leave spent Christmas huddled in blankets on emergency beds in the rest centers.

ALLIED INVASION OF NORWAY URGED TO SAVE COUNTRY

LONDON, Dec. 26—(AP) An immediate Allied invasion of Norway from the west as a means of breaking Hitler's power in the north and saving the country from total destruction was urged tonight by Norwegian Prime Minister Johan Nygaardsvold.

Calling upon every Norwegian to hammer in some way the Nazis' northern garrison, he warned that every German soldier who escaped to the south would help lengthen the war.

Nygaardsvold, broadcasting a Christmas message to his homeland, declared that the Germans may attempt to transfer some divisions from the north to other fronts where they are sorely needed.

The Norwegian leader disclosed that his government already had pointed out to Allied leaders arguments favoring an Allied invasion of Norway, declaring there was a definite necessity for it now.

"We ourselves," he said, "are not strong enough to make such an attack with Norwegian forces alone. We must have help from the Allies. . . .

"We considered it our duty to impress upon these (Allied) leaders as strongly as possible the humanitarian considerations and the military advantages which we believe would be associated with such an Allied military operation to cut the Germans' retreat southwards through Norway.

"If and when this will occur, and how many months will still have to pass before the whole of Norway is free, cannot be said, and I do not know what are the plans of the military leaders. But I appreciate that many at the home front may be impatient. We are too. Four and a half years is a long time to wait."

Nygaardsvold made these other points:

1. The Norwegian government has agreed that the Germans must pay dearly for the devastation wrought in Finmark, the extreme northern section of Norway, which is now "a blackened, barren waste with only chimneys left standing."

2. The government will leave nothing untried and will not allow any obstacle to stand in the way of relieving parts of the country razed by the Germans. Food, clothing and medicines already have been sent to liberated areas and materials have been obtained for temporary housing.

3. The Norwegian government will resign at its first cabinet meeting in Oslo castle after liberation.

4. Parliamentary and municipal elections must be held as soon as technically possible.

5. The government is pledged to a rapid trial of traitors and restoration of a free Norwegian press.

6. Norwegian forces of the interior are operating on a large scale. Nygaardsvold urged Norwegian patriots to sabotage every German effort.

"This silent sabotage," he said in connection with the last point, "can be very effective when a whole people participate in it. . . Then we have active sabotage attacks against German installations and against factories working for the Germans.

"This is carried out by organized groups belonging to the Norwegian forces of the interior and is part of a planned offensive now being directed against the Germans on all fronts. . .

"We know that when the time comes for greater operations, we have the men."

Norway Invasion By Allies Urged

London, Dec. 26 (AP)—Johan Nygaardsvold, Prime Minister of Norway, disclosed tonight that his Government had urged the Allies to launch an immediate invasion of Norway from the West.

In a broadcast to his homeland, Nygaardsvold called upon every Norwegian to hamper the Germans in any way possible, by sinking Nazi transports or sabotaging communications. He warned that every German soldier who escapes to the south will help lengthen the war.

"In time to come when the fighting will become still more intense, and may affect the whole of our people more directly, we must be prepared to accept all sacrifices which the situation will demand," he said.

London Subways Run Again After Strikes

London, Dec. 26 (AP)—The war-scarred old British capital resembled a ghost town today on this last day on the long Christmas holiday, but its subways resumed running after a one-day Yule strike.

Busses, trams and subways ran a skeleton service. Many streets were deserted. Among Britons, "Boxing Day" is as much a part of the holiday tradition as Christmas itself. They spend December 26 in family gatherings even more so than on Christmas Day.

Another factor in today's quiet was that seemingly fewer Americans than usual were in town on furlough. However, for those United States soldiers detailed to repair bomb-damaged houses it was no holiday.

They worked as usual, "on a seven-day week until the job is done," as one Yank put it.

The one-day subway strike was a workers' protest against refusal to let them off Christmas or an equivalent day.

Modest In Hero Role

A special joint meeting of the German and foreign press—an unusual event—was called and Prien made a short, snappy, but modest speech. He didn't seem to relish his role as hero.

His crew, a group of young and aggressive lads who stood behind him as he talked, seemed to enjoy the sudden limelight.

Prien and his crew were taken to several schools to "inspire" youth. At one downtown theater a special vaudeville performance was held, with the audience cheering wildly.

Hailed As Superman

Editorials hailed him as a typical product of Hitlerian superman teachings.

Later, when news came that Prien's submarine was lost, and the commander and crew missing, deep gloom spread over the youth of Germany. Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels seized on the occasion to again dramatize Prien as the ideal German.

The Propaganda Ministry emphasized that Prien had preferred danger and sacrifice to the safety and comfort of an easy assignment.

Goebbels In Spot

Now Goebbels will have to think up something new to explain Prien's capture—assuming he imparts the news to the German people—for it hardly fits Nazi superman theories to have a submarine commander not go down with his ship.

Authorities here declined to disclose details of Prien's capture on the ground it would be a tipoff on Allied tactics.

DANES REPORT NAZIS ERECT STRANGE TOWER

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 26 — (AP) The Germans have erected a 190-foot tower, equipped with some undeterminable apparatus, on the Danish island of Bornholm which is the scene of continuing intensive experiments with V-weapons, the Free Danish press service reported tonight.

The research on Bornholm was believed linked with the radio-directed V-weapons, particularly since another important laboratory was established at Peenemunde, only a short distance across the Baltic from Bornholm, the Danes said.

Nazi Sub Hero Capture Is Blow To Boasters

London, Dec. 26 (AP)—The news that the famed German submarine commander Guenther Prien is a prisoner in the United States should cause considerable commotion in Germany.

Prien—after dashing into Scapa Flow early in the war and torpedoing the Royal Oak—became the Reich's No. 1 hero. He paraded triumphantly through Berlin's downtown, with children and adults cheering him. Then he was taken to Adolf Hitler for a high decoration.

NAZI SHIP SUNK

STOCKHOLM, Wednesday, Dec. 27—(AP) A ship of undetermined nationality, but probably German, sunk off Goteborg Tuesday night. Observers on shore believe that Allied planes were responsible.

CANADIAN TROOPS CAPTURE ROSETTA

Allies Move Forward Toward Senio River Line on Adriatic

ROME, Dec. 26—(AP) Canadian, British and New Zealand troops moved forward toward the Senio river line on the Adriatic end of the Italian front today after Canadian troops captured hotly-contested Rosetta, 10 miles northwest of Allied-held Ravenna.

Enemy rear guards in the salient northeast of Faenza, the last remnant of the Lamone river line on which the Nazis had hoped to stabalize their front in the Po valley, have been mopped up, the Allied command announced. The Germans were pushed from all positions east of the Canale Naviglio.

The Canadians after taking Rosetta slashed on to within two miles of Alfonsine on the Ravenna-Ferrara highway.

A heavy snow and below-freezing temperatures curbed activities on the Fifth army's mountainous front south of Bologna. Official reports said the Christmas snowfall there ranged from three to eight inches.

In one sector the enemy laid down considerable fire from six-barreled nebelwerfers yesterday, headquarters disclosed. In other sectors Nazi artillery and mortar fire on Christmas Day was officially described as "normal," which meant that Doughboys trying to keep warm in the mountains had a far from quiet holiday.

Liberator formations of the 15th air force bombed the Ora bridge over the Adige river and the Avisio Viaduct, both important links in the Brenner pass rail line in northern Italy.

In other operations today Lightnings were employed in a new high-level precision bombing technique against the Latisana bridge over the Tagliomento, north of Venice.

Twelth air force Thunderbolts teamed up with RAF fighters and bombers in continued onslaughts on enemy gun positions and communications near the Italian battle-front.

Bomber Pilot Gives Life to Save His Crew

Allies Push On In Italy

Rome, Dec. 26 (AP)—Canadian troops, striking out from their bridgehead over the Canale Naviglio on the Adriatic flank of the Italian front, have captured Rossetta, 10 miles northwest of Allied-held Ravenna, headquarters announced today.

The Canadians were reported to have pushed on a short distance beyond Rossetta to within 2 miles of Alfonsine, on the Ravenna-Ferrara highway.

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Rome, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—The big German synthetic oil refineries at Oswiecim, Poland, and Blechhamer and Ordertal, in German Silesia, were pounded today by fighter-escorted Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the Italian-based Fifteenth United States Air Force.

Yesterday up to 500 Fortresses and Liberators made a heavy attack on a synthetic oil refinery at Brux, fifty miles north of Prague, while rocket-firing Thunderbolts blasted railway lines, fuel dumps and trains on the Brenner Pass route. Twelve bombers were lost in the Brux raid.

Fighters of the Twelfth Air Force also attacked the Milan-Bresso airdrome and railway yards in Austria.

Mrs. Luce to Sponsor Two-Year Education of Italian Boy, Eight

of our highest office, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Representative Luce dished out criticism and received it in turn from an alert and enthusiastic audience.

Returning To Rome

"... It is doubly regrettable that service men and women who were not there cannot share in the benefits of such a discussion."

Stars and Stripes reported that Representative Luce, who visited Italy with the touring House Military Committee, would return to Rome today after spending Christmas in a 5th Army forward sector. Her visit included a jeep trip to units five miles from the German lines.

Mrs. Luce on her return from the front said she had seen the newspaper's comment and that she understood the Red Cross policy of having the sessions off the record was so the officers and men could say what was on their minds.

"I believe there should be a place and occasion where they can," she added. "But it might work out better if the meeting were divided into two parts—on the record and off the record—as is sometimes done at press club sessions in Washington."

Mrs. Luce said she realized that because of present conditions she could not take the child with her to the United States and that she thought arrangement for his education would be the next best thing to do.

The Republican legislator said her trip had impressed her with the impossibility of doing anything on a mass scale to relieve the suffering of Italy, but she said she wanted to do her share in whatever small way she could.

She said she had arranged for needed medical attention for the child, whose mother was working. Mrs. Luce also bought him some new clothing.

GREEK FACTIONAL LEADERS CONFER

DEC 27 1944

Churchill Tells Parley British Stay Only Because Of Duty

Athens, *Wednesday*, Dec. 27 (AP). In a dramatic four-and-a-half-hour meeting closely guarded against continuing violence outside, representatives of the major Greek political parties heard Prime Miinster Churchill make a personal appeal last night for a quick end to the political strife which has shaken the country.

British troops came to Greece "with the knowledge and approval" of President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin and in the belief they had an invitation from all Greeks, including the commander of the ELAS army, Churchill asserted.

Stay To Discharge Duty

He said there were Germans to throw out at that time, and the situation is different now; then continued:

"Why is it we cannot leave? Since we've been here the most violent, unexpected troubles have arisen and we've become involved in them in doing what we believed was our duty. This duty we shall discharge faithfully until the end."

He added, "Whether Greece is a monarchy or a republic is a matter for the Greeks and the Greeks alone to decide. All we wish you is good and good for all."

The meeting was held in an atmosphere so tense that even generals had to give up their side arms before entering the cold, dimly lighted conference room.

Dynamite Near Hotel

The sound of gunfire echoed outside the windows during the session and only a short time before it started dynamite had been discovered in sewers near one of the capital's leading hotels, the Great Bretagne.

"The eyes of the world are upon this table," the British Prime Minister declared in a pointed fifteen-minute speech asking the assembled party representatives to solve their differences.

After the session thre was no immediate indication of what decisions might have been reached.

After Churchill's speech and other formalities in the presence of United States, Russian and French representatives, the Allied observers withdrew leaving only delegates of the opposing Greek factions to face each other.

Liberal Leader Leaves

An hour before the meeting ended Themistokles Sophoulis, Liberal party leader, left the room and did not return. His action was not explained.

The conference was held at an undisclosed location and there was no apparent indication that the carefully-layed dynamite found near the Grand Bretagne Hotel represented a plot against the lives of Churchill and Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, whose arrival was a complete surprise even in usually well-informed British quarters.

The meeting started an hour and a half late without representatives of the Left-Wing ELAS group. Archbishop Damaskinos, wearing long black robes and presiding as chairman of the session, made a short introductory speech thanking Churchill and Eden for coming and then the Prime Minister launched into his address.

Churchill had been talking for about five minutes when the noise of scuffling was heard outside the doors, guarded by a predominantly British military guard, and three ELAS representatives then were ushered in.

Everyone arose, bowed and sat down again. The archbishop repeated his introductory remarks, the ELAS trio around the great oak table and shook hands with all present, including Churchill, and the Prime Minister recommenced his speech.

Churchill spoke of the old ties of friendship between Britain and Greece, reminded the delegates of Britain's aims in coming into the country and made a reference to the distress he felt personally, and which the British Government felt at the turn events had taken.

States British Stand

He said the British were in Greece to carry out her obligations under the Caserta agreement and had n ointerest except to see that some government was installed until elections could be held.

[The reference to the Caserta agreement concerned a conference in September at Caserta, an Italian town near Naples, after which it was announced that the rival Greek factions had agreed to accept orders from Premier George Papandreou and from the Allied Command as directly represented by Lieut. Gen. Arnold M. Scobie.]

The British Prime Minister made the point that such elections would be carried out by secret ballot, as in Britain and America, and expressed hope that the terms proposed by Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, would be accepted.

Alexander Also Speaks

The Prime Minister's address was followed by a five-minute talk by Field Marshall Sir Harold Alexander, British commander in the Middle East.

The Archbishop then asked for questions and short talks were made by George Papandreou, Greek Premier, and spokesmen for the Populist and EAM (National Liberation) parties. Each thanked Churchill and Eden for coming to Athens.

Then the archbishop announced the remainder of the conference would be carried on in the Greek language and all British, American, French and Russian representatives filed from the room.

The whole tone of the meeting to that point had been calm but dramatic. Echoing gunfire could be heard through the windows and strict security measures had been taken. Everyone entering the room, including Generals Scobie and Alexander, Russian colonel Popov and ELAS General Mandakas, gave up his sidearms.

The conference hall, dimly lighted by hurricane lanterns, was unheated and all present wore overcoats throughout the session.

Party Secretaries Attend

The Leftist delegation was composed of the secretary of the Greek Commnuist party, the secretary of the EAM (National Liberation Front Party) and a member of the ELAS (fighting arm of the EAM) administrative council.

The other delegates were Premier Papandreou, Sophoulis, Gen. Nicholas Plasteras, leader of the 1922 Greek revolution; George Kafandaris, former Foreign Minister who was exiled during the dictatorial Metaxas regimé, and a representative of the Populist party.

The Grand Bretagne Hotel, near which the dynamite was discovered, is the residence of General Scobie, some of his staff and many Greek officials.

German-Made Explosive

The explosive, reportedly of German manufacture and wrapped in burlap bags, was found by a British patrol this morning when the soldiers saw that barbed wire barriers they had placed in the neighborhood had been disturbed.

It was announced officially that three fourths of a ton of dynamite of a German type called "penthrite" was removed from the sewers opposite the main entrance of the hotel. Apparently it had been placed there last night.

Greek, British and American flags flew from balconies in the city today and there were more people on the street than had been seen since the fighting began. Small groups gathered in Constitution Square and cheered Churchill and Eden. The British Prime Minister appeared, wearing his RAF commodore uniform, and replied by waving his RAF cap on the end of his stick.

British and Government troops reported further progress against the Leftist fighters in both Athens and its port, Piraeus. In Epirus the Rightist EDES forces continued to fall back before increasing ELAS attacks, it was reported. British headquarters said that no reinforcements had been sent to the EDES center.

Churchill conferred with Greek Government leaders and received calls from Lincoln MacVeagh, United States Ambassador, the French Minister and the chief of the Russian mission here.

Greeks Hold Conference

The Greek conference started this afternoon after British Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and other British representatives left the meeting room, the location of which still is secret.

(A BBC broadcast reported in New York by the Blue network said that British authorities had not found any connection between the placing of the dynamite and the presence in Athens of Churchill and Eden.)

The conference, called yesterday after the dramatic arrival in the embattled capital of Churchill and Eden, included representatives of all shades of political opinion in Greece.

The Left-Wing EAM-ELAS forces who have been conducting hostilities against Greek government and British forces for three weeks were especially invited by General Scobie and their delegates were brought to the conference in British armored scoutcars.

The Leftist delegation is composed of the secretary of the Greek Communist party, the secretary of the EAM (national liberation front party) and a member of the ELAS (fighting arm of the EAM) administrative council.

The other delegates are Premier George Papandreou, Themotikles Sophoulis, Liberal party leader; Gen. Nicholas Plasteras, leader of the 1922 Greek revolution; George Kafandaris, former foreign minister who was exiled during the dictatorial Metaxas regime, and a representative of the Populist party.

Dynamite Found Near Scobie's Athens Hotel

Athens, Dec. 26 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill sought to end the bloody Greek civil war today as a British patrol reported discovering a ton of dynamite under street-car lines opposite the main doors of the Hotel Grand Bretagne.

Officials of the Greek Government and Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie live at the hotel.

[The dispatch from Athens did not say whether Churchill was staying at the hotel.] BARBER

Area Searched Earlier

The dynamite, which the patrol said was in boxes bearing German markings, apparently was laid during the night as the area had been carefully searched yesterday evening.

Churchill arrived here yesterday, accompanied by British Foreign Secretary Eden as the ancient capital echoed to the sound of street fighting between left-wing ELAS Partisans and Greek Government forces supported by British troops.

The Prime Minister went into action immediately, communicating with Field Marshal Sir Harold

Publicity Urged For Forum

Rome, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Rome edition of the army newspaper *Stars and Stripes* declared today that details of an open forum discussion between Representative Clare Boothe Luce (R., Conn.) and service personnel should be made public.

The editorial said Red Cross officials, who arranged the lively session on December 22 at the Red Cross club, had reported such forums were made possible with important speakers "only because they were always off the record."

"Largely Political"

"Representative Luce's discussion had no relation to military security," the newspaper said. "It was largely political, it was very controversial and it certainly was provocative.

"It concerned the postwar world. It concerned American institutions and the directions in which they are heading. It concerned Jefferson as well as the current holder

By RUTH COWAN

ROME, Dec. 26 — (AP) Representative Clare Boothe Luce said today she would sponsor a two-year course in one of Italy's best private schools for an eight-year-old Italian boy whose appearance won her admiration while she was visiting a Catholic orphanage.

The Connecticut congresswoman, who came to Italy with the House Military committee, visited the orphanage during a tour of Vatican-sponsored soup kitchens for the poor. She was accompanied on the tour by Myron C. Taylor, the President's representative in Vatican City.

"I was attracted to Augusto," she said, "because he is a real Roman—a real titian type, with dark eyes, red hair and rosy cheeks. I couldn't forget him and I returned to see him the next day."

30.24— 21561

Alexander, Allied Mediterranean commander; Harold MacMillan, British Resident Minister for the Central Mediterranean, and Greek Premier George Papandreou.

Conference Stated

Shortly thereafter British headquarters announced plans to convene today a conference "representative so far as possible of Greek political opinion" with the object of "ending fratricidal strife and enabling Greece to resume her place among the United Nations."

Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens was named to preside over the conference and ELAS representatives were guaranteed safe conduct.

Arrival Well Timed

Churchill's unexpected arrival here was a masterpiece of stagecraft and timing that startled the war-scarred city in the midst of gloom-tinged Christmas festivities.

The chain of letter exchanges between General Scobie and ELAS leaders had reached a stage where it had worn itself out. Most people here pessimistically believed the only solution would be a knock-down, drag-out fight.

Since the civil warfare began three weeks ago, numerous official and unofficial attempts have been made to bring about a truce.

Connection Not Established

British authorities have been unable to establish any connection between the discovery of the Athens dynamite and the arrival there of Prime Minister Churchill, the BBC reported today in a broadcast monitored by the Blue network.

This report said that the tunnel in which the explosive was found was inspected thoroughly last night and that the dynamite must have been planted some time between then and the time of its discovery this morning.

BRITISH ADVANCE IN CENTRAL BURMA

SOUTHEASTERN ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 26.—(AP) British 14th Army troops continued their advance in central Burma today following yesterday's 10-mile southward thrust toward the town of Yeu, a southeast Asia command headquarters communique said.

Units pushing toward the town, which is only 70 miles northwest of Mandalay, were driving along the Shwegyin-Yeu road, the communique said.

On the 15th Indian corps front, Arakan forces fired on loaded Japanese sampans in the Mayu river with artillery and machine guns. Elsewhere in Burma, British patrols were active.

Eastern air command planes were active yesterday in the Chindwin region where enemy supply dumps were hit and fires started in raids by fighterbombers, the communique said.

Medium bombers attacked the ferry terminal at Myochaung, and also the ferry town of Thabeikkyin on the Irrawaddy river 26 miles northeast of Shwebo.

CARRIER PLANES POUND SUMATRA

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Wednesday, Dec. 27—(AP) British planes operating from aircraft carriers attacked Japanese objectives in Sumatra the morning of Dec. 20, scoring direct hits on jetties, warehouses and railyards, a special Southeast Asia command headquarters communique said today.

Avenger aircraft, bombing from 1,500 feet, raided the harbor of Belawan on the east coast of Sumatra setting fire to an oil tank and a gasoline tank.

Low clouds and rain squalls made flying difficult and results could not be fully observed, the communique said, adding that on the same afternoon Hellcats and Corsairs attacked Japanese airfields in the Sabang area and the anchorage at Oeleeheue on the northwestern tip of Sumatra.

Enemy airfield installations and small craft were damaged in low-level attacks. One Japanese bomber was shot down by a Hellcat pilot. The British formations suffered no losses, the communique said.

Burma Soldier Marks His Marriage By Mail

Myitkyina, Burma, Dec. 26 (AP)—There was a wedding party here Christmas Day and beer was distributed to all—but the bride was not present.

Sergt. Robert Sternad, of the Signal Corps, Cleveland, Ohio, was married by mail and received his marriage certificate in a letter as a Christmas present, which arrived December 23.

The bride is Dorothy Marelt, of Cleveland. The marriage by mail took two months of correspondence. Sternad said, "naturally the honeymoon will have to be delayed until after the war."

CHINESE FRONT QUIET

CHUNGKING, Dec. 26—(AP) For the first time in months the Chinese passed up issuance of a communique today, indicating the war fronts in China were quiet.

REPORT CIVILIANS QUITTING NANKING

Chungking, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—Chinese advices declared today that all civilians have been ordered to quit Japanese-occupied Nanking as a result of recent American air raids and fear of further attacks.

Shanghai was reported suffering from a severe coal shortage because of American raids, which were said to have destroyed half the available supply. Street car service has been suspended and many factories have been closed, Chinese advices said.

Yanks Bag 40 Jap Planes, Tanker

Chungking, Dec. 26 (AP)—Bomb-carrying P-51s of the United States 14th Air Force destroyed 40 Japanese aircraft, sank a large tanker and probably sank four other vessels in Christmas Eve raids on the Tsinan airdrome, in Shantung province, and Hong Kong harbor, American communiqués said today.

Another Japanese ship was heavily damaged in the Hong Kong raid, one of widespread aerial assaults during a three-day period.

The force striking Tsinan destroyed 37 Jap fighters on the ground and one in air combat, while two fighters were downed over Hong Kong, the communiqués said.

Tanker Sent Down

A Liberator was credited with probably sinking a large Japanese tanker off Shanghai two days before Christmas.

Meanwhile, Chinese advices declared that all civilians have been ordered to quit Japanese-occupied Nanking as a result of recent American air raids and fear of further attacks.

Shanghai was reported suffering from a severe coal shortage because of American raids, which were said to have destroyed half the available supply. Street-car service has been suspended and many factories have been closed, Chinese advices said.

Jap Raids Reported

Kunming, China, Dec. 25 (AP—*Delayed*)—Japanese planes made an ineffectual attack last night on the Kunming airbase and a field at Chanyo, eight miles northeast of here. Probably the greatest effect of the raid was to force many persons to spend Christmas Eve in slit trenches.

44 TONS OF BOMBS HIT MANILA BASE

Clark Field Cratered Despite Determined Jap Aerial Resistance.

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Wednesday, Dec. 27.—(AP) Military installations in the Manila area, feeling the daily might of the Far Eastern air forces heavy bombers, were struck for the third time in as many days on Christmas day (Manila time). Forty-four tons of bombs were dropped on Clark Field, General MacArthur reported today.

The bombers met determined resistance from at least 50 enemy interceptors. But escorting fighters, again proving their superiority, downed 39 enemy fighters and probably four more. This brought the total for two days to 72, with 15 more added to the previous day's 18.

38 Kills to Credit

Maj. Thomas Maguire, leading the close cover of fighters, downed three of the Japanese interceptors. He got four more in subsequent combats yesterday, to bring his personal total of kills to 38.

As the full brunt of the aerial warfare shifted to the Manila area, it became increasingly evident the Japanese were husbanding their fighter strength. On Mindoro, where invading Americans are meeting practically no ground resistance, Japanese air reaction continued light and ineffective. Two of three raiding planes were destroyed.

Two more enemy planes were shot down in harassing raids over Tacloban air field, Leyte, on Christmas day.

As the mopup of shattered enemy units on Leyte continued, 899 more Japanese dead were counted. Fourteen more prisoners were taken. This brought the total enemy casualties for the campaign to 114,120.

Striking south, as well as north on Leyte, Liberator bombers raided Mindanao airdromes and harbors. They sank two freighters.

Borneo Hit

Other Liberators blasted installations on Borneo, in the Dutch East Indies.

The capture of Palompon, in a brilliant triple play operation, cut off the Japanese last escape route from Leyte.

MacArthur's communique said six American fighters were lost in the two days over the Manila area.

On Leyte, it added, seven more Americans were killed, bringing the total for the campaign to 11,224.

One American patrol plane was shot down by a Japanese fighter in the Mindanao activity but the crew was rescued.

Fighter bombers attacked the Japanese Silay airdrome on Negros Island.

Another 115 tons of bombs were dropped on enemy positions at Lolobata, Hatetakako and Vasile bay in the Moluccas and air and naval patrols strafed shore installations on northern Halmahera in the same group.

Outposts are Blasted

The air strikes to the south of the Philippines also included bombing of Fuiloro airdrome on Timor and outposts in the Aroe and Tanimbar islands.

Medium bombers harassed the enemy on Muschu island, off Wewak, New Guinea. Airfield and bivouac positions at Rabaul, New Britain, were attacked by medium bombers.

The destruction suffered by the Japanese in this first phase of the Philippine liberation campaign, MacArthur said, "has seldom been paralleled in the history of warfare."

MacArthur's antagonist, Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, "has sustained perhaps the greatest defeat in the military annals of the Japanese army," the American general said.

It was Yamashita, conqueror of Malaya and Singapore, who boasted he would lead Nipponese forces to victory in the Philippines and demand "unconditional surrender" of MacArthur.

The denouement came quickly on the 67th day of battle. While 77th division artillery hammered Palompon, northwestern Leyte port, a force of 77th troops sprung an amphibious move in the enemy's rear, landing at Palompon when dashing PT boats lifted their curtain of fire.

To the north of Palompon, the 24th division reached the coast near San Isidro, sealing off that area. Meanwhile, troops of the 7th division completed the triple play, executing a landing at Puerto Bello on the western shore of Ormoc bay. This operation closed off any escape to the south of Palompon.

Caught by the surprise landing in their rear and pressed by the inland assault of units of the 77th division, the Japanese at Palompon were able to offer little resistance. The 77th closed in from the beaches and from the east and quickly took the town.

Leyte Loss Held Japs' Worst

MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 26—A Christmas morning surprise for Japan in the form of an amphibious invasion of Palompon harbor brought the bloody, 67-day Leyte-Samar campaign to an end except for mopping-up operations, and Gen. Douglas MacArthur today hailed "perhaps the greatest defeat in the military annals of the Japanese Army."

The United States 77th Division, moving up from Ormoc into Palompon, the enemy's last remaining port on Leyte, stormed ashore under covering fire from patrol-torpedo boats and artillery. The Japanese were caught between these troops and others moving overland and could offer only token resistance.

"Christmas Contribution"

By nightfall of Christmas Day, Maj. Gen. A. D. Bruce, commander of the 77th, sent this message to headquarters.

"The 77th Infantry Division's Christmas contribution to the Leyte campaign is the capture of Palompon, last main Japanese port on Leyte. We are grateful to the Almighty on this birthday of His son."

"The magnitude of this first phase of the Philippines liberation was reflected in MacArthur's announcement that 112,728 Japanese had been killed and 493 captured on Leyte and near-by Samar Island, on which there was considerably less opposition.

The Americans lost 2,623 killed, 8,422 wounded and 172 missing—a total of 11,217.

"Decisive," Tokyo Said

"The enemy's ground forces participating in the campaign have been practically annihilated," MacArthur declared. Some of Nippon's best troops were committed to the defense of Leyte, which Tokyo considered "the decisive battle for our homeland."

Further, the triumphant communiqué said, 2,748 enemy planes have been destroyed in the Philippines since the Leyte invasion October 20, and a total of 27 warships and 41 transports sunk as 10 convoys seeking to reinforce the besieged Leyte garrison were smashed. The totals did not include enemy losses in the naval battle of Leyte Gulf October 25.

Largest Fleet Action

Invasion of the east coast of Leyte involved the most powerful carrier force used in any Pacific operation. The fate of the campaign hung in precarious balance early October 25 when Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid's 7th Fleet met and defeated a Japanese battle force in the largest fleet action of the war in any theater.

Then the Americans fought inland and around to the northeastern shoulder of the island, and on December 8 secured a grip on the west coast by landing daringly in Ormoc Bay.

They seized the port of Ormoc, vital to Japanese supply, three days later. This sealed the doom of thousands of crack Nipponese troops fighting bitterly in a corridor between Ormoc and Carigara Bay to the north. The Yank 32d Division was pressing toward a junction with the 77th at Ormoc in a bottling-up action.

Sealed off at Ormoc, the Japanese had to depend for reinforcement on Palompon, a secondary port at best, but soon this was brought under Yank artillery fire and air assault. Its seizure meant the end of the Leyte campaign for Japan.

On Mindoro Island to the northwest, invaded December 15, the Japanese furnished little opposition either on the ground or in the air.

U.S. Planes Raid Clark Field, Japs Say

DEC 27 1944

San Francisco, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Domei news agency reported twenty Philippine-based American fighters and bombers raided Clark Field near Manila again today, but were beaten off by "new Japanese interceptor planes."

The unconfirmed enemy broadcast, recorded here, did not make clear whether the interceptors were a new type or merely reinforcements flown in from Formosa or Japan.

Claim Eight Planes

The propaganda dispatch claimed six Lightnings and two Liberators were shot down, and a few Japanese planes were missing. A raid today would be the fourth successive daily strike by land-based United States aircraft on fields near Manila.

A Japanese imperial communiqué reported that Nipponese planes bombed the American B-29 base on Saipan Christmas night, "causing conflagration and explosions at seven points.

The report, unconfirmed by United States sources, was recorded here.

were shot down by Yank fighter planes, said Adm. Chester W. Nimitz in reporting the attack today. A fourth was brought down by anti-aircraft fire.

One American plane was destroyed on the ground and several others damaged. Six men were injured in the night's bombing, one of the first raids against Saipan reported since the 10-plane raid of Dec. 6.

The enemy aircraft struck either from IWO Jima, in the Volcano islands or from little Marcus island, both within 800 miles of Saipan. They apparently were ferried to a staging area from Japan with the hope of slowing down the regular Superfort raids on Japanese homeland islands.

The communique did not specify whether the aircraft hit on the ground on Saipan were Superforts, Liberators or Lightning fighters, all of which have been active in the steady assault on Japan's outer defense line in Bonins and Volcanos.

Liberators blasted Iwo Jima Dec. 24 for the 18th consecutive day of the air offensive against that key island 750 miles north of Saipan. The bombers, concentrating on the airstrips and plane dispersal areas, drew "meager" anti-aircraft fire.

The attack followed the second joint pounding of Iwo by U. S. aircraft and warships in the campaign to neutralize the island and protect Saipan from retaliatory raids. Nevertheless, the Dec. 24 attack on Saipan was one of the heaviest the enemy has made since the B29s began their runs on Tokyo and other targets in the empire.

Rota island, midway between Saipan and Guam in the Marianas, was hit Sunday by Marine aircraft. Far to the south other Marine fighter planes destroyed an enemy barge at Babelthuap, which is southeast of the American base on Peleliu, in the Western Carolines.

Second Air-Sea Attack

The Iwo Jima attack was the second in which warships and bombers acted in concert to plaster the island, in the Volcano group, from which the Japanese formerly launched raids on Saipan, base of the Tokyo-raiding Superforts. The first joint assault on Iwo was made December 7, and since then there have been no Japanese raids on Saipan.

In his communiqué, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz gave no indication of the size of the task force or of the number of B-29's participating in the sortie. He said the warships bombarded Iwo's coastal defenses, and that shore batteries "offered some" return fire. He added that none of the American vessels was damaged.

Jap Vessels Sunk

A Japanese destroyer escort vessel was caught by the raiders and sunk by shellfire. Also destroyed were an enemy patrol craft and a medium landing ship.

The heavy bombers were escorted by Lightning fighters, which strafed Iwo Jima's airstrips and harassed shore defenses. Opposition was light. One enemy plane was destroyed on the ground and six others damaged. Anti-aircraft fire was meager.

Strategic air force bombers on the same day raided Chichi Jima, in the Bonins north of Iwo, concentrating on the airstrips.

Marine fighters strafed Babelthuap in the Palau group, firing buildings.

Marine and navy bombers continued attacks in an effort to knock out isolated enemy bases in the Marshall Islands.

out of business with at least 40 per cent of its buildings destroyed or gutted by fire," Hansell reported. "The Kokuki plant has also suffered extensive damage with resultant interruption of production."

Two plants of the Mitsubishi company 9 miles apart in Nagoya were hit December 13 and December 18, respectively.

General Hansell added that in the first month, two B-29's were lost over their target while others were lost operationally at sea.

Losses Below Expectation

"These operational losses have in no sense been heavy," he continued. "They have been fewer than we expected. More than half of the crews have been rescued."

Hansell frankly said "we haven't put all our bombs exactly where we wanted to put them, and therefore we are by no means satisfied with what we've done so far.

"We have much to learn, and many operational and other technical problems to solve. Some of our experiments, however, have been gratifying if not satisfying, and the B-29 airplane has proved itself a magnificent weapon of war."

Hansell said the first Tokyo raid, November 24, did a good deal of damage, although after that raid and the December 3 attack on the Musashino plant, damage was inconclusive. A few buildings were destroyed and plant production possibly interrupted, but the factory was not knocked out.

Photos Show Hits

General Hansell, discussing the first two raids on Nagoya, said "reconnaissance photographs from which accurate bomb damage

JAPANESE PLANES BLAST AIRSTRIPS ON SAIPAN ISLAND

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 26—(AP) Between 16 and 25 Japanese planes raided the airstrips on Saipan island, in the Marianas, Christmas eve in an attempt to cripple the base used by U. S. Superfortresses in their raids against Japan.

Three of the Nipponese planes

No American Ships Damaged At Iwo Jima

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 26 (AP)—From the air and sea, American bombs and shells crashed Sunday (Japanese time) into two Iwo Jima as Superfortresses, Liberators and warships combined in an assault on the Nipponese island base only 750 miles south of Tokyo.

[Tokyo radio said three of the big, far-ranging B-29's dumped incendiary bombs on Tokyo itself, and on Yokohama and Shizuoka prefecture southwest of the imperial capital. There was no Allied confirmation.]

Hansell Reports 1,500 Tons Of Bombs Dropped On Honshu

HAUGLAND

Twenty-first Bomber Command Headquarters, Saipan, *Wednesday*, Dec. 27 (AP)—Superfortresses in their first month of operations against Japan from the Marianas Islands have dropped more than 1,500 tons of bombs on Honshu targets, Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., disclosed today.

General Hansell, commander of the 21st Bomber Command, in a 1,000-word summary of the first month's results said "during 30 days we dropped a rough average of more than 100,000 pounds of bombs per day on urban industrial centers of Japan—including aircraft factory areas."

40% Of Buildings Out

"The Hatsodoki plant, largest of its kind in Japan, is at this time

appraisals may be made are still not available in the case of the Kokuki plant, but excellent photos taken during the strike showed heavy concentrations of bomb hits directly on the assembly buildings and machine shops. Two substantial fires in a second assembly building were shown. The Nagoya steam power plant and shipyards immediately adjacent to the factory area were damaged.

"In the case of the Hatsudoki plant we have good reconnaissance photographs showing conclusively that 600,000 square feet of factory area was destroyed or gutted by fires, with the insides of the buildings entirely burned out. This represents 40 per cent of the factory area."

Combined Strike On Iwo Called Devastating

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By Vern Haugland

Somewhere in the Marianas, Dec. 24 [*AP—Delayed—Via Navy Radio*]—Col. Lawrence J. Carr, commanding officer of the 7th Bomber Command, said reports of today's co-ordinated raid by his B-24's and by B-29's and naval craft upon Iwo Jima "indicate another devastating and successful attack."

"This second combined strike brings to reality the year-old hope of the men of the 7th Bomber Command and proves that the combined unit bombing of the Kazans, December 8, was not a grandstand play—we have done it again," he added in a prepared statement.

Working Motto

"For the past year these men of the 7th Bomber Command have comprised the only sizable heavy bombardment force in the Central Pacific."

The island-by-island working motto of the 7th as given by Colonel Carr is: "Wreck them, build them, use them; leave them." This has carried the 7th, he said, "from Hawaii to within 650 miles of Japan."

"Today's raid proves that under the leadership of Lieut. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's combined strategic air force in the Pacific Ocean areas, we can continue and undoubtedly accelerate these combined raids against outer defenses until we are ready for the total co-ordinated assault against the Japanese homeland."

One Plane Destroyed

Maj. Gen. Robert W. Douglass, Jr., deputy commander of the Strategic Air Force said the 7th Air Force's Lightnings escorted by B-29's were the first over the target strafing Iwo Jima around noon, destroying one plane on the ground and damaging six others and meeting no interception.

"The 7th then sent B-24's out striking Iwo with more than 100 tons and Chichi, 170 miles north, with more than 30 tons.

"Naval units then shelled Iwo. Just as Iwo Jima's Japanese were coming out of their holes after the bombardment, the B-29's arrived. When they finished their bombing, the naval units returned and shelled until dark."

Two Jerseymen Dead.

Headquarters Twenty - first United States Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 3 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Two flyers from New Jersey were aboard a Superfortress lost over Tokyo today and are believed dead. They were Lieut. Henry H. Warde, 25, flight engineer, whose mother lives at 106 Linden avenue, Arlington, and Lieut. Walter J. Patykula, 25, of Trenton, former member of the Philadelphia American Soccer Club.

89 JAP SHIPS SUNK BY ONE U. S. FORCE

Aboard Admiral McCain's Flagship, Off the Philippines (via Navy Radio), Dec. 22 (Delayed), (A. P.).—Fighting for the reconquest of the Philippines, Vice - Admiral John S. McCain's fast carrier task force in two months has put out of action 1,521 Japanese planes and sunk or destroyed eighty-nine enemy ships and damaged ninety - two others. And the enemy's losses were probably higher, it was stated; "these figures are conservaive."

During the same period, in November and December, the American task force losses were 104 planes.

Lieut. Semmes, Saipan Hero, Awarded D.S.C.

Army Headquarters, Pacific Ocean Areas, Dec. 26 (AP)—Second Lieutenant Harry H. Semmes, Jr., of Washington, who lost his right eye from a D-day injury on Saipan, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross today.

In the landing operation, Semmes, platoon leader in an army amphibious tank company, was struck by shell fragments which pierced his right eye and lodged in his nose.

He continued to lead the tanks shoreward. On the beach he refused medical aid. Inland, Semmes turned the platoon over to the ranking sergeant, and set off afoot for treatment of the wound.

About 600 yards from the beach, he saw an immobilized tank. He brought repair crews back to the vehicle, and supervised the work.

Walking 900 yards to an aid station, Lieutenant Semmes was given treatment and started to rejoin his outfit. Medical officers restrained him and ordered his evacuation. Semmes is in a mainland hospital recovering from an operation for removal of the eye.

Fleet Co-Ordination Simple, Fraser Says

Brisbane, Australia, Dec. 26 (AP). Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander of the British Eastern Fleet, upon his return from a conference with United States Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Jr., said there will be no difficulty about ammunition and supplies in co-ordinating the British Pacific fleet with the American Navy in the Pacific.

He said adequate docking facilities will be provided where necessary.

Serves Under Nimitz

"It will be a great pleasure," he said, "to command a British fleet to serve with Admiral Nimitz, who is a great commander."

He added: "The British fleet will serve under Nimitz and its activities will be recorded in his communiqués."

Admiral Fraser said he thought his job would be to support Douglas MacArthur, general of the Army, in his northward drive, and he will confer soon with General MacArthur.

Col. Peron Avows Amity For Democratic Nations

Buenos Aires, Dec. 26 (AP)—Col. Juan Peron, vice president, War Minister and strong man in the Argentine military Government, declared today that he was friendly to democratic nations, an admirer of the democratic form of government and decidedly not a Nazi or a sympathizer with the Nazis.

In a detailed appraisal of Argentine political institutions, Peron told a group of visiting Chilean journalists that Argentine Army men now in the Government were sworn to uphold the nation's constitution, which is patterned after the Constitution of the United States and provides for a representative republican form of government.

To Have Statement

Thus by implication the man who seems called upon to run next year as one of the candidates in an expected presidential election espoused democracy as the only regime that can flower and be strong in Argentina.

One of the group of twelve visiting journalists asked Peron to sign an explanation in his own handwriting as to why the regime he symbolizes is not Nazi.

"To be sure," Colonel Peron replied quickly. "If you call around tomorrow I shall have it for you."

Another Chilean asked if it was true that many thousands were

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imprisoned for political reasons in Argentina.

"Of course not," Colonel Peron said. "The number is hardly a thousand."

He added that Argentina does not have concentration camps, but just jails, like some in Chile.

Against Communists, Too

One of the visitors pressed for definition of the Government's policy toward political prisoners. "Our mission here would end in failure if you were to refuse our request to release those thousand men," he said.

The colonel's reply came without an instant's hesitation:

"Of course, but I think you should address your request to the Minister of the Interior. You could see him tomorrow without fail. However, I should warn you that we already have begun the task of setting these men free."

In reply to another question, Colonel Peron said:

"It is true that I am against the Communists, but not because they are Communists. I am against those Communists who disturb public order, as I also am against Rightists who do the same. Enemies of public order are enemies of government."

5,000 Youths To Enter Mexican Army Monday

Mexico City, Dec. 26 (AP)—Five thousand youths, representing half the draftees of the class of 1926, will enter the army on January 1 for a year's training, the War Department announced today.

An equal number from the class of 1925 obtained releases December 15.

CANADIANS STUDY U.S. RACING BAN

TORONTO, Dec. 26—(AP) Dominion officials said today they would study the U. S. order directing horse and dog tracks to close by Jan. 3, but disclosed Provincial authorities and racing associations would be involved in any decision.

Canadian betting supervision is vested in the minister of agriculture, and Dominion officials may halt betting at any track, but the actual racing is governed by associations in the provinces. Both Provincial and Dominion authorities are interested in taxation revenue from the tracks.

Federal officials said transportation and other requirements of racing have been constantly reviewed in the light of war needs in the last two or three years.

Should racing be permitted here while the ban is on south of the border, Canadian tracks probably would be flooded with better horses from United States tracks to give the Dominion one of its outstanding seasons.

While Federal officials gave no hint as to whether the U. S. lead would be followed, many track officials indicated they were ready and willing to suspend operations should the Dominion request such action.

Among those who said they were "ready to go along" were Fred Livingstoc of Thorncliffe park; Col. K. R. Marshall, president of the Ontario Jockey club, operating Woodbine park, and Thomas Anderson of the Metropolitan Racing association.

Marshall summed up their remarks with: "We are months away from racing here, and by May it is hoped the emergency will be over. Besides, we haven't the transit trouble here that they have in most racing centers in the States. Our tracks are right in the city, readily accessible by street car or on foot. But we've always cooperated with the government, and we will again. We'll do whatever the government suggests."

JAPS WARNED ON PROSPECTS

Hirohito And Premier Tell Of Setbacks As Diet Meets

San Francisco, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Cabinet and the people themselves received notice today from the highest authority, Emperor Hirohito and Premier General Kuniaki Koiso, that the war isn't going so well.

Hirohito said in his address opening the eighty-sixth session of the Diet, as broadcast domestically to Japan and recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, that the "war situation is becoming more critical."

Progress Not "Sufficient"

Koiso was quoted by Radio Tokyo as telling his ministers that despite "efforts to expedite the prosecution of measures to cope with the prevailing situation, we cannot say that we have seen sufficient progress."

He advised the ministers that the Emperor wanted the Diet to transact its business with "simplicity and speed" and criticized the home front for failing to respond in full to the "spirit of the special attack (suicide) units" of the fighting front.

Another home-front shortcoming was indicated in a bill proposed for Diet action by Minister of Justice Kiromasa Matsuzaka for "special measures against labor violators."

Boasts Of "Destroying Enemy"

Hirohito told the Diet that "men of the army and navy are destroying the powerful enemy wherever he is confronted" and that "our 100,000,000 people of the home front have been willingly and vigorously participating in labor service up to date."

He declared that "the alliances with our friendly nations are also being further solidified," and added: "We, the Emperor, feel great joy in this."

Then he issued his warning that the "war situation is becoming more critical" and called for "all truly to devote their total effort."

He concluded by directing the ministers to submit the budget for the 1945 fiscal year and for "extraordinary military expenditures," together with other legislative matters.

'War Critical': Hirohito

San Francisco, Dec. 26 (AP)—Emperor Hirohito's rescript read today at the formal opening of the eighty-sixth session of the Japanese Diet warned that "the war situation is becoming more critical."

The broadcast of his message, recorded here, urged his subjects to "truly devote their total effort to repel the enemy."

The Emperor praised the Japanese Army and Navy for "destroying the powerful enemy," and was quoted:

"While the war situation in Greater East Asia progresses daily, the alliances with our friendly nations are also being further solidified.

"We expect to see an early accomplishment of the objective of this sacred war."

The Emperor called upon his ministers to "submit the budget draft plans for the fiscal year 1945 and for extraordinary military expenditures."

Domei, the Japanese official news agency, later on reported that Gen. Korechika Anami had been appointed Inspector-General of Army aviation to "further strengthen the production and supply of aircraft," now being blasted at their source by American Superfortresses. Anami, a pre-Pearl Harbor Vice-Minister of War and recently an Army commander in the field, succeeds Lieut.-Gen. Michio Sugawara who was transferred, Domei said, to an important post.

In another top-bracket shakeup Lieut.-Gen. Nobura Tazoe, Chief of Army Aviation Headquarters, was made director of the General Affairs Bureau of army aviation headquarters and director of the General Affairs Bureau of Aviation Inspectorate General, succeeding Major-Gen. Saichi Terada, Domei revealed.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 26, 1940.—Christmas lull in air war continues in western Europe. British refrigerator ship torpedoed by German submarine off Irish coast.

SUPERFORTS BLAST TARGETS IN TOKYO

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. — (Wednesday) — (AP) Superfortresses of the 21st Bomber command from bases on Saipan island bombed Tokyo industrial targets in a daylight attack today.

The announcement of the attack by Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding general of the 20th Air Force, said a communique would be issued when operational reports are received in Washington from Brig. Gen. H. S. Hansell, commanding general of the 21st Bomber command.

The raid was the fifth of the war by the big B-29's on Tokyo.

PHILIPPINE PHASE ENDED

Forrestal Says Navy Beat Japs' Land Planes

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP) — The United States has succeeded in the second phase of the naval campaign for the Philippines — the battle with enemy land-based aircraft, James V. Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy, said today.

Reviewing the recent months of the Pacific war, Forrestal said this second phase opened with the crushing defeat of Japanese naval forces late in October.

Jap Fleet Driven Away

"Having driven the Japanese fleet from the Philippine area," he said, "the United States Navy in the phases of the campaign since October 25 has been pitted, not against enemy naval forces primarily but against enemy land-based air forces. We have succeeded in this latter phase of the naval campaign for the Philippines just as we succeeded in the second battle of the Philippine Sea."

Forrestal acknowledged that the American forces have suffered damage, not yet reported in detail, in this second phase, but said it was not sufficient to disrupt plans for continued heavy offensives.

"A concrete demonstration" that it is not, he added, is the fall of Leyte and the American landings on Mindoro.

Conceal Facts From Japs

Announcements of the damage has not been made, Forrestal explained, because "we do not wish the Japanese to know what ships they have hit, nor to what extent vessels have been injured, nor how soon they may be back in action."

He described Japanese claims as "fantastic," and made to fish for information.

The Navy Secretary denied specifically what he said were rumors that the navy had not announced all losses in last October's sea and air battling when the Japanese fleet, thrusting into the Philippines in three prongs, was "beaten, routed and broken."

About 60 Japanese naval vessels were sunk in that fighting, while announced American losses were a light aircraft carrier, two escort carriers, two destroyers, a destroyer escort and "some lesser ships."

Battle Losses All Given

"All vessels lost in that battle have been announced," Forrestal said. "All planes lost in combat during that battle have been announced."

He summed up:

"In spite of all the Japanese have been able to do, both with their navy and with their land-based aircraft, we, and not they, are winning the campaign for the Philippines. We now dominate the waters around those islands and the air over them."

Forrestal Promises Continued Offensives

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP)—Navy Secretary Forrestal said today that Japanese air attacks have failed to disrupt American plans for continued heavy offensives.

Acknowledging that naval forces in the Philippines area have suffered some damage he said announcements are delayed because "we do not wish the Japanese to know what ships they have hit nor to what extent vessels have been injured, nor how soon they may be back in action."

"Best Way To Assess Results"

This "necessary silence," Forrestal continued in a statement, "has left the field clear for the Japanese to make fantastic claims, perhaps fishing for information.

"Perhaps the best way to assess the results of Japanese air attacks against our fleets since the second battle of the Philippines sea is to ask whether those attacks have disrupted our plans for future action. They have not. The fall of Leyte and our landing on Mindoro are a concrete demonstration that they have not."

Further Evidence

Forrestal's statement, reviewing the course of the Pacific war, pointed also to carrier plane raids on Luzon, an amphibious attack on Ormoc and "our troops' freedom from surface bombardment on Leyte and Mindoro" as further evidence that the Japanese air campaign has failed.

"In spite of all the Japanese have been able to do, both with their navy and with their land-based aircraft," he continued, "we and not they are winning the campaign for the Philippines. We now dominate the waters around those islands and the air over them."

Forrestal denied what he described as "rumors" that the Navy has not announced all losses in the battle of the Philippines last October in which the Japanese fleet was routed.

"All Announced"

American losses announced after that engagement included a light aircraft carrier, two escort carriers, two destroyers, a destroyer escort and "some lesser ships."

Nearly 60 Japanese naval craft were destroyed or damaged in the three-day fight.

"All vessels lost in that battle have been announced," Forrestal said. "All planes lost in combat during that battle have been announced. . . .

"Beaten, Routed, Broken"

"The public should not be led by false rumors of supposedly unannounced facts, to deprecate the achievement of the officers and men of the 3d and 7th Fleets in that action. The Japanese fleet was indeed 'beaten, routed and broken.' . . .

"The second battle of the Philippine Sea was the most decisive event in what is really a prolonged naval campaign in support of General MacArthur's land campaign in the Philippine Islands. This campaign began with our first raids, prior to General MacArthur's landings, on the Island of Formosa on October 11.

"Still In Progress"

"It has continued since the second battle of the Philippine Sea, with our carrier-based air cover over the Philippine Islands and with our landing on Mindoro. This campaign is still in progress.

"Having driven the Japanese fleet from the Philippine area, the United States Navy in the phases of the campaign since October 25 has been pitted, not against enemy naval forces primarily but against enemy land-based air forces. We have succeeded in this latter phase of the naval campaign for the Philippines just as we succeeded in the second battle of the Philippine Sea."

SUPPLY PROBLEMS CITED IN PACIFIC

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — (AP) Impressed with the "vastness of the Pacific, and its resultant transportation problems, Rep. Smith (R-Me), who returned to her office today after a 17-day, 25,000 mile tour of the Pacific, has concluded that the war in that area has just begun.

Mrs. Smith, in an interview, stressed the problem of supplying the figthing men in the Pacific with the material necessary to fight the Japanese.

"Transportation is the number one problem there," she said. "The more progress we make, the greater is the transportation problem. The longer the European war lasts, the more difficult is the war in the Pacific."

The Congresswoman, who with nine other members of the House Naval affairs committee inspected Naval activities from Pearl Harbor west to Saipan and south as far as Canberra, Australia, pointed out that every bit of supplies must be carried by ships. She added that an idea of the difficulty involved is given when it is realized that East coast residents of the United States are nearer to the European war than are the Philippine islands to Pearl Harbor.

Mrs. Smith chalked up another "first" on this trip. Spending one day aboard a Navy airplane carrier watching the men go through their regular training activities, she became the first woman in United States history to go to sea on a carrier.

A year and a half ago she was the first woman to make a trip on a Navy destroyer, from Bath, Me., to Boston, and last August she was the first woman to travel on a Navy battleship, a practice run out of New York harbor.

HEMISPHERE PARLEY DUE IN MEXICO

Argentina Seen Excluded From Talks Among Foreign Ministers

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP)—Mexico is calling a meeting of American foreign ministers but is excluding Argentina, it was learned reliably today.

The conference, for which no definite date has been set, is to deal with postwar problems. Not only does the plan for the meeting keep Argentina outside the fence from the rest of the American republics, but it provides that these nations will look into the Argentine case without any representatives of that nation present.

The agenda, it was understood, will include discussion of whether the foreign ministers of the various countries should air Argentina's relation to the other countries in the hemisphere at the meeting or whether the case should be taken up afterward.

Stettinius Calls Parley

A United States memorandum analyzing replies from the various capitals to Argentina's request for a meeting at which she would be included is scheduled for delivery, in American foreign offices this week.

It also was learned that Secretary of State Stettinius has called a conference of Latin-American ambassadors in Washington, presumably on the same day.

In order to get together before a United Nations meeting, which diplomats here are anxious to hurry, the inter-American group probably will convene in February or March.

Repercussions Expected

Exclusion of Argentina was expected to cause sharp repercussions in Buenos Aires, where the Government of Gen. Edelmiro Farrell has been working feverishly to break the quarantine imposed by the rest of the American nations.

The diplomatic isolation of Argentina has stemmed from United States charges that she is the Western Hemisphere stronghold of pro-Fascist influence.

U.S. WORKS ON NEW LEND-LEASE TO REDS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — (AP) Secretary of State Stettinius said today that the United States is working on a new Lend-Lease protocol with Russia and that war supplies have continued to move meanwhile.

In the third protocol expired June 30, 1944. Officials said delay in signing the new pact, which is really a schedule of shipments, was due to revisions in requests for supplies and in the designations of available stocks.

A publication of the National Association of Manufacturers said yesterday high government officials expected that Russia would not renew Lend-Lease after the present act under which the protocols operate expires at the end of the present fiscal year. The publication, the NAM News, predicted that Amtorg, Soviet trading agency, would resume its pre-war functions of buying and selling in this country.

Stettinius noted that Canada and England are also involved in drawing up the program of war goods which can be sent to Russia. One of the complications in reaching agreement on the document, Lend-Lease officials said is the difficulty in determining precisely what materials are directly needed for the war effort. An example given was the Russian desire to rebuild the Dnieperstroy dam — a permanent structure but one which provided power for Russian war industries. The decision, he said, was to send moveable power trains and leave reconstruction of the dam to the Soviets.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 2,403 casualties in the European area.

In all of these cases next of kin have previously been notified and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Included in the list of today are the following with their next of kin:

Robot And Rocket Bomb Defense Plans Issued

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP)—The Office of Civilian Defense has issued instructions for defense against robot bomb and rocket bomb attacks.

In instructions sent to State defense councils to be passed on to the public, OCD pointed out that little or no advance warning is possible, adding:

"The public should realize the danger and be constantly on the alert, particularly along the coastal areas."

The agency emphasized that its action is purely precautionary.

Army Wins Battle Over Trench Foot

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP) — The Army today reported a Western-front victory over trench foot—a disease that can knock a soldier out of combat as effectively as a bullet.

At one time the disease reached 9.82 men out of every 1,000 on the Western front. This has been cut 75 per cent.

The Army enforced precautionary measures, taught treatment, increased supplies of footwear and alerted soldiers to the danger in the disease.

The disease results from prolonged exposure of the feet to cold and moisture. Average hospitalization period is 60 days.

Soldier's Medal Given 5 N. Y. Men in A. A. F.

Two From Manhattan and One From Bronx Decorated

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Award of the Soldier's Medal to the following New York members of the Army Air Forces was announced tonight by the War Department:

First Lieutenant Wechsler, of 270 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, who was cited for helping a co-pilot and bombardier reach safety after their plane crash-landed and burst into flames on May 29. Lieutenant Wechsler's face was cut in the crash, his citation said.

Staff Sergeant George Emanuel, of 2134 Hughes Avenue, the Bronx, for his assistance in rescuing the pilot of a plane that crashed and burned on May 21 in China.

Staff Sergeant Charles Provenzano, of 334 Broome Street, New York, for "heroism displayed" in a crash landing on March 9 in England.

Corporal Anthony G. Papaleo (posthumous), next of kin, Mrs. Theresa Gannazzo, mother, of Syracuse. Papaleo, a clerk "and therefore not required to perform fire-fighters' duties," joined his comrades at the scene of a crashed aircraft. He was killed by a bomb fragment while acting as nozzle man on a hose line.

Private First Class Harold C. Warren jr., of Cold Spring, for his efforts to rescue the pilot of a plane that crashed and exploded on May 14 in India.

ADMIRAL YARNELL RETIRED FOR THIRD TIME

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP) Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, 69, has been placed on the retired list for the third time.

Yarnell, a native of Independence, Iowa, who now makes his home at Newport, R. I., at one time was commander-in-chief of the U. S. Asiatic fleet.

He was retired first November 1, 1939, and recalled to duty two years later to serve as special advisor to the Chinese military mission until his second retirement, Jan. 15, 1943.

He again was called back to duty in June, 1943, and since August of that year had headed a special section of naval operations.

Navy Commander in Chief Ernest J. King called attention to Yarnell's years of experienced service in a statement and said "he has worked with devotion and distinction in the Office of Naval Operations."

War Training Bill High On Docket Of Congress

Washington, Dec. 26 (AP) — Key Congressmen put this first on the new Congress's work sheet: A national compulsory peacetime service bill for all American youth.

Such a measure would require young men—at some age between 17 and 25—to devote perhaps one year of their lives to a training program laid down for them by the Government.

It would involve about 1,000,000 young men every year. It would cost perhaps billions. For most men it would mean an interruption in their education or occupation.

Three Suggestions

There is support for compulsory service and there is opposition. But what kind of service? There are three chief suggestions:

1. Purely military training. This is what the Army and Navy chiefs want. They say it's necessary and that without it "the continued security of our national life and institutions can no longer be assured."

2. Some military training coupled with other activities—like vocational, citizenship and educational training—to round out the year's work. This suggestion is indorsed by President Roosevelt.

3. No military training, but a year of special studies or body-building activities. Some educators favor this.

The main fight—it seems now—will be on the program of purely military training.

Army Stand Cited

The Army says:

"There will be no place in a sound, universal military training for activities that are nonessential to the tasks of preparing our young men for combat."

They say this training should take no less than one year.

Now it will be up to the people and, through the people, their Congress—to agree or disagree with military thinking. Our future may depend on the outcome of the fight.

The decisions made there will affect the lives of millions of youths, perhaps for generations to come.

May Be Stopped

It is possible that Congress will be choked off before really getting started on all this. There is certainly pressure against doing anything about it at this time, and for some reasons like these:

"Why be stampeded into action now? We're still suffering from war hysteria. Let's wait till after the war. If the world develops a good peace program we may not need compulsory military training at all.

"We can wait. And, besides, we should wait until our soldiers and sailors come back and let them have a say on what we need and what should be done."

Army Points To Polls

But the army says it has conducted polls among troops in the field on this subject and has found:

Two thirds of those answering favor compulsory peacetime military service, while only 25 per cent think we should rely on our regular Army—as we have done in the past—supported by a volunteer system.

MILITARY GROUP SEES DANGER IN GI BILL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26—(AP) An armed forces committee on education expressed concern today that a situation of "explosive character" may develop if the postwar "GI" educational program trains thousands of ex-service men and women for jobs which do not exist.

It suggested that this problem be tackled by cooperation among educational institutions with financial aid from the federal government.

The committee was appointed by President Roosevelt at the time he signed legislation for the drafting of 18 and 19 year olds. Headed by Maj. Gen. F. H. Osborn, it was instructed to study post-war educational opportunities for service personnel and make recommendations

BYRNES' RULING ON ATHLETES TO HIT COLLEGIANS

Selective Service to Review Cases of 4-F Stars in Schools.

By BUS HAM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — (AP) College athletics as well as professional sports will be hit by Jimmy Byrnes' crackdown on 4-F athletes.

College stars in this classification will be reviewed by Selective Service right along with profession-

This interpretation came today from the Office of the War Mobilization director, who has asked selective service to check the physical qualifications of professional athletes in view of the manpower shortage.

College athletics were not mentioned in Byrnes' letter to Selective Service Director Hershey, but the White House explained today that "it applies to everybody."

Asked specifically if that meant college athletes who are 4-F, Byrnes' office said that it does.

Almost every college in the country still participating in wartime sports will feel the effect.

Football in particular is vulner-

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able. Teams playing in Bowl games New Year's Day are spearheaded by athletes who have been rejected for service.

In many instances, a 4-F plays alongside a service trainee.

But another phase of Byrnes' double-barrelled action in which he cracked down on all horse and dog racing, will not be applied to college sports.

In calling on race tracks to close up, Byrnes pointed out that urgently needed transportation facilities were being used at the tracks.

There is no intention at this time of extending this transportation restriction to big college football games, Byrnes' office said.

This apparently leaves the bowl games free to be played without further government limitations, and games next fall may not be affected.

GOVERNMENT SET TO SEIZE WARD CO.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—(AP) Justice department officials were poised tonight for any court action deemed advisable if and when the government seizes Montgomery Ward properties for non-compliance with War Labor Board orders.

White House action, anticipated momentarily since last week, is expected to be accompanied by legal steps to offset any litigation which Wards' might institute, as it did last Spring when the Chicago plant was taken over.

The War department was reported on good authority to be ready to step into the picture, if the President directs it.

The Justice department imposed strictest secrecy on its officials. They declined to give any hint as to the legal steps they might take, either in Chicago where the big mail order plant has its headquarters, or in six other cities where war properties are involved in the non-compliance cases.

The War Labor Board sent the case to Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson last Wednesday. He must dispose of a myriad of preliminaries before any seizure or imposition of economic pressure in the form of sanctions.

Besides a display factory and the printing department in Chicago, the cases involve four Detroit stores where the C.I.O.-retail employes union has been on strike since Dec. 9. Other properties directly involved are located in Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.

HOUSEWIVES TOLD TO DESTROY ALL INVALID STAMPS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 — (AP) Housewives were asked by the OPA tonight to destroy all food ration stamps that became invalid today.

The request was made in order to prevent voided stamps from being used in food purchases either through accident or design, in violation of OPA rules.

Red Tokens Still Good

OPA assured housewives that red ration tokens will continue good for meats, fats, cheese and butter. Grocers will continue to give them as change for red 10-point stamps. The use of blue ration tokens now is banned, having been discontinued in October when OPA began listing processed food point values in multiples of ten.

To clear up another point not brought out in earlier announcements, OPA said that changed point values for canned fruits do not go into effect until 12:01 a.m. next Sunday, although the new values for processed vegetables became effective today and butter was advanced from 20 to 24 points a pound.

The ration stamps invalidated as of 12:01 today (Tuesday), and which OPA asks that you destroy are: red stamps A8 through Z8 and A5 through P5; blue stamps A8 through Z8 and A5 through W5; sugar stamps 30, 31, 32, 33 and 40, along with all home canning coupons outstanding.

Stamps continuing to be good and those soon to be made good are: red stamps Z5, R5 and S5 which became valid Dec. 3. Red stamps T5, U5, V5, W5 and X5 will become good on Sunday, Dec. 31. Blue stamps X5, Y5, Z5, A2 and B2. In addition, blue stamps C2, D2, E2, F2 and G2 will become good on Jan. 1. Sugar stamp No. 34; another sugar stamp will become good on Feb. 1.

At the Capitol, meantime, Rep. Celler, New York City Democrat, announced he will ask Congress to compel placing of ceilings on live cattle. New York butchers have contended that lack of such ceilings was forcing them out of business and New York police reported that hundreds of butcher shops were closed today in protest against OPA price regulations.

Celler denounced the "cattle bloc" which he said "steers the government any way it wishes."

"It says," Cellar declared, "the consuming population of the cities of the East be damned. This bloc, meanwhile, lines its pockets with nice profits while retail butchers must sell at ruinous prices."

But Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) contended the seaboard meat situation could not be blamed on the livestock growers.

He suggested a check-up in seaboard cities to see why more commercial and utility grade beef is not offered for sale and whether some dealers are demanding red points for grades of meat supposed to be ration-free.

"I'm told that in some big cities consumers have been required to surrender red coupons for this ration-free beef," he told reporters.

OPA Officials to Meet

O'Mahoney is a leader among Western Senators who are opposing a suggested OPA order which would impose a ceiling on live beef animals. OPA officials will meet with advisory committees of the live stock industry in Chicago tomorrow and in Kansas City Thursday to discuss the matter.

The Wyoming lawmaker said that 60 per cent of the higher grades of beef is set aside for the armed forces, but that the military has not allocated any of the less desirable grades.

In a recent week, he added, 105,641 steers and heifers were slaughtered by inspected packers. Of that number, 7.1 per cent were graded as choice, about 41 per cent good, 35.7 per cent commercial and slightly more than 16 per cent utility.

"It is perfectly obvious" he said, "that if all the consumers want to buy meat from that 7.1 per cent category there is going to be a shortage.

"If the consumers could be persuaded to purchase the lower grades of meat, and the butchers to sell the lower grades, there probably would be a much greater supply in all the big cities."

O'Mahoney said the meat retailers were unable to sell at the retail ceiling prices because they are unable to buy at the wholesale ceilings.

"According to statements of retailers to OPA enforcement officers," he said, "they are compelled to pay excess prices to packers either by way of tie-in purchases of products they don't want or by way of side-money payments.

"In private conversations retailers will acknowledge this condition but they suffer a convenient lapse of memory in court."

U.S. MOVE ON FUND PLAN SEEN CRUCIAL

Morgenthau Calls Bretton Woods Program Vital

New York, Dec. 26 (AP) — Other nations will view the United States' action on the Bretton Woods international monetary agreements as an index of the country's willingness to co-operate in establishing world peace, says Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau.

"Ratification would strengthen all the forward-looking elements in every country who wish to translate their craving for peace into deeds, and would be a resounding answer to the pessimists who feel that peace is unattainable," Morgenthau says in the January issue of the publication, *Foreign Affairs*.

Supplementary Facets

Failure to ratify the agreements for an international monetary fund and international bank for reconstruction and development, he states, will convince other nations that "the American people do not desire to co-operate or that they do not know how to achieve co-operation."

Describing the Bretton Woods program as "the model in the economic sphere of what Dumbarton Oaks is in the political," he adds:

"They reinforce and supplement each other. Political and economic security from aggression are indivisible, and a sound program for peace must achieve both."

General Duncan To Iceland

New York, Dec. 26 (AP)—Brig. Gen. Early E. M. Duncan, formerly deputy commander, Iceland Base command, has been named commanding general of United States Army Forces in Iceland, succeeding Maj. Gen. William S. Key.

New York, Dec. 26 (AP) — Joel Mencher, president of the Association of New York State Young Republican Clubs, Inc., said today that War Mobilization Director Byrnes's recent recommendation that professional athletes be screened again by draft boards could be construed as "absolute discrimination.

In a message to Byrnes, Mencher said:

"Your recent statement recommending the recall of athletes into the armed service . . . or another physical examination for those who failed . . . intimates that athletes as a class have sought to evade military service or that they have used influence to excuse themselves from further service.

"The courage and devotion of our athletes, as a class, are attested to by countless medals and citations. To so characterize, even by innuendo, a segment of our people merely because they are in the public eye is absolute discrimination."

Mencher urged that, should the armed services require the use of 4-F's for certain work, "then by all means induct all 4-F's who so qualify, whether they be athletes, business men, merchants, known or unknown."

Draft Order Hitting Athletes Called Discriminatory

Lieut. John Kennedy Up for Retirement

Boston, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—Lieut. John Kennedy, son of Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to England, whose heroic action as a PT boat commander in the Pacific won several honors, will appear before a Navy retirement board in Washington tomorrow.

Young Kennedy has been under treatment at the Chelsea Naval Hospital for the last six months for injuries suffered in the service.

His appearance before the retirement board was ordered with a view to retiring him for service-connected disability.

Si Rosenthal Treated for Wounds

Boston, Dec. 26 (A. P.).—Simon (Si) Rosenthal, Red Sox outfielder in 1925 and 1926, is under treatment at a Naval Hospital in New York State for wounds received in action in the European theater, friends disclosed today. Rosenthal, who has been in the Navy for two years, was injured when his ship blew up.

Just a year ago, Rosenthal received word, while at his Dorchester home on furlough, that his 17-year-old son, Erwin, a member of the Marine Corps, had been killed in action.

W.P.B. Basing Plans on Long War in Europe

Krug Says New Factories Will Have To Be Built to Keep Army in Supplies

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26 (AP).—The War Production Board is operating now on the theory that the war in Europe will go on indefinitely, Chairman J. A. Krug told a press conference here today.

As an example, he said new factories have to be built to supply demands for trench mortars and the factories cannot go into production before next August.

The factories will cost some $200,000,000, he said; and if the war ends before August a good deal of the money would be lost, but if the war isn't over by then, "as it probably won't be," the new plants will save many American lives.

Mr. Krug said the great German offensive is destroying a lot of Allied equipment and causing a sizable increase in American production requirements.

Before he left Washington this morning, Mr. Krug said, he received a rush message from General Eisenhower asking for six million yards of blanketing material. Jackets and underwear, ordinarily expected to last a soldier five months, are being worn out in half that time under the rigors of the present struggle.

Acknowledging that war production had been affected by overly optimistic statements by "the wise boys in Washington," Mr. Krug said our aircraft program has been upped between 4 and 5 per cent in the past week and a new increase in Navy fighter production is to come, along with an expansion of merchant shipping by about three million tons in 1945.

He said the purpose of his visit here was to make sure that any lags in production are overcome and that Philadelphia's diverse production offered a cross-section of the situation generally.

Warship Commissioning Delayed

Philadelphia, Dec. 26 (AP)—Commissioning of the heavy cruiser Chicago, scheduled for December 28, has been postponed until January 10, the Navy said today, because of the manpower shortage at the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

General Comes To Aid Of 300 GI's On Leave

Atlanta, Dec. 26 (AP)—A general came to the aid of 300 GI's who sought to take the last possible minute of their Christmas leaves.

The soldiers from Fort Benning waited for the last bus from Atlanta to take them back. There wasn't room for all of them. Disciplinary action would be their lot.

Maj. Gen. Frederick E. Uhl, commanding the 4th Service Command, heard of their plight. He ordered ten army trucks out, and the convoy rolled into Benning in time for reveille.

Stettinius Says Robots Can Be a Peril to U. S.

Asserts Only an Efficient Peace Agency Will Avert Attacks

CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (AP).—Within ten or twenty years robot bombing is "almost certain to befall this country and all other countries unless we are able to establish an efficient" peace organization, Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius jr., said today.

Writing in "The Kiwanis Magazine," Secretary Stettinius said the Dumbarton Oaks proposals are important because they point out the alternative "to unspeakable disaster."

"Let no one forget that the robot bomb and the rocket are still in their infancy, at a stage comparable to the stage of development which aviation reached at Kitty Hawk in 1903. . . . These deadly missiles can be perfected to the point where they can travel thousands of miles at incredible speed.

"In that event our oceans, our industrial strength and our man-

power would not be able to prevent surprise attack and vast damage by accurately aimed weapons travelling faster than sound."

The Dumbarton Oaks proposals, Mr. Stettinius wrote, revealed that the four participating powers "recognized that their economic strength and their military potential placed special responsibilities upon them for the maintenance and enforcement of peace."

ANOTHER WARD STRIKE CALLED

CIO Union Head Acts In Kansas City

Kansas City, Dec. 26 (AP)—A strike of all United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employés members in the Kansas City Montgomery Ward retail stores and mail-order houses has been called for tomorrow, Edward Chevlin, international representative of the CIO union announced tonight.

The strike, Chevlin said, was called by Leonard Levy, Chicago, executive vice president of the union, as part of a nation-wide effort of the union to force Sewell Avery, chairman of the Montgomery Ward board, "to comply with directive orders of the War Labor Board."

Chevlin would not estimate the number of union employés in the Kansas City Ward stores. The number fluctuates, he explained, but added that he understood the total number of Ward employés in the Kansas City area was "about 2,500."

Union Support Pledged

Support of all CIO unions in the Kansas City area has been pledged to the strike order, Chevlin said, adding that Irwin de Shetler, the CIO's regional director, is chairman of a committee, formed to cooperate with the local union. International representatives of the United Steel Workers, United Packing House Workers and the United Automobile Workers are also members of the committee, Chevlin said.

De Shetler was out of the city and other members would not comment on what form the committee's "co-operation" might take. A statement of the committee's position probably will be issued tomorrow, de Shetler's office said.

Ward officials were not available for comment.

NAZI PRISONERS DUG TUNNEL IN ROCK TO ESCAPE

PHOENIX, Ariz., Dec. 26—(AP) Individual Nazi prisoners worked many months boring in rock a 200-foot tunnel through which 25 Germans escaped from the Papago Park camp during the past weekend, Col. William A. Holden, commandant, said today.

Only six of the escapees, all submarine personnel, have been apprehended since Sunday night. Navy Capt. Jurgen Wattenberg, 43, is the ranking member of the 19 at large which includes 11 other navy officers, many of whom are linguists.

Holden said the tunnel, large enough only for a man to crawl through, started underearth an outdoor coal box and went from 12 to 15 feet below the ground surface.

"Construction of the tunnel," Holden explained, "must have taken many months because obviously only one man could work at a time." The rock was composed of crusts of calcium carbonate of varying degrees of hardness.

"We don't know for certain," the commandant added, "but we believe the prisoners may have had only coal stove fire shovels for tools in cutting the rock.

"The rock removed from the bore must have been granulated and distributed as soil about the camp grounds, which are gravel surfaced."

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and other peace officers were maintaining a close watch of the Mexican border, 191 miles south of Phoenix.

Holden said several of the officers and men at large had been studying Spanish. Some speak French and Danish. Several speak English.

The escape climaxed a weekend during which Army guards used clubs in dispersing a demonstration by a "couple hundred" prisoners.

The brief display, Holden declared, "ostensibly was a combination celebration of Von Rundstedt's success and Christmas."

Holden today denied a report that Guenther Prien, famed U-boat commander credited with sinking the British battleship Royal Oak, was a prisoner here.

Maj. Eugene Tays, security and intelligence officer at the camp, who was originally quoted as saying Prien was a prisoner there, said today that he "misunderstood the inquiry."

Rumors had been current in Phoenix many months that Prien was here.

Clubs Used To Quiet Nazis

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 26 (AP)—A Nazi celebration of Western-front victories was broken up with clubs at Papago Park war prisoner camp near here shortly before 25 Germans escaped, Col. William A. Holden, commandant, has disclosed.

Holden said army guards had to resort to force in ending a demonstration Saturday by a "couple hundred" prisoners in one of the camp's compounds.

All Submarine Men

Only six of the escapees, all submarine officers and men, have been apprehended. The ranking member of the group is Lieut. Col. Jurgen Wattenberg, 43. Many of those at large speak several languages.

Some of the prisoners may have fled during the demonstration, but Holden said probably most of them got away during a severe rainstorm Sunday evening.

The demonstration, Holden declared, "ostensibly was a combination celebration of von Rundstedt's success and Christmas." The activity was mainly singing and shouting.

Famed Commander Prisoner

The escape served to make public a rumor that Guenther Prien, Germany's famed U-boat commander, was a prisoner here.

Prien, decorated by Hitler for sinking the British battleship Royal Oak at Scapa Flow in 1939, did not escape, said Major Eugene Tays, in answering a newspaper inquiry.

Puts Rationing Question Up To "The Germans"

Salt Lake City, Utah, Dec. 26 (AP). The Utah OPA received just one complaint on the sudden change in ration-point values.

It came, Director H. Grant Ivins, said, from a man who asked when he could "trust the Government to leave point values unchanged."

"I replied," Ivins said, "that that time would come when we can trust the Germans to quit attacking us."

Eisenhower Consoles Aunt

PASADENA, Calif., Dec. 26 (AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower is one of the world's busiest men, but that didn't prevent him from remembering his aunt Annie after the death, Dec. 13, of Dr. Abraham Lincoln Eisenhower, seventy-nine years old, last of the general's uncles. The widow today received the following message cabled from Europe: "Please accept my deepest sympathy in the loss of Uncle Abe—Dwight D. Eisenhower."

War Correspondent Is Killed In Europe

El Centro, Cal., Dec. 26 (AP)—Jack Frankish, 30, United Press war correspondent on the Western front, was killed Saturday, his widow, Mrs. Barbara Frankish was notified today.

Frankish, who had been with the United Press for nearly ten years, went overseas last spring, serving in London until three months ago when he was assigned to the front lines in Belgium and France.

A native of Ontario, Cal., he attended the University of Southern California. He was a member of the UP staff in Philadelphia and served as manager of its Cleveland and Miami bureaus before being named Ohio Valley division manager with headquarters in Columbus, Ohio, in 1942. He was transferred to New York last January.

Surviving besides his widow are two children, his mother and a sister, the latter residents of Ontario, Cal.

LONDON--SECOND ADD FIRST (CORRECT) NIGHT LEAD AERIAL (ABOVE DASH MATTER) X X X IN FLAMES."

RAF COASTAL COMMAND MOSQUITO BOMBERS SET TWO SMALL GERMAN VESSELS ABLAZE IN AN ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPPING IN NORWEGIAN WATERS. ONE GERMAN FIGHTER WAS SHOT DOWN AND ONE MOSQUITO LOST.

-DASH-

IN WASHINGTON, THE WAR DEPARTMENT SAID FIVE PLANTS WHICH WITH A FEW MINOR ONES IN SOUTHERN EUROPE HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING ABOUT ONE-FOURTH OF GERMANY'S ARMY AND AIRFORCE GASOLINE WERE BOMBED BY ITALY-BASED PLANES IN THE FIVE-DAY PERIOD OF DECEMBER 16-20.

AT A COST OF 64 LIBERATORS AND FLYING FORTRESSES AND FIVE FIGHTER PLANES, THE DEPARTMENT SAID, MORE THAN 3,500 TONS OF BOMBS WERE

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UNLOADED ON THE TARGETS.

HEAVY DAMAGE WAS REPORTED TO THE BIG SYNTHETIC OIL PRODUCTION PLANT AT BRUX, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, DESCRIBED AS THE LARGEST IN GERMAN-CONTROLLED EUROPE. THREE OTHER PLANTS ALSO WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN DAMAGED HEAVILY AND A FIFTH SYNTHETIC OIL PLANT WAS SLIGHTLY DAMAGED.

RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHS, THE DEPARTMENT REPORTED, SHOW THAT THE REFINERY AT BRUX WAS "SERIOUSLY DAMAGED" AND OTHER HITS WERE SCORED ON STORAGE TANKS AND WORKSHOPS.

OTHER PLANTS LISTED AS HEAVILY DAMAGED WERE TWO REFINERIES AT BLECHHAMER IN GERMAN SILESIA AND ONE AT OSWIECIM IN POLISH SILESIA. THE PLANT AT ODERTAL NEAR BLECHHAMER WAS REPORTED SLIGHTLY.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN THE FIFTEENTH AIRFORCE BOMBERS ALSO ATTACKED A NATURAL OIL REFINERY IN VIENNA, A BENZOL PLANT AT LINZ, AUSTRIA, AND OIL STORAGE FACILITIES AT REGENSBURG, GERMANY.

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LONDON, DEC. 26 - (AP)-THE DECISION OF PRIME MINI

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CHURCHILL EVENTUALLY TO TRANSFER THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF

ECONOMIC WARFARE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE WAS ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY TO

XXXXX THE SHIFT, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR THE END OF TH

MONTH, HAS BEEN POSTPONED "FOR THE TIME BEING," THE ANNOUNCEMENT S

-APL SINGLETONS 01227 R'S

ADD PARIS-(KENNEDY) XX GENERALS

MEETING THE DESPERATE CHALLENGE THROWN BY THE GERMANS IS LT.GEN. COURTNEY HODGES' FIRST U.S. ARMY, WHICH LEADS ALL ALLIED ARMIES ON THE WESTERN FRONT IN BATTLES WON, GERMANS KILLED AND PRISONERS TAKEN, AND WHICH WAS BATTLING FIERCELY TO THE ROER RIVER EAST OF AACHEN WHEN STRUCK BY THE GERMANS AT A WEAK AND VULNERABLE SPOT. ALSO MEETING THE CHALLENGE IS WHATEVER ELSE MAY BE DRAWN FROM THE SEVEN ARMIES UNDER GENERAL EISENHOWER'S COMMAND.

THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE ALLIED COMMAND UNDERESTIMATED GERMAN STRIKING POWER.

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BUT THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE IS BEING MET ALL ALONG THE LINE. AMERICAN SUPPLY TROOPS HAVE BEEN THROWN INTO THE BATTLE. CLERKS, MECHANICS, TRUCK DRIVERS AN COOKS HAVE BEEN SENT INTO THE LINE ARMED WITH CARBINES.

ANY SUGGESTION THAT THE ALLIES OF THE AMERICANS ON THE WESTERN FRONT ARE NOT SHOULDERING THEIR SHARE OF THE BURDEN AT THIS CRITICAL TIME IS NOT NECESSARILY TRUE. GERMAN PATROLS HAVE BEEN PROBING FOR WEAK SPOTS ON THE BRITISH-CANADIAN FRONT IN HOLLAND, AND ANY BIG WITHDRAWALS FROM THAT AREA WOULD SERVE GERMAN INTERESTS.

THE FRENCH AND THE SEVENTH ARMY IN THE SOUTH HAVE THE JOB OF CONTAINING GERMANS IN THE ALSACE POCKET, AND IN THE PAST 24 HOURS HAVE ENGAGED IN BRISK FIGHTS NORTHWEST OF COLMAR AND CLEARED UP A LARGE GERMAN INFILTRATION INTO THEIR LINES.

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT IS NATURALLY NOT PERMISSABLE AT THE MOMENT, AS IT WOULD INVOLVE DATA ON THE DISPOSITION OF TROOPS.

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A89 ADD PARIS - (ZONE) XXTRANSPORTS

YESTERDAY'S AIR ACTION COST 13 HEAVY BOMBERS, SEVEN MEDIUM AND LIGHT BOMBERS AND 45 FIGHTERS, SOME OF WHICH MAY HAVE LANDED IN FRIENDLY TERRITORY. SEVENTY-NINE GERMAN PLANES WERE SHOT DOWN.

THE NINTH TACTICAL AIR FORCE ALONE REPORTED THIS TOLL OF ENEMY VEHICLES SINCE THE START OF THE GERMAN COUNTER-OFFENSIVE; 312 PLANES DESTROYED, 435 ARMORED VEHICLES, 2,986 TRANSPORTS, 685 RAILWAY CARS, AND 27 LOCOMOTIVES DESTROYED OR DAMAGED.

AMERICANS RELEASED BY THEIR COMRADES AFTER BEING HELD PRISONER SAI

THEIR CAPTOR OFFICERS TOLD THEM THE OFFENSIVE'S SCHEDULE CALLED FOR

ARRIVAL IN PARIS JAN.17 AFTER WHICH, THE GERMANS SAID, PERHAPS "ROOSEVELT WILL TALK PEACE TERMS."

ALLIED WARPLANES STRUCK YESTERDAY IN ALMOST AS GREAT FORCE AS SUNDAY'S 7,000-PLANE BLOW, WRECKING AT LEAST 56 TANKS AND DESTROYING OR DAMAGING 791 OTHER ARMORED VEHICLES AND TRANSPORT.

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GERMAN AIRMEN FOUGHT BACK IN CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS. REPORTS LAST NIGHT LISTED CLOSE TO 400 NAZI PLANES DESTROYINED IN THREE DAYS. THE SAME PERIOD OF OPERATIONS COST THE AMERICAN AIR FORCES 198 PLANES --55 HEAVY BOMBERS, 39 MEDIUMS OR LIGHTS, AND 104 FIGHTERS. YESTERDAYS LOSSES WERE 13 BOMBERS AND 19 FIGHTERS.

AT THE SOUTHWESTERN CORNER OF FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S SOUTHERNMOST BULGE, THE ENEMY FINALLY HAS CAPTURED THE TOWN OF LIBRAMONT, 16 MILES FROM THE FRENCH FRONTIER AND 23 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE FRENCH FORTRESS CITY OF SEDAN.

WITH CAPTURED LAROCHE AS A HUB, OTHER FORCES ALSO HAVE EXTENDED THE NORTHWESTERN CORNER OF THIS BULGE. ONE THRUST WAS WESTWARD FROM LAROCHE TOWARD THE MEUSE, POSSIBLY NOT MORE THAN 15 MILES AHEAD OF THE GERMANS. A LITTLE TO THE SOUTH OTHER UNITS WERE REPORTED OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF ROCHEFORT, 14 1/2 MILES FROM THE RIVER.

GERMANS DRIVING NORTHWARD FROM THE LAROCHE AREA REACHED THE VICNITY OF LIERNEUX AND GRANDMENIL, 14 AND NINE MILES SOUTHWEST OF STAVELOT. THIS APPARENTLY WAS AN ENEMY ATTEMPT TO OUTFLANK THE AMERICANS TO THE EAST IN THE ST.VITH WEDGE. IN THE HILLS WEST OF NOW-LOST ST.VITH, THE AMERICANS WERE STRIVING TO HOLD APART VON RUNDSTEDT'S TWO MAJOR OFFENSIVE SALIENTS. THEY ADMITTEDLY WERE IN STRONG PERIL OF BEING CUT OFF.

THE REPORTS AS OF NOON SUNDAY SAID THE AMERICANS ENCIRCLED IN THE BELGIAN ROAD HUB OF BASTOGNE STILL WERE HOLDING OUT STRONGLY AND ALREADY HAD EMPHATICALLY REFUSED ONE GERMAN ULTIMATUM TO SURRENDER. AN AMERICAN ARMORED COLUMN WAS DRIVING TO THE ESCUE SIX MILES TO THE SOUTH.

ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT TOM YARBROUGH, ACCOMPANYING THIS ARMORED OUTFIT, SAID IN A DELAYED DISPATCH THAT GEN.EISENHOWER HAD OPENED AN ATTACK DEC.22--LAST FRIDAY--ON A BROAD FRONT ALONG VON RUNDSTEDT'S SOUTHERN FLANK. (THE BERLIN RADIO SAID BOTH THE U.S.THIRD AND SEVEN ARMIES HAD SENT STRONG DETACHMENTS, FORCING SOME GERMAN WITHDRAWALS).

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YARBROUGH DESCRIBED THE RESCUE ARMORED UNIT AS "ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS AND SPECTACULAR IN THE ENTIRE U.S.ARMY."

BASTOGNE, WHICH THE GERMANS SAID THEY WERE ATTACKING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS, WAS BEING SUPPLIED BY AIR. SUPREME HEADQUARTERS SAID A PARTICULARLY HEAVY BATTLE DEVELOPED NEAR MARVIE, A MILE AND A HALF SOUTHEAST OF THE TOWN.

TO THE EAST IN LUXEMBOURG THE AMERICANS LAST WERE REPORTED MAKING SOME GAINS AND HOLDING THE ENEMY SAFELY AWAY FROM THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG.

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THE AMERICANS WERE DECLARED TO HAVE BROUGHT VON RUNDSTEDT'S NORTHERN SALIENT VIRTUALLY TO A STOP. THEY WERE FIRMLY HOLDING THE LINE WEST FROM MALMEDY THROUGH STAVELOT AND STOUMONT. LA GLEIZE, THREE MILES WEST OF STAVELOT, WAS RECAPTURED.

THE AMERICAN LOSSES WERE RUNNING HIGH, BUT SO WERE THE GERMANS'. ONE FIELD DISPATCH SAID A FULL GERMAN TANK DIVISION HAD BEEN WIPED OU

IN THE STAVELOT AREA. MAJ.O.S.SONESIFER OF HARRISBURG, PA., DECLARED: "WE HAVE GIVEN THE GERMAN PANZERS THEIR WORST BEATING SINCE THE ARGENTAN GAP DEBACLE" IN NORMANDY.

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GERMAN PATROL PROBING, POSSIBLY WITH THE INTENTION OF LEARNING OF ANY ALLIED TROOPS SHIFTS, WAS VIRTUALLY THE ONLY ACTIVITY ALONG THE REST OF THE WESTERN FRONT. AFTER TWO DAYS OF FIGHTING THE FRENCH RECAPTURED BENNWIHR, NORTH OF COLMAR.

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WITH AMERICAN FORCES--FIRST ADD HAWINS BASTOGNE (TOP A100)
X X X THE SOUTH.

NEARBY, AT THE COMMAND POST OF OTHER FORCES UNDER LT. COL. PAUL F ROBERTS OF SAN ANTONIO, TEX., ANOTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CAPT. H. B. COX, IRVING, KY., SUMMED UP THE BATTLE FOR KEHMAN:

"I'VE BEEN FIGHTING OVER HERE FOR THREE MONTHS AND THAT HILL OUT THERE (POINTING TO A SLOPE ABOUT 500 YARDS AWAY BETWEEN THE POST AND THE TOWN OF KEHMAN) IS THE HOTTEST SPOT I EVER SAW. THIS WOODS ISN'T COOL, EITHER, WITH FLURRIES OF THOSE 120 MILLIMETER MORTARS LANDING EVERY HOUR OR SO."

DEC 27 1944

THE INDUSTRY WITH WHICH THE SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS ALL AROUND WERE DIGGING FOXHOLES THROUGH THE FROZEN GROUND BORE OUT HIS STATEMENT.

"IT'S HOT ALL RIGHT IN PLENTY OF PLACES, BUT NOT HOT ENOUGH TO KEEP OUR MEN FROM HAVING FROSTBITE," SAID LT. ILTON GOETZ, A MEDICAL OFFICER FROM LANSING, MICH. "WEVE HAD SEVERAL CASES OF FROSTBITTEN FEET--BUT TRENCHFOOT ISNT A PROBLEM ANYMORE.

CPL.WILLIAM O'KEEFE OF CAVOUR, S.D., EMERGED FROM A TIGHT SPOT EARLY TODAY WHEN HE AND FIVE OTHERS IN THE FIRST WAVE OF AN ATTACK ON A TOWN WERE CAPTURED BY THE GERMANS.

"THERE WERE ABOUT FIVE OF THEM GUARDING US, INCLUDING A MEDIC WHO WAS WOUNDED," HE SAID. "WE KNEW--OR HOPED--THAT MORE OF OUR GUYS WOULD BE ALONG SHORTLY, SO WE TOLD THEM THEY WERE JUST ABOUT SURROUNDED AND HAD BETTER HANG OUT THE WHITE FLAG AND GIVE UP. AND, SURE ENOUGH, ALONG CAME THE REST OF OUR FELLOWS IN A VERY FEW MINUTES I GUESS I WAS A PRISONER THERE ONLY ABOUT 30 MINUTES, BUT IT SEEMED LONGER--AND, BOY, WAS I GLAD TO SEE THOSE GIS COMING.

BACK ALONG THE RIDGE ROAD, WHICH HAS BEEN POUNDED BY BOMBS AND ARTILLERY FOR FOUR DAYS, I MET CAPT. DOCK RACHELS, 14 MARION PLACE, MANOR, GA., GRINNING FROM EAR TO EAR AND LEADING SOME NAZI SOLDIERS.

"YOU MISSED THE FUN. WE JUST CAPTURED TWO SNIPERS WHO HAVE BEEN SHOOTING ALONG THIS ROAD. I THINK THEY ARE SOME OF SEVERAL SCORES OF HEINIES WE CUT OFF AND PASSED AND THEY ARE TRYING TO WORK THEIR WAY BACK TO THEIR LINES AND TAKING A FEW SHOTS AS THEY GO.

MK1020PEW

ADD WITH U.S. CARRIER FCES XX TRAILERS

ALTHOUGH REPORTED TO BE TRAPPED AND SURROUNDED BY THE GERMANS, THESE MEN DID NOT SEEM TO BE IN DESPERATE CONDITION.

LT.COL.BEN A.GARLAND OF WACO, TEX., TOLD THE PILOTS BEFORE THE

3

30.24— 21569

TAKEOFF THAT THE SITUATION OF THE MEN AT THE FRONT "ALLOWED NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO GET IN THERE WITH THOSE SUPPLIES. WE MUST IGNORE WEATHER, CEILINGS, FLAK AND JERRY FIGHTERS, IF NECESSARY, BUT WE MUST GET THE STUFF UP THERE TO THOSE BOYS--AND GET IT THERE TODAY."

DEC 27 1944

SN930PEW

ADD WITH AM. FCES - (BALL) XX TERMS

DANBY CONTINUED, "THE GERMAN ENLISTED MEN AND NON-COMS HAD A GENERAL IDEA THAT VON RUNDSTEDT'S PLAN WAS TO BREAK THROUGH AND ROLL UP THE ALLIED FORCES. NOW THEY ARE WONDERING WHAT'S HAPPENED."

FINGERING THE TRIGGER OF HIS TOMMY-GUN AS HE STOOD GUARD OVER THE PRISONERS, PVT.RALPH J.HLAVKA, 3204 EAST 116TH STREET, CLEVELAND, O., SAID THE GERMANS CONFIDED THEY HAD NO IDEA THEY'D BE FIGHTING THROUGH THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

"NAW," ADDED PVT.RICHARD RUSSELL, ROUTE 1, RIOLINDA, CALIF., "THEY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE OVER BY NOW, BUT THEY WON'T ADMIT WHOSE FAVOR THEY THOUGHT IT WOULD BE IN."

SN1101PEW

PARIS, DEC. 26-(AP)-FRANCE INTENDS TO SPEND ALMOST HALF ITS 1945 GOVERNMENTAL INCOME FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE GERMANS AND THE JAPANESE, MEMBERS OF THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY SAID AFTER A CLOSED SESSION ON NATIONAL DEFENSE TODAY.

DEC 27 1944

ASSEMBLYMEN PREDICTED THAT THE 1945 BUDGET WOULD TOTAL 350,000,000,000 FRANCS (APPROXIMATELY $7,000,000,000), INCLUDING 168,000,000,000 FRANCS ($3,360,000,000) FOR ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE ESTABLISHMENTS AND GASOLINE AND EXPLOSIVES.

SN1025PEW

PARIS, DEC. 23--(AP)--FRENCH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES JOINED WITH THE RED CROSS, THE BALLET, WRESTLING, [redacted] SYMPHONIES AND THE DRAMA TODAY IN A NATIONAL FUND RAISING WEEK FOR THE RELIEF OF 2,500,000

PRISONERS AND WAR DEPORTEES IN GERMANY. DEC 27 1944

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS ALSO PLAN SERVICES FOR THE ABSENT FRENCH DURING THE WEEK. THE PRISONERS AND WAR DEPORTEES ARE THE MISSI GUESTS--ASIDE FROM THE WAR DEAD--AT FRANCE'S FIRST [redacted] CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SINCE LIBERATION.

PW/00100/THO/6A

PARIS,DEC.26 (AP)--MAJ. GLENN MILLER,DIRECTOR OF THE U.S.ARMY AIR FORCE BAND,AND A FORMER DANCE ORCHESTRA LEADER, HAS BEEN MISSING SINCE DEC.15 ON A FLIGHT FROM ENGLAND TO PARIS.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED SUNDAY THAT NO TRACE OF THE PLANE, IN WHICH MILLER WAS A PASSENGER, HAS BEEN FOUND.

THE FORMER DANCE ORCHESTRA LEADER'S HOME WAS IN TENAFL N.J.,WHERE HIS WIFE RESIDES.

REW AM950AM

A U.S. EIGHTH AIRFORCE FIGHTER STATION IN ENGLAND, DEC.26-(AP)-TWO MUSTANG FIGHTER PILOTS WHO WEE SO DETERMINED TO HIT THE GERMANS THAT THEY RISKED A TAKEOFF IN HAZARDOUS WEATHER WHILE MANY OTHER PLANES WERE GROUNDED WERE AWARDED THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS TODAY.

CAPT. ROBERT G. COUNSELMAN OF MEADVILLE, PA., AND LT. WILLIAM E. HORNICKEL OF ELIZABETH, IND., WERE STILL IN THE AIR OVER EUROPE AFTER THEIR TAKEOFF FROM A FOG-BOUND BRITISH BASE SUNDAY WHEN MAJ.GEN. WILLIAM E. KEPNER HEARD OF THEIR FEAT AND NAMED THEM FOR THE DECORATION THEY RECEIVED THEIR AWARD AFTER A CHRISTMAS DINNER.

DEC 27 1944

MD8,15PEW

BY SID FEDER

SPAGHETTI BOWL HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, DEC 26-(AP)-WHAT WITH SUCH ICING ON THE CAKE AS A COUPLE OF 56-PIECE BANDS, SWEATER-GAL CHEERLEADERS AND A CHAMPION BATON BENDER TO SAY NOTHING OF A PAIR OF UNDEFEATED FOOTBALL CLUBS THIS "UNMENTIONABLE" SITE OF NEXT MONDAY'S SPAGHETTI BOWL PLOT MIGHT JUST AS WELL BE PASADENA, CALIF., INSTEAD OF THE MIDDLE OF THE WAR IN ITALY.

DEC 27 1944

BOTH THE FIFTH ARMY AND 12TH AIRFORCE ELEVENS BOAST PERFECT RECORDS BECAUSE NEITHER HAS PLAYED A GAME YET, BUT DON'T GET THE IDEA THEY DON'T SHAPE UP AS A COUPLE OF PRETTY FAIR CLUBS.

ON TOP OF ALL THE OTHER DRESSINGS THAT MAKES THIS AS FAMILIAR AS ANY NEW YEAR'S "CLASSIC" BACK HOME RIGHT UP TO THE USUAL "BITE" FOR "TWO ON THE 50-YARD LINE, PAL." THE ROSTERS OF BOTH CLUBS HAVE THAT USUAL LIBERAL SPRINKLING OF EX-COLLEGE AND PRO-PERFORMERS FROM THE GRIDIRON BREEDING GROUNDS OF PENNSYLVANIA'S COAL FIELDS, THE TEXAS PLAINS, MIDWEST'S CORN BELT AND CALIFORNIA'S SUNNY SLOPES.

DEC 27 1944

ASIDE FROM THE TUSSLE ITSELF OFFICIALS ARE GOING TO HAVE IT ALL DRESSED UP WITH WHITE TIES AND TAILS WITH A CROWD OF 35,000 EXPECTED TO BE ON TAP NIPPING COGNAC FOR THE 1:30 P.M.(7:30 A.M.EWT) KICKOFF.

EACH TEAM WILL BE REPRESENTED BY ONE OF THE ARMY BANDS AND PEGGY JEAN, WHO CLAIMS AMERICA'S FREE STYLE BATON TWIRLING TITLE, WILL BE ON DECK TO STRUT HER STUFF. SHE IS HERE WITH A USO SHOW.

ELLA LOGAN, THE BROADWAY HUMMING BIRD WITH THE SCOTCH BURR, WILL WARBLE SOMETHING. SHE ALREADY HAS A REQUEST FOR HER SPECIAL "TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME" EVEN IF IT ISN'T BASEBALL. THAT LITTLE DETAIL WILL BE CARED FOR BY THE PRESENCE OF LEO 'THE LIP' DUROCHER, MANAGER OF THE BROOKLYN DODGERS, AND DUCKY 'CALL ME MUSCLES' MEDWICK, NEW YORK GIANT OUTFIELDER, WHO WILL OFFER A FEW THOUSAND WELL CHOSEN WORDS

BETWEEN HALVES IN THEIR USUAL STRONG SILENT STYLE. THEY ARE HERE WITH ONE OF BASEBALL'S TOURING USO UNITS. #

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DY1149PEW

30-24— 21571

~~A104RK~~ MDD MAC'S HQ PIES - (DAVIS) XX TOWN

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JW243PCW

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FIGHTER.

COL.MARSHAL M.PRINCE OF LAURINBURG,N.C., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT MOUNTAIN LAKES,N.J., WAS THE SENIOR OFFICER WITH THE B24S. CAPT.JOHN J.POZERYCKI (7 MCKINLEY ST.) MAYNARD,MASS., WAS THE LEAD NAVIGATOR FOR THE LIBERATORS. HE SAID THE BOMBS LANDED SQUARELY IN THE AIRDROME TARGET AREA AND STARTED FIRES POSSIBLY FROM PLANES DESTROYED.

SOME OF THE LIBERATORS REMAINED AS SPOTTERS FOR THE NAVY SHELLING, CIRCLING THE ISLAND AT LOW ALTITUDE ABOUT A MILE OFFSHORE.

MAJ.THOMAS A.PEDDY, COMMANDER OF ONE LIBERATOR SQUADRON, LED THE SPOTTER PLANES. "THE IWO SHELLING LASTED OVER AN HOUR," HE SAID. "THOSE BOYS WERE ACCURATE AND THEIR AIM LITERALLY PLASTERED THE ISLAND FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER. I SAW A NUMBER OF LARGE FIRES. I ALSO SAW A JAP COASTAL VESSEL SINKING 1,000 YARDS OFFSHORE."

JW1109ACW NM

DEC 27 1944

AVBY RICHARD BERGHOLZ (480)

AT A LEYTE AIRBASE, PHILIPPINES, DEC 26-(AP)-IN ANY OTHER WAR THEATER, TOMMY MCGUIRE'S RECORD OF 38 PLANES DOWNED, INCLUDING SEVEN OVER LEYTE AND LUZON IN THE LAST 48 HOURS, WOULD MAKE HIM TOP DOG.

OUT HERE IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, MAJ.THOMAS B.MCGUIRE'S ACHIEVEMENT HAS BEEN OVERSHADOWED UNTIL NOW BY AMERICA'S RANKING ARMY AIR ACE, MAJ.RICHARD I.BONG, OF POPLAR, WIS., WHO HAS 40 TO HIS CREDIT.

WHILE MAJOR BONG WAS ON FURLOUGH AFTER BAGGING 27 JAPANESE PLANES, MCGUIRE PLUGGED AWAY TO REACH THE 20 MARK. FLYING TOGETHER OVER THE PHILIPPINES, THE TWO ACES MATCHED VICTORY FOR VICTORY, BUT NO MATTER HOW HOT MCGUIRE FLEW AND FOUGHT, BONG ALWAYS STAYED AHEAD.

ANOTHER DAY LIKE THAT MCGUIRE HAD OVER CLARK FIELD, NEAR MANILA, YESTERDAY MAY LIFT HIM TO THE TOP.

THE YOUNG MAN, WHO GREW UP AT RIDGEWOOD, N.J., AND SEBRING, FLA., LIVES TO KNOCK 'EM DOWN.

"FOR A TIME MAC USED TO BE COURAGEOUS TO THE POINT OF BEING DUMB," HIS COMMANDER SAID. "BUT NOW HE'S SEASONED AND KNOWS HIS PLANE'S LIMITATIONS. HE STILL HAS SO MUCH GUTS IT MAKES IT HARD FOR HIS WINGMEN TO STAY WITH HIM."

THE SHORT, DARK-MUSTACHED ACE, WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT (209 WEST RIDGEWOOD COURTS) SAN ANTONIO, TEX., HAS FLOWN MORE THAN 720 COMBAT HOURS, AND MORE THAN 240 COMBAT MISSIONS.

HE HOLDS NINE AIR MEDALS, FIVE DFCS, THE SILVER STAR AND THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS.

MCGUIRE LEFT GEORGIA TECH EARLY IN 1941 TO ENTER THE ARMY AIR FORCES. LET'S LOOK AT HIS RECORD. HERE IS ONE EXCERPT FROM HIS LOG BOOK:

"OCT.17, 1943: OVER ORO BAY THREE ZEKE PLANES DOWNED ME. I BAILED OUT WOUNDED AND WAS PICKED UP BY A P-T 30 MILES OUT. (HE SPENT 18 DAYS IN THE HOSPITAL).

DEC 27 1944

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED:

AGAINST A STRONG JAPANESE FORCE MCGUIRE KNOCKED OFF THREE FIGHTERS THEN BROKE OFF TO COVER A CRIPPLED LIGHTNING. MCGUIRE'S PLANE CAUGHT FIRE WHEN IT WAS HIT AND MCGUIRE WAS WOUNDED. HE TRIED TO BAIL OUT AT 12,000 FEET BUT HIS FEET CAUGHT IN THE COCKPIT. HIS BODY WAS PULLED BACK BY THE PROPELLER SLIPSTREAM AND HE HUNG THERE WHILE THE PLANE DROPPED 5,000 FEET.

FINALLY HE BROKE FREE AND REACHED FOR THE RIPCORD, ONLY TO FIND IT SEVERED, WITH A SMALL SIRE DANGLING BEHIND. HE WRAPPED THE WIRE AROUND HIS WRIST AND YANKED, AND THE CHUTE OPENED AT A THOUSAND FEET.

WHEN HE HIT THE WATER HE FOUND HIS RUBBER BOAT FULL OF HOLES AND IT SLOWLY SANK. DESPITE HIS WOUNDS, HE KEPT AFLOAT FOR 40 MINUTES UNTIL THE P-T BOAT PICKED HIM UP.

"DEC.26, 1943: GOT FOUR, GAVE ONE AWAY. HEAVY FIGHT. HAVE 16 CONFIRMED NOW."

THAT'S HIS NOTATION OF THE ACTION IN WHICH HE WON THE DSC. IGNORING MANY ZEROS ON HIS TAIL, MCGUIRE LED HIS LIGHTNINGS AGAINST 14 JAPANESE DIVEBOMBERS ATTACKING A YANK CONVOY LANDING AT CAPE GLOUCESTER. ALL THE DIVEBOMBERS WERE DESTROYED.

"MAY 2, 1944: GOT A SQUADRON." HE WAS MADE A SQUADRON LEADER.

"JUNE 6, 1944: SANK A THOUSAND TON FREIGHTER OFF MANOKWARI."

THIS FLIGHT PROVED THE STRAFING POWER OF THE LIGHTNINGS. HIS GROUP USED 14,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION, AND PUNCHED SO MANY HOLES IN THE SHIP'S STEEL HULL IT ROLLED OVER AND SANK.

SO IT WENT. THROUGH ADVANCES IN NEW GUINEA, AIR SWEEPS INTO THE DUTCH EAST INDIES AND NOW INTO THE PHILIPPINES, MCGUIRE IS ALWAYS CRAVING ACTION.

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FRIENDLY, GREGARIOUS AND ENTHUSIASTIC, MCGUIRE IS ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY KNOWN PILOTS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC. HIS CREW CHIEF, TECH.SGT.FRANK KISH, SHARON, PA., SWEARS BY HIM.

RECENTLY THE FIFTH AIR FORCE PUBLISHED A BOOK, "COMBAT TACTICS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC." IT TOLD NEW FIGHTER PILOTS SOME TEAM-WORK TRICKS OF THE TRADE. IT IS AUTHORITATIVE, EASY TO UNDERSTAND AND WAS ADOPTED FOR STANDARD INSTRUCTION.

THE AUTHOR IS MAJ.THOMAS B.MCGUIRE, JR.

MM/PM642PPW NM

21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, SAIPAN, WEDNESDAY, DEC 27-(AP)-BRIG.GEN.HAYWOOD HANSELL, JR., COMMANDER OF THE 21ST BOMBER COMMAND WHOSE B-29S ARE DEALING HEAVY AIR BLOWS AT JAPAN, PRAISED WAR CORRESPONDENTS TODAY IN A STATEMENT DETAILING RESULTS OF THE FIRST MONTH OF OPERATIONS.

"IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY REPORTS OF OUR OPERATIONS, I BELIEVE THE CORRESPONDENTS HAVE BEEN ACCURATE AND CONSERVATIVE TO A DEGREE WHICH REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT UPON THEMSELVES AND UPON AMERICAN JOURNALISM AS A WHOLE," HE SAID.

"THEY WORK WITH US HERE; THEY EAT WITH US IN OUR MESS; AND THEY PUT UP WITH THE SAM DANGERS AND HARDSHIPS THAT WE DO AND WITH FINE SPIRIT."

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MM836PPW

POINT BARROW,ALASKA,DEC.25-(DELAYED)-(AP)-IN ARCTIC DARKNESS TODAY ESKOMOS AND SOLDIERS GATHERED AT THE SITE OF THE ANCIENT VILLAGE OF UTKIAVI TO OBSERVE CHRISTMAS.

THE TEMPERATURE WAS ONLY 10 DEGREES BELOW ZERO AND A BRISK WIND WHIPPED IN FROM THE ICE-COVERED ARCTIC OCEAN.

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THERE WERE RELIGIOUS SERVICES AND WHISTLING, JUMPING DOG SLED RACES AND, FOR ARMY LADS, TURKEY WHICH HAD BEEN FLOWN IN.

THE ESKOMOS FEASTED ON RAW FISH, WALRUS AND WHALE MEAT DIPPED IN SEAL OIL. THERE WAS REINDEER STEW FOR ALL AND BARROW VILLAGE'S 26 WHITE RESIDENTS TURNED OUT FOR THE FESTIVITIES.

CHRISTMAS DAY MARKED THE BEGINNING OF A WEEK'S FEASTING AND DANCING AMONG THE ESKIMOS.

AMONG THOSE ATTENDING THE CEREMONY WERE DR.EDWARD SEINFELD (2250

30.24-21573

E. 7TH ST.) NEW YORK.
THE ARMY FORCES HERE MANNING A RADIO COMMUNICATIONS CENTER WORKED AS USUAL WITH LT.S.E.SINGER (903 NEVADA AVE), URBANA,ILL., IN CHARGE.
AMONG THE MEN ON THE JOB WERE SGT.KARL PFISTER, WEBSTER, N.Y.; SGT.L.C.JOHNSON, KREOLE,MISS.; SGT.ADOLPH DRUMMER, SEYMOUR,CONN.; CPL.ELMORE H.SACHS, DANBURY, CONN.; CPL.STEVE BITSKO, COALDALE,PA.; CPL.WILLIAM D.MOLOHON, JERSEYVILLE,ILL.; CPL.WARREN MORSE, PENN YAN,N.Y., AND PVT.JOSEPH L.LEONARD (14445 FLANDERS) DETROIT.

DEC 27 1944

JW1115ACW

HAVANA, DEC. 26-(AP)-CUBAN SPORTS CIRCLES CONCLUDED TODAY THERE WAS LITTLE CHANCE THAT HAVANA'S ORIENTAL PARK WOULD FALL HEIR TO ANY OF FLORIDA'S RACING GLAMOR, NOW THAT THE TRACKS ARE CLOSING IN THE UNITED STATES, AT OFFICIAL REQUEST, TO SAVE MANPOWER AND TRANSPORTATION.

DEC 27 1944

THERE ARE NO GOVERNMENTAL REGULATIONS BANNING THE SHIPMENT OF HORSES FROM THE U.S. TO CUBA, BUT OFFICIAL CIRCLES SUGGESTED THAT THEY WOULD BE IMPOSED QUICKLY BY CUBA, THE UNITED STATES, OR BOTH, IF ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO TRANSFER FLORIDA RUNNERS HERE.

TRANSPORTATION IS HEAVILY RESTRICTED, AND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN SUITABLE BERTHS FOR QUALITY RACERS. CUBA IS SERVED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY BY SMALL CRAFT, BARGES AND ONE RAILWAY FERRY.

AS IT IS, CUBA HAS RUN THROUGH A SERIES OF FOOD CRISES BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE OF SHIPPING SPACE TO BRING RICE, FLOUR, EGGS AND OTHER SORELY NEEDED COMMODITIES TO THE CAPITAL.

RACE FANS, TOO, WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY GETTING TO CUBA. PLANE PASSAGE USUALLY IS AVAILABLE, BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT COULD PREVENT ANY GREAT EXODUS FROM FLORIDA BY WITHHOLDING PASSPORTS. BEFORE THE WAR PASSAGE WAS UNRESTRICTED, BUT PASSPORTS AND VISAS NOW ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL TRAVELERS.

THERE IS LITTLE IN PRESENT CUBA RACING TO ATTRACT THE BIG STABLES. THE MEETING LAUTS MOST OF THE YEAR, BUT THE TRACK OPERATES ONLY THURUDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS, AND NO CHANGE IS CONTEMPLATED. THE PURSES ARE SMALL--THE INAUGURAL PURSE LAST SATURDAY AMOUNTING TO ONLY $600.

DEC 27 1944

JS527PEW

TORONTO, DEC 26-(AP)-HANDBOOK ACTIVITY IN THE DOMINION IS EXPECTED TO COME TO A STANDSTILL WHEN THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BAN ON HORSE AND DOG RACING BECOMES EFFECTIVE JAN. 3.
HUNDREDS OF HANDBOOKS ARE OPERATED IN TORONTO, AND DURING THE WINTER THE BETTING IS CHIEFLY ON HORSE RACING AT SOUTHERN TRACKS. HOWEVER, THE AMOUNT USUALLY FALLS OFF AT THIS TIME OF YEAR AND REMAINS AT A LOWER THAN USUAL LEVEL UNTIL THE APPROACH OF SPRING WHEN A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT HANDICAPS AND STAKES ARE RUN, ONE RACING AUTHORITY SAID.
HANDBOOK OPERATORS HERE AND ELSEWHERE IN CANADA NOW ARE EXPECTED TO MARK TIME IN THE HOPE THE U.S. BAN MAY BE LIFTED, AND IN ANTICIPATION OF THE SPRING OPENING OF CANADIAN TRACKS.

SW1109AEW

DEC 27 1944

WASHINGTON,DEC.26-(AP)-HEADS OF SOME ALLIED MILITARY CHIEFS, BOTH BRITISH AND AMERICAN, ARE BOUND TO ROLL FOR THE REVERSE ON THE FIRST ARMY FRONT, IT WAS BELIEVED TODAY IN CIRCLES CLOSE TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT.
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH APPEARS TO BELONG TO THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, THESE SOURCES SAID.
A COMPLETE, CLEAR REPORT ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE START OF THE GERMAN WINTER OFFENSIVE HAS NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED, IT WAS INDICATED, BUT WHEN ONE HAS BEEN DELIVERED AND ANALYZED, MEASURES WILL BE TAKEN TO CORRECT THE SITUATION.
NOW THAT THE FIRST SHOCK OF THE GERMAN SUCCESS HAS PASSED, THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HAS COME TO REGARD THE ENEMY MOVE AS ONLY A TEMPORARY DELAY IN THE INEVITABLE DEFEAT OF THE REICH.
THE GENERAL ATTITUDE, AS EXPRESSED BY THE WASHINGTON POST, HOWEVER, IS THAT "THE DISQUIETING THING TO THE PEOPLE IS THAT OUR COMMAND WAS CAUGHT NAPPING. THE BLAME IS ATTACHED TO THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE. FOR THE MISTAKE BOTH THE BRITISH AND OURSELVES MUST ACCEPT JOINT RESPONSIBILITY, FOR AT SHAEF THE CHIEF INTELLIGENCE OFFICER IS A BRITON WITH AN AMERICAN AS HIS DEPUTY. THE DEFICIENCY WILL NO DOUBT BE REMEDIED."
THAT NO SUCH ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN SO FAR IS EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT SHAEF HAS BEEN TOO BUSY FIGHTING THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE TO TAKE TIME TO REPORT TO WASHINGTON ON WHAT HAPPENED AT THE START. A REPORT IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE WITHIN A FEW DAYS.
HIGH OFFICIALS ARE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO KNOW WHY THE INTELLIGENCE SERVICE WAS APPARENTLY NOT AWARE OF THE ENEMY PLANS.
THERE ARE POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS:
1. THE GERMAN CONCENTRATION WAS SHIELDED BY HEAVY FORTIFICATIONS WHICH MADE IT DIFFICULT TO TAKE ANY PRISONERS EXCEPT GARRISON TROOPS.

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2. THE WEATHER WAS BAD, REDUCING AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE.
BUT WASHINGTON INTENDS TO GO TO THE HEART OF THE MATTER, AND PROBABLY SOMEONE WILL HAVE TO ANSWER FOR THE FIRST ARMY SETBACK, JUST AS THE PEARL HARBOR CHIEFS PAID FOR THE DISASTER THERE WITH THEIR JOBS.

AB1212PEW

DEC 27 1944

WASHINGTON,DEC.26-(AP)-LIBERIA HAS SIGNED ALL FIVE DOCUMENTS WRITTEN AT THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO AND LEBANON, WHICH PREVIOUSLY HAS SIGNED FOUR, HAS NOW PUT HER SIGNATURE ON THE FIFTH, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

THIS BROUGHT TO 18 THE SIGNATURES ON THE "FIVE FREEDOMS" OR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT, AND IN ADDITION THE PHILIPPINES HAVE SAID THEY WOULD SIGN AFTER A REFERENDUM. THE TRANSPORT AGREEMENT IS A GENERAL EXCHANGE OF THE RIGHT TO FLY COMMERCIAL AIR SERVICES BETWEEN COUNTRIES.

SIGNERS OF THE "TO FREEDOMS" OR TRANSIT AGREEMENT--WHICH PERMITS AIRLINES TO CROSS AND MAKE NON-COMMERCIAL STOPS--NOW TOTAL 29. THIRTY-SIX COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE CONVENTION OR PROPOSED TREATY WHICH INCLUDES ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT WORLD AVIATION ORGANIZATION, AND 38 HAVE SIGNED THE AGREEMENT FOR A PROVISIONAL WORLD BODY.

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ALL OF THE 54 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT CHICAGO HAVE NOW SIGNED THE "FINAL ACT" OF THE CONFERENCE, WHICH SETS OUT WHAT WAS ACCOMPLISHED, MAKES CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROVIDES A STANDARD AGREEMENT FORM FOR NEGOTIATING AIR RIGHTS.

VH644PEW

WASHINGTON,DEC.26-(AP)-THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS IN PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES REPORTED TODAY THERE WERE 375 STRIKES LAST MONTH, INVOLVING 200,000 WORKERS AND 710,000 MAN-DAYS OF IDLENESS.

THIS WAS ONE-TENTH OF ONE PER CENT OF THE AVAILABLE WORKING TIME, THE BUREAU SAID.

OCTOBER PRODUCED 440 STRIKES INVOLVING 220,000 WORKERS AND 890,000 MAN-DAYS OF IDLENESS. THE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER, 1943, WERE 325 STRIKES, 687,000 WORKERS IDLE, AND 2,862,607 MAN-DAYS LOST. THE LATTER FIGURE CONSTITUTED .38 PER CENT OF AVAILABLE WORKING TIME.

DEC 27 1944

LT447PEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (TUE):
CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: FRONT UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: NO MAJOR CHANGE REPORTED ON ROER RIVER LINE IN GERMANY.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: TWO, POSSIBLY THREE GERMAN ARMIES SENT VANGUARDS WITHIN FOUR MILES OF MEUSE BY SUNDAY NIGHT; AMERICAN SALIENT AT ST. VITH SQUEEZED OUT; GERMANS ACHIEVED SOLID BULGE 35 MILES WIDE, 50 MILES INTO BELGIUM; U.S. RESCUE FORCE DROVE WITHIN FIVE MILES OF BESIEGED BASTOGNE; GERMANS OCCUPIED LIBRAMONT, 23 MILES FROM SEDAN.
U.S. THIRD ARMY: NO IMPORTANT CHANGE REPORTED ON SAAR FRONT.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: NO MAJOR CHANGE REPORTED ON PALATINATE FRONT INSIDE GERMANY.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: NO IMPORTANT CHANGE REPORTED.
SN848PEW

UNDATED WESTERN FRONT
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:
CANADIAN FIRST AND BRITISH SECOND ARMY: FRONT UNCHANGED.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: NO MAJOR CHANGE REPORTED ON ROER RIVER LINE.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: GERMANS WIPED OUT AMERICAN SALIENT AT ST.VITH, WELDING FORCES INTO GIANT BULGE INTO BELGIUM; NAZI ADVANCES CONTINUED AS AMERICANS THREW IN GREAT AIR STRENGTH YESTERDAY. RESCUE FORCE WAS FIVE MILES FROM BASTOGNE, WHERE AMERICANS HELD OUT. GERMANS OCCUPIED LIBRAMONT, 23 MILES FROM SEDAN AND ROCHEFORT, 14 1/2 MILES FROM MEUSE RIVER.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: NO MAJOR CHANGE REPORTED ON PALATINATE FRONT INSIDE GERMANY.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: NO IMPORTANT CHANGE REPORTED.
DN818AEW

DEC 27 1944

-THE ROAD TO BERLIN-

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).

2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).

3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 368 MILES (FROM LEVA).

4--ITALIAN FRONT: 549 MILES (FROM NORTH OF MEZZANO).

BZ304AEW

BLANK

30.24 — 21575

U. S. TANKS SMASH INTO BASTOGNE, BREAK SIEGE; FOE'S SPEARHEAD NEAR MEUSE DRIVEN BACK; 5 ENEMY WARSHIPS BLASTED IN MINDORO SORTIE

'SITUATION WELL IN HAND,' STATES BELGIAN PREMIER

Encouraging Information Reported from Bitter Battlefront.

DEC 28 1944

FLANK SAGGING

Germans Report Entire Third Army Slashing at Invading Nazis.

By EDWARD KENNEDY

PARIS, Thursday, Dec. 28.—(AP) German broadcasts acknowledged tremendous Allied counterattacks on both flanks of the Nazi offensive into Belgium last night. The Luxembourg radio asserted the enemy salient had been narrowed to 20 miles and Supreme Allied headquarters announced relief troops had reached the heroic American garrison at Bastogne.

NIGHT

The information, coming from assorted sources, could be pieced into a picture cheering to the Allies.

The beleaguered Doughboys at Bastogne, who had been encircled since Dec. 20 and gallantly smashing back every German attempt to wipe out their position since then, were reached by a hard-hitting column of American armor which drove up from the south.

The official announcement telling of the garrison's relief gave no details, not even the exact time, but field dispatches reporting events more than 24 hours old said the American forces were within five miles of the besieged Belgian town yesterday.

Dispatches from Associated Press correspondents at the front described this thrust as "heavy American forces" and said they had "punched a deep salient into the German southern flank," and made gains of two to four miles.

The forces hammering at Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's armies from the south were not officially identified, but German broadcasts last night declared that "practically the whole Third American army" was battering at the southern sector.

Berlin said some German forces in the frontier region of Luxembourg had withdrawn into pillboxes at the approaches to the Westwall (Siegfried Line) and also told of powerful counterattacks being thrown against Field Marshal Von Rundstedt from the north.

The German account said one of Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's crack British divisions along with "still another American division withdrawn from the Aachen" were making "particularly grim counterattacks" in the north.

At the same time these reports of Allied attempts to choke the neck of the German offensive were coming from enemy sources, the Allied-controlled Luxembourg radio said "Von Rundstedt's supply funnel through Belgium has been narrowed to less than 20 miles in width tonight." This mileage coincides with the distance from Bastogne northward to last reported Allied positions near Lierneux.

Premier Hubert Pierlot told the Belgian parliament he had word from "the highest Allied authority that the situation at the front is well in hand," the Brussels radio said.

The drive to Bastogne apparently represented an important break in German lines on the southern side of the enemy wedge. The gains were made over rough terrain in the woods almost due west of Echternach and American successes on this front were spread over several points.

Associated Press correspondent Wes Gallagher said Von Rundstedt's entire southern flank appeared to be sagging and added 'unless he can quickly halt the American advance Von Rundstedt's Belgian bulge is in a critical condition."

The armored column which smashed into Bastogne drove through Remi-Champagne on a back road five miles southwest of Bastogne and it was presumably in this area that the Germans' southern lines were opened.

Eschdorf, Bonnal, Inzendorf and Lingel—villages southeast of Bastogne—were occupied by the Americans, who also were mopping up in Berdorf, three miles northwest of Echternach, and had encircled Befort.

The westernmost spearheads of the German drive into Belgium, which carried the enemy to within four miles of the Meuse river, still were being held, according to the latest available information, but a little to the northeast of this area—in the Hotten, Marche and Rochefort sectors—the enemy lunged out in several attacks. These were broken up, however.

The sharpest of these stabs came around Verdenne, three miles east of Marche, and around the villages of Humain and Havrenne, three miles north of Rochefort.

In the St. Hubert area to the south the enemy apparently decided merely on a holding action for the time being, for American troops encountered mines, roadblocks and blown bridges. Some German tanks were seen roving around in the area of Beauraing, a little farther northwest.

Quarter Million Men

Von Rundstedt, it was learned definitely, now has under his command three armies in this Hitler-conceived offensive. These are the Seventh army, the Fifth Panzer army and another and more powerful Panzer army—involving perhaps a quarter of a million men in all. The size of the force is an indication of the Nazi determination to crush the Allies on the western front at this late period.

Good weather permitted Allied air forces to fly a total of 3,000 sorties during the day in support of the ground troops. Ninety-one enemy aircraft were shot down.

All along the northern flank of the 35-mile-wide salient there were indications that the Nazis were on the defense for the moment, said Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher. With hundreds of American and British planes searching the roads, he said von Rundstedt could not use his tanks on a big scale without risking a massacre.

Spearhead Blunted

News that Gen. Eisenhower had struck his first serious counterblow at the Germans after backtracking 50 miles across Belgium came on top of the two-day-old information that the spearhead of the enemy drive had been blunted short of its Meuse river goal.

American forces met the two-pronged Nazi drive toward the Meuse in the areas of Ciney and Celles two days ago and brought it to a halt, knocking out some enemy armor and compelling von Rundstedt's forward tank units to withdraw from the farthest westward points attained in their 12-day-old push.

"Von Rundstedt has lost the initiative in his great all-out gamble to smash through the American front," Associated Press Correspondent Roger Greene declared in a front dispatch.

After touring the rim of the Germans' salient, Kenneth Dixon of the AP reported, "the Allied position seems the most cheerful since von Rundstedt uncorked his counter-stab."

Planes Are Active

For the fifth straight day swarms of American and British planes lashed at German troops and armor in clear, cold weather, piling roads and snow-covered fields with the smoking derelicts of Nazi tanks and supply vehicles.

There was strong indication that von Rundstedt's extended forces were short of fuel. Of 17 enemy tanks and self-propelled guns which the Americans found abandoned when the pushes to Ciney and Celles were folded back, at least a dozen had dry gasoline tanks.

A field dispatch declared the Germans already had thrown in a vast majority of their reserves and had more than 20 divisions, including 10 Panzer grenadier divisions, committed to the battle. It said the situation "now may be regarded as past the crisis stage."

(Capt. Ludwig Segorious, German military commentator, observed that Allied counterattacks in Belgium "already are more methodic" and said that the great offensive which Hitler planned to inflict a decisive defeat on the Allies was turning "more and more into a battle of attrition.")

According to the latest information issued at Allied headquarters—which presented the situation as of Tuesday morning—American troops were in possession of both Ciney and Celles. The latter town, only four miles from the Meuse, marked the apex of the German drive on Sunday. The Nazis ran tanks through Celles and close to Ciney, but apparently did not attempt to hold them against American counterblows.

Hard fighting was reported continuing in the sector, with small groups of German tanks milling about and apparently probing for soft spots in American defenses. The two-pronged German drive here might have been experimental in nature and in rehearsal for a stronger attack.

American troops reported taking 1,005 prisoners in a 48-hour period to noon on Tuesday.

Eisenhower's counterattack against the German southern flank resulted in new gains between Kiekirch and Echternach, including capture of the village of Haller six miles west of Echternach, and nearby Waldbilling. A German counterattack was repulsed near Haller, and high ground was won south of Echternach.

American and British tactical planes flew 2,814 sorties in support of ground forces Tuesday, destroying 77 German planes in the air and 12 on the ground for a tentative loss of 45 craft. They reported damaging or destroying over 857 German tanks, armored vehicles and motor transport.

In three days the two tactical forces reported they had destroyed 2,228 enemy transport vehicles and 439 Nazi planes, exclusive of the toll taken by American and RAF heavy bombers. After a big force of heavies attacked German-held St. Vith in Belgium a pilot said the town was "burning from end to end with the streets just great sheets of flames."

Up to noon yesterday the Allied Tactical Air forces had flown 300 sorties and reported destruction or damage to 40 enemy tanks and armored cars and 196 motor vehicles. Heavy damage was done to a column of 100 Nazi trucks caught between Bastogne and Marche.

As Allied air power continued to beat at the enemy and the clear weather showed no signs of breaking, dispatches said the enemy's tank forces had become much more cautious than in the opening days of the drive. They were moving much more slowly and in smaller groups.

It was, however, the grim, dogged stand of American infantry and armor, which held on and died in its tracks, that military history will have to credit with slowing and blocking the tremendous rush of enemy armor.

Doughboys still were dying at their guns today to check Von Rundstedt's legions until a real Allied counterblow could be delivered.

(A German broadcast reported that American forces were being withdrawn from the Aachen area and concentrated for new attacks in the Stavelot area on the Nazi northern flank, where the German drive first was checked.)

Hal Boyle of the Associated Press reported Wednesday night that "fighting still is extremely fluid, with small towns in this sector repeatedly changing hands.

"In no battle, however," he added, "has the enemy been able to summon the overwhelming force with which he lashed out from Ger-

many across Belgium and Luxembourg on Dec. 16. Buttered thinly over a wide area, Von Rundstedt's Panzers and Volksgrenadiers are facing critical gas and food shortages as well as the problem of a solidifying and constricting American battle line."

Partial Withdrawal in Luxemburg; U.S. Relief Columns Reach Bastogne

DEC 28 1944

BULLETIN.

London, Dec. 27 (A.P.).—The German radio announced tonight that Nazi forces in some sectors of Luxembourg had been withdrawn to outposts of the Westwall.

Paris, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—American troops and tanks, regaining the initiative, have driven a deep salient into German lines within the last twenty-four hours and dealt the German offensive its first serious setback, a front dispatch declared today. The location of this American plunge and details could not be given in the dispatch, sent at 2 P. M. (9 A. M. Eastern war time) from the Stavelot area of Belgium.

All along the northern rim of the German drive, said the dispatch from the Stavelot sector, "there are indications the Germans are on the defense for the moment with infantry replacing tanks."

[The Brussels radio said tonight that relief columns had reached the American garrison at Bastogne, which had been cut off more than a week. Earlier, a dispatch from the United States First Army headquarters reported that a single United States Army vehicle had broken through the German ring around the Belgian city. A British broadcast said that American columns, officially last reported four and a half miles from Bastogne, had reached a point one and a quarter miles from the town. Hundreds of tons of supplies—mainly ammunition—were parachuted to the Americans in the Bastogne area during the day.]

At the same time the weather continued clear and the Allied air forces whittled away at Nazi tanks and transport. Flight after flight of Thunderbolt fighter-bombers pounded German positions.

Just south of Stavelot, fighter-bombers caught a German tank spearhead milling around on top of a bald ridge and struck heavily, destroying at least two tanks and damaging several others.

"They really gave that column a working over," declared Major Albert Trearse of Lansdowne, Pa.

Marshal von Rundstedt apparently still is trying to turn the American line to the west, but from here east the huge losses convinced him the line was firmly held.

Weather Is in Our Favor.

With Thunderbolts by the hundreds searching the roads in the bulge for targets, Von Rundstedt probably is awaiting bad weather before putting forth a new blow. Despite the aggressiveness of the German air force, which was over the American lines several times this morning, Allied air power has been the biggest thorn in the Germans' side.

An attempt last night to pierce the American north flank west of Stavelot with a moonlight assault was ruthlessly crushed.

"We threw the whole book at them—just piled it on with 155s on down to rifles," said Lieut. Glen Kean of Oil City, Pa. "The attack broke down and was wiped out in four hours."

Bitter cold still grips the front and tanks can operate almost anywhere. Weather conditions in the last four days have been ideal for Gen. Eisenhower's forces in contrast to the first six days, when low-hanging clouds and rain operated all to Von Rundstedt's advantage.

Reports indicated the Germans at least temporarily had lost the initiative in this winter drive. An earlier field dispatch reported doughboys slowly regaining the initiative on flanks of the German breakthrough.

2000 Spies In Action.

Allied officers in the field estimated that more than 2,000 German spies in American uniforms were being used in the German drive, either infiltrating or being dropped behind American lines.

A German-manned American Sherman tank and two tank destroyers slipped into an American column on one road late yesterday, shooting it up and escaping. Damage was heavy for the size of the operation.

Incomplete reports from two sections of the breakthrough area listed destruction of more than 250 Nazi tanks and self-propelled guns and capture of more than 2,300 prisoners since the offensive started.

The German offensive—believed to be powered with some 250,000 troops—had sent light armored combat teams to Celles and Ciney in a bid to reach the Meuse. But American infantrymen in a Christmas Day battle rolled them back one to two miles, Supreme Headquarters disclosed.

A dispatch from the field today declared American armor and infantry, "slowly regaining the initiative, have locked in a series of sharp battles with probing Germans on both flanks of the twenty-mile gap between the Hotton and Bastogne areas." Fighting still is extremely fluid in this sector, it added.

Supreme Headquarters said Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt had been held virtually without gains in the twenty-four hours up to Tuesday morning.

But the German southern flank at that same time stiffened against the American push to relieve the encircled garrison at Bastogne. The Americans last official reports still were four and one-half miles south of the city. Hundreds of tons of supplies were parachuted today to the Bastogne garrison.

Lull Settles Over Front.

Another front dispatch today said the front was comparatively, and almost ominously, quiet today with each side thrusting tentatively and ineffectually at opposing defenses.

Marshal Von Rundstedt's advance tank units had speared into Celles, only four miles from the Meuse and eight from the French frontier, and near Ciney farther northeast, fourteen miles below Namur. At Celles, his men were only fifty miles from Brussels, and had penetrated fifty-seven miles from the take-off positions. By Tuesday morning, Celles was firmly back in American hands.

The Americans folding back these thrusts found at least a dozen tanks and self-propelled guns dry of gasoline—perhaps an indication of the results of air blows on Marshal Von Rundstedt's supply lines.

Fighting continued in this sector near the Meuse, Supreme Headquarters said, but there were indications the main German weight was being [illegible]

The Supreme Headquarters communique said simply that "a few enemy tanks and troop-carriers pushed forwar' in the direction of Celles," four miles from Dinant on the Meuse, but that "these were engaged by our forces and were driven back, some tanks being knocked out."

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11-Mile Plunge

An 11-mile Sunday plunge had carried two forward columns of the Nazi offensive—powered by two and perhaps three armies—to Celles and to Ciney, six miles northeastward and nine from the Meuse.

The surrounding Bastogne garrison of several thousand doughboys still held out in an epic stand. General Eisenhower's relieving counter-assault from the south at last reports still was 4½ miles from the city, but the front of his attack had been widened.

Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt was pushing hard to the northwest—toward the Antwerp supply route—from his reinforced line along the Hotton-Marche road, but "our positions have been maintained," said the Allied communique covering actions two days old.

It still was a grinding battle of huge cost in which Von Rundstedt's next moves yet were to shape up. The terrific American defense had slowed but not yet stopped the German armor.

Along the northern rim of their bulge, Germans captured Manhay, 10 miles southwest of Stavelot.

Tanks Destroyed

Von Rundstedt kept bloody Bastogne near the middle of the bulge under incessant day and night attack, hurling in tanks which the defenders methodically knocked out as fast as they came up.

There was no indication how much longer the Bastogne force, originally numbering several thousand men, could hold out, but neither was there any suggestion they were anywhere near the end of their power or determination to resist.

The closest point reached by the relieving force from the south was just north of Chaumont, five miles below Bastogne. Seven miles southwest of Bastogne, Americans pressed near Cobreville. They cleared Hollange and Timtange, six and eight miles below Bastogne, entered Lultzhausen 10 miles to the southeast and fought German infantry and tanks in Eschdorf, 12 miles southeast of Bastogne.

This northward thrust was rolling over high hills carpeted with woods.

Farther southeast of Bastogne, Americans battled strong Nazi units in Kehmen and Ringel, five and seven miles from Diekirch. High ground was won below Diekirch, and a German attack was repulsed near Haller, midway between Diekirch and Echternach 12 miles farther southeast. Waldbillig six miles from Echternach fell. Gains were scored below Echternach.

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Aerial Action

For the fifth straight day the Allied aerial whiplash fell across the German offensive path. Heavy bombers from Britain and the armor-busting Tactical Air Forces, British and American, based on the continent, participated.

German patrols were active on the Holland front again yesterday.

Below Duren, Americans cleared the town of Winden.

Doughboys cleaned up an enemy pocket near La Gleize in the Stavelot area, taking 150 prisoners, and seizing 38 tanks, 70 half-track vehicles, eight armored cars and six self-propelled guns, the communique said.

On the Seventh Army front, slight gains were made in forested areas west of Wissembourg, and in the high Southern Vosges an enemy raid on Thann was repulsed.

In a front dispatch last night Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher said there were growing indications that the German High Command had decided to risk the heart of the German Army in this Western front effort. He added:

"The next few days should tell the story, with strong prospects for the greatest battle of the Second World War in the offing."

This dispatch said that in general the northern flank is being held, forcing the German commander even farther west in his

efforts to turn toward Liege and Antwerp.

On the basis of latest battlefield information available at Supreme Headquarters yesterday—information that was then 48 hours old—German armor and infantry had smashed 11 miles deeper into Belgium and were within four miles of the Meuse River in the area south of Namur. So far as was known here, the Germans had not reached the Meuse last night.

Paris underwent an air raid last night. The bombing was done by a few planes which coasted in over the French capital to drop their loads.

While the planes were not identified, the fact there was only a small number virtually precluded any possibility the bombs might have been dropped by accident from Allied aircraft.

Panzer Armies

Von Rundstedt is employing at least two and possibly three armies in the current German counter-offensive. He has thrown into battle the reorganized Seventh Army, which was badly cut up by the Allies in Normandy, and the Fifth Panzer Army, and probably has another Panzer Army at his disposal.

The commander of the Fifth Panzer Army is Gen. Hasso Eccard von Manteuffel—the devil man—a typical Junker officer from a Pomeranian family whose main business for centuries has been the waging of war.

"Von Rundstedt still has substantial reserves, reserves that two months ago were thought impossible by most Allied military experts," Gallagher said, adding:

"If he commits them either in the break through or in a new attempt further north, the struggle on the Western Front will have a life or death aspect. It will strain every Allied resource.

"But if Von Runstedt fails, the German Army will be in exactly the same crippled condition it was after the abortive Paris offensive of 1918."

Patrol Activity

This dispatch reported a sharp increase in patrol activity all the way from Monschau to the Canadian Army positions in the Netherlands, and said that American combat forces had chopped off at least two of Von Runstedt's extended western prongs but the German commander threw in two more in their place.

(Berlin broadcasts claimed that American commanders have sent several divisions of the U. S. Ninth Army into the First Army area to join up with units rushed from the American Third and Seventh armies.

More than twenty German divisions, including ten armored or armored-infantry units, were reported to have been thrown into the winter counter-offensive. Associated Press Correspondent Hal Boyle said the Germans in no battle had been able to summon the initial force with which it lashed out on December 16.

"Buttered thinly over a wide area, Marshal Von Rundstedt's Panzers and Volksgrenadiers are facing critical gas and food shortages as well as the problem of solidifying and also of constricting the American battleline," he said.

Heroic Bastogne Garrison Relieved by American Force

By WES GALLAGHER

STAVELOT SECTOR, Belgium, Dec. 27—(AP) American tanks and infantry forces, driving hard from the south, dealt Field Marshal Von Rundstedt the greatest blow to date today when they relieved the besieged garrison at Bastogne and punched a deep salient into the German southern flank.

The American troops at Bastogne had been encircled for more than a week and were supplied by air. Today they reported destroying 32 German tanks in repulsing two attacks. Earlier in the week they destroyed 55, making a total of 87 destroyed by this garrison alone.

Up to the time of being relieved, the Bastogne units were the last important force fighting behind German lines. At times the garrison fought in a perimeter of less than 2,000 yards diameter, absorbing the concentrated fire of German guns and hurling back tanks.

Von Rundstedt's entire southern flank appeared to be sagging under the American onslaught as gains of two to four miles were registered. Unless he can quickly halt the American advance, particularly in the Bastogne sector, the German Marshal's Belgium bulge will be in a critical condition.

Nazi losses continued to mount during the day, with partial reports recording destruction of more than 250 tanks by American ground forces while Von Rundstedt was suffering his first serious setback on one sector of the front since the offensive began.

It was estimated that the Germans are using more than 2000 spies in American uniforms in this drive. Some of these have been dropped behind American lines by parachute. Others have been infiltrating in American jeeps and equipment. It is the largest known espionage assault of this type in this war.

Although von Rundstedt has been definitely checked and hurled back in the breakthrough area, other sectors of the front showed potentialities in his favor. North of Linnich the Germans have built two new bridges across the Roer River. At the same time by controlling dams along the river they have dropped the height of the water two and a half feet in 24 hours which would make crossing easier. There seems to be little doubt that von Rundstedt has new blows up his military sleeve.

German losses of more than 250 tanks did not include those lost to air attack. The 29th Tactical Command alone reported damaging or destroying 45 tanks in yesterday's operations and more today. To escape the air attack the Germans are hiding in the Ardennes woods in the daytime.

Foe Loses Initiative

ON THE WESTERN FRONT, Dec. 27 (AP)—Field Marshal von Rundstedt has lost the initiative in his great all-out gamble to smash through the American front, but the Allies by no means have regained it and today much depends upon the weather.

As the situation has eased appreciably and now may be regarded as past the crisis stage, it was disclosed that von Rundstedt already had thrown in a vast majority of the German reserves that had been carefully hoarded. More than twenty German divisions, including ten Panzer or Panzer Grenadier divisions, have been injected into the flaming battle.

The latest news from the front, detailing information thirty-six hours old under the censorship ban, told of the big battle in the areas of Hotton, Marche and Rochefort. Results were not immediately disclosed.

The Allies now have not only definitely blunted the edge of the German offensive, but have inflicted staggering losses on the enemy in both material and manpower.

General Eisenhower's success in smothering the German campaign is attributed to the resourcefulness and gallantry of American infantry in preventing the front from disintegrating under the initial sledgehammer blows of the Germans and the strength of the Allied hinge around Stavelot, where American troops refused to yield. The performance of the American infantry was remarkable.

Von Rundstedt's next move may not be dictated by purely military appreciation of the situation because he has a political pistol in his back. One interpretation of this might well be that the Nazi Field Marshal, instead of accepting the hard reality of his position, will cast military prudence to the winds and attempt to lunge forward with suicidal fury.

GERMANS REPORT RETREAT ON FLANK

Nazi Troops Near Luxembourg Border Back in Siegfried Line Posts, Berlin Says

FOE SEES BRITISH IN FIGHT

One of Montgomery's Division Is Striking With Americans on North, Enemy Asserts

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—The German radio said tonight that Allied troops were striking violently at both the northern and southern flanks of Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive and that at some places near the frontier of Luxembourg German troops had withdrawn to outposts of the Siegfried Line. Berlin asserted that "American attempts to push on failed."

"Battles of the greatest scale" were being fought on both flanks, Berlin said.

"Practically the whole American Third Army" was attacking in the southern sector of the Germans' salient, according to the enemy broadcast, which asserted that Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton was aiming a thrust in the vicinity of Vaux-les-Rosières, nine miles southwest of Bastogne, in an effort "to corner German divisions between the Salme and Ourthe Rivers."

Berlin, which previously had based propaganda on claims that British troops were not taking part in the defense against von Rundstedt, asserted tonight that one of Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's crack divisions had joined with "still another American division withdrawn from the Aachen front in making particularly grim counter-attacks" in the north.

The enemy broadcast said the Allied goal on the north of the salient was "to crush the German flank with massed forces and artillery near Grandmesnil."

An earlier German radio comment said the campaign was becoming "a battle of attrition."

Sertorius Uncertain as to "Phase"

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, Berlin's military commentator on the radio, said:

"It remains to be seen whether the very bitter fighting is approaching a quick climax or whether it is gliding into an intermediate phase. The Allied counter-attacks already are more methodic. They are clearly directed at exerting pressure on the German wedge from both sides and make it collapse."

He contended that General Eisenhower still was "improvising" his defense, but "probably will use up a large part of the forces he has assembled to stem the German drive by flank attacks."

"This may account for the temporary slackening of Allied attacks in the area of Elsborn and Stavelot against the northern flank of the German offensive," said the Nazi broadcaster.

Sertorius said Allied pressure on the German southern flank had increased during the Christmas holidays and was very strong in central Luxembourg and the areas north of Arlon.

"General Patton, who is in command there, is making the strongest efforts to break through to Bastogne to relieve the American force encircled there," Sertorius went on. "It is interesting that the Americans are using the same tactics the Germans have been using in defense against the Allied and Russian offensives—the so-called hedgehog tactics."

The German Transocean news agency said that "the magnetic power of the winter battle is especially noticeable in the Aachen area where the positions of the United States Ninth Army have been taken over by British formations under command of Field Marshal Montgomery."

"In the course of regroupings going on behind the Allied lines the released Americans may soon reappear on the winter battlefield," the Nazi agency added.

Both the German High Command communiqué and Berlin radi reports talked of vast armored battles that the enemy said were in progress in the area north of La Roche in Belgium.

The German High Command asserted a major tank battle had broken out yesterday north of La Roche, and that seventy tanks of the United States Third and Seventh Armored Divisions had been knocked out. There was no Allied report of such a tank engagement, which the German account would put along the northern rim of the Germans' salient between Marche and Stavelot.

PANZER TROOPS BURNING TANKS FLIERS REPORT

By HAL BOYLE

WITH THE AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM, Dec. 27—(AP) Returning fliers reported today that German panzers were setting fire to their vehicles in the Celles area at the point of the Nazis' deepest penetration toward the Meuse river.

American armor in heavy clashes with Nazi tank columns in the vicinity of Celles knocked out numerous enemy tanks, and took more than 450 prisoners in cleaning up Celles alone.

As American fighter bombers swept over German columns for the fourth straight day, harassed panzers on the Marcse-Manhay line—north shoulder of the German salient—dropped their offensive action and began to dig in defensively.

This put them in a most unfavorable role, since armor never has been able to "dig in" successfully against determined infantry attack.

Although ground officers declined to draw any conclusions from air reports of the self-destruction by the Nazis' most advanced elements, one staff officer commented:

"This first phase of the German drive is finished. It has been a failure because of Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's failure to carry out the announced plan. But critical days and much fighting still lie ahead."

After 11 days of ceaseless fighting, Von Rundstedt's forward troops are depleted and so weary they seem unable to press further attacks. Prisoners all tell the same story of being without food for one or two days and complain about "the difficult supply situation."

Although evidence is mounting that the Germans' grand offensive is stalled, the enemy might change the situation by hurling in fresh reserves—if any are available—or worsening weather might rob the Allies of the advantages given them by great air superiority.

BOMBINGS FORCE FOE TO SHIFT SUPPLY LINE

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Aerial photos taken in the last four days show that the northern German rail system has been disrupted by Allied strategic bombings and the southern routes are packed with shunted rolling stock in quantities never before equaled, the United States Strategic Air Force in Europe announced today.

The main rail line from Berlin and central Germany to the western front is the northern route through Hanover, feeding into and through Germany's largest yards at Hamm and at Muenster and Osnabrueck.

The Royal Air Force and the American Eighth Air Force concentrated on these three yards and, as a result of the ripping-up of sidings, main lines and smashing of repair facilities, military traffic necessarily has been diverted to another line running south through Kassel and Frankfort-on-the-Main.

The pictures show the yards at Hamm, Muenster and Osnabrueck practically empty.

"To block traffic along the alternate routes to the south, the yards at Giessen, Hanau, Frankfort and Mainz and elsewhere along the route have been bombed frequently," the announcement said.

One officer of the Eighth Air Force said:

"Pictures taken Christmas showed the Kassel yards to the north jammed nearly to capacity and other yards packed with more rolling stock than photo interpretation had ever seen at these points. This indicates that traffic headed for the battlefront had been sidetracked and other trains had been backed up into sidings at these yards, pending repair or clearance of the line."

FORCE OF NAZIS BLOW SURPRISED HIGH OFFICIALS

By JAMES M. LONG

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Dec. 27—(AP) An outright underestimation of German striking power coupled with either a failure to learn of, or to appreciate, von Rundstedt's mobile

reserve movements behind the lines, appeared more than ever today to be the major factors behind this first serious Allied setback since the successful invasion of Europe.

That would seem to place the responsibility for the Nazi breakthrough high up in the Allied staff and to suggest that any important shakeup in the command—none has materialized as yet—would amount to finding a scapegoat.

However, the forthright Allied battle boss, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, has shown no inclination to hunt for scapegoats, either here, or previously during his command of the Mediterranean theater. In this respect it can be recalled that the Allied commander displayed square-tisted directness in supporting his generals right down the line from Field Marshal Montgomery on back in the days when slow progress around Caen brought some public criticism of his British colleague.

Some Troops Shifted

Obviously, as a result of the Nazi counter-attack, certain Allied troop-shifts have been made. When the enemy broke through his forces were running wild against almost no opposition. Now they are meeting a real opponent. German patrols have been probing our lines from the Maas to the Rhine in an effort to find out how the Allied lines were bolstered. But there is no intention here to hand them such vital information on a platter.

It is clear, however, that the Allied command was caught napping more by the force of von Rundstedt's blow than by the fact one was delivered. All of which makes it seem quite certain that someone somewhere made the grievous military mistake of underestimating the enemy.

Headquarters correspondents were told before the break-through occurred that sometime during the winter the Germans might be expected to try a counter-offensive. And one of the areas where such a Nazi blow was regarded as likely was through the Ardennes Forest region into Luxembourg and Belgium. Despite this, von Rundstedt pulled one army out of the line, moved at least one and possibly two others up from reserve, and flung them into a gaping front zone where the doughboy screen was so thin it obviously never was intended for halting anything in real strength.

(Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher with the U. S. forces in Belgium, reported in a delayed dispatch today that prior to the German break-through newsmen at the front had been told that the Ardennes forest was not a good spot for a winter offensive and that it was being used as a sort of "rest sector" by both the Germans and Americans.

Underestimated Reserves

(American officials, who believed the morale of Nazi troops was extremely low, thought von Rundstedt had practically no strategic reserves left for a major attack and that the German plan was to fight a defensive action before the Ruhr valley, Gallagher reported. He said officials also claimed the Luftwaffe was virtually non-existent and that the enemy's gasoline shortage and lack of war material precluded any large-scale offensive.

(Gallagher pointed out this was not the first time U. S. officers had failed to judge correctly the power of the Wehrmacht. A faulty estimate was made of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's forces in Tunisia in February, 1942, just before the Germans came out of Kaid Pass, he cabled, adding that the enemy potential also was underestimated along the Rapido river and at the Anzio bridgehead in Italy.

(In a dispatch from Washington today Associated Press Writer John M. Hightower said military strategists there are now tentatively adding three to six months to their estimates of a date for a European victory.

(At first, Allied generals thought the European phase would end last Fall, Hightowre reported. Later on they set the date at the year's end, then moved it ahead to spring. Now they talk of next fall or winter.)

Although von Rundstedt's breakthrough achieved tactical surprise it came in a region where Allied troops could best afford to lose ground. There are no major cities in central Belgium, and as long as Allied flanks to the north and south hold firm the enemy thrust can offer no great threat to the Allied source of supplies.

Furthermore, the Luftwaffe's-surprising new challenge may react to Allied advantage. Of an estimated 600 to 700 Nazi planes which took to the air yesterday, 200 were destroyed.

ALLIED KNOWLEDGE GETS ERROR DEBIT

Some Misconceptions Laid to Our Intelligence of German Plans and the Terrain

By WES GALLAGHER
Associated Press Correspondent

WITH UNITED STATES FORCES in Belgium, Dec. 24 (Delayed)—An error in the Allied intelligence service must share a large part of the blame for Field Marshal Karl von Runstedt's break-through on the Western Front.

It is now apparent that the Allied High Command intelligence not only failed to detect the build-up by von Runstedt on the weak spot of the front, but also—not for the first time in this war—underestimated German military strength and ability.

Some Official Opinions

Up to the day of the break-through official opinions as given out to correspondents were that:

(1) The Ardennes Forest was not an advantageous spot in which to launch a winter offensive, and it was being used as a sort of "rest sector" by both the Germans and Americans.

(2) That von Rundstedt had practically no strategic reserve troops to use in a big offensive.

(3) That the morale of the German soldier was extremely low.

(4) That the main German High Command aim was to fight a defensive action before the Ruhr Valley.

(5) That the German air force virtually was non-existent.

(6) That the Germans' shortage of gasoline and war materials precluded any large-scale effort.

Yet von Rundstedt has been able to throw elements of many divisions into this battle while holding the rest of the Western Front and is still known to have a powerful punch left. There may be some shortage of gasoline, but it is not yet apparent, and the Luftwaffe has put forth its greatest effort since 1940.

[A dispatch dated Dec. 26 from another Associated Press correspondent, Hal Boyle, at United States First Army Headquarters, said German tanks were beginning to run out of fuel as a result of Allied air pounding of German forward elements and supply columns. Combat commanders reported finding numerous German vehicles abandoned in Belgium after running out of fuel.]

It is not the first time that Allied military leaders have underestimated German strength. A similar estimate was made of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's condition in February, 1943, just before he came out of Faid Pass, in southern Tunisia. German capabilities also were underestimated in Italy along the Rapido River and at the start of the Anzio beachhead.

The best estimate of German capabilities was made for the original D-day landings in Normandy, when German strength coincided closely with the original Allied appraisal. In the over-all picture, however, many American and British military men believed Germany could not last out this year as a fighting nation.

This overoptimism among officials and this underestimation of Germany were the very things many of these same military leaders had warned against in messages to the people of America and Britain.

Although von Rundstedt's break-through achieved tactical surprise and made rapid progress, it was in territory where the Allies best could afford to lose ground. There are no major cities in central Belgium, and with Antwerp open, no great threat is offered to the Allied source of supplies, so long as the southern and northern flanks hold von Rundstedt's drive canalized into the area directly west and barren of military objectives of major importance.

At the same time, the German army has struck out its neck where Gen. Eisenhower's forces can put a major military ax to it. Should the flanks collapse, however, the military situation would take on a much graver aspect. The German air force's surprising challenge also may react to the Allies' advantage. Out of an estimated 600 to 700 planes put in the air by the Germans yesterday, 200 were shot down.

3 AMERICANS HEAR FOE KILL CAPTIVES

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS ON THE SIEGFRIED LINE, Dec. 26 (Delayed) (AP)—Thirty American Medical Corps men, caught in a street battle for a small town, said today that they had hidden for twelve hours in a church and listened to German Elite Guard and armored troops outside shoot captured American drivers of trucks and jeeps.

T/4 Fred Cannon of Thornton, Tex.; Sgt. James W. Colella of Rochester, Pa., and T/4 James H. Bogley of San Marcus, Tex., told the story.

"We had charge of three four-man litter squads," Sergeant Colella said. "We had withdrawn six miles from another village and hid in this church when the Germans came in and began shooting up the town.

"We could hear the Nazi tank commander stopping our trucks and ordering the drivers and helpers out. Then we would hear shots. The next morning we saw the bodies of our men, lying where they had been killed."

One American firing a Browning automatic rifle, Staff Sgt. Jonathan L. McKinney of Bokoshe, Okla., helped to harass and hold back the enemy infantry and tank men for several hours.

During the firing one German came to the church door in the darkness and called: "Is everything all right?" One of the corpsmen, who spoke German, quickly answered: "Everything is all right." Satisfied, the German left.

Besides worrying about their possible death at the hands of SS troops, the medics also had to sweat out an artillery barrage.

By morning some of the men—as medics they carried no arms—were considering coming out of the church under a white flag, but they were fearful that they might meet the same fate dealt during the night to the helpless truck and jeep drivers. While still debating what to do they saw some doughboys skirmishing in the streets.

"We knew then that part of the town was still in American hands and we found our way out," Colella said.

Nazi Pace In West Slackening, Reds Say

Moscow, Dec. 27—(AP)—The Russian Army newspaper Red Star declared today 'General Eisenhower's successes against the German offensive have compelled the enemy to lower their voices."

'Allied troops are creating conditions for isolating the German group from the main base," the article continued. 'It is surprising there are some foreign press observers who have compared the German breakthrough on a relatively narrow front with the German offensive in the west in 1940.

'Reports indicate a slackening of German operations. The raid by 3,000 Americans planes an enemy communications in Western Germany should be noted."

Uneasy and Ominous Quiet Overhangs Western Front

By KENNETH L. DIXON.

On the Western Front, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—An atmosphere of comparative quiet, uneasy and almost ominous, overhung the western front today. Each side pawed tentatively and ineffectually at the other's defenses.

Discounting the possibility of a calm before the storm as the import of this freakish period, the Allied position seems to be the most cheerful since Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt uncorked his counter-stroke ten days ago. Both sides of the German penetration corridor have been generally solidified by the Allies.

A staff officer said that all enemy progress northward from the deepest point had been "greatly slowed, if not fully stopped," despite repeated powerful German thrusts toward vital Allied supply lines and dumps. Despite the forty-eight-hour time lag in official news, it was apparent yesterday to this reporter, circling the rim of the enemy's penetration into Belgium, that both American and German armored thrusts in recent days have been comparatively costly and unsuccessful.

The doughboy defenders obviously felt that the situation there was much better, despite continued bitter, localized battles, but sporadic outbursts of activity elsewhere served as a reminder that the throbbing bulge in Belgium is only one part of the main Western Front.

Many enemy reconnaissance planes studied front-line positions yesterday and last night. An artillery exchange was the only major action yesterday at the northern hinge of the enemy's penetration.

Shelling near the western tip of the bulge resulted in the destruction of three enemy tanks and scores of German infantrymen. Seven other participating tanks were pinched off and are being moppeed up.

An enemy thrust gained 2,000 yards in a nearby sector, but subsequently was shoved back by an American armored counter-push. At least two of our attempted armored penetrations resulted in losses of some men and much of the equipment involved. Despite the relative failure of such sorties, the generally tense atmosphere seemed to suggest a major blow at any time, anywhere along the western front.

400 AMERICANS ESCAPE FOE'S TRAP IN BELGIUM

EAST OF MARCHE, Belgium, Dec. 28 (Delayed) (AP)—Their faces blacked, their helmets and armored vehicles left behind, the fighting 400 of "Hogan's task force" came out of the woods through ten miles of enemy lines this morning.

Isolated and encircled, miles from any help, they had been given up as lost after six days. But, of slightly more than 400 men who struck across No Man's Land, all but about twenty returned, including their commander, Lieut. Col. Samuel M. Hogan of Pharr, Tex.

They had penetrated enemy lines more than thirty miles and had been trapped by three armored divisions outnumbering them by hundreds to one. They had fought such a mobile, elagey battle that they kept the enemy confused and at bay on all sides until their gasoline ran out.

The 400 dug into a village high point when their own cause seemed hopeless and served so effectively by radio as "forward observers," right in the midst of the enemy, that they called artillery shots that broke up a major enemy counter-attack along the whole sector. They refused to surrender, although they appeared to face almost certain annihilation.

Then they damaged their armored vehicles, rendering them useless to the enemy, and made a bold Christmas night escape afoot, slipping out of a trap just as the Germans snapped the teeth shut with an artillery and mortar barrage and an infantry attack. The Americans hiked over a hilly timbered hogback ten miles to safety.

Leading a swift striking column of approximately sixty vehicles, the colorful Texan jumped off from a little town near here at 2:30 P. M. on December 20. Striking southeast, the column rolled thirty miles during the next two hours. Meanwhile, two German panzer divisions were moving northwest on both sides of them, but nobody knew it then.

Hit Nazi Road Block.

Suddenly at dusk they ran into a German road block and had their first battle against anti-tank guns and small arms fire. They were caught on a narrow strip of road between a river and a mountain precipice and were unable to maneuver or use more than one tank at a time.

That night they took the road block, but the next day the enemy attacked with armor and infantry, the latter shooting down on them from mountain positions.

They finally were forced to pull back about 400 yards.

Subsequently by feeling their way to the north and south they ran head-on into overpowering enemy forces. From their headquarters thirty miles away they received orders to pull back at least a short distance.

New Yorker Goes With Hogan.

Meanwhile, Col. Hogan decided to try to make a run to headquarters for a conference with division officers. He set out in two jeeps with several other officers and men, including Private Philip de Orio of New York city, the Colonel's combination orderly, bodyguard and scout.

They were ambushed and lost the jeeps. Col. Hogan and Private de Orio got away in one direction and finally rejoined the task force. Two other officers got away in another direction, slipping through the German lines to safety two days before the rest of their outfit returned.

Back with the task force Major William S. Walker of Winnfield, La., former executive officer, was now in charge. Carefully conserving vital gasoline, he continued attempting to strike through the enemy's paralleling lines, but each effort drew strong anti-tank, artillery and mortar fire from both the front and flanks.

"Finally we closed up for the night there on the road, with both ends digging in," Major Walker said.

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Battle Fore and Aft.

Beating off attacks through the night they were ready to attack again with the first light of dawn on December 22 when they received another radioed message from headquarters to start fighting their way back to our lines. The strength of the German armored divisions had been partly learned, and little hope was held for their getting back.

Literally firing both to the front and rear, Major Walker directed the task force through a continuous gantlet on the road back only to run into a large enemy infantry force. As the enemy trap was beginning to close, Major Walker spotted a village on a high and fairly barren hilltop and his force pushed through the Germans to reach the town. Col. Hogan had reached the town four hours earlier.

Using the last of their gasoline the men moved their tanks, half-tracks and artillery pieces to seven roads leading out of town and set up roadblocks.

During the next two days and nights, still ten miles from their own lines, they beat off attack after attack, radioed back information on enemy armored movements and had the satisfaction of watching American artillery knock out enemy tanks and other vehicles.

Planes Seek to Aid Them.

On the afternoon of December 23 courageous pilots in unarmed C-47's flew supplies in after the artillery unsuccessfully fired medical supplies for them.

But two of the twenty cargo planes were shot down and the supplies parachuted out of their reach. Another attempt to fly supplies in the next day failed.

On the morning of December 24 three German officers appeared in halftracks bearing a white flag and told Col. Hogan his position was hopeless. They nodded and saluted when the Texan said his force had orders to fight till the end.

"It looked like a pretty bleak Christmas Eve," Capt. Cardon said.

On Christmas Day the force was ordered to try and make a run for it. The men blackened their faces, removed their helmets to confuse enemy patrols and at 4:30 P. M. started damaging their armored vehicles. They left a medical captain and three medical aid men who insisted on remaining to attend a dozen wounded.

For the next thirteen hours Col. Hogan's men hiked over terrain so rugged the Germans hadn't bothered to man it heavily. At 7 A. M. the next day they began to show up opposite the American lines. A few of them were arrested and held briefly as prisoners of war by suspicious doughboys and one was slain accidentally by a sentry. The last man to return was Col. Hogan.

"My feet got to hurting me," grinned the Texan when he showed up at mid-day, "so I just sat down and rested awhile."

BOMB BLAST FATAL TO CORRESPONDENT

GOVT

In Belgium, Dec. 23 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Jack Frankish, 30-year-old United Press war correspondent, and three Belgian soldiers were killed by enemy air action today. All were victims of a bomb from one of four dive-bombers which raided a hotel in which some American newspaper men were quartered temporarily.

[The raid was described yesterday in a dispatch by W. C. Heinz, New York Sun correspondent.]

After a single bomb dropped, Mr. Frankish ran out of the hotel entrance to get the story of the raid. As he stepped out on the gravel path, he saw a second bomb falling from one of the planes, which was making a return sweep. Mr. Frankish turned and tried to get back into the hotel, but the bomb landed on the pathway within 18 feet of him. A fragment struck him in the back, killing him instantly.

Three Belgian soldiers near by also were killed and a fourth was injured critically. As other correspondents dived for shelter, two more Nazi planes swept down and dropped two more bombs. Bullets from their strafing guns set two trucks afire. Several correspondents received superficial wounds. These included George Hicks, of the Blue network; Harold Denny of the New York Times, and Neil Sullivan, a Pathe News camera man. The newspaper men were slightly cut on the hands or face.

The United Press man had been covering front-line troops for several months.

Mr. Frankish was one of the first American correspondents to enter Germany, crossing the border with the troops on September 13, in the Aachen Forest, the United Press said. His wife, Mrs. Barbara Frankish, and her two children, Gail and Brian, are living in El Centro, Cal. The correspondent formerly served with the United Press in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Columbus, Miami and New York.

NAZIS SENT TO KILL HIGH U. S. OFFICERS

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The American Army newspaper Stars and Stripes declared today that a well organized "task force of German parachutists clad in American uniforms had been dropped behind the Allied lines on the Western front in an attempt to kill high ranking officers.

The parachutists were equipped with small vials of sulphuric acid, fitted inside match boxes and designed to be thrown in the face of any person stopping them for questioning, the paper said.

It asserted that the parachutists were equal in number to about two battalions, and had been specially trained for sabotage work in connection with the present German offensive. The Germans were said to have taken the uniforms from captured American troops who later were shot.

BELGIAN PREMIER HAS REASSURANCES

DEC 28 1944

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Premier Hubert Pierlot told the Belgian Parliament today that "I have it on the highest Allied authority that the situation at the front is well in hand," the Brussels radio reported. "The enemy's advance is being held and Allied counter-attacks are proceeding successfully from both the south and west," the Premier said. "I have all authority to tell you there is no reason for anxiety."

Nazis Boast of Atomic Bomb

Report Using It at St. Vith Despite Allied "Monopoly" Claim

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP).—A German radio station which has been trying to panic the Belgians ever since the opening of the Nazi offensive said today that Field Marshal von Rundstedt's forces are using an atomic bomb in the new attack.

DAY

"This is the type of bomb on which the Allies had claimed to have a monopoly," the announcer said. "The Germans used it at St. Vith. Wherever such a missile is dropped, all animals and plants cease to exist. Huge areas of land are scorched, woods are consumed and any human being caught in the hurricane is shattered to smithereens."

CLERKS, MECHANICS FIGHT NAZI TROOPS

WITH AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 27—(AP) "Those guys were never trained for that sort of thing, but they fought like hell," Capt. William Rodman, a young tank officer from 5[illegible] Manor road, Wynnewood, Pa., said today.

He was telling about a handful of clerks and military police and mechanics who fought off a whole battalion of Germans for four days at a tiny but valuable village northeast of Marche.

They were relieved two days ago after they had killed more than 40 Germans without the loss of a single one of their own little band.

This little unit of 90 men, holding their little group without even an order to hold it, also knocked out nine of ten tanks they saw and destroyed three armored cars and one American jeep which the Germans were using.

The reason this town, important because of its roads, was held so lightly was that it was supposed to be in the rear area.

"We didn't know the Germans were within 50 miles," said Rodman, "until a mortar shell landed in our midst and mortar fire kept coming for a solid hour.

"We had rifles and machine-guns and bazookas. The battle lasted from 8:30 a.m. Dec. 21 until late Christmas eve. On the morning of Dec. 24, five Sherman tanks and two platoons of paratroops broke through to us, but we had fired a-plenty before they arrived."

The armored divisions are divided into parts called "combat command A, combat command B" and so forth, or "CCA, CCB." This little group now has been christened "CCM" for "cooks, clerks and mechanics."

No Coward's Death Mars U. S. in France

By The Associated Press.

PARIS, Dec. 27—Since D-day June 6 not a single American soldier in France has been executed for cowardice, desertion in the face of the enemy or any other military offense for which death is mandatory, it was disclosed today.

NIGHT

This is a record believed to be unparalleled in modern war and for a theatre where hundreds of thousands of troops are under arms.

The records show only sixteen instances of capital punishment in which final action has been taken. Four were for murder and twelve for rape.

Lay Mile of Phone Wire in One Minut

WITH AMERICAN FORCES ON THE WESTERN FRONT, Dec. 27 (AP)—Sergeant John H. Harris of Cedartown, Ga., and his helper, Private First Class Kelly Jennings of Providence, Ky., don't know what the speed record is for laying telephone wire, but they claim it.

Recently in unreeling wire from their truck across a stretch of road under mortar fire they rolled off one mile in one minute.

"NUTS" IS REPLY TO SURRENDER DEMAND

WITH AMERICAN FORCES, Dec. 27 (AP)—A German commander who should have known better sent an ultimatum to surrender to the Americans beseiged in the Bastogne pocket.

The reply he got back was quick, short and eloquent.

NIGHT

"Nuts," answered an American officer commanding one of the surrounded units.

The German commander's ultimatum was dated Dec. 22, and gave the Americans two hours in which to reply. He got it in 30 minutes.

DRIVE OFF ATTACK BY JAP FLEET

DEC 28 1944

Battle Force Routed, 3 Destroyers Sunk Off Mindoro

BY C. YATES McDANIEL

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Thursday, Dec. 28 (AP)—The battle for the central Philippines flared into action the night of Dec. 26 when a Japanese battle task force steamed in from the China Sea and subjected the 11-day-old American positions on Mindoro Island to what General Douglas MacArthur's communique described as "fruitless and inaccurate shelling."

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DRIVEN OFF

American planes, Mitchells and Thunderbolts, and navy P-T boats drove off the enemy ships.

The communique said three of the six enemy destroyers in the shelling force were sunk and a battleship and cruiser fled with the remaining three destroyers after being damaged.

This belated enemy reaction to the virtually unopposed American occupation of Mindoro Dec. 15 was discovered at dusk Dec. 26.

The American bombers and fighters took off from newly-constructed air strips on Mindoro to launch their vicious attack on the enemy warships, steaming in from the direction of the setting sun.

Coast Shelled

Despite the air attacks, the Japanese force held to its course and early night brought the ships off southwest Mindoro. They then shelled the coast.

Until shortly before midnight, the crash of exploding American bombs and the rattle of small guns from the torpedo boats and low level strafers mingled with salvos from the Japanese warships.

The planes and PT boats pursued the enemy in moonlight and saw at least two of the Japanese destroyers burning from direct hits.

Pilots took up the chase yesterday morning, delivering final assaults. No details of this followup attacks were available.

The remaining Japanese ships were racing at 25 knots westward into the China Sea.

Ground Positions Hit

Unofficial reports from Mindoro indicated Japanese planes attacked American ground positions at the height of the fight off the coast. Air raids followed a light attack the night of Dec. 25-26, which the communique said caused only minor damage.

The Japanese offered only ineffectual air opposition and no ground resistance to the landing on Mindoro Dec. 15 by American troops under Brigadier-General William C. Dunckel.

Small and scattered Japanese units have kept well outside the American perimeter and have made no attempt to interfere with construction of an airfield by Australian and American engineers.

The airfield at San Jose is 155 miles from Manila. Mindoro is only eight and one-half miles at its closest point from the enemy communication centre of Batangas in southwestern Luzon.

Clark Field Again Raided

While the planes and torpedo boats were fighting off the warships, American Liberators again blasted Luzon's key Clark Field for the fifth consecutive day. Thirteen of 20 Japanese interceptor planes were shot down.

An additional 827 Japanese were killed in the mopping up of shattered enemy

units on the west side of Leyte Island, where small pockets are still resisting.

The communique said the pockets of resistance in Leyte were in the mountains northeast of Palompon. American capture of Palompon on Christmas Day closed the last escape port of the remaining Japanese.

Enemy planes attacked the Tacloban area of Leyte and caused minor damage.

One American plane was lost in the latest raid on Clark Field.

The total of enemy planes shot down or damaged in the last three days over Clark Field was brought to 124, the communique said, by an additional 39 destroyed or damaged Dec. 25 and not previously reported.

American patrol planes harassed airdromes on the northwest coast of Luzon, sank a 1000-ton freighter and shot down two enemy float planes.

RUSSIANS SPLIT NAZI DEFENDERS

DEC 28 1944

House to House Fighting Now Raging on Western Edge of Budapest.

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 28—(AP)Russian troops, in a bold crossing of the eastern branch of the Danube north of Budapest, split the German-Hungarian forces defending the city and are fighting house-to-house on its western edges, Moscow announced last night.

The crossing of the river, which resulted in the Soviet capture of Szentendrei island, was accompanied by the killing of more than 3,000 Germans and Hungarians and destruction and capture of many tanks and self-propelled guns, the Russians reported.

German losses in Budapest and its suburbs also were heavy as Soviet soldiers carried house after house and quarter after quarter by storm," they added.

Part of the divided enemy garrison has been driven into the mountainous and wooded area in the Danube bend north of Budapest, while the remainder is tightly clenched inside the capital.

The Russian forces on Szentendrei island established contact with their comrades who had moved up to the river's west bank.

Other Red army troops stormed into Budapest from the south, west and east, the communique reporting numerous new penetrations of the city limits, including capture of the Kelenfold district in the southwest.

In a strong, fresh thrust northwest of Budapest toward the Austrian border, Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Soviet forces forged up the Budapest-Vienna railroad and captured Felsogalia, 24 miles west of the Hungarian capital, and took Sutlo and Nyergesufalu, both on the Danube where it turns westward.

Thus, the armies of Tolbukhin and Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky both had reached points approximately 96 miles from Vienna and 65 from Bratislava, Tolbukhin from the south and Malinovsky from the east. Malinovsky's troops today continued their preparations to storm the Hron (Garam) river line guarding Austria, as the communique reported a drive to clear the Germans from the area between the Hron and the Ipoly rivers in Czechoslovakia north of the Danube.

The communique, however, was more detailed in listing successes in the storming of Budapest. It said Soviet assault units captured four fortified suburbs on the east bank of the river and two on the west bank, in addition to entering Kelenfold.

After the capture of Szentendrei island, which begins just above the city limits and extends 13 miles northward, the communique related, Malinovsky's forces got in communication with Tolbukhin's which had just broken into Szentendre, seven miles north of Budapest on the west bank of the Danube.

"Thus, in the course of defensive battles our troops have split the encircled enemy grouping in half," it said, "one half of which has been driven into the mountainous and forested terrain in the Danube bend north of Budapest, while the other half has been caught in a vise in the city of Budapest."

The translation of the broadcast communique by the Soviet monitor here used the word "half," while other translations used "part" instead and it was uncertain whether the separated enemy forces were of equal strength. Their total number, originally estimated at 100,000, is unknown but is said by Moscow to be "large."

Will Speed Victory

Nevertheless, the splitting of the defenders will speed the Russian program of annihilation.

The Germans and Hungarians caught north and northeast of the city are hemmed in by the broad Danube to the east and north on one side and by elements of Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army on the other. The latter forces are deployed along a line circling from Szentendre to the south bank of the Danube west of the river's bend.

The communique also reported capture of eight places east of Ipoly Sag (Sahy) in southern Czechoslovakia, indicating that Malinovsky was driving on the border rail hub of Losonc from the west as well as the east.

The Tolbukhin drive north and west of Budapest brought the capture of 14 towns and communities, it added.

With Budapest completely surrounded and its garrison split, the once beautiful city on the Danube, shaken by bombs and shellfire from the Russians and the dynamite of German demolition squads, seemed destined to fall into Soviet hands soon.

A correspondent of the German Transocean News Agency reported today that Soviet tanks were in Ujpest, a suburb on the east bank of the Danube a mile north of Pest. Ujpest was the anchor of the Nazi defense line east of the city.

RUSSIANS DIVIDE NAZIS AND MAGYARS AROUND BUDAPEST

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—German and Hungarian forces encircled in and around Budapest were split in two today by Russian troops which hurdled the eastern branch of the Danube nine miles north of Budapest, captured Szentendrei Island, and got in touch with other Russian forces on the west bank.

Announcing this smashing success, a communique broadcast from Moscow said that half the enemy garrison thus had been driven into the mountainous and forested terrain in the Danube bend northof Budapest, while the other was caught in a constricting vise in the city itself.

Six Red Columns Advance.

Moscow, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Red Army shock troops charged at Budapest from snowy hills above the Danube River today. The German garrison burned military stores, dynamited public utilities and fought back grimly with field artillery scattered throughout the Hungarian capital.

Half a dozen Soviet spearheads were reported closing in on the western half of the encircled city and all German roads of escape were cut off. Just how many Nazi troops comprise the defending garrison is not known here, but the Russian command said their numbers were large.

Soviet assault units of tanks, plus tommy-gunners, were believed to have slashed some distance into the Buda district on the west bank of the Danube.

Nazi Debacle Described.

A delayed dispatch from Szekesfehervar, about thirty-two miles southwest of Budapest, disclosed that the Nazis had fought for the city street by street. A pillbox was manned outside St. Stephen's Cathedral until it was silenced by a direct hit.

Thousands of German dead were reported to have lined the roads on the battlefields between Szekesfehervar and Budapest following the Russian advance. Burned out armored vehicles, many of them the latest King Tiger and Panther tanks, dotted the fields and endless columns of Nazi prisoners marched miserably to the cages, the dispatch said.

From the hilltops of the Buda district on the west bank of the Danube Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's heavy artillery dominated the entire city—including Pest's massive business and factory buildings on the plain east of the river.

Aim at Two Big Rivers.

Armored columns, already deep inside the city's western outskirts, were blasting their way house by house toward two big bridges that span the Danube and link the two sections of the city.

Field dispatches said other Russian successes achieved simultaneously with yesterday's full encirclement of the Hungarian capital had brought the German command in the east to a moment of supreme crisis.

Marshal Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine Army and Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army, it was pointed out, are tactically linked up northwest of Budapest for a joint drive up both sides of the Danube to Bratislava, Slovakian capital, and Vienna.

Advancing along the Hron (Garam), a northern tributary of the Danube, Marshal Malinovsky's troops captured at least thirteen towns in southern Czecho-Slovakia and advanced within sixty-three miles of Bratislava and within ninety-six of Vienna.

Marshal Tolbukhin's gains west of Budapest tightened the Russian battle zone in the Danubian basin into the equivalent of a single front, stretching some 250 miles from the approaches to the eastern Slovakian fortress town of Kassa to the southwestern Hungarian gap below Lake Balaton.

Both Marshal Tolbukhin and Marshal Malinovsky are reported throwing reserves into the central sector of this line, where a new breakthrough might be fatal to German hopes of keeping the war from the soil of Austria. Marshal Tolbukhin's troops, in cutting off the Hungarian capital, captured Csakvar, twenty-five miles west of the city, and reached and seized the Danube city of Esztergom, twenty miles northwest. At Esztergom, the Reds stood virtually opposite the Hron's mouth. A crossing of the Danube slightly to the west would outflank the enemy's Hron River line.

Elements of Marshal Malinovsky's army captured sixteen Hungarian communities near the Czecho - Slovak border above Gyongyos. This advance drove all except a few of the enemy from Hungarian soil east and northeast of the Danube.

The shelf-like banks of the river narrow considerably the further up the river the Reds go, until just south of Bratislav the banks are almost non-existent.

Added to these troubles, which will slow the advance by making the transportation of supplies difficult, the Russians face the necessity of cleaning out the Nazis all along the route they take.

Supply Problem Difficult.

Along the northern border of Hungary runs a range of high and treacherous mountains, from which the German troops, if they are determined to fight, will be flushed only with the greatest of trouble. And without removing those threats to the Russian supply lines, the Reds would be unable to make any advances to speak of.

Another problem which grows more severe as the Russians make progress into the Austrian territory is that of bringing in supplies. The route which must be taken from the industrial sections of the country mean that a great number of transportation facilities must be used. The distances are long and the Russians must also take into account the fact that another push is being made in the northern part of the German line.

ALLIED BOMBS HIT NAZI RAIL CENTERS

At Least 2,500 Warplanes Roar Over Western Germany in Clear Weather.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—(AP) At least 2,500 Allied warplanes roaring over western Germany from bases in Britain and on the continent today showered explosives on eleven big freight yards clogged with traffic bound for Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's offensive in Belgium.

Flying through clear skies, more than 600 Liberators and Fortresses of the American Eighth Airforce, screened by 400 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, pounded Gerolstein, Euskirchen, Andernach and Homburg in the Bonn-Coblenz area, Kaiserlautern west of Mannheim and Fulda, 60 miles south of Kassel.

Five bombers and four fighters of the Eighth Air Force were missing, but two of the fighters were believed to have landed safely in friendly territory.

A communique said the bombers encountered no aerial opposition and only meager to moderate flak over the targets.

One group of probably 45 Mustangs tangled with formations of 300 Messerschmitts and Fockwulfs prowling over the Bonn area and shot down 29. Two other groups did ground strafing, destroying locomotives, freight cars and trucks near Trier and east of Bonn.

Clear weather over most of Belgium gave a free hand to fighter bombers of the Ninth Air Force based on the continent and they lashed at three smaller railyards east of Merzig and another east of Prum. Three hundred sorties were made before noon and three planes were lost to flak. Ninth Air Force fighters destroyed five enemy planes, increasing the toll of the German air force, which is known to have lost more than 500 planes in six days.

In attacks directly supporting the ground troops, an ammunition dump in the Bastogne area was knocked out and 62 buildings near Liege were destroyed or damaged by dive bombing.

62 Buildings Wrecked

In attacks directly supporting the ground troops, an ammunition dump in the Bastogne area was knocked out and 62 buildings, near Liege, were destroyed by dive bombing.

Following up this American blow at secondary supply centres behind the Nazi drive, an estimated 500 RAF Lancasters and a screening force of Spitfires from continental bases attacked railyards at the Ruhr city of Rheydt, 15 miles west of Dusseldorf.

Heavy bombers of the U. S. 15th Air Force in Italy struck at undisclosed strategic targets in the Vienna area and rail points handling supplies from Germany and Austria to the Italian front.

1000 U. S. PLANES BOMB RAIL LINES IN WESTERN REICH

Weather Is Favorable for Flyers—Main Route to Berlin Blocked.

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—One thousand American Eighth Air Force planes from British bases raided secondary rail traffic centers in western Germany today, after photo reconnaissance officers reported the principal rail artery from Berlin to the west had been knocked out.

Six hundred heavy bombers, escorted by 400 Thunderbolts and Mustangs, lashed at six railroad yards and one important junction. Favorable weather permitted Allied planes based on the continent to join the attack on Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's counter-offensive. The Thunderbolts and Mustangs bagged at least twenty-five Nazi fighters in a furious battle with enemy planes southwest of Bonn.

Targets included the traffic-glutted yards at Euskirchen and Andernach, northwest of Coblenz; Homburg, southwest of Kassel, and Fulda, sixty miles south of Kassel, as well as a rail junction forty miles west of Coblenz.

A staff officer at headquarters of the American Strategic Air Forces in Europe said all the targets were on the alternate route which the Germans began using during the past week.

"The main rail route from Berlin to the western front was by

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way of Hannover to Hamm, Munster and Osnabruck," he said. "The American air force and the R. A. F. concentrated the attack on this network and photo reconnaissance on Christmas Day showed all three of the yards empty."

Pictures taken on Christmas Day showed yards along the southern route through Kassel crammed with a backlog of traffic, much of it apparently for the repair of bomb damage, the officer said.

Meanwhile the German radio reported formations of heavy bombers heading north over Austria, indicating that flying Fortresses and Liberators of the United States Fifteenth Air Force were striking from Italy at Nazi war industries far behind the battle lines.

Coblenz Hit

The Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the U. S. Eighth Air Force attacked rail yards at Coblenz and rail bridges north of the city.

R. A. F. heavy bombers bombed German troops and tank concentrations north of St. Vith.

Much of the front line assault yesterday was borne by the U. S. Ninth Air Force and the British Second Tactical Air Force, both based on the continent.

American fighters and bombers flew 1,400 sorties and the R. A. F. 700. They destroyed more than 1,000 German motor vehicles, including 146 armored cars and tanks, and 71 Nazi planes. Allied losses were set at 30 fighters and one bomber.

Approximately 500 heavy bombers of the 15th Air Force attacked three German synthetic oil refineries yesterday.

Since Saturday, when clearing weather permitted Allied fighters and bombers to lend their powerful aid to ground troops, 475 Nazi planes have been destroyed.

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SAYS AIR WAS FULL OF GERMAN PLANES

LONDON, Dec. 27 — (AP) Capt. Ernest E. Bankey of Toledo, Ohio, was credited with five and one-half of his Mustang group's bag of 29 German planes today.

"I never have seen so damn many jerries at one time," said Bankey. "After getting there I got lost and found myself sandwiched between 50 enemy planes. Just as I was getting really worried, 12 friends bounced in and I got back into the fight, getting two more Germans and sharing another.

The same group of Americans—the 364th fighter group—downed 20 of 85 German planes encountered near Trier Saturday.

Lt. Col. John H. Lowell and 2675 Dexter street, Denver, Colo., who led the formation today and got one and one-half enemy planes, described the battle as the most furious he had ever seen.

"We were outnumbered at all times," he said. "Before it was over we had encountered about 300 enemy fighters. I saw some of our pilots break in single-handed on as mnay as 15 Huns."

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V BOMB KILLS CHILDREN

LONDON, Dec. 27—(AP) Seven children in one family, four girls and three boys ranging in age from one to 17 years, were killed recently when a German V-bomb landed just outside their house.

Their mother, Mrs. James Walter Jervis, who has four other sons with the British Army in France escaped death. She had gone to visit a neighbor a few hundred yards away.

NAZIS SAY ROBOTS HIT MANCHESTER

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Berlin said today that Manchester had been struck by V-1 bombs, indicating either that German pick-a-back planes were making daring sweeps toward northern England, or that an improved type of V-1 had a longer range.

(Censorship has not permitted British correspondents to comment.)

Describing the V-1 bombing of the textile city as an "important factor" in the military situation, a broadcast declared: "The Allies see now there is no defense against V-1 or V-2."

Untouched by enemy air activity for two years, some areas of northern England were attacked by V-bombs in the pre-dawn hours of Christmas. The weapons killed men, women and children and flattened homes.

Christmas trees, tinsel and decorations are visible in the debris along ruined streets and families who awaited service men coming home on leave spent Christmas huddled in blankets on emergency beds in the rest centers.

Norse Premier Urges Allies Invade His Nation

London, Dec. 27 (AP)—Johan Nygaardsvold, Prime Minister of Norway, disclosed last night that his Government had urged the Allies to launch an immediate invasion of Norway from the west.

In a broadcast to his homeland Nygaardsvold called upon every Norwegian to hamper the Germans in any way possible, by sinking Nazi transports or sabotaging communications. He warned that every German soldier who escapes to the south will help lengthen the war.

"In time to come when the fighting will become still more intense, and may affect the whole of our people directly, we must be prepared to accept all sacrifices which the situation will demand," he said.

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GERMAN GENERAL DIES

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Gen. Theodore Geib, commander of a German Army group, has died of wounds received on the western front, the Berlin radio said today. The broadcast, which described Gen. Geib as an artillery officer, said that he received fatal head wounds soon after receiving his command.

Norwegians Fight Off Own Coast

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—A Norwegian-manned light naval patrol force sank two German vessels, including a destroyer or minesweeper, and damaged a third off Norway recently, a Norwegian naval communiqué announced tonight. The same force bombarded enemy coastal installations in Norway.

Nazis Warned on Aliens

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower warned the Nazis today not to harm foreign workers in Germany, declaring "grave penalties will fall on those who are guilty of treating them badly." The Luxembourg radio said the Allied commander's warning was carried in leaflets printed in many languages and dropped over Germany.

LLOY GEORG... TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP) — Lloyd George, stormy figure in British politics for more than half a century and prime minister during the World war, announced today he would not seek re-election to Parliament.

The white-haired Welshman who first won a seat in the House of Commons in 1890 and never lost an election, disclosed he was retiring on the advice of his physician. He will hold his seat until the next general election, however. He will be 82 Jan. 17.

LLOYD GEORGE TO QUIT

London, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—David Lloyd George, who led Britain to victory in the last war, announced today he would retire from Parliament when his term expires, on advice of his physician. The 81-year-old statesman is known as the "father" of the House of Commons, where he has sat for fifty-four years.

Despite his years, Mr. Lloyd George has remained one of the leading Liberal members of Commons—although he has spoken only a few times in Parliament during this war.

As a young lawyer, son of a school headmaster, the noted Welshman first won a seat in Commons by eighteen votes in Carnarvon boroughs in 1890. Since then he never lost an election.

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Nazis Use V-Bombs to Transport "V-Mail"

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—The Germans are using their V-bombs as carriers for "V-mail" letters from British prisoners of war, it was disclosed today.

After one recent attack on northern England by the vengeance bombs, a packet was found marked "V-weapon prisoner of war mail."

It contained three letters in photostat, and the notation:

"Finder is requested to cut out or copy the letters printed here and transmit them to the addresees so that they will receive them as early as possible. The original letters are being sent through the Red Cross in the usual mail channel."

With today's disclosure that letters now are being sent in this grisly fashion, inevitably there arose the story that one woman whose northern England home was wrecked by a V-weapon returned to the ruins to find a Christmas card from her prisoner son.

ENGLISH CHRISTMAS COLDEST SINCE 1872

LONDON, Dec. 27—(AP) Now it can be told that Christmas, 1944, was England's coldest Christmas since 1872, the date that systematic temperature readings were begun.

London was the coldest spot, with the reading 16 degrees Fahrenheit, but there were record sales of ice cream, newly returned to the market after a wartime economy ban.

In one restaurant waitresses wearing overcoats sold out the ice cream stock in two hours.

Eight Collaborators Shot

PARIS, Dec. 27 (AP).—A military firing squad today executed Henri Chamberlin, alias La Fonte; Pierre Bony and six other members of Vichy's French Gestapo who were convicted of collusion with the Germans against French patriots during the occupation of France.

The eight condemned men were shot at Fort Montrose, on the southern outskirts of Paris.

Demands Seizure Of Paris Subway

Paris, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The Paris Liberation Committee has demanded that the Government confiscate the sprawling Metro subway system because it charged the management had collaborated with the Germans during the occupation.

PARIS IS BOMBED; 3 DIE, 13 INJURED

Paris, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Three persons were killed and thirteen others injured last night by bombs which fell on the Paris area near world famous landmarks. It was the French capital's first air raid since August 27, immediately after the city's liberation.

The casualties were the occupants of a house in (thirteen words censored). Some damage was caused to buildings (eleven words censored) where two bombs fell.

The bombers were not officially identified, but the fact that only a few appeared over the city virtually precluded any possibility that the bombs might have been dropped by accident from Allied aircraft.

A service men's club was wrecked by a direct hit which caused some casualties. French air raid defense authorities said a hospital was hit. Night fighters took to the air immediately in pursuit of the bombers.

32,000 FRENCHMEN ARE HELD IN CAMPS

PARIS, Dec. 27.—(AP) Frenchmen being held in internment camps or jails on suspicion of pro-Nazi activities now total 32,000, Minister of Interior Tixier told the consultative assembly today.

Of the total held Tixier admitted that 5,000 cases have not yet been investigated. They are being held on general charges without any examination yet as to their guilt, he said.

The minister added that it was necessary to restrict the orders of internment and said the regional commissioners had been so instructed in an effort to avoid arbitrary arrests.

The minister said that some fifth columnists recently had parachuted into the Paris region, but that none had done any damage. In more than 2,000 cases of suspected espionage the police have arrested 1,300 German and French spies, he said.

Meanwhile, the judicial police reported a Christmas night riot in a prison on the outskirts of Paris where suspected Vichyites and brigands were being held and an attempted escape by the prisoners. They set fire to the offices of two magistrates, the report said.

NAZIS IN ITALY IN COUNTERATTACK

ROME, Dec. 27.—(AP) The enemy has counterattacked in the Sevio Valley sector of the Fifth Army front at the western end of the Italian battleline and has forced Allied outposts to withdraw to prepared positions, the Allied command announced today.

The enemy attack was made "in some strength," the daily headquarters communique said. It was launched both east and west of the road town of Gallicano, some 14 miles inland from the Tyrrhenian coast and along the Serchio river itself.

The assault opened under cover of artillery fire and, although few details were made public, it was known the withdrawals were made in bitter fighting, the first in this sector for some time.

(The German communique said that German and Fascist Italian troops "in a surprise attack" in the Gallicano sector "broke through American positions and drove back several kilometers southward a formation of the 92nd American Infantry division." The bulletin added that "numerous prisoners, mostly Negroes, were taken." The 92nd Division is a Negro unit.

(The Brazilian Expeditionary Force is known to have been among the Allied troops employed in the Gallicano sector.

FIFTH PUSHED BACK ON ITALIAN FRONT

Rome, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—A strong German counter-attack near Italy's west coast has forced Fifth Army forces to withdraw from advance positions in the Serchio River valley, Allied Headquarters announced today.

The enemy thrusts came east and west of the road town of Gallicano, some fourteen miles inland from the Tyrhennian coast, after artillery preparation.

[The German communique said that Nazi and Italian Fascist troops, in a surprise attack in the Gallicano area, "broke through American positions and threw back a formation of the Ninety-second American Infantry Division." The Brazilian Expeditionary Force has been in operation along that sector of the Fifth Army front.]

It was announced here that the withdrawals were made only after bitter fighting.

The Eighth Army front on the opposite coast was generally quiet, although the Canadians still were fanning out northeast of newly-captured Rossetta, clearing fortified buildings. Other Eighth Army troops were advancing in the same manner in the area of Bagnacavallo and Faenza.

The German Air Force struck again yesterday in the American sector in the center. Anti-personnel bombs were dropped north of San Benedetto, immediately south of Bologna, and around Grizzana, on the southwest.

YANKEES IN ITALY PROUD AND BITTER

Rep. Clare Luce Tells Folks Back Home the Reason

DEC 28 1944

BY RUTH COWAN

ROME, Dec. 27 (AP) — The American infantryman on the Fifth Army front is "both the proudest and bitterest man in the army," Representative Clare Boothe Luce said tonight in a broadcast to the United States following her return from a Christmas visit to the Italian war zone.

NOT "SUNNY ITALY"

He is bitter, the Connecticut Congresswoman said, "that any American, particularly any American at home who belongs to him, should think that he is or has been on an inactive front and in a countryside that only an idiot could call sunny Italy."

He is proud, she added, because "he knows the infantry has borne the hardest brunt of the battle in these endless mountains, because he knows of platoons—hundreds of them—that ever since the days of Anzio and Salerno have gone again and again into battle 120 strong and perhaps come out 10—got replacements and repeated that bloody arithmetic as far as Bologna."

But despite this, the Congresswoman said, she found the doughboy in Italy has "faith in himself, faith in his commander in the field, faith in his Commander-in-Chief at home and above all faith in his God."

Home Letters No Help

She criticised those who have contributed to the bitterness of the Fifth Army troops with "overly complacent letters which tell him how it is all going to be over at any minute."

She quoted Lieutenant-General Lucian K. Truscott, commander of the Fifth Army, as saying "some of the boys even get letters from their families saying how glad their families are that they are not in France, where all the shooting is, but here in sunny Italy."

To the family of the Fifth Army doughboy Mrs. Luce broadcast a plea to "tell him this which he wants to believe and which I, please God, believe to be the truth—and thanks to him and the like of him in France and the great war leaders we have had, can be the truth—that this is the last Christmas of war in Europe."

"One has not been able to say Merry Christmas to a GI in this theatre, but God willing a happier New Year is certain for the Fifth Army and all those at home who have loved ones in it."

Attempting to analyze what she believed the doughboys at the front were thinking about on Christmas, Mrs. Luce said: "Of course, he was thinking about home."

"He is the most homesick soldier in the world because he has been away from the happiest country in the world," she added. "He aches almost with physical pain to see those he loves and yet he does not whine, though he gripes plenty—which is a different thing."

American Attempt to Establish Air Liaison Between Italy, Red Army in Balkans Fails

ROME, Dec. 27 (AP)—The American air command in Italy, seeking a close liaison with Russian military forces that would enable hundreds of Fifteenth Air Force heavy bombers to be employed with maximum effectiveness against the common enemy, has apparently achieved no tangible results thus far in its overtures.

Close cooperation was attained last summer when Fifteenth Air Force bombers and fighters, as well as Eighth Air Force planes, shuttled to bases in Russia, bombing and strafing German targets en route.

The desirability of shuttle operations ceased, however, when Rumania was knocked out of the war and the Russian armies moved into Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Yugoslavia. Authoritative sources here asserted that shuttle-bombing had been discontinued merely because it had ceased to be profitable when bases built for American bombers were left great distances behind the Russian fighting front and the targets between them and Italy ceased to exist.

The problem troubling Lieut. Gen. Ira C. Eaker and his staff, however, is fighter bases. It would obviously be ideal if the Americans could base fighters in the newly won area near Budapest where bombers could pick up escorts while en route to Germany. The tactical air forces are now compelled to use all the available airfields near the northern Italian battlefront.

The elimination of the enemy from France and the Balkans and substantially from Hungary has left the Fifteenth Air Force with only a limited sphere of operations. It could be a tremendous support weapon for the Russian drive across Hungary if adequate liaison with the Russian command were achieved.

Tragic consequences when close liaison is lacking were disclosed in a recent announcement that a group of American Lightnings lost its bearings and attacked a Russian column in Yugoslavia last month. That was one of the last times when the Americans tried any target in that neighborhood.

NARROW ESCAPES THEIR SPECIALTY

Rome, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—A thirteen-man crew returned from the raid on an oil plant in Oswiecim, Poland, yesterday, with seventy-five flak holes in their Liberator bomber and part of its tail shot away, but it was nothing new to them.

They have sent six bombers to the service squadron for major repairs after returning to the home base, and made three crash landings, twice without brakes. Throughout it all not one of them was injured.

Lieut. Frank Vernon Jr., of Dallas, Tex., the pilot, caught a handful of spent flak fragments after a burst broke the cockpit plexiglass almost in his face, but he was unscratched

WOULD THROW IN SIX ITALIAN DIVISIONS

ROME, Dec. 27 (AP)—Premier Ivanoe Bonomi, declaring the German western front offensive clearly shows increased effort is necessary for "common victory," proposed today that more than six Italian divisions be thrown against the Germans in Italy, and that they fight on one sector as a national unit.

GREEK FACTIONS APPROVE REGENCY AT PEACE TALKS

Churchill Reveals He, Roosevelt and Stalin to Meet Soon.

DRAMATIC MEETINGS.

Next Step Up to King George, Prime Minister Defends Course.

By STEPHEN BARBER

ATHENS, Thursday, Dec. 28—(AP) Prime Minister Churchill, who came here to help solve the armed strife which has rent this country, was fired upon by an ELAS sniper yesterday morning as he stood outside the British embassy.

The bullet whistled by him and struck a young woman 300 yards away.

Churchill, dressed in the uniform of an R.A.F. commodore, was about to enter the embassy when the sniper fired. He was with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Ambassador Reginald W. A. Leeper. None was injured although the bullet narrowly missed the group.

At a later press conference in the embassy the sound of sniper fire outside continued and the thud of British artillery shelling the ELAS forces rattled doors and windows.

Agree on Regency

It was learned that the opposing Greek factions had agreed unanimously upon a regency as the principal step toward ending the civil warfare and that during the all-party conference Greek premier George Papandreou had offered his resignation. Whether it was accepted was not disclosed.

Churchill told reporters that he, Premier Stalin and President Roosevelt would take up the Greek question at a meeting to be held in the near future and suggested that some form of an international trust might be installed in Greece after Attica (the capital district) had been cleared. The intention of such a trust would be to see fair play at a fair democratic election with the secret ballot for, firstly, a monarchy or a republic, and secondly, the form of a new government, he said.

Next Step up to King

In view of the agreement of the all-party conference upon a regency, the next step appeared up to King George, now in London. He was reported to be cool to the regency propcsal when it was first broached by Greek leaders.

Churchill told newsmen that when the leaders of the three great powers get together soon, the Greek question would be "one of the most important items on the agenda."

"We feel our course has been absolutely right," he asserted. "In August, in consultation with President Roosevelt, we agreed to bring in food and relief and help until things settled down. Premier Stalin was consulted and gave his consent to this course.

"At Caserta, Britain was invited by the All-Party Government, including the Communists and the EAM (National Liberation Party) to come to Greece."

Churchill said, "it is clear to me there would have been a massacre if we had not intervened. It has been said that Britain is endeavoring to bring back the King and impose a particular rule in this country. All these stories are without the slightest foundation."

Desire Only Friendship

He went on to deny allegations that Britain had territorial claims or desired bases in Greece, saying "we desire nothing but Greece's friendship."

The Prime Minister agreed that Britain, having entered into the Greek turmoil, had contracted many responsibilities, but added that the British would not withdraw until the rebels had been driven out of Attica, or withdrawn from the "built up area" around the capital.

"We are absolutely determined the whole of this built up area must be cleared of armed forces other than those under government control," he asserted. "Then we must hope that some good sense must come to these tortured people."

The only difference of opinion in the conference concerned the date when the regency should be established, it was said by an authoritative source, with the majority urging that the plan be effected immediately.

After the regency decision had been reached, Archbishop Damaskinos, the presiding officer, adjourned the conference.

(The British Broadcasting company said in London it had received a dispatch from an Athens correspondent quoting Prime Minister Churchill as telling a press conference in that city that he, President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin would review the Greek situation in a meeting soon. He added that if the Greeks did not soon solve their differences an "international trust" might be necessary to rule the country.")

During the day peace proposals offered by the Left-wing ELAS (National Liberation Front) were declared unacceptable by members of the Greek Populist party. However, other conference delegates agreed to consider the ELAS terms. The Populists are a royalist, conservative group.

Greek Populist Party Rejects Peace Proposals From ELAS

Ex-Premier Gonatas Asserts That Such Terms Would Mean Dissolution of State as It Exists.

Athens, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Greek Populist party members declared today that peace proposals by representatives of the left-wing ELAS were unacceptable and the conference called by Prime Minister Winston Churchill ended its second meeting without an agreement.

The ELAS offered terms which Stylianos Gonatas, former Premier, said were inadmissible. He declared that "if accepted, they would mean complete dissolution of the State."

Reply to Come Later.

Other members of the conference said that they would consider the terms and reply later. Even while the conferees met in the Grand Bretagne Hotel, the British accused ELAS artillerymen of breaking a conference truce late yesterday and fresh fighting flared in the district behind British headquarters. Parachute troops forged ahead with tanks and armored cars in a drive to clear the southern triangle leading into Omonia Square.

Proposal of ELAS

The main terms of the ELAS proposal are:

1. Agreement to a regency, so long as no objections are raised by others.

2. Formation of a new cabinet, with a president enjoying the confidence of all parties.

3. The new Government's program to be the existing one, which the ELAS charged Premier George Papandreou failed to carry out.

4. Punishment of collaborationists and all responsible for unpatriotic acts.

5. A purge of all governmental services, including town police, and the dissolution of the gendarmerie, with all officers and men to be sent home and recalled to active service only after each one was examined by a committee.

6. Disbanding of national guards formed since the outbreak of the civil war and reorganization of the service.

7. Dissolution and reorganization of the naval services, with all officers to be purged.

8. Committees to purge military and naval services to be appointed by the Government and not by cabinet ministers.

9. A plebiscite to be held on the first Sunday in February, at the latest, to decide if King George II is to return.

10. A general election for the National Assembly to be held in April, at the latest.

ELAS representatives said that they would accept the presence of international delegates during the plebiscite to insure a fair election. British headquarters said that offensive air action against the ELAS would be resumed because ELAS shells were fired at a British warship and at Anglo-Greek naval headquarters during a conference truce yesterday.

The Populists make up a conservative, royalist faction in Greek politics.

The British informed the Elas that the truce was regarded as null and void.

It had been agreed that no artillery action would be taken on one side or air action on the other for three quarters of an hour from 3 P. M., while Elas delegates were being brought to last night's conference at which Prime Minister Churchill appealed for the warring factions to end their strife.

Tense Conference

The conference was so tense that all delegates surrendered their side arms at the door.

The British announced that the first shell fell at 3:10 P. M. near a British warship at Piraeus. The second landed a little later near the naval headquarters.

Nevertheless, the British said another 45-minute truce would be arranged today for the protection of Elas delegates attending a second session of an-all party conference to discuss Greece's political troubles.

British guards returned the Elas' delegates guns to them when they left last night's conference under a safe conduct.

"Whether Greece is a monarchy or a republic is a matter for the Greeks and the Greeks alone to decide," the Prime Ministtr told the assemblage before he and other British representatives retired and left the Greeks to continue the conference alone. "All we wish you is good, and good for all," Churchill added.

Secret Site

Britain's only interest in using her troops in the current civil war, Churchill asserted, is to bring an end to disorder and make possible an election by secret ballot.

The session, convened at a secret site while continuing gunfire sounded in the distance, broke up after four and one-half hours with word it would be resumed later, possibly today, when additional delegates may be present.

An hour before the meeting ended, Themistokles Sophoulis, Liberal Party leader, left the conference room. There was no explanation. Neither was there any announcement of what occurred after the Allied representatives left.

Stockholm, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The Germans have erected a 190-foot tower, equipped with some undeterminable apparatus, on the Danish island of Bornholm which is the scene of continuing intensive experiments with V-weapons, the Free Danish Press Service reported last night. The research on Bornholm was believed linked with the radio-directed V-weapons, particularly since another important laboratory was established at Peenemunde, only a short distance across the Baltic from Bornholm, the Danes said.

New Hungary Regime Gets Soviet Support

Reds Say Miklos Operates Democratic Government Behind Russian Lines

MOSCOW, Dec. 27 (AP).—The Soviet press, breaking its editorial silence on Hungary's political reconstruction, praised the new provisional government under Colonel General Bela Miklos today as enjoying "the overwhelming support" of the Hungarian people. Commentator Konstantin Hoffman, in an international review in the army newspaper "Red Star," said the Cabinet named by the Provisional National Assembly at Debrecen includes prominent military, scientific and political figures.

Declaring that the new regime operating behind the Red Army lines is founded on the principles of democracy, "Red Star" said: "Its appeal for a mobilization of all forces for the struggle against the Germans and the Szalasi clique is expected to be achieved."

Ferenc Szalasi is the Axis-puppet Premier of Hungary, which now is approximately three-fourths occupied by the Red Army. The Miklos government, formation of which was announced Saturday, operates in the territory won from the Axis.

"Red Star" even approved of a Hungarian plan fostering private enterprise, saying: "Land reform will play a very important role . . . in the democratic development of Hungary and the extermination of the poison of Hitlerism. Fifty per cent of the rural population have been landless and 36 per cent had an average of less than three acres per capita, while half of all Hungarian territory belonged to 10,760 landlords."

REDS PRAISE NEW HUNGARIAN REGIME

Moscow, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The Russian press, commenting on Hungary's political reconstruction behind Red Army lines, praised the government of Col. Gen. Bela Miklos today as founded upon the principles of democracy.

An international review in Red Star by Commentator Konstantin Hoffman said that the Cabinet named by the Provisional Hungarian Assembly at Debrecen included prominent military, scientific and political figures.

The Russian newspaper even liked a Hungarian plank about fostering private enterprise.

"Land reform will play a very important role. . . . in the Democratic development of Hungary and the extermination of the poison of Hitlerism," Red Star said. "Fifty per cent of the rural population has been landless. Thirty-six per cent had an average of less than three acres per capita and half of all Hungarian territory belonged to 10,760 landlords."

FRENCH EMISSARY IS SENT TO LUBLIN

Moscow, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The official Russian news agency, Tass, announced today that Gen. Charles de Gaulle's French Government had exchanged representatives with the five-months-old Polish regime at Lublin, which is expected here to declare itself as the provisional government of Poland before the new year. The announcement said that Gen. de Gaulle's emissary, Christian Fouche, already had arrived in Lublin and that the Lublin committee is represented in Paris by Stefan Jedrychowski, its former Moscow representative.

Polish sources in Moscow say that Czecho-Slovakia is expected to follow France's example in exchanging representatives with Lublin.

British Win Burma Village

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 27 (AP)—British troops driving south along the west Burma coastal plain in Arakan have captured a village east of the Mayu River about fourteen miles south-southeast of Buthedaung, Allied Headquarters said today.

CHINESE PLEDGE HUGE LAND FORCE

FOR FINAL DRIVE

By SPENCER MOOSA

CHUNGKING, Dec. 27—(AP) Minister of Information Wang Shih-Chieh said today the Chinese considered it their duty to supply "by far the largest land forces" in the forthcoming campaign to drive the Japanese out of China.

The Chinese high command believes the enemy intends to consolidate a transcontinental line from Korea to Malaya in preparation for the coming struggle, he said.

This route, which would extend roughly over some 3,500 miles of rugged terrain, would not be considered by the Japanese as an avenue of retreat, Wang said, but as a long-studied means for waging "very stubborn" war in China, French Indo-China and Malaya.

The enemy already has spent more than eight months in offensive operations to open the route and the objective has been largely achieved, the Chinese spokesman explained. He added, however, that at many points the Japanese lines of communications were "certainly very vulnerable."

Chinese cabinet spokesman P. H. Chang said he had received information that the Japanese were bolstering their defenses along the China coast both north and south of Shanghai in fear of a possible American landing.

Chang said the commander of the enemy garrison at Shanghai had openly informed a mixed Chinese-Japanese audience that if his forces had to withdraw from the city they first would destroy everything, leaving nothing of any value for the Allies.

This announcement, Chang said, indicated that the Japanese intend to commit "all kinds of crimes and atrocities" when their forces retreat from Shanghai or any other important occupied towns. He warned the Japanese that they would be held responsible for all crimes and urged Chinese civilians living in big cities to guard against wanton enemy acts of destruction.

Meanwhile, Japanese Army leaders apparently are preparing for a drive to close the gap in the Canton-Hanow railroad, a section of which still is in Chinese hands, Chang said.

Tsinan Is Bombed Again

CHUNGKING, Dec. 27 (AP) — A formation of P-51 fighters of the United States Fourteenth Air Force struck the Japanese airdrome at Tsinan in Shantung Province again yesterday and destroyed twenty-nine enemy aircraft, boosting to sixty-nine the number knocked out there in two days, an American communiqué announced today.

The planes destroyed in the latest assault included nine fighters and twenty bombers, all caught on the ground.

Yesterday the Fourteenth Air Force announced its fighters had destroyed thirty-seven Japanese planes in a raid on the same airdrome Dec. 24. Today's communiqué said it had been ascertained that three additional enemy aircraft had been destroyed in that raid.

Yesterday's assault upon Tsinan was carried out in conjunction with sweeping operations over Central China, South China, Burma and Thailand at a cost of one plane missing.

Superforts Raid Tokyo, Bomb Industrial Center

B-29's Over Japanese Capital for Hour and Half in Clear Weather.

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, Dec. 27—(AP) Taking advantage of the first really clear weather they have found over Tokyo, a sizable force of Superfortresses bombed the teeming industrial sector of Japan's largest city for an hour and a half today.

One B-29 was lost over the target, but the Superforts in turn shot down perhaps the greatest number of enemy planes yet destroyed over Honshu.

Crewmen reported that large fires were started. First strike photos failed to disclose the extent of this damage.

The Japanese employed a new defense technique by setting off smudge pots for a smokescreen but the fliers described the maneuver as unsuccessful.

The attacking force was similar in size to that making the first Tokyo raid Nov. 24 when, Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., declared, some formations inflicted damage "which you can easily envisage if something like 150 tons of high explosives hit the waterfront areas of New York or San Francisco."

As in the previous raids, the early planes found interception and anti aircraft fire light, but later formations reported increasingly heavy resistance in both respects. Fighter interception was the strongest yet, except possibly for the last raid on Nagoya Dec. 22.

Capt. Vance E. Black, Fairfax, Okla., flew the lead ship of the first formation. He came in downwind and hit the dock area, starting large fires, the greatest of which appeared to be an oil refinery in the industrial area.

He dropped his bombs at 12:37 p.m. Tokyo time (1:30 p.m. Saipan time).

Said Black:

"Our formation laid bombs in a pattern two blocks wide and about seven long in the northeast part of the city between two major rivers. The bomb train started at a railway junction where a bridge crossed the river, and extended toward the waterfront in an area where no bomb could fail to hit a target."

The first planes arrived over the target a couple of hours earlier than usual. It was the fifth time in a little more than a month that the B-29s had raided the enemy capital in force.

"We saw about 15 fighters," Captain Black said, "and downed at least one of them. I don't think the fighters were alerted today. We usually see them climbing at a steep angle. Today we saw nothing like that, and radio Tokyo was still on. Nor was there anti-aircraft fire until we got over the target."

"We came in earlier than usual and from a different direction, which must have confused them."

Black's co-pilot, 2nd Lt. Woodrow G. Mathison, (32 East 6th St.), Salt Lake City, Utah, said the plane, aided by a 150-knot tailwind was making 450 to 500 miles an hour when it swept across the target. Japan looked extraordinarily peaceful, with snow covering the mountain peaks. Fujiyama's snowline was higher than the last time over, which indicated a thaw.

Lt. Col. William McDowell Brady, Tex., an observer with Black, could see smoke from bomb fires eighty miles away.

LARGE B-29 FORCE BOMBARDS TOKYO AT NOON RUSH HOUR

Japs Say Attack on Their Capital Is Made by Fifty Planes.

Saipan, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Tokyo, bombed in force four times previously by Superfortresses and hit many times by harassing planes alone or in small groups, was pounded again this afternoon by a sizable force of B-29s. The first of the raiders, which struck during the noon rush—a couple of hours earlier than the Japanese capital has come to expect bombings—reported good visibility around targets in the great industrial area. The early elements reported a total absence of clouds and good bombing.

This was the first Superfortress visit to Tokyo since December 3. Since then, however, they twice have raided Nagoya, great Japanese aircraft center, and have twice bombed Iwo Jima, the small island halfway between here and Tokyo from which Japanese planes have been attacking Saipan.

[It was announced at Pearl Harbor today that American warships and planes bombarded Iwo Jima, in the Volcano Islands, on December 26 in the third joint air-Navy attack on that enemy base.]

Today's raid came just one month after the second B-29 bombing of Tokyo, November 27.

B-29 Bombs Set Fires in Tokyo In Noon Raid on Aircraft Plants

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Fires were set in Tokyo today by about forty Superfortresses which found clear weather for precision bombing of industrial targets, including the great Nakajima Aircraft Works.

A War Department communique said one B-29 was lost to enemy action in this fifth bombing in force of the enemy capital by Brigadier General Haywood S. Hansell jr.'s Superfortress command.

The big planes, flying from Saipan bases, roared over their objective at noon.

"Based on early reports, anti-aircraft fire and fighter opposition are believed to have been moderate," the communique said.

However, Verr. Haugland, Associated Press correspondent, said in a dispatch from Saipan that some of the returning pilots described today's operation as the toughest of the five.

Beyond the statement that fires were observed, the communique, based on preliminary reports, gave no details of the bombing results.

It was the first time, however, that the Superfortresses have found really good bombing weather over Tokyo. When they last raided the city on Dec. 3, they were forced to use instruments to locate targets through an overcast.

[After Wednesday's raid, the Tokyo radio broadcast that explosives and incendiaries were dropped at random and declared they did "insignificant damage." It estimated the number of participating B-29's at fifty and said nine were shot down, five others probably shot down and twenty-seven damaged. Four Japanese fighters were acknowledged lost.]

B-29s Strike in Daylight.

Washington, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Tokyo industrial areas were bombed today for the fifth time by Saipan-based Superfortresses. The daylight strike by B-29s of the Twenty-first Bomber Command was the first of the sort on the sprawling Japanese capital since December 3. A War Department communique did not report further details.

The Tokyo radio said the giant planes "dropped explosives and incendiaries at random, causing insignificant damage." The broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, was not clearly heard throughout but apparently the enemy claimed that some interceptors "chalked up" victories against the Superfortresses.

A Japanese Imperial communique later said that about fifty Superforts were in the attacking force and claimed nine were definitely shot down, five probably and twenty-seven others damaged.

War Minister Tells of Raid.

Japanese War Minister Gen. Sugiyama interrupted his war report to the diet this afternoon to make a statement on a B-29 raid then in progress over the city.

According to a Japanese broadcast, he said: Approximately fifty of the B-29s have penetrated the skies over the Tokyo-Yokohama area up to the present time. They have dropped explosives and incendiaries on several points in the Tokyo-Yokohama area."

The Tokyo radio said "downtown Tokyo resounded with cheers and applause as the throng was given the treat of witnessing a B-29 break formation amidst a cloud of anti-aircraft barrage" and fall.

The Imperial communique stated that two of the Superforts were knocked down by suicide Nipponese pilots who crash-dived the big bombers. The High Command admitted the loss of four interceptors.

In previous raids on Tokyo the flying battleships have concentrated on whittling down Japanese fighter plane production. One of the empire's top producers of military planes, the Musashima engine factory of the Nakajima aircraft plane, was the target of the December 3 attack.

Returning pilots tabbed this the toughest of the big B-29 Tokyo strikes beginning November 24 and recurring roughly at three-day intervals through December 3. The Superfortresses dodged intense anti-aircraft fire on the December 3 smash and fought off swarms of fighters. One B-29 was lost. "Good" results were obtained with precision bombing, the War Department announced.

Although the size of today's force was not revealed in Washington, some 60 to 150 planes have participated in previous Tokyo raids.

Report by Nimitz.

Today's smash followed a report from 21st Bomber Command headquarters that the Saipan-based planes have dumped over 3,000,000 pounds of bombs on Honshu targets. Honshu is the principal Nipponese home island.

Japanese planes, seeking to destroy the Superfortresses in their home nests, hit the Saipan bases Christmas Eve, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz reported. About 25 Japanese planes swooped in and destroyed one plane on the ground, damaged several others and injured six men. Four of the attackers were shot down.

The Japanese Domei news agency said today Nipponese planes raided the United States Saipan B-29 base for the second consecutive night last night, "causing huge explosions." The broadcast intercepted by Federal Communications Commission was not confirmed immediately by United States headquarters.

U. S. FLEET GUNS POUND IWO JIMA

Jap Warships Blown Up in Air-Sea Attack

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 27 (AP)—American warships and planes bombarded Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands, Dec. 26, in a combined joint air-navy attack on the enemy base, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz reported today.

Heavy guns of the fleet units set afire an enemy landing ship and blew up a gunboat.

The warships and Liberator bombers which participated in the attack blasted coastal defenses and airstrip installations.

Nimitz announced two U. S. vessels suffered slight damage from the return fire of enemy coastal guns.

Liberators also bombed the air strips, Dec. 25, making the 19th consecutive raid on the little island this month.

Pilots returning from the Christmas Day raid reported seeing two enemy fighters, but the only damage—and it was minor—was caused by antiaircraft fire. All the bombers returned to their Marianas base.

U. S. FLIERS HIT JAP AIRFIELDS IN MANILA AREA

Plane Bases Bombed for Fourth Day — Clark Field Pounded

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 27—(AP)—Land-based American bombers for the fourth consecutive day blasted Japan's airfields at Manila on Luzon Island, now regarded as vulnerable to reinvasion by Yank forces mopping up in the Central Philippines.

Clark Field was the principal target as it was in two of the previous attacks. It was plastered Monday with 88,000 pounds of explosives, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today.

Interceptors Downed

The Japanese showed a disposition to make a fight of it. They sent up at least 50 interceptors, of which 39 were shot down by Yank fighter escorts. Four more were listed as probably downed. The day's bag brought to 72 the total of Japanese planes shot down in 48 hours in the Manila raids. The Americans lost six fighters on the two days.

On conquered Leyte, American ground forces mopped up small and isolated Japanese remnants which the communique said, were "capable of only minor opposition." During Monday, 899 more of the enemy were killed and 14 captured, at a cost of seven American dead and 21 wounded.

Thus enemy casualties for the Leyte campaign were raised to 114,120.

Fighter Cover

The fighter cover in the Manila raid was led by Maj. Thomas McGuire, of San Antonio, Tex., who bagged three Japanese. That brought his total to 38, within shooting range of the 40 credited to Maj. Richard I. Bong, Poplar, Wisc., leading American ace.

The Americans got two more Japanese planes over Mindoro Island, invaded by the Yanks December 15. Two enemy planes were shot down Christmas Day over Tacloban Air Field on Leyte.

Liberators raided Mindanao airdromes and harbors, sinking two freighters, and fighter bombers assaulted the Japanese Silay Airdrome on Negros Island.

Medium and fighter-bombers dumped 115 tons of bombs on Halmahera at Lolobata, Hatetakako and Wassile Bay.

A 2,000-ton cargo ship and small freighter were sunk by air patrols off Borneo.

Nimitz Report

(At Pearl Harbor, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced that between 16 and 25 Japanese planes attacked the airstrips on Saipan Island, in the Marianas, base for the Tokyo-raiding American superfortresses.

(In the raid, made Christmas Eve, three attacking planes were shot down by American fighters, and a fourth bagged by anti-aircraft batteries. One American plane was destroyed on the ground and several others damaged. Six Americans were injured.

(The raiders probably came from Iwo Jima in the Volcanoes, a base which Nimitz announced was pounded for the eighteenth consecutive day by Liberator bombers).

Ridgewood Ace Gets 38th Jap

Major McGuire, Author of Combat Text Book, Bags 7 in 48 Hours—2 Behind Bong.

A U. S. Airbase, Leyte, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—Major Thomas B. McGuire Jr. of Ridgewood, N. J., and Sebring, Fla., shot down seven Jap planes in the forty-eight hours ending yesterday to become America's second ranking ace with a total bag of thirty-eight.

Major McGuire's latest flock of triumphs brought him within two victories of the country's champion fighter pilot, Major Richard I. Bong, to whom Major McGuire has long been a close second in the Southwest Pacific. He first emerged as a threat to Major Bong's laurels by reaching the twenty mark while the Wisconsin flyer was on furlough with a bag of twenty-seven.

A native of Paterson, N. J.—his family resided in the area since 1817—Major McGuire was educated in Ridgewood, where his father lives at 51 Chestnut street, and in Sebring. He married the former Marion Geisler of San Antonio, Tex., now residing there at 209 West Ridgewood Courts.

Wrote Combat Text Book.

He was a bandsman and held a civilian pilot license at the time he left in his junior year at Georgia Tech to enlist in the Army Air Forces early in 1941. Since then he has flown for more than 720 combat hours and on more than 240 combat missions, won nine air medals, five distinguished flying crosses, the distinguished service cross and the silver star. He is the author of the Fifth Air Force's recently published standard instruction book on "Combat Tactics in the Southwest Pacific."

Associated Press correspondent Richard Bergholz looked over Major McGuire's log and picked out these excerpts with the following explanations:

"October 17, 1943: Over Oro Bay three Zeke planes downed me. I bailed out wounded and was picked up by a PT thirty miles out." (He spent eighteen days in the hospital.)

This is what happened:

Against a strong Jap force, Major McGuire knocked off three fighters, then broke off to cover a crippled Lightning. Major McGuire's plane caught fire when it was hit, and the Major was wounded. He tried to bail out at 12,000 feet but his feet caught in the cockpit. His body was pulled back by the propeller slipstream, and he hung there while the plane dropped 5,000 feet.

Finally he broke free and reached for the ripcord, only to find it severed, with a small wire dangling behind. He wrapped the wire around his wrist and yanked and the chute opened at 1,000 feet.

When he hit the water he found his rubber boat full of holes and it slowly sank. Despite his wounds he kept afloat for forty minutes until the PT boat picked him up.

"December 26, 1943: Got four, gave one away. Heavy fight. Have sixteen confirmed now."

That's his notation of the action in which he won the D. S. C. Ignoring many Zeros on his tail, Major McGuire led his Lightnings against fourteen Jap dive bombers attacking a Yank convoy landing at Cape Gloucester. All the dive bombers were destroyed.

"May 2, 1944: Got a squadron." He was made a squadron leader.

"June 6, 1944: Sank a thousand-ton freighter off Manokwari."

This flight proved the strafing power of the Lightnings. His group used 14,000 rounds of ammunition, and punched so many holes in the ship's steel hull it rolled over and sank.

So it went. Through advances in New Guinea, air sweeps into the Dutch East Indies and now into the Philippines, Major McGuire is always craving action.

'A Great Kid,' Says Father.

Thomas B. McGuire Sr., father of Major McGuire, commented last night that his son was "a great kid, who deserves all the credit." By telephone from his home, after hearing a broadcast of an Associated Press story, the elder McGuire said his son always had an interest in flying.

JAPANESE SEE WAR'S DECISION IN PHILIPPINES

By the Associated Press

Japan's war and Navy ministers reported today the United States has suffered 503,000 casualties since Pearl Harbor and the decisive battles of the war would be fought in the Philippines.

Nipponese broadcasts, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said their statements were made in formal reports to the 86th session of the Nipponese Diet.

Tokyo radio said that in his report to the 86th session of the Japanese Diet Navy Minister Mitsumasa Yonai emphasized that all the efforts of the Japanese Navy are now concentrated in the decisive battles in the Philippine area."

The broadcast quoted Yonai as saying "We are determined to acquire the final victory through the death-defying defense of the Philippine Islands."

"The enemy's persistent opera-

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tions are concentrated in this area, vital because it is "situated in a strategic point for Japan," Yonai said. "Fierce air battles are being continued."

War Minister Field Marshal Gen. Sugiyama made the unrealistic claim of 503,000 American casualties. A Domei News Agency dispatch reporting his speech to the House of Peers gave no details.

Neither mentioned the rout of the Japanese Army on Leyte where the only major land action of the Philippines has been fought.

Japs Claim Second Raid On U. S. Base at Saipan

(By The Associated Press)

Japanese Domei News Agency said today Nipponese planes haided the U. S. Saipan B-29 base for the second consecutive night Tuesday, "causing huge explosions."

The broadcast intercepted by Federal Communications Commission was not confirmed immediately by U. S. headquarters.

PELUFFO EXPLAINS ARGENTINA'S STAND

By RAFAEL ORDORICA

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 27—(AP) Argentina's foreign minister, Gen. Orlando Arras Peluffo, avowed personal faith in the principles of the Pan-American union today, but warned that in the future Argentina would judge for herself whether that cooperative body binding the American republics was really effective.

He sounded his warning at a press conference for visiting Chilean newsmen from which other reporters were barred. In his barely perceptible intonation, he told his listeners that his ministry was aware of published reports from Washington that the Pan-American Union meeting set for Jan. 3 would decide against Argentina's request for an inter-American conference to consider her participation in hemisphere defense.

Peluffo put it this way:

While Argentina in the future would judge the effectiveness of the Pan-American Union, "she will never give up her faith in the concept of inter-American solidarity."

Asked if he believed a prerequisite of Argentina's return to "inter-American unity" was "democratization of the country," Peluffo at first demurred from the question, but then, smiling, asserted that Argentina was in fact a democracy.

He referred his guests to the interview they had yesterday with Vice President Juan Peron, war minister and strong man of the government, who said the regime sought a restoration of constitutional government.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 27, 1940.—Air attacks over western Europe renewed after two-day Christmas lull. Enemy cruiser shells island of Nauru, former German colony under British mandate, between Australia and Hawaii.

NAZI OFFENSIVE DISRUPTS ALLIES WAR TIMETABLE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(AP) Terrific losses suffered by American armies on the Western front have completely disrupted the Allied timetable for the war in Europe.

Authorities here have lost none of their confidence in the ultimate victory over Germany but, as a result of the German advance, they now estimate that victory may be won only by three to six months more of hard fighting than they had believed necessary only two or three weeks ago.

Even incomplete reports from the battle lines have made it evident to strategists here that General Eisenhower has suffered very heavy losses in materiel—guns, tanks, shells, food and thousands of other items—and also has taken a beating in manpower—killed, captured and wounded.

This means that many weeks which might have been spent in shoving the advance into Germany must now be spent instead in reorganizing and outfitting units battered by the German assault.

It means, in the last analysis, that barring a hoped-for but unlikely break for the Allied side that the fighting in Europe will go on far into 1945.

The great break hoped for is that the Nazi high command will expand its full reserve power on the present offensive and then suffer a complete defeat at the hands of General Eisenhower's reorganized forces.

However, there is no disposition in high Washington quarters to gamble even personal hopes for victory on such a possibility.

Moreover it is admitted that military intelligence was thrown off guard by the time and place of the enemy assault which also had much to do with its success.

Since the initial German advance, Eisenhower's problem has been to take counter measures which would allow him to withdraw and regroup his forces and at the same time prevent the loss of any vital strategic points.

Such points are Namur and Liege, highway hubs extremely important to the supply system in Belgium. The fate of the fighting during the next few hours or days when the Germans seek to reach or isolate those places may well determine just how much longer the war will have to go on to victory.

Gen. March's 'Hard War' Borne Out; He Scores Our Army Intelligence

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Gen. Peyton C. March, on his eightieth birthday today, deplored what he termed the Allied failure to hit the advancing German armies "on the nose." [General March's comment was made before the latest news from the Western Front became available.]

The United States Army Chief of Staff in World War I also:

(1) Declared a complete breakdown in Allied military intelligence preceded the Nazi counter-offensive into Belgium.

(2) Intimated that talk of "unconditional surrender" had hampered military operations.

(3) Expressed doubt that Russia would join in the war against Japan.

Clad in brown mufti and a gay Christmas necktie, the retired general gave his views to reporters in his Washington apartment.

One year ago he said the Germans would not be beaten in 1944. You could almost hear the expression on his face today. It said, "Hah!"

The way Nazi Field Marshal Gen. Karl von Rundstedt had been pushing the Allies back, General March would not even predict victory for the Allies in 1945. He would go only so far as to say the Germans are going to lose, some time.

The Japanese are even tougher, he said.

Waiting for his birthday cake, baked big enough to hold eighty candles, General March said that one reason the Allied military intelligence "broke down completely" was Hitler himself.

"In the other countries we depended a lot on the underground for invaluable information," he remarked. "Hitler got rid of all such elements in Germany itself. He has a homogeneous nation."

Weather Alike for Both, He Says

General March would not accept the theory that the weather interfered especially in Allied operations.

"I never saw it snow on one side and not on the other," he said.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's statement just a year ago that the war in Europe could be won in 1944 if everyone did "his or her full duty," was "too iffy" and never should have been made, General March added. It just wasn't "in the cards."

He said it was very important now to see how long it would take General Eisenhower to blunt the German offensive.

It was apparent, he went on, that the German nation intended to "fight this out to the end."

"All this talk of unconditional surrender and what we're going to do to them hasn't been very helpful to us," he declared.

The Japanese would be even more of a problem on their home soil, General March predicted.

In doubting that Russia would get into the war against Japan, General March said:

"I suppose this Government is trying to get Siberian bases, and this was the year when we were in the best position to demand them. But don't forget that Stalin once told a Japanese, 'I'm an Asiatic, too.'"

Asked if he could pin down reasonably the probable length of the war, General March stated:

"Well, I no longer count by anything but decades. So come back on my ninetieth birthday and I'll tell you."

March's Statement a Year Ago

On Dec. 27, 1943, General March in an interview as reported by The Associated Press—after declaring, "I'm for Eisenhower"—said:

"The war hasn't even started. Wait until Germany and Japan begin fighting on their own soil... We can lose this war right here at home thinking it is almost over."

NAZIS USE WEATHER AS WAR INSTRUMENT

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—(AP) Robert A. Lovett, assistant secretary of war for air, said today the counter-attacking Germans in Belgium and Luxembourg "can be counted on to keep up the pressure on the ground and perhaps increase it if the weather turns bad again, as seems likely."

The Nazis were "absolutely on the button" as far as weather was concerned in selecting a time for their counteroffensive, Lovett declared, adding "the Germans understand fully that weather is a weapon."

Bad weather, he told a bond club of New York luncheon, is not a barrier to strategic, or long-range bombing, but to tactical bombing—the strafing and bombing of moving objects such as tanks and trucks.

Lovett reviewed the number of German planes, tanks and vehicles destroyed by Allied planes during the present offensive, and said "the Germans have suffered greatly in these attacks."

Praising the Army airmen, he said:

"The war casualties of the Army Air Forces up to the first of December are greater than the combined total war casualties of the Navy, Marine corps and Coast Guard. And the end is, in my opinion, not yet in sight."

FRANCE TO JOIN UNITED NATIONS

Ceremony Is Planned for New Year's Day

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—France will become the 36th United Nation on New Year's Day.

The State Department announced France will sign the declaration by United Nations here that day in the presence of representatives of the United Nations.

Under General Charles De Gaulle's committee of liberation and the recent weeks of his provisional government the country has been considered as associated with but not a member of the United Nations.

Ambassador Henri Bonnet will sign for his country.

ARMY UNITS SAIL WITHOUT NURSES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—(AP) Eleven Army hospital units are about to be sent overseas without any nurses because of the lag in nurse recruitment, Red Cross Chairman Basil O'Connor said today.

Appealing to Red Cross chapters throughout the country to aid in the drive for 10,000 additional nurses, O'Connor said:

"Rapidly mounting casualties make it imperative that these nurses be procured at once or many of our wounded will be deprived of essential nursing care."

December was the second lowest month in Army nurse recruitment since Pearl Harbor, O'Connor said, at a time when war casualties are the highest.

He urged Red Cross chapters in a telegram to "appeal to hospital officials, to physicians, to industry, to nurses' families and to the public in general to release every eligible nurse for the highest service she can give her country in time of war."

The Red Cross is the official agency for Army and Navy Nurse recruitment.

U. S. LANDING SHIP IS SUNK OFF LEYTE

Washington, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The Navy announced today the loss off Leyte of the LSM 20, medium landing ship, as a result of enemy action. At the same time, the Navy identified as the 2,200-ton destroyer Cooper the vessel receently lost in the same Philippine waters as a result of night action against the enemy.

The loss of the destroyer, not identified by name at the time, was announced by Gen. MacArthur in a December 5 communique. Commanding officers of both vessels survived, the Navy said. No estimate was given of the number of casualties.

The normal complement of the U. S. S. Cooper was estimated at 275 and of the LSM 20, four officers and forty-eight enlisted men. Lieut. John R. Bradley of Oak Creek, Col., was in command of the LSM 20, and Comdr. Mell A. Peterson of Algona, Iowa, commanded the Cooper.

JAPANESE CARRIER SUNK BY U.S. SUB

American Underwater Boats Account for 27 Enemy Ships.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—(AP) The first definite sinking of a Japanese aircraft carrier by a United States submarine was reported today by the Navy.

The announcement came in a Navy communique which disclosed the destruction by the far-ranging submersibles of a total of 27 vessels, including the large carrier and six other combatant ships.

The announcement raised the total of Japanese fighting ships which have fallen victim to American submarine warfare to 99, including a carrier, 14 cruisers, 44 destroyers, three tenders and 37 miscellaneous types.

Today's communique reported the sinking, in addition to the carrier, of a converted light cruiser, a destroyer, two escort vessels and two destroyer transports. Noncombatant vessels also claimed today were two large transports, 10 medium cargo vessels, three small cargo vessels, a small transport, two medium cargo transports and two medium tankers.

In addition to the 99 combatant vessels sunk by submarines since the start of the war, 835 non-combatant enemy ships have been sent to the bottom by submersibles alone. These total more than 3,500,000 tons, or about one-half of the estimated pre-war merchant fleet.

In releasing the communique at a news conference, Secretary Forrestal expressed "true regret" that considerations of security made it impracticable to detail all the accomplishments of the "silent service," the submarine fleet.

Referring specifically to the carrier sinking, however, he added that was "hitting one of the most painful spots on the Japanese body at the moment."

While today's communique marked the first unqualified claim of a Japanese carrier sunk by submarines, two others have been reported previously as "probably sunk."

That record has been hung up with a reported loss to the submarine fleet of 33 ships, including four sunk, 27 overdue and presumed lost, and two destroyed to prevent capture.

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Seabees Prepare For Celebration Of Third Birthday

Washington, Dec. 27—(AP)—The Navy's Seabees celebrate their third birthday tomorrow with a record of having participated in every major amphibous invasion launched by our forces in both hemispheres.

Since December 28, 1941, the Seabees have licked what the Navy calls the toughest military construction job in history—building of advanced naval bases fast enough to keep pace with the needs of our expanding fleet.

The Seabees are the Navy's construction battalions.

Drawn from some 60 different trades, the Seabees, says the Navy, are not only the world's fastest and most skillful construction men but . . . are able to substitute guns for tools and put up a first class fight."

ESCAPED GERMANS MAY BE CAPTURED WITHIN 36 HOURS

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 27—(AP)—The next 36 hours may determine if there will be a quick roundup of 19 Germans still at large after a sensational escape from the Papago Park Prisoner of War Camp, an Army officer said today.

Six of 25 Nazi U-boat officers and men who fled through a 200-foot tunnel were recaptured Sunday night a few hours after the escape was discovered. None has been apprehended since.

The ranking escapee is Navy Capt. Jurgen Wattenberg, 43, former officer on the Admiral Graf Spee, scuttled German pocket batleship. He was later decorated by the Nazis for sinking a Brazilian freighter.

Col. Wiliam A. Holden, camp commandant, said 12 of the 19 fugitives were first-rate submarine officers. Some speak English and are accomplished linguists.

ARMY CASUALTIES

Washington, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The War Department announced today the names of 2,465 casualties in the European area.

In all of these cases next of kin have been notified previously and have been kept informed directly by the War Department of any change in status.

Young Kennedy Appears Before Retirement Board

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Lieutenant John F. Kennedy, 27, son of former ambassador to Great Britain Joseph P. Kennedy, appeared before the Naval Retirement Board here today, the navy disclosed.

Wounded more than a year ago, Lieutenant Kennedy has undergone a medical survey and appeared before the Retirement Board in connection with the survey, a navy spokesman said. "There is no indication when the board will reach a decision in the case," the spokesman added.

WON SECOND D.S.C. BEFORE HIS DEATH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Captain Thomas F. O'Brien of Lincoln, N. H., won the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Cross, second highest award for gallantry, before he was killed in action in Germany Nov. 11, the War Department announced today.

The cluster was awarded in lieu of a second DSC for "extraordinary heroism in action."

CANADA READY TO ASK MORE U. S. AIR ROUTES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—Canada is expected to seek a larger share of the air routes connecting her and the United States.

Officials of the two countries, it developed today, would probably confer next month on a new agreement covering these routes.

An air services agreement between this country and Canada was reached originally in December, 1940, and was to expire at the end of 1942. Because of the war, it was decided in March, 1943, to extend terms of the agreement for the duration, after which a conference was to be held.

Apparently, the impetus to international flying resulting from the fifty-four-nation conference at Chicago has pushed ahead plans for new negotiations. Informed officials believe that Canada will sign the "two freedoms" or transit agreement—this is a mutual exchange of the right to cross a country and make non-commercial stops—before the meeting with the United States. Later she may sign the transport document, already bearing eighteen signatures, which is a general exchange of the right of commercial flight.

The original agreement divided the routes between the United States and Canada, with the United States taking Bangor-Moncton, Buffalo-Toronto, any United States point to Windsor, and Great Falls (Mont.)-Lethbridge, while Canada received Toronto-New York and any Canadian point to Detroit. Later the United States began flying Seattle-Vancouver, Fargo-Winnipeg and New York-Montreal routes. Canada now is flying only one route into the United States.

One of the things the Canadians seem almost certain to ask is a route to Chicago.

AIRLINES LIKELY TO CUT FARES

DEC 28 1944

United Expected to Lead Way on Long Haul Travel

BY JAMES J. STREBIG
Associated Press Aviation Editor

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27—Several airlines were reported today to be considering fare reductions, although only United Air Lines has made its intentions public.

UNITED IN LEADING ROLE

United is a coast-to-coast operator, and any cuts it might make on long services would be reflected in similar reductions by competing lines. The practice has been to have identical fares between competitive points, just as the railroads do. The airlines clear their tariffs through the Air Traffic Conference, which is set up within the Air Transport Association of America.

The last general change in airline charges took place early in the war, when the Civil Aeronautics Board ordered the carriers to show why a reduction should not be made to offset the cancellation of special discounts. The airlines finally offered a compromise which amounted to about a 7½ per cent reduction, and the board accepted it.

The discounts cancelled at the start of the war provided 15 per cent reduction for round trips or one-way trips by holders of credit cards.

ODT Against Boosting Travel

Any attempt at widespread reductions may run into oppositon from the Office of Defense Transportation on the ground that it would encourage the public to travel. The ODT tok that stand when the Interstate Commerce Commission recently considered a reduction of railroad fares, while the Office of Price Administration supported lower fares. ODT previously had complained that airline advertising tended to encourage travel.

United Air Lines announced it will cut fares within the next two months in amounts to be determined by studies now being made. The proposed new fares must be filed with the Conference and with the CAB, after which they become effective if the board does not object.

The likeliest places for reductions is in long haul operations, which have been doing a very heavy war business. Some of the regional operators feel less inclined toward lower fares because their operating costs per plane mile generaly are higher than for long hauls.

SHIP LINE CANCELS PLEA TO ENTER AIR

United Fruit Notifies CAB of Change of Mind—Sees Trend Against Multiple Operation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—The United Fruit Company, steamship operators, has asked the Civil Aeronautics Board for permission to withdraw its application for air routes between New Orleans and Caribbean places.

The Boston company filed its application in November, 1943, and participated in the Latin-American hearings before the CAB this year. It filed a brief in support of its case Dec. 14. The company proposed to fly from New Orleans to Balboa and Guatemala City, touching about twenty cities along the way.

Three other applications have been withdrawn since the hearings, those of the Gordon North-South Airline, the New York and Bermudian Airline and Aerovias Nacional of Brazil.

An official of the United Fruit Company explained in New York last night that the withdrawal action was taken because the Government lacked an international aviation policy which would embrace steamship companies. He maintained that the company would adhere to its decision until the United States adopted such a policy, removing the doubt which now confronted American flag shipping lines.

The request for permission to withdraw the application for seaair routes was contained in a letter from William K. Jackson, general counsel for the company, to L. Welch Pogue, chairman of the Civil Aeronautics Board, and Vice Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the Maritime Commission.

United Fruit believes a negative trend in the Administration's thinking in the matter of surface carriers, including steamship lines, operating air routes to foreign countries has been indicated in various quarters.

It has been reported that a letter from President Roosevelt to Chairman Bland of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee looked with disfavor on shipping entering the aviation field, on the ground that not enough routes would be left for the air lines to operate.

NATION'S INCOME HITS NEW RECORD REPORT REVEALS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 — (AP) The national income broke all records again in 1944, stepping up to approximately $159,000,000,000, the Commerce department announced today.

But it added that the nation now has passed the peak of its wartime economic activity.

Business hit the top early in the year and leveled off.

Commerce department experts don't think 1945 will be as active.

Here are the official estimates for 1944—all new records:

1—"National product": 197 billion dollars. This is the total value of goods and services produced. In 1943 it was 186.5 billio and in 1939 only 88.6 billion.

2—"National income": 159 billion dollars. This is defined as all income earned by individuals through participation in production (wages, salaries, dividends, interest). Last year it was 147.9 billion. In 1939 it was 70.8 billion.

3—"Income payments to individuals": 155 billion dollars. In some ways this is a better economic yardstick than "national income" because it consists of money actually received by individuals. It doesn't include the retained earnings of corporations. It does include social security benefits and payments to dependents of servicemen, which aren't a part of "national income."

Income payments last year were 142.3 billion. In 1939 they happened to be the same as national income, 70.8 billion.

A Commerce department economist broke down the 1944 figures of 197 billion dollars in "national product" this way:

War purchases—85 billion.

Consumer spending—96.6 billion (a new record, announced last week).

Governmental non-war spending—13 billion.

"Private capital formation"—2.6 billion.

(Total—197.2 billion.)

"Private capital formation" is a technical term for such items as private construction, private purchases of machinery and other producers' goods, and changes in business inventories and foreign trade balance.

10 P. C. SLASH IN TAX HINGES ON WAR COURSE

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George Sees Reduction if Corner Is Turned in Next 3 Months.

GERMAN COLLAPSE A FACTOR

State Studies Question of Piling Up Revenue Surplus or Reducing Levies.

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Washington, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—A 10 per cent cut in Federal income taxes will be possible next year only if the war in Europe draws near an end, Senator George (D.-Ga.), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee declared today.

"If we come around the corner in January, February or March," Mr. George told reporters, "and can see a tentative end to the war, it is my thought that there should be a horizontal cut in individual and corporate income taxes while we worked on a general revision of the tax laws."

The Georgian, whose committee handles all revenue and legislation in the Senate, emphasized strongly that the only chance for any kind of a tax cut rests on "a fortuitous turn in the tide of fighting." If the end of the European war isn't apparent, then we would advise against any reduction in the rates.

Must Await Events.

"We've got to await events before we do very much with general taxes," he said, looking ahead to the committee's work in the coming seventy-ninth Congress. "There can't be any general revision of the tax act at this stage. I have no doubt we will handle a certain amount of tax work during the spring, but it will be largely a matter of revising and making workable our present law."

Mr. George repeatedly has declared that Congress should be alert to changing economic conditions and be ready to step in with downward revisions of tax rates when the fighting ceases and business men need encouragement in reconverting to peacetime production. It is at that time that he would favor a general revision of the revenue laws,

tailored to peace.

Meanwhile, he believes that if the collapse of Germany is evident, a moderate horizontal cut in taxes would be "an evidence of good faith to the people."

State Takes Up Study.

Albany, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—The question of whether the State should pile higher its surplus, currently estimated at more than $200,000,000, or reduce its taxes loomed large today in a tax plan and proposed fiscal policy being mapped by the Senate Finance Committee.

The study, headed by Senator William Bewley, Lockport Republican, is the first of its kind undertaken by a standing legislative committee. It will give special attention to the effect of business taxes upon the State's competitive position in commerce and manufacturing and upon employment opportunities relative to other States, Mr. Bewley said.

Questionnaires have been sent 2,000 corporate taxpayers seeking information on the total of various taxes on their business operations for comparison with taxes on similar operations in other States.

Initiated last September when a research staff and consultants began a study of the entire State tax system, the survey includes all of the forty-seven taxes levied by State and local governments.

As of last March 31, the State's surplus stood at $163,000,000. Revenues for the current fiscal year have exceeded estimates so greatly that some sources have predicted the surplus will be boosted another $100,000,000 by next March 31.

BRIDGES IN NEW FIGHT TO REMAIN

Asks Highest Court to Review Order to Deport

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Harry Bridges, CIO labor leader on the West Coast, asked the Supreme Court today to review legal proceedings in his fight against deportation as an alien.

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FOUGHT SINCE 1942

Attorney-General Biddle had ordered Bridges deported to his native Australia in May, 1942. Biddle then said Bridges was a member of the Communist party and stated the party advocated "violent overthrow of the United States government." Bridges denied he is or has been a Communist.

Bridges fought the order by means of habeas corpus proceedings in lower federal courts. He petitioned the Supreme Court today to review action of the Ninth Federal Circuit Court in upholding the deportation order.

The longshoremen's executive told the Supreme Court that evidence relied upon by Biddle "is only the debris of an elaborate and ambitious structure built upon the testimony of witnesses most of whom were the dregs of the waterfront and whom the government should have quickly recognized as such."

Bridges said the conclusion to deport him—"an end so persistently sought for a decade by vindictive private groups"—had been reached "through flagrant abuses of due process of law."

The Supreme Court will announce later whether it will consider Bridges' case.

Service Vote In November Election Far Below Estimates Of States

Washington, Dec. 27—(AP)—Best estimates obtainable from election officials place the service vote in the recent Presidential race at around 2,800,000. This is far below the 3,392,000 estimated by state officers prior to the November 7 election as likely to be cast. But it is a far greater percentage of the service strength than that recorded in the 1942 congressional elections.

The total military and civilian vote this year was 47,971,156, corrected to date.

The only official figure available on potential voters in the armed services was that furnished by the Census Bureau. It listed males in uniform as of January 1, 1944 at 7,860,000. The actual figure is higher considering the fighting growth since then, women eligibles and the fact that uniformed men and women as young as 18 are allowed to vote in Georgia.

But based on that total of 7,860,000, the 1944 estimate of the service vote is around 35 per cent. That compares with the less than one-half of one per cent who voted in the off-year elections in 1942. In a message to Congress last January urging a new Federal ballot law President Roosevelt said only 28,000 out of 5,700,000 in the service voted two years ago.

The Census Bureau and the Federal Ballot Commission are trying to find out the total service vote for 1944. The best they can hope for is a guess as few states tabulated their military and civilian ballots separately.

Report To Congress

The Federal Ballot Commission will report to Congress within three or four weeks the total number of Federal ballots—as distinguished from the lengthier State ballots—received in the 20 states which authorized them.

Pending a more complete estimate of the military vote, official returns and estimates from 24 states today placed it at 1,399,208.

Only five states broke down the vote by parties—Colorado, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island. They gave Roosevelt 293,328 and Dewey 207,063, or roughly three to two in the President's favor.

Here's the way the 24 states recorded or estimated their uniformed balloters: (x) denotes estimate.

Alabama 5,000 (x); Colorado 28,348; Connecticut 39,419 (x); Florida 27,492; Illinois 200,000 (x); Iowa 4[illegible]362; Kansas 30,597; Kentucky [illegible]72 (x); Maryland 34,548; Minne[illegible]2,517; Missouri 79,277 (x); [illegible]9,340; [illegible] 23,454; [illegible]shire [illegible] Jersey 160,329; New Mexico 7,032; North Carolina 49,541; Ohio 164,472; Oregon 33,377; Pennsylvania 255,226; Rhode Island 23,100; Tennessee 27,933; Virginia 38,475; Wyoming 7,385. (Wyoming's total is incomplete).

Here's how five states divided their service vote by parties:

Colorado — Roosevelt 14,419, Dewey 13,386; Maryland—Roosevelt 21,317, Dewey 13,231; New Jersey—Roosevelt 95,581, Dewey 64,748; Pennsylvania — Roosevelt 146,820, Dewey 107,789, and Rhode Island—Roosevelt 15,191, Dewey 7,909.

MAY SEIZE

PROPERTY OF WARD TODAY

DEC 28 1944

Stores in Seven Cities Affected—Plant in Detroit Damaged

BY HAROLD W. WARD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Government seizure of Montgomery Ward & Company's properties in seven cities where it has failed to comply with War Labor Board directives is expected by tomorrow night.

This includes four stores in Detroit, where the CIO Retail Employees Union has been on strike since Dec. 9 in an effort to force the company to put the directives into effect. Other properties are in Chicago, Denver, St. Paul, Portland, Ore., San Rafael, Calif., and Jamaica, N. Y.

MANY STRIKES THREATENED

Adding pressure on the government for swift action are a threatened epidemic of strikes at Ward stores, demonstrations at some, and suggestions from CIO leaders that delay might influence a referendum the CIO United Automobile Workers Union has scheduled on the question whether to revoke its no-strike pledge.

At one of the Detroit stores, in suburban Dearborn, more than 50 demonstrators today overturned several counters and destroyed merchandise, Store Manager R. L. Estabrook said. He blamed "flying squadrons" of the United Automobile Workers.

Detroit police arrested a man at the Grand River avenue store, alleging that he used abusive language and chased a customer to a street car.

The Retail Union called a strike at the Kansas City store because, it said, of "Avery's persistent refusal to abide by the WLB decisions." Sewell Avery is chairman of Ward's.

The War Labor Board sent all the cases to Economic Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson a week ago. He has been laying the foundation for seizure, or the government's other weapon—economic pressure through withholding material priorities.

30 24— 21587

Violence in Ward Store

Counters Are Thrown Over and Merchandise Damaged in Dearborn Shop.

Detroit, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—A group of more than fifty persons who entered the Montgomery Ward & Co. department store today in suburban Dearborn, where a strike has been in progress since December 9, were reported to have overturned several counters and destroyed some merchandise.

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R. L. Estabrook, store manager, said the damage would amount to several thousand dollars. He said the demonstrators were members of "flying squadrons" of the United Automobile Workers (C. I. O.).

U. A. W.-C. I. O. unions have been supporting the strike at four Montgomery Ward stores in the Detroit area by members of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees (C. I. O.) Union. These unionists struck in an attempt to force the Ward management to comply with War Labor Board directives.

Mr. Estabrook said the demonstration lasted only about ten minutes.

Erving Nielson, Dearborn chief of police, who sent more than thirty policemen to restore order, said he was informed that "about ten carloads" of men went into the store and tipped and broke show cases and threw merchandise about.

No injuries were reported, but two men, whose names were not released, were arrested following the disturbance.

Expect U. S. Action.

Action by the Government to seize Montgomery Ward property for non-compliance with WLB orders has been expected since last week, and at Washington last night the War Department was reported on good authority to be ready to step into the picture if the President directs it.

A U. A. W.-C. I. O. spokesman said today that although the union has been supporting the retail clerks' strike, that "under no circumstances, so far as we know, has any illegal activity been engaged in."

Merritt Martin, leader of the pickets at the Ward store, said he did not know who the "flying squadrons" were.

Meanwhile Detroit police said they had arrested Fred Lamting, 35 years old, on a charge of disturbing the peace at a picket line near Ward's Grand River avenue store in Detroit. Officers said Lamting used abusive language to a customer leaving the store Saturday and chased the customer to a street car.

Some Workers Return.

Kansas City, Dec. 27 (A. P.).—An undetermined number of workers streamed through picket lines at the Montgomery Ward & Co. mail order plant today, where a C. I. O. union had called a strike.

Union officials, who estimated that there are "about 2,500" employees, said "hundreds" failed to report to work.

A sound truck, operated by the United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees (C. I. O.), urged the workers to quit their jobs and "get a war job at the United States Employment Service office."

Harold Edwards, union spokesman, said, "This is not an ordinary strike." He said it was "a direct result of Avery's (Sewell Avery, chairman of the company board) persistent refusal to abide by the WLB decisions."

Add London Herald (Chamberlain) xx Italian front.

THEIR BOMBING WAS DONE BY INSTRUMENT THROUGH CLOUDS. AN ALL-NEGRO MUSTANG FIGHTER GROUP ESCORTED THE ITALIAN-BASED BOMBERS.

CLEAR WEATHER OVER MOST SECTIONS OF THE BELGIAN BATTLEGROUND GAVE FIGHTERBOMBERS OF THE NINTH AIRFORCE, BASED ON THE CONTINENT, A CHANCE TO RIP UP STREAMS OF TRAFFIC FEEDING THE NAZI PUSH. APPROXIMATELY 400 MUSTANGS AND THUNDERBOLTS GUARDING THE BOMBERS FROM ENGLAND JOINED IN. THEY MET NO OPPOSITION FROM NAZI FIGHTERS AND REPORTED THAT THE GERMAN ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE WAS SLIGHT.

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ONE MUSTANG FORMATION, LEAVING ITS ESCORT JOB TO GO HUNTING, FOUND GROUPS OF 300 MESSERSCHMITTS AND FOCKEWULFS PROWLING SOUTHWEST OF BONN AND SHOT DOWN 25 OF THEM, BRINGING THE GERMAN AIRFORCE SIX-DAY TOLL TO AT LEAST 500.

DURING THE PAST WEEK TH EIGHTH AIRFORCE ALONE HAS SENT NEARLY 6,000 PLANES TO HAMMER THE ENEMY SUPPLY ROUTES. A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FORCE SAID TODAY THAT PHOTOS REVEALED THAT THE MAIN RAIL LINE FROM BERLIN TO THE BATTLEFRONT HAD BEEN MADE USELESS, WHILE SOME OF GERMANY'S LARGEST FREIGHTYARDS AT HAMM, MUNSTER AND OSNABRUCK WERE EMPTY.

THIS MEANS THAT THE ENEMY NOW MUST SHUNT TRAFFIC OVER ITS SOUTHERN RAIL ROUTE WHICH IS BEING SYSTEMATICALLY BOMBED.

THE BRITISH BOMBERS SHOWERED ABOUT 2,500 TONS OF BOMBS ON RHEYDT WITHIN SIX MINUTES, BLANKETING THE YARDS WHICH THE GERMANS HAD BEEN USING AS A CONTROL POINT FOR NORTH-SOUTH TRAFFIC. THEY ENCOUNTERED NO NAZI FIGHTERS. THE AMERICAN ATTACKERS FROM ITALY HIT THE AREA OF LINZ ON THE MAIN RAILROAD FROM VIENNA TO MUNICH AND VIPITENO, 10 MILES SOUTH OF THE BRENNER PASS AS WELL AS RAILYARDS AT GRAZ AND BRUCK IN AUSTRIA AND MARIBOR IN YUGOSLAVIA.

B458PEW

~~IS DIVIDED BY THE DANUBE RIVER.~~ Add London Russian (Hercher) xx city.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE GERMAN TRANSOCEAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTED TODAY THAT SOVIET TANKS WERE IN UJPEST, A SUBURB ON THE EAST BANK OF THE RIVER A MILE NORTH OF PEST. UJPEST WAS THE ANCHOR OF THE NAZI DEFENSE LINE EAST OF THE CITY. IF THE RUSSIANS HAVE WON UJPEST, THEY HAVE OPENED ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ENTRANCES TO THE CAPITAL.

ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO INFORMATION FROM MOSCOW REGARDING THE NUMBER OF GERMAN AND HUNGARIAN TROOPS TRAPPED IN BUDAPEST, IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 100,000 THERE. WHEN THE SIEGE BEGAN MORE THAN SIX WEEKS AGO, GERMAN REPORTS SAID THAT ABOUT 50,000 GERMANS WERE IN THE CITY READY TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH.

THE BATTLE FOR BUDAPEST WAS REALLY A FIGHT FOR VIENNA AS WELL AS BUDAPEST. THE HUNGARIAN CAPITAL STOOD AS A GREAT OBSTACLE ON THE ROAD TO AUSTRIA, BUT NOW THAT ITS FATE IS SEALED, THE RUSSIANS ARE LANCING NORTHWEST TO THEIR SECOND GOAL.

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THE RUSSIAN FORCES OF MARSHAL FEODOR I.TOLBUHKIN ARE 68 MILES EAST AND 23 MILES SOUTH OF THE AUSTRIAN BORDER AT CSAKVAR WHICH THEY CAPTURED YESTERDAY. CSAKVAR IS 27 MILES SOUTHWEST OF BUDAPEST.

ON THE NORTHERN ROUTE TO AUSTRIA THROUGH SOUTHERN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE RED ARMY OF MARSHAL RODIN Y.MALINOVSKY IS 96 MILES FROM VIENNA AND 63 FROM BRATISLAVA, THE THRESHHOLD TO THE AUSTRIAN CAPITAL, SPREADING OUT ALONG THE HRON (GARAM) RIVER LINE.

WHILE MEASURES FOR A LAST-DITCH STAND WERE TAKEN IN BUDAPEST BY THE GERMANS, THE MOSCOW RADIO REPORTED THEY WERE BURNING AND BLOWING UP SUPPLY DUMPS, RAILROAD STATIONS AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS THAT THE RED ARMY MIGHT FIND USEFUL IN OCCUPYING THE CITY.

FROM HEIGHTS TO THE WEST WHERE RUSSIAN ARTILLERY DOMINATES THE WHOLE CITY, TOLBUHKIN'S MEN COULD SEE MANY FIRES. NEW TANK BARRICADES IN THE STREETS PROVIDED TARGETS FOR RUSSIAN DIVEBOMBERS.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE FIGHTING IN THE SOUTHWESTERN FRINGE OF BUDAPEST WAS ACKNOWLEDGED IN BROADCASTS FROM BERLIN.

COL.ERNST VON HAMMER, GERMAN MILITARY COMMENTATOR, SAID ON THE BERLIN RADIO THAT THE SOVIETS HAD THROWN FRESH FORCES AGAINST THE ESTIMATED 30 NAZI DIVISIONS THEY ARE ATTACKING IN ISOLATED WESTERN LATVIA. HE SAID THIS OFFENSIVE HAD ENTERED ITS SIXTH DAY, ALTHOUGH MOSCOW NEVER HAS CONFIRMED IT.

"IN THE AREA BETWEEN THE RAILROADS LEADING FROM JELGAVE TO SALDUS AND TUKUMS, THE FIGHTING MOUNTED CONSIDERABLY IN WEIGHT AND SCOPE," VON HAMMER SAID IN HIS REPORT ON THE LATVIAN FIGHTING.

AGAIN THERE WERE HINTS OF IMPENDING RUSSIAN OFFENSIVES IN EAST PRUSSIA AND ON THE SOUTHERN POLAND PLAIN. BELGIAN AND SWEDISH REPORTS SAID A DRIVE IN POLAND WAITED ONLY FOR SOLID FREEZING OF THE EARTH, WHILE THE PARIS RADIO REPORTED GREAT RED ARMY CONCENTRATIONS IN EAST PRUSSIA AND SAID A GENERAL OFFENSIVE THERE WAS EXPECTED WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

JS&MJ245PEW

Add London Aerial xxx been destroyed.

IN YESTERDAY'S RAIDS BY ALLIED PLANES BASED IN ITALY 20 GERMAN PLANES WERE DESTROYED AND 11 WERE BADLY DAMAGED. ALLIED LOSSES WERE 21 PLANES.

DEC 28 1944

AMONG MEDITERRANEAN PILOTS SCORING VICTORIES WERE LT. FRED J.WULF,

30.24 — 21589

7153 SOUTH DOBSON AVE., CHICAGO, ILL.; LT.DAVID E.AMBROSE, 3121 GUILFORD AVE., BALTIMORE,MD.; AND LT.EUGENE P.MCGLAUFLIN, 96 CLIFFORD ST., SOUTH PORTLAND, ME.

MJS 51AEW DEC 28 1944

LONDON--FIRST ADD PLANE BATTLE (TOP A84) X X X 15 HUNS.

CAPT.GILBERT L.JAMISON OF 210 CLUSTER WAY, OLYMPIA, WASH., AND LT.ERNEST H.DUDERSTADT, JR., OF 214 ROCKWOOD CT., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS, BAGGED THREE FOCKE-WULFS APIECE.

LT.EVERETT N.FARRELL OF SUPERIOR, ARIZ., WHO SHOT DOWN ONE FOCKE-WULF AND ONE MESSERSCHMITT SAID, "BOTH WERE HIT RIGHT THROUGH THE CANOPY. THE PILOTS WERE DEAD BEFORE THEY HIT THE GROUND.

OTHER VICTORIES INCLUDED:

TWO AND ONE-HALF: LT.ROBERT K.ALLEN, 2145 S. 11TH, LACROSSE, WIS. DEC 28 1944

TWO: LT.ELMER M.FIERY, JR., 258 DUNNELL, MAPLEWOOD, N.J.

ONE AND ONE-HALF: LT.WILLIAM S.SAGAR, JR., BROOKSIDE DR., GREENWICH, CONN.

ONE: LT.HAYDEN W.HEAD, 1207 S. TRAVIS, SHERMAN, TEXAS; LT. DANIEL LEFTWICH, JR., 934 NORTHWEST CHARLES ST., BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS; LT.FRED S.WELCH, 3205 AYRE ST., CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS; LT.HENRY D. SANDKOUT, 918 SOUTH AVE., WESTFIELD, N.J.; LT.-:(S.BARRIE, ENUMCLAW, WASH.; LT.DONALD F.BLOODGOOD, 540 MANDANA BLVD., OAKLAND, CALIF.; LT.CLIFFORD S.HOGAN, JR., 243 E.THIRTEENTH ST., SARASOTA, FLA.

ONE-HALF: LT.STERLING J.PRICE, PRICE, TEXAS (CORRECT).

Add London Lloyd George xxx Jan 17

KNOWN AS THE "FATHER OF THE HOUSE" WHERE HE SAT FOR 54 YEARS, LLOYD GEORGE HAS BEEN IN SEMI-RETIREMENT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PRESENT WAR, SPENDING MOST OF THE TIME AT HIS FARM.

HE WAS A CENTRAL FIGURE IN MANY OF ENGLAND'S BITTEREST POLITICAL FIGHTS FROM THE TIME HE FIRST GAINED NATIONAL ATTENTION THROUGH HIS STRONG BOER SYMPATHIES. HE LED CAMPAIGNS FOR RADICAL REFORMS, FIGHTING AS FAR BACK AS 1914 FOR NATIONAL INSURANCE AND LAND REFORM. HE BECAME PRIME MINISTER IN DECEMBER, 1916, AND DEC 28 1944 REPRESENTED BRITAIN AT THE VERSAILLES PEACE CONFERENCE. HIS COALITION GOVERNMENT FELL IN 1922 AMID THE THREAT OF WAR WITH TURKEY ANF HE BECAME LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION.

HE HAS A SON AND A DAUGHTER IN PARLIAMENT, KEEPING THE FAMILY NAME IN THE LIMELIGHT. HIII SON, MAJ. GWILYM LLOYD GEORGE, IS MINISTER OF FUEL AND POWER.

233PEW

FIRST LEAD GERMAN

LONDON, DEC. 27-(AP)-A BERLIN BROADCAST TONIGHT SAID THE NAZI OFFENSIVE INTO BELGIUM WAS BECOMING "MORE AND MORE A BATTLE OF ATTRITION," AND THAT "ALLIED COUNTERATTACKS ALREADY ARE MORE METHODIC."

THESE ASSAULTS, THE RADIO SAID, ARE "CLEARLY DIRECTED AT EXERTING PRESSURE ON THE GERMAN WEDGE FROM BOTH SIDES AND MAKE IT COLLAPSE."

"IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE VERY BITTER FIGHTING IS APPROACHING A QUICK CLIMAX, OR GLIDING INTO AN INTERMEDIATE PHASE."

THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND DECLARED A MAJOR TANK BATTLE HAD BROKEN OUT YESTERDAY NORTH OF LAROCHE, AND THAT 70 TANKS OF THE U.S. THIRD AND SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISIONS WERE KNOCKED OUT.

"THE LARGE-SCALE BATTLE IN SOUTHEASTERN BELGIUM AND CENTRAL LUXEMBOURG IS INCREASING IN VIOLENCE," THE GERMAN COMMUNIQUE ADDED.

THERE WAS NO ALLIED REPORT OF A BIG TANK ENGAGEMENT NORTH OF LAROCHE--WHICH WOULD PUT THE ACTION ALONG THE NORTHERN RIM OF THE GERMANS' BELGIAN CORRIDOR, BETWEEN MARCHE AND STAVELOT--NOR CONFIRMATION OF SUCH TANK LOSSES. BERLIN SAID 158 ALLIED TANKS WERE SHOT UP OR CAPTURED ON THE WESTERN FRONT YESTERDAY.

THE HIGH COMMAND SAID AMERICAN EFFORTS TO RELIEVE BASTOGNE, AND ASSAULTS IN CENTRAL LUXEMBOURG HAD FAILED, BUT ADMITTED U.S. GAINS WEST OF ECHTERNACH.

JS1024AEW DEC 28 1944

NIGHT LEAD BASTOGNE (250)

BY HOWARD COWAN

LONDON, DEC.27-(AP)-THE BRUSSELS RADIO SAID TONIGHT THAT AMERICAN RELIEF COLUMNS HAD REACHED THE AMERICAN GARRISON AT BASTOGNE WHICH HAD BEEN CUT OFF BY THE GERMAN ADVANCE FOR MORE THAN A WEEK.

"THE RELIEF FORCES HAVE LINKED UP WITH ALLIED DEFENDERS AROUND THE TOWN," THE BELGIAN BROADCAST SAID.

HAVING REJECTED A NAZI ULTIMATUM FOR SURRENDER, THE TRAPPED DOUGHBOYS HAVE BEEN HOLDING OUT AGAINST TREMENDOUS ENEMY PRESSURE AND WERE REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN A LARGE TOLL OF GERMAN ARMOR IN THEIR DEFENSE OF THE TOWN. THE AMERICAN FORCE IS DESCRIBED AS SIZABLE, BUT ITS NUMBER HAS NOT BEEN DISCLOSED.

THE BESIEGED TROOPS RECEIVED HUNDREDS OF TONS OF SUPPLIES, PRINCIPALLY AMMUNITION, TODAY. IT WAS DROPPED FROM TRAINS OF C-47 TRANSPORT PLANES WHICH FLEW FROM BOTH BRITAIN AND FRANCE WITH THEIR CARGOES.

THE FIRST TRANSPORT SLIPPED OVER THE GERMAN LINES AT DAWN AND DROPPED A UNIT OF PARATROOPERS TO GUIDE THE OTH DEC 28 1944

THE FIRST TRANSPORT SLIPPED OVER THE GERMAN LINES AT DAWN AND DROPPED A UNIT OF PARATROOPERS TO GUIDE THE OTHER C-47'S TO THE SCENE.

HALF AN HOUR AFTERWARD THEY RADIOED BACK THAT THEY HAD LANDED SAFELY BUNDLES OF AMMUNITION, FOOD AND MEDICINE WERE BEING DROPPED TO THE SURROUNDED AMERICANS.

THE TRANSPORT PILOTS ENCOUNTERED NO OPPOSITION FROM GERMAN PLANES, BUT FLEW THROUGH HEAVY GROUNDFIRE. THEY SAW FOUR TANKS, WHICH THEY BELIEVED WERE GERMAN, BURNING IN THE BASTOGNE AREA, SPOTTED AN ENEMY TANK COLUMN RESTING BY THE ROAD AND NOTIFIED AIRFORCE HEADQUARTERS THAT IT WAS A PERFECT TARGET FOR FIGHTERBOMBERS.

THE C-47 MISSION WAS CARRIED OUT WITHOUT ANY FIGHTER ESCORT.

B440PEW

MORE THAN 200 OF THE BIG TRANSPORTS, UNARMED AND UNARMORED, TOOK PART IN THE SUPPLY OPERATION AND HEADQUARTERS OF THE TROOP CARRIER FORCES REPORTED LOSSES WERE "FAR LOWER THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED."

ONE OBSERVER WHO MADE THE FLIGHT SAID HE SAW AMERICAN COLUMNS PUSHING NEAR BASTOGNE AND THAT "NOW IT APPEARED OUR MEN WERE RESUMING THE OFFENSIVE. THIS WAS AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT GROUND SITUATION THAN ON OUR FIRST MISSION SATURDAY. THEN IT SEEMED A SITUATION OF IMPENDING DISASTER."

THE MAJORITY OF THE PARACHUTED CARGO CONSISTED OF ARTILLERY SHELLS, ROLLS OF TELEPHONE WIRE FOR RESTORING COMMUNICATIONS AND CASES OF RATIONS. THERE WAS ROOM ALSO FOR CIGARETTES, GUM, CANDY AND GI MESSAGES OF CHRISTMAS CHEER.

B521PEW

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FIRST LEAD BASTOGNE

LONDON, DEC. 27-(AP)-THE BRUSSELS RADIO SAID TONIGHT THAT RELIEF COLUMNS HAD REACHED THE AMERICAN GARRISON AT BASTOGNE, WHICH HAS BEEN CUT OFF FOR MORE THAN A WEEK.

EARLIER A DISPATCH FROM THE U.S. FIRST ARMY HEADQUARTERS REPORTED THAT A SINGLE U.S. ARMY VEHICLE HAD BROKEN THROUGH THE GERMAN RING AROUND THE BELGIAN CITY. A BBC BROADCAST SAID AMERICAN COLUMNS, OFFICIALLY LAST REPORTED 4 1/2 MILES FROM BASTOGNE, HAD REACHED A POINT 1 1/4 MILES FROM THE TOWN.

HUNDREDS OF TONS OF SUPPLIES--MAINLY AMMUNITION--WERE PARACHUTED TO THE AMERICANS IN THE BASTOGNE AREA DURING THE DAY.

TWIN-ENGINED C-47 SKY TRAINS FLEW FROM BRITAIN AND FRANCE WITH CARGOES FOR THE DOUGHBOYS WHO HAVE WITHSTOOD REPEATED NAZI TANK ATTACKS WHILE WAITING FOR RELIEF COLUMNS LAST OFFICIALLY REPORTED 4 1/2 MILES AWAY.

LAST WEEK THE AMERICAN GARRISON, ORIGINALLY NUMBERING SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS, REJECTED A GERMAN ULTIMATUM TO SURRENDER.

A LONE C-47 PILOTED BY LT.COL.JOEL L.CROUCH, RIVERSIDE, CALIF., SNEAKED OVER THE GERMAN LINES AT DAWN AND DROPPED A PARACHUTE TROOP PATHFINDER UNIT TO GUIDE NOTHER CARGO PLANES TO THE SCENE.

THEY RADIOED BACK THEY HAD LANDED SAFELY AND AN HOUR LATER TROOP CARRIER PLANES BEGAN DROPPING BUNDLES OF AMMUNITION, FOOD AND MEDICINE TO THE SURROUNDED AMERICANS.

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CROUCH, WHO FLEW THE FIRST PARATROOPER SPEARHEADS ON EVERY ALLIED LANDING IN THE WAR AGAINST HITLER, SAID GERMAN PLANES DID NOT MOLEST HIS CRAFT BUT THAT HE ENCOUNTERED HEAVY GROUND FIRE FROM A GERMAN TANK CONCENTRATION.

"I NOTICED THREE OR FOUR TANKS BURNING IN THE AREA AND SAW ONE HUGE TANK--PROBABLY GERMAN--ABOUT 400 YARDS FROM THE POINT WHERE OUR PARATROOPS WERE DROPPED," HE SAID.

"THE ENTIRE AREA WAS COVERED WITH SHELL HOLES THAT SPOTTED THE FROST-COVERED GROUND IN THE AREA. THERE WAS AN ENEMY ARMORED COLUMN RESTING ALONGSIDE THE ROAD WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN DUCK SOUP FOR OUR FIGHTERBOMBERS. I RADIOED THE INFORMATION BACK IN HOPES THAT THE FIGHTERS WOULD COME OUT."

THE C-47, UNARMED AND UNARMORED, RETURNED SAFELY TO BASE WITHOUT FIGHTER ESCORT EITHER WAY.

CROUCH WAS AN AIRLINES PILOT ON THE WEST COAST BEFORE THE WAR.

JS1143AEW

GREEK

LONDON, DEC. 27-(AP)-THE BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY REPORTED TONIGHT THAT PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL HAD TOLD AN ATHENS PRESS CONFERENCE THAT HE, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PREMIER STALIN WOULD REVIEW THE GREEK SITUATION IN A MEETING SOON. HE ADDED THAT IF THE GREEKS DID NOT SOON SOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES AN "INTERNATIONAL TRUST MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO RULE THE COUNTRY."

BBC SAID A DISPATCH FROM ITS CORRESPONDENT, JOHN NIXON, SAID CHURCHILL HAD DECLARED THE BRITISH HAD "ENOUGH TROOPS ON THE SPOT AND ON THE WAY TO GAIN COMPLETE MASTERY OVER ATHENS" AND ADDED "IT SEEMS THE OTHER SIDE WOULD SEE THIS AND STOP FIGHTING."

NIXON'S DISPATCH ADDED THAT THE ALL-PARTY PEACE CONFERENCE CONVENED BY CHURCHILL AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY EDEN HAD DECIDED UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF A REGENCY FOR GREECE AND THAT THE CONFERENCE HAD ADJOURNED.

"THERE IS A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AS TO WHEN THE REGENCY SHOULD BE SET UP, BUT A MAJORITY OF THE DELEGATES ARE IN FAVOR OF IT IMMEDIATELY," NIXON REPORTED.

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CHURCHILL, WHOSE WORDS TO NEWSMEN AT THE EMBASSY FREQUENTLY WERE DROWNED OUT BY THE SOUND OF GUNFIRE, SAID DETERMINEDLY THAT THE BRITISH ARMED INTERVENTION WOULD NOT STOP UNTIL THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND THE LEFTIST ELAS HAD BEEN SETTLED, "EITHER BY FREE NEGOTIATION OR BY INCREASING THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE."

THE BRITISH, NIXON QUOTED CHURCHILL AS SAYING, WILL NOT LEAVE UNTIL THEY RECEIVED "GUARANTEES IN WHICH WE CAN BELIEVE THAT A FAIR AND DECENT GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SET UP WHICH WOULD NOT PAY OFF OLD SCORES ON EITHER SIDE."

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, NIXON REPORTED, THAT HE WAS CONVINCED THAT IF THE BRITISH HAD NOT INTERVENED, THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A "SERIOUS MASSACRE IN ATHENS."

RP810PEW

U.S. NATIONAL

LONDON, DEC. 27 (AP)—JACOB CRANE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSING AGENCY SAID TODAY IN AN INTERVIEW THAT AMERICA WAS "VERY MUCH IN THE MOOD" TO HELP BRITAIN AND OTHER COUNTRIES WITH THEIR HOUSING PROBLEMS BUT HE HELD OUT LITTLE HOPE OF ANY LARGE-SCALE SHIPMENT OF PRE-FABRICATED DWELLINGS.

CRANE SAID THAT IN THE UNITED STATES 12,000,000 NEW HOMES SHOULD BE BUILT IN THE NEXT 10 TO 12 YEARS AND MAINTAINED THE JOB PROPORTIONATELY WAS "JUST AS BIG AND ALMOST AS URGENT AS THAT IN BRITAIN."

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HERE TO STUDY BRITAIN'S HOUSING PROBLEMS CRANE SAID THE

LIMITING FACTORS OF MATERIALS,MANPOWER AND TRANSPORTATION WOULD PREVEN XEXZKERCXENZ THE UNITED STATES FROM LENDING ANY GREAT AID TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

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"IT IS TO BE EXPECTED," HE DECLARED, "EACH COUNTRY WILL FIND METHODS TO BUILD ITS OWN HOMES WITH ITS OWN RESOURCES OR MANPOWER AND MATERIALS. SOME RAW MATERIALS AND SOME EQUIPMENT MAY BE EXCHANGED, AND PERHAPS SOMEMACHENERY FOR FABRICATING OR MANUFACTURING PARTS OF HOUSES. BUT LIKE THE MOST VALUABLE EXCHANGE WILL BE IN THE FIELD OF EXPERIENCE--IDEAS AND METHODS--THE PROFESSIONAL INTERCHANGE."

APRB01207AM10AM

FOLO ATHENS (170)

LONDON, DEC. 27-(AP)-THE BRITISH PRESS TODAY RAISED PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S JOURNEY TO GREECE AS A GENUINE EFFORT TO END THE CIVIL STRIFE AND DEMONSTRATE THAT BRITAIN'S ONLY AIM IS TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.

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"NOT EVEN THE MOST EMBITTERED OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CRITICS COULD FAIL TO BE IMPRESSED BY THE JOURNEY," SAID THE YORKSHIRE POST, POINTING OUT THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD RISKED MUCH TO MAKE THE TRIP.

THE DAILY MAIL, CHARACTERIZING THE TRIP AS "AN ASTONISHING SPECTACLE," SAID:

"CHURCHILL'S ACTION SHOWS THE EXTENT TO WHICH HE HAS TAKEN THE GREEK TROUBLE TO HEART."

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"IT IS THE FIRST CONSTRUCTIVE MOVE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT TO COME FROM THE GREEKS OR BRITISH," SAID THE DAILY HERALD.

THE NEWS CHRONICLE, RECALLING THAT CHURCHILL HAD BEEN "SEVERELY AND RIGHTLY CRITICIZED" FOR HIS GOVERNMENT'S HANDLING OF THE GREEK SITUATION, SAID HE NOW IS DOING "EVERYTHING OF WHICH MAN IS CAPABLE TO OVERTAKE HIS FORMER BLUNDER."

THE DAILY EXPRESS SAID CHURCHILL HAD "MORE THAN CONFOUNDED THE CRITICS WHO HAVE SUGGESTED HE WAS INDIFFERENT TO BLOODSHED IN GREECE."

FW408AEW

PARIS, Dec. 27-(AP)-MAURICE CHEVALIER AND MISTINGUETTE WILL RETURN TO THE CASINO DE PARIS IN A

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NEW REVUE ABOUT THE END OF JANUARY, MISTINGUETTE SAID TODAY.

SHE SAID SHE HAD REFUSED TO GO ON UNLESS CHEVALIER DID TOO, AND THAT HE HAD GIVEN UP HIS FORMER DECISION TO RETIRE AND WAS NOW REHEARSING IN SOUTHERN FRANCE.

PKL DYNANS 01910 752P

BY ROBERT C.WILSON

WITH THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY, DEC. 27-(AP)-THE ROAR OF PLANES OVERWHELMED THE SOUND OF ARTILLERY AND RIFLES ON THE SEVENTH ARMY FRONT TODAY AS THE LULL IN GROUND ACTION CONTINUED AND THE AIR OFFENSIVE THUNDERED THROUGH ITS FIFTH CONSECUTIVE DAY IN COLD, CLEAR WEATHER.

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PATROL CLASHES AND LIGHT ARTILLERY EXCHANGES WERE THE ONLY ACTIVITY FOR LT.GEN.ALEXANDER M.PATCH'S DOUGHBOYS.

TO THE SOUTH, AROUND COLMAR, THE GERMANS CONTINUED TO HAMMER AT THE ALLIED LINES AND FOUGHT THEIR WAY BACK INTO PART OF SIGOLSHEIM NORTH OF THE CITY.

THUNDERBOLTS HIT AMMUNITION DUMPS IN THE AREA OF KAISERLAUTERN AND PIRMASENS IN THE REAR OF THE SIEGFRIED LINE JUST WEST OF THE RHINE. THE TOLL OF ENEMY TRANSPORT CONTINUED TO RISE, WITH 53

LOCOMOTIVES AND 392 RAIL CKRS DESTROYED OR DAMAGED. ONE TRAIN CARRYING FUEL EXPLODED, SENDING FLAMES 1,500 FEET IN THE UIR.

TWO MESSERSCHMITT PLANES WERE DESTROYED IN A DOGFIGHT BY LT. BERNARD KNOLL OF HOLLAND, MICH., AND LT.LEROY TRAN, 1729 67TH STREET BROOKLYN, N.Y.

A FRENCH SPITFIRE UNIT SCORED A BIG VICTORY DEC. 26 BY SHOOTING DOWN FIVE MESSERSCHMITTS AND GETTING TWO PROBABLES WITHOUT A LOSS IN A FIGHT NEAR PFORSHEIM.

EJ937PEW DEC 28 1944

BY WES GALLAGHER

STAVELOT SECTOR IN BELGIUM, 2 P.M., DEC. 27-(AP)-DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT HAS SUFFERED HIS FIRST SERIOUS SETBACK SINCE THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE BEGAN 11 DAYS AGO.

THE 36-HOUR LIMITATION ON THE RELEASE OF NEWS PREVENTS GIVING DETAILS, BUT INFURIATED DOUGHBOYS AND TANKMEN HAVE GONE ON THE OFFENSIVE AND HAVE DRIVEN A DEEP SALIENT INTO THE GERMAN BULGE IN ONE SECTOR.

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AT THE SAME TIME THE WEATHER CONTINUED CLEAR AND THE ALLIED AIR FORCES WHITTLED AWAY AT NAZI TANKS AND TRANSPORT. FLIGHT AFTER FLIGHT OF THUNDERBOLT FIGHTERBOMBERS POUNDED GERMAN POSITIONS.

JUST SOUTH OF HERE, FIGHTERBOMBERS A FEW MINUTES AGO CAUGHT A GERMAN TANK SPEARHEAD MILLING AROUND ON TOP OF A BALD RIDGE AND STRUCK HEAVILY, DESTROYING AT LEAST TWO TANKS AND DAMAGING SEVERAL OTHERS.

"THEY REALLY GAVE THAT COLUMN A WORKING OVER," DECLARED MAJ. ALBERT TREARSE OF LANDSDOWNE, PA.

ALL ALONG THE NORTHERN FLANK THERE WERE INDICATIONS THE GERMANS WERE ON THE DEFENSE FOR THE MOMENT, WITH INFANTRY REPLACING TANKS AND MACHINEGUN POSITIONS BEING SET UP. VON RUNDSTEDT APPARENTLY STILL IS TRYING TO TURN THE AMERICAN LINE TO THE WEST, BUT FROM HERE EAST THE HUGE LOSSES CONVINCED HIM THE LINE WAS FIRMLY HELD.

WITH THUNDERBOLTS BY THE HUNDREDS SEARCHING THE ROADS IN THE BULGE FOR TARGETS, VON RUNDSTEDT PROBABLY IS AWAITING BAD WEATHER BEFORE PUTTING FORTH A NEW BLOW.

DESPITE THE AGGRESSIVENESS OF THE GERMAN AIR FORCE, WHICH WAS OVER THE AMERICAN LINES SEVERAL TIMES THIS MORNING, ALLIED AIR POWER HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST THORN IN THE GERMANS' SIDE.

AN ATTEMPT LAST NIGHT TO PIERCE THE AMERICAN NORTH FLANK FARTHER WEST WITH A MOONLIGHT ASSAULT WAS RUTHLESSLY CRUSHED.

"WE THREW THE WHOLE BOOK AT THEM--JUST PILED IT ON WITH 155S ON DOWN TO RIFLES," SAID LT.GLEN KEAN OF OIL CITY, PA. "THE ATTACK BROKE DOWN AND WAS WIPED OUT IN FOUR HOURS."

BITTER COLD STILL GRIPS THE FRONT AND TANKS CAN OPERATE ALMOST ANYWHERE. WEATHER CONDITIONS IN THE PAST FOUR DAYS HAVE BEEN IDEAL FOR GEN.EISENHOWER'S FORCES IN CONTRAST TO THE FIRST SIX DAYS, WHEN LOW-HANGING CLOUDS AND RAIN OPERATED ALL TO VON RUNDSTEDT'S ADVANTAGE.

IS255PEW

BY HAL BOYLE

U.S. FIRST ARMY HEADQUARTERS, DEC. 26-(DELAYED)-(AP)-GERMAN TANKS IN SOME SECTORS WERE RUNNING OUT OF GASOLINE TODAY AS ALLIED AIR FORCE BLOWS AT FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT'S COUNTEROFFENSIVE BEGAN TO MANIFEST THEIR EFFECTS.

RECOGNIZING THE THREAT IN SMASHING AIR BLOWS AT HIS FORWARD ELEMENTS AND SUPPLY COLUMNS, THE ENEMY HAS ABANDONED STRAFING AND NUISANCE RAIDS BY FIGHTERBOMBERS OVER THE BATTLEFRONT DURING THE DAY.

INSTEAD ENEMY PLANES ARE TANGLING WITH GREAT ALLIED HEAVY BOMBER FLEETS INWARD BOUND AND BENT ON SCATTERING GERMAN RAIL AND ROAD TRAFFIC IN THE CHANNEL BEHIND THE ENEMY WEDGE IN AMERICAN POSITIONS.

COMBAT COMMANDERS REPORTED FINDING NUMEROUS NAZI VEHICLES ABANDONED IN BELGIUM AFTER THEY EXHAUSTED THEIR FUEL AND WERE UNABLE TO GET MORE FROM REAR AREAS.

ONE GROUP OF 12 SELF-PROPELLED GUNS WAS FOUND IN THE WOODS IN A SECTOR WHERE THE ENEMY HAS MADE HIS MOST SPECTACULAR ADVANCES. THEY WERE IN GOOD CONDITION, EXCEPT FOR THE LACK OF FUEL. NEAR A SMALL VILLAGE, 17 FUELLESS ENEMY TANKS WERE DISCOVERED. THE CREWS HAD FLED.

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JS1226PEW

PARIS, DEC. 27-(AP)-INTERVENING IN AN ASSEMBLY DEBATE ON BEHALF OF STATE MINISTER JULES JEANNENEY, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE PRE-WAR SENATE, GENERAL CHARLES DE GAULLE HELD OUT THE OLIVE BRANCH TODAY TO MEMBERS OF THE OLD CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES WHO FOLLOWED MARSHAL PETAIN TO VICHY UNTIL "THINGS BECAME CLEARER."

BY IMPLICATION, THE CHIEF OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ABSOLVED ALL FRENCHMEN WHO FOLLOWED PETAIN IN GOOD FAITH.

AN ASSEMBLYMAN WAS ATTACKING JEANNENEY FOR HAVING PERMITTED INTRODUCTION OF "AN ANTI-REPUBLICAN" MOTION BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AT VICHY IN HIS ROLE OF PRESIDING OFFICER. DE GAULLE, WHO WAS FOLLOWING THE DISCUSSION WITH INTEREST, ROSE TO THE DEFENSE.

"AT VICHY, MOST EVERYONE AT FIRST THOUGHT HE WAS SERVING HIS COUNTRY AND DEMOCRACY ACCORDING TO HIS CONSCIENCE," HE SAID. "THE REAL RESPONSIBILITIES DATE FROM THE MOMENT WHEN THINGS WERE CLEAR AND DEFINITE AND YOU KNOW THAT VERY WELL."

DE GAULLE ADDED THAT HE DID NOT DOUBT THAT MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHO VOTED EXTRAORDINARY POWERS TO PETAIN THOUGHT THEY WERE SERVING THE NATION'S BEST INTERESTS. HIS REMARKS, REGARDED AS OPENING THE DOOR FOR READMISSION TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THOSE WHO VOTED IN FAVOR OF PETAIN IN 1940, WERE APPLAUDED.

WE1031PEW

Insert A

"IT LOOKED LIKE A PRETTY BLEAK CHRISTMAS EVE," CAPT. CARSON SAID.

THEN LT. ARNOLD L.W.RANDALL OF WHITE CLOUD, KAS., A BLOND VETERAN WHO WON HIS COMMISSION IN THE FIELD, LED AN EXPLORATORY PATROL.

AFTER CROSSING 700 YARDS OF BARREN SPACE HE FOUND TIMBER STRETCHING UP TO A WOODED RIDGE WHICH ROLLED RIGHT BACK TOWARD OUR LINES.

ROME--FIRST ADD LUCE (TOP ON AYE) X X X ~~I'M IT~~"

DESCRIBING HER MEETING WITH TRUSCOTT, MRS.LUCE SAID:

"HE HAS A CRISP BLUNT MANNER OF SPEECH--IT TAKES YOU A LITTLE WHILE TO CATCH ON HE IS AN OKLAHOMAN. YOU GET THE FEELING RIGHT AWAY THAT HE HAS A LOT OF SERIOUS BUSINESS ON HAND WITH THE JERRIES AND THAT NOTHING ON HEAVEN OR EARTH--NOT SENTIMENT, NOT TERRAIN, NOT POLITICS AND NOT THE CLIMATE--IS GOING TO KEEP HIM FROM GETTING ON WITH IT IMMEDIATELY."

THE COMBAT SOLDIER "HAS AT LEAST TODAY ON THIS FRONT THE PROPER CLOTHING WHICH IF YOU COULD SEE IT WOULD CHANGE YOUR NOTIONS ON SUNNY ITALY," SHE ADDED, BUT SAID "HE COULD DO, OF COURSE, WITH A WHALE OF A LOT MORE FELLOWS LIKE HIMSELF IN THIS CONSTANTLY SHORT-CHANGED THEATER."

Add Rome Italian (Norstad) xx Gallicano sector.)

THE GERMAN AIR FORCE ALSO CAME TO LIFE AGAIN OVER THE SNOW-COVERED CENTRAL SECTOR. SEVERAL ENEMY AIRCRAFT SWOOPED OVER THE REGION NORTH OF SAN BENEDETTO, DUE SOUTH OF BOLOGNA, AND DROPPED ANTI-PERSONNEL BOMBS. BOMBS ALSO LANDED NORTHWEST OF GRIZZANA, WHICH IS SOUTHWEST OF BOLOGNA.

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THE EIGHTH ARMY SECTOR AT THE EASTERN END OF THE FRONT GENERALLY WAS QUIET, ALTHOUGH THE CANADIANS STILL FANNED OUT NORTHEAST OF NEWLY-CAPTURED ROSETTA, CLEARING OUT FORTIFIED BUILDINGS IN A HOUSE-TO-HOUSE ADVANCE.

OTHER EIGHTH ARMY UNITS WERE DOING SIMILAR JOBS FROM SOUTH OF BAGNACAVALLO TO FAENZA, WHERE REMNANTS OF ENEMY REAR GUARDS WERE DEFENDING EVERY AVAILABLE BUILDING AS THEY TRIED TO BLOCK THE ALLIED ADVANCE THROUGH THE NETWORK OF WATERWAYS, CANALS AND RIVERS OF THE EASTERN PO VALLEY.

THE EAST BANK OF THE NAVIGLIO CANAL IS HEAVILY MINED.

PATROLS WERE ACTIVE NORTHWEST OF BAGNACAVALLO ALONG THE SENIO RIVER EAST BANK, WHICH IS IN ALLIED HANDS IN THIS AREA.

MORE THAN 1,000 FIGHTERS, FIGHTERBOMBERS AND LIGHT BOMBERS WERE SENT OUT AGAINST THE GERMANS IN ITALY YESTERDAY, ATTACKING IN SUPPORT OF GROUND TROOPS AND HITTING COMMUNICATIONS BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES, HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

FUEL AND SUPPLY DUMPS, RAIL AND ROAD BRIDGES, HARBOR INSTALLATIONS, AIRFIELDS, GUN POSITIONS AND STRONGPOINTS WERE INCLUDED IN THE DAY'S ATTACKS, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

MEDIUM BOMBERS OF THE TACTICAL AIR FORCE ALSO WERE OUT IN STRENGTH, ATTACKING BRIDGES AND ROAD AND RAIL TARGETS FEEDING INTO THE ITALIAN BATTLE AREA.

30 - 24 - 21593

Add Rome Flyers' Escapes xxx Unscratched.

BUT HE WAS UNSCRATCHED. THE BURST BLEW THE GOGGLES FROM THE FACE OF GUNNER SGT. WILLARD O. MC GINN OF DEERFIELD, KANS., BUT HE, ALSO, WAS UNHURT.

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GUNNERS DUANE T.PATTERSON, 1936 LANE ST., TOPEKA, KANS., AND EMANUEL BROWN, 725 COLUMBUS AVE., NEW YORK, ALSO ESCAPED UNINJURED, ALTHOUGH FRAGMENTS SLICED THEIR FLYING CAPS.

MILGRAM

Add Athens Greek xx representatives left.

CALLED TO ORDER AN HOUR AND ONE-HALF LATE, THE CONFERENCE BEGAN WITHOUT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEFT-WING NATIONAL POLITICAL FRONT (EAM) PARTY WHOSE ARMED MILITIA, THE ELAS, IS OPPOSING GREEK RIGHTISTS AND BRITISH TROOPS.

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AFTER CHURCHILL HAD BEEN SPEAKING FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES, HOWEVER, THREE EAM DELEGATES WERE USHERED IN. EACH SHOOK HANDS WITH ALL AT THE CONFERENCE TABLE AND THE PRIME MINISTER BEGAN HIS SPEECH AGAIN.

CHURCHILL DECLARED THAT BRITISH TROOPS CAME TO GREECE "WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND APPROVAL" OF PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT AND PREMIER STALIN AND IN THE BELIEF THAT ALL GREEKS, INCLUDING THE COMMANDER OF THE ELAS ARMY, WANTED THEM.

"SINCE WE'VE BEEN HERE," HE ADDED, "THE MOST VIOLENT, UNEXPECTED TROUBLES HAVE ARISEN AND WE HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN THEM IN DOING WHAT WE BELIEVED WAS OUR DUTY. THIS DUTY WE SHALL DISCHARGE FAITHFULLY UNTIL THE END."

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 27-(AP)-NORWEGIAN LEGATION SOURCES SAID TODAY THAT THE GERMAN LIGHT CRUISERS KOELN AND EMDEN AND SOMETIMES A THIRD CRUISER WITH A NUMBER OF DESTROYERS WERE PATROLLING THE OSLO FJORD AND SKAGERRAK TO GUARD NAZI SHIPPING BETWEEN NORWAY AND DENMARK.

THERE IS A "FAIRLY CONSTANT" MOVEMENT OF TROOPS AND SUPPLIES OUT OF NORWAY, THE SOUR

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CE SAID. INDICATIONS ARE THAT THESE ARE FORCES FORMERLY IN FINLAND AND NOW BEING SENT TO GERMANY FOR DUTY ON THE WESTERN AND EASTERN FRONTS.

B527PEW

A161

Add Chungking Chinese (Moosa) xx Chang said

INFORMATION MINISTER WANG, COMMENTING ON THE SUCCESS OF AMERICAN-EQUIPPED CHINESE TROOPS NOW ON THE OFFENSIVE IN BURMA, SAID SUCH AN ARMY WOULD "PROVE OF INCALCULABLE VALUE IN SPEEDING AN ALLIED VICTORY."

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CHINESE AUTHORITIES ARE TAKING STEPS TO FURNISH THE CHINA WAR ZONE WITH ADEQUATE TROOPS WHICH WILL BE BETTER FED, BETTER CLOTHED AND BETTER EQUIPPED, WANG SAID. HE ANNOUNCED THAT A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN WAS BEING CONDUCTED URGING THE CHINESE PEOPLE TO CONTRIBUTE RICE OR MONEY TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND THAT LARGE LANDOWNERS AND OTHER WEALTHY CITIZENS WOULD HAVE TO DONATE LARGE PORTIONS OF THEIR INCOMES.

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE ENCOURAGING SIGNS IN THE STEADINESS OF THE CHINESE PRICE INDEX DURING THE LATTER HALF OF 1944, WANG SAID THAT THE NATION'S ECONOMIC FRONT IN 1945 WOULD BE "NO LESS SERIOUS" THAN THE MILITARY FRONT.

JS217PEW

Add Chungking Aerial xxx Plane missing

(YESTERDAY'S COMMUNIQUE SAID THE DEC.24 RAID ON TSINAN WAS CARRIED OUT BY "NORTH CHINA BASED" PLANES OF THE 14TH AIR FORCE, STIRRING SOME SPECULATION THAT AN AGREEMENT MAY HAVE BEEN REACHED WITH THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS AT YENNAN BY WHICH AMERICAN AIRCRAFT ARE FLYING FROM BASES IN SHENSI PROVINCE.

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(A YENAN BROADCAST RECORDED TODAY BY THE FCC SAID THE CHINESE COMMUNIST EIGHTH ROUTE ARMY, PRESSING A CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE JAPANESE IN WESTERN HONAN PROVINCE, HAD DEFEATED AN ENEMY FORCE AT HEISHUNKUAN, 30 MILES EAST OF LOYANG.)

BZ649AEW

~~SAID TODAY~~. Add SE Asia Command HQ xx said today

AN AIR ATTACK HELPED CLEAR THE WAY FOR THE ADVANCE AGROUND.

PATROLS OPERATING ON THE 15TH INDIAN CORPS FRONT WEST OF THE MAYU RANGE ENTERED ANOTHER VILLAGE ON THE SEACOAST FIVE MILES NORTH OF FOUL POINT, WHICH IS SOUTH OF MAUNGDAW, THE COMMUNIQUE ADDED.

IN THE NORTHERN COMBAT COMMAND AREA OF UPPER BURMA CHINESE TROOPS CONTINUED THEIR ADVANCE NORTHWEST OK NAMHKAM, CLEARING THE NAMHKAM ROAD BETWEEN MILESTONE 351AND MILESTONE 52.

BRITISH 36TH DIVISION TROOPS SENT PATROLS SOUTH OF THE RECENTLY-CAPTURED TOWN OF TIGYAING, ON THE IRRAWADDY RIVER 127 MILES NORTH OF MANDALAYN AND THE AMERICAN MARS TASK FORCE VOMMANDED BY BRIG.GEN.JOHN P.WILLEY OF HAMPTON, VA., ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE PATROL ACTIVITY IN THE TONKWA AREA SOUTH OF BHAMO, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

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ALLIED FIGHTER AND FIGHTERBOMBER SQUADRONS KEPT UP THEIR STRONG SUPPORT OF GROUND FORCES IN THE ARAKAN HILLS AND THE CENTRAL BURMA REGION.

SOME FORMATIONS DESTROYED OR DAMAGED JAPANESE RIVER TRANSPORT ALONG THE IRRAWADDY AND ATTACKED ENEMY TERRITORY IN THE ADJACENT HILL DISTRICTS. OTHER MISSIONS ATTACKED JAILROAD AND RIVER COMMV

HILL DISTRICTS. OTHER MISSIONS ATTACKED RAILROAD AND RIVER COMMUNICATIONSIAND BOMBED AND STRAFED ENEMY AIRFIELDS IN CENTRAL BURMA.

TWO JAPANESE PLANES WERE DESTROYED AND TWO MORE WERE DAMAGED CHRISTMAS NIGHT WHEN ALLIED FIGHTERS INTERCEPTED A FOUR-PLANE ENEMY FORMATION OFF THE ARAKAN COAST, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID. TWO OTHER JAPANESE PLANES WERE REPORTED SET AFIRE ON THE LASHIO AIRFIELD CHRISTMAS DAY.

EJ351PEW

FIRST LEAD CHINESE SPOKESMAN

CHUNGKING, DEC. 27-(AP)-INFORMATION MINISTER WANG SHIH-CHIEH SAID TODAY THE CHINESE HIGH COMMAND BELIEVED THE JAPANESE INTENDED TO CONSOLIDATE A ROUTE FROM KOREA TO MALAYA NOT AS AN AVENUE OF RETREAT BUT "TO PUT UP VERY STUBBORN FIGHTING IN CHINA, FRENCH INDO-CHINA AND MALAYA."

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WANG TOLD CORRESPONDENTS THE JAPANESE SPENT MORE THAN EIGHT MONTHS IN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS TO OPEN THE ROUTE, AND THAT THE OBJECTIVE HAD BEEN LARGELY ACHIEVED. HE SAID THE CHINESE CONSIDERED IT A DUTY TO FURNISH "BY FAR THE LARGEST LAND FORCES" FOR THE FORTHCOMING STRUGGLE, AND ADDED THAT CHINESE AUTHORITIES WERE TAKING STEPS TO OBTAIN BETTER EQUIPMENT FOR ITS ARMY.

JUDGING BY THE RECORD OF AMERICAN-SUPPLIED CHINESE TROOPS IN BURMA, SUCH AN ARMY "WILL PROVE OF INCALCULABLE VALUE IN SPEEDING ALLIED VICTORY," WANG SAID.

THE INFORMATION MINISTER SAID CHINA'S ECONOMIC FRONT WAS "NO LESS SERIOUS" THAN THE MILITARY, BUT THAT THERE WERE ENCOURAGING SIGNS IN THE STEADINESS OF THE PRICE INDEX IN FREE CHINA DURING THE LATTER HALF OF 1944.

-P.H.CHANG, CHINESE CABINET SPOKESMAN, SAID TODAY THE JAPANESE APPARENTLY WERE PREPARING FOR A DRIVE TO CLOSE THE GAP IN THE CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY, A SECTOR OF WHICH STILL REMAINS IN CHINESE HANDS SOUTH OF HENGYANG.

CHANG ALSO DECLARED HE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE JAPANESE WERE STRENGTHENING THEIR DEFENSES ON THE CHINA COAST NORTH AND SOUTH OF SHANGHAI AGAINST A FEARED AMERICAN ATTACK.

HE SAID THE COMMANDER OF THE JAPANESE GARRISON IN SHANGHAI HAD WARNED THAT IF THE JAPANESE WERE FORCED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CITY THEY WOULD LEAVE NOTHING OF VALUE THERE.

BZ641AEW

LT.COL.WILLIAM MCDOWELL, BRADY,TEX., AN OBSERVER WITH BLACK, COULD SEE SMOKE FROM BOMB FIRES EIGHTY MILES AWAY.

AN EXTREMELY CLOSE CALL WAS EXPERIENCED BY THE B-29 COMMANDED BY LT.AL WILLIAMS, (3238 ROSEDALE AVE.) DALLAS,TEX., WHICH HAD ONE ENGINE CATCH FIRE NEAR THE TARGET. THE FIRE WAS EXTINGUISHED AND THE SUPERFORTRESS FLEW ON THREE ENGINES UNTIL ANOTHER STARTED TO FAIL JUST OFF HONSHU. AFTER THAT THE PLANE LIMPED ALONG ON TWO ENGINES WITH A THIRD WORKING PART OF THE TIME.

THE PLANE WAS IN THE LAST FORMATION OVER THE TARGET AND, FLYING SLOWLY, WAS THE LAST ONE HOME, TAKING 16 HOURS AND 25 MINUTES FOR THE TOKYO TRIP.

ENEMY FIGHTERS ATTACKED WILLIAMS' PLANE A COUPLE OF MINUTES AFTER IT REACHED HONSHU. FROM START TO FINISH THE GUNNERS ESTIMATED THAT 50 ATTACKS WERE MADE, THE LAST OF THEM BY GROUP FIGHTERTTTT

AFTER IT REACHED HONSHU. FROM START TO FINISH THE GUNNERS ESTIMATED THAT 50 ATTACKS WERE MADE, THE LAST OF THEM BY GROUP FIGHTERS AAITING OVER THE HONSHU COAST ON THE OUTWARD JOURNEY TO GANG UP ON STRAGGLERS.

SOME OF THE RETURNING PILOTS SAID TODAY'S ATTACK WAS THE TOUGHEST OF THE FIVE OPERATIONS. THE SIZE OF THE FORCE WAS NOT INDICATED IN U.S. COMMUNIQUES. GROUPS OF 60 TO 150 PLANES MADE THE PREVIOUS RAIDS.

(TOKYO SAID 50 SUPERFORTS PARTICIPATED AND AN IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS MADE THE UNSUBSTANTIATED CLAIM THAT NINE OF THEM WERE SHOT DOWN, FIVE PROBABLY SHOT DOWN AND 27 DAMAGED. IT ADMITTED SOME DAMAGE TO INDUSTRIAL SECTIONS.

(TWO OF THE SKY BATTLESHIPS WERE BROUGHT DOWN BY NIPPONESE PILOTS WHO DELIBERATELY CRASHED THEIR INTERCEPTOR PLANES INTO THEM, THE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE SAID. IT ADDED THAT "INTREPID YNAIRCRAFTDEFANSEQUICKSAKEPON

THE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE SAID. IT ADDED THAT "INTREPID INTERCEPTION" AND QUICK ACTION BY AIR RAID DEFENSE UNITS KEPT LOSSES LIGHT. IT ADMITTED FOUR DEFENDING FIGHTERS WERE LOST, INCLUDING THE TWO WHICH VOLUNTARILY FLEW INTO THE SUPERFORTS.

(JAPAN'S DOMEI NEWS AGENCY, APPARENTLY IN AN EFFORT TO CONVINCE THE PUBLIC THAT MEMBERS OF THE DIET CONDUCTED THEMSELVES IN EXEMPLARY FASHION DURING THE RAID, SAID THE LAWMAKERS ATE THEIR LUNCH BEFORE GOING TO AIR RAID SHELTERS.

("THE MORALE OF THE CITY PEOPLE, WHO WITH THEIR OWN EYES SAW THE AIR BATTLES AND THE SPECTACLE OF B-29'S WRAPPED IN FLAMES AND FALLING TO THEIR INGLORIOUS END, IS HIGH INDEED," SAID DOMEI.

(IN ONE INSTANCE, THE TOKYO RADIO SAID, DOWNTOWN CROWDS CHEERED AND APPLAUDED WHEN THEY SAW A SUPERFORTRESS BREAK FORMATION IN A CLOUD OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE AND FALL.)

THE LAST PREVIOUS B-29 RAID ON TOKYO WAS DECEMBER 3. AT THAT TIME JAPANESE FIGHTERS SWARMED UP TO THE DEFENSE AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS HEAVY. THE U.S. WAR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THE LOSS OF ONE BOMBER IN THAT RAID AND SAID BOMBING RESULTS WERE "GOOD."

SGT.ROBERT WILKINSON, WATERTOWN,N.Y., CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER FOR LT.JOHN E.RYAN, (257 TANNER ST.) ELIZABETH,PA., WAS CREDITED WITH SHOOTING DOWN A JAPANESE PLANE IN FLAMES. WILKINSON SAID THE PILOT BAILED OUT BUT HIS PARACHUTE FAILED TO OPEN.

30 24 — 21595

OTHERS WITH RYAN INCLUDED: 2ND LT.CLAUDE LOGAN,TAMPA,FLA.; JOSEPH CARVER, (271 CHESTNUT ST.) WEST NEWTON,MASS.; SGT. JOHNNY JONES, MINNESOTA LAKE,MINN.; CORP.ED FERS (CQT), NEW HAVEN,CONN.

GUNNER SGT.ROBERT J.BOUCHARD (16 TUNA AVE.) BRADFORD,PA., POSSIBLY DOWNED A JAPANESE PLANE.

BOMBARDIER 2ND LT.JOHN J.MAYS, (6204 SOUTH ADA ST.) CHICAGO, SHOT DOWN A TWIN-ENGINED FIGHTER IN FLAMES BEFORE HIS BOMBS WERE AWAY.

THE CENTRAL FIRE CONTROL GUNNER ON ONE B-29 FIRED AT 10 PLANES AND DESTROYED OR DAMAGED TWO. HE WAS SGT.LOU METZLER, (4600 WAUTHER AVE.) BALTIMORE,MD.

A B-29 COMMANDED BY LT.CHARLES W.MORGAN, (701 N.W. 29TH ST.) OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., SAW THE PLIGHT OF LIEUTENANT WILLIAMS' SHIP AND TURNED BACK TO HELP. HE GOT CAUGHT IN WILLIAMS SLIP-STREAM AND DROPPED 4,000 FEET.

ANOTHER PILOT,MAJ.JAMES COATS, GREENFIELD, TENN., THEN TURNED BACK BUT WHEN HE SAW FIGHTERS STILL ATTACKING, HE CALLED MAJ. COLIN ANDERSON, GLENDALE, CALIF. WHEN THE ENEMY FIGHTERS SAW THREE SUPERFORTS COMING TO WILLIAMS' AID THEY BROKE OFF. MORGAN ESCORTED WILLIAMS MOST OF THE WAY HOME.

OTHERS WITH WILLIAMS INCLUDED 2ND LTS HENRY FOX, JR., (211 NORTH KOLIN AVEM), CHICAGO; NAVIS (CORRECT) NEDNICK, (240 MARTIN ST.) HARTFORD, CONN.; GEORGE SABLE, (174 GRANDCONCOURSE) BRONX,N.Y.; AND SGTS.JAMES R.VALE, MORROW, OHIO AND JOSEPH E.THOME, (445 JACKSON AVE.) ELIZABETH,N.J.

DV-EW1044PCW

Add Gen MacArthur's HQ - (McKenney XXX - lost planes

THE CLARK FIELD RAID WAS A CONTINUATION OF THE STEPPED UP AERIAL INVASION OF LUZON, WHERE A SIZEABLE YANK AIR FORCE WAS DESTROYED BY THE JAPANESE AT THE WAR'S OUTSET.

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LIBERATORS DROPPED 59 TONS OF BOMBS ON PALAWAN'S PUERTO PRINCESS AIRDROME WHILE FIGHTERS HIT MASBATE HARBOR WATERFRONT INSTALLATIONS.

HEAVY AND MEDIUM BOMBERS SMASHED AT AIRDROMES AND SHIPPING AT ZAMBOANGA AND DAVAO, MINDANAO ISLAND. THREE SMALL COASTAL FREIGHTERS, A BARGE AND A JETTY WERE DESTROYED IN DAVAO GULF.

IN THE DUTCH EAST INDIES, AMERICAN PLANES DROPPED 161 TONS OF BOMBS ON BORNEO AIRFIELDS AND RAILROAD SHOPS AND STRUCK AT CELEBES HARBOR FACILITIES AND INSTALLATIONS AT MANADO, MAPANGET AND KENDARI. TWO SMALL FREIGHTERS WERE DESTROYED AND A THIRD DRIVEN AGROUND.

HALMAHERA, IN THE MOLUCCAS, WAS HIT WITH 160 TONS OF BOMBS, BRINGING THE TWO-DAY TOTAL AIMED AT AIRDROMES, BIVTUAC AND SUPPLY AREAS TO 275 TONS. THIS WAS A HEAVY SMASH AT THESE TARGETS.

MITCHELLS RAIDED POSITIONS ON TIMOR AND HEAVILY DAMAGED A SMALL FREIGHTER NEARBY.

ONE PLANE LOST DURING A RAID OF MEDIUM BOMBERS ON SHIPPING AND INSTALLATIONS ALONG THE NEW GUINEA COAST.

NINETY TONS OF BOMBS WERE DROPPED ON RABAUL, NEW BRITAIN. FIGHTER BOMBERS RAIDED ENEMY ENCAMPMENTS ON NEW IRELAND AND BOUGAINVILLE. TWO PLANES WERE BROUGHT DOWN BY ANTIAIRCRAFT FIRE BUT THE CREWS WERE RESCUED.

WHILE THESE ATTACKS ARE WIPING OUT THE ENEMY'S HOPE OF AERIAL RESISTANCE TO FURTHER LANDINGS IN THE ARCHIPELAGO OF AMERICAN LIBERATION FORCES, AMERICAN INFANTRY MOPPED UP MINOR OPPOSITION ON RECONQUERED LEYTE ISLAND AND STRENGTHENED POSITIONS ON MINDORO, JUST SOUTH OF LUZON.

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(RADIO TOKYO CONTINUED TO EMPHASIZE THE DECISIVE NATURE OF THE WARFARE IN THE PHILIPPINES. A BROADCAST WEDNESDAY, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, QUOTED NIPPON'S NAVY MINISTER YONAI AS EXPRESSING THE DETERMINATION "TO ACQUIRE FINAL VICTORY THROUGH THE DEATH-DEFYING DEFENSE OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS." THE MINISTER USED THE 86TH SESSION OF THE DIET AS THE SOUNDING BOARD FOR HIS STATEMENT.)

SOME SECTION OF LUZON HAS BEEN HIT EVERY DAY SO FAR THIS MONTH WITH FIVE EXCEPTIONS. PRIME TARGETS OF THE BOMBERS HAVE BEEN THE SCORES OF ENEMY AIRFIELDS LOCATED ON THE ISLAND. DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS AND SHIPPING IN THE HARBORS FROM ONE END OF THE ISLAND TO THE OTHER ALSO HAVE BEEN BLASTED.

DEC 28 1944

IN THE LAST EIGHT DAYS OF RAIDING, 107 NIPPONESE PLANES DEFINITELY HAVE BEEN DESTROYED. IN ADDITION, A "MAJORITY OF 100 PLANES" CAUGHT ON THE GROUND AT CLARK FIELD WERE DESTROYED, GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR REPORTED ON DEC. 24.

CLARK FIELD, THE ENEMY'S MAJOR AIR CENTER, HAS BEEN HIT BY LAND-BASED HEAVY BOMBERS FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE DAYS. THE FOURTH ATTACK, REPORTED IN WEDNESDAY'S COMMUNIQUE, NETTED 39 ENEMY FIGHTER PLANES, BRINGING THE TWO-DAY TOTAL TO 72, AGAINST U.S. LOSSES OF SIX. THE MABALACAT RUNWAY AT CLARK FIELD WAS CRATERED WITH 44 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES.

ENEMY AIRDROMES IN THE VISAYAN ISLANDS AND ON MINDANAO ARE BEING HAMMERED REGULARLY IN THE CAMPAIGN TO DESTROY JAPANESE AERIAL STRENGTH THROUGHOUT THE ARCHIPELAGO.

BASE.

Add PH Iwo XXX Marianas base

THE JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT YESTERDAY CAME THREE DAYS AFTER YANK WARSHIPS STOOD OFF IWO TO POUR SHELLS INTO ITS INSTALLATIONS. THIS FOLLOWED A RAID ON SAIPAN DEC. 24 BY A FORCE OF 16 TO 25 ENEMY PLANES, APPARENTLY BASED ON IWO.

DEC 28 1944

THE FIRST COORDINATED ATTACK FROM THE AIR AND SEA ON IWO WAS MADE DEC. 7, FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER DEC.23. AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESSES TEAMED WITH THE WARSHIPS AND OTHER PLANES IN HITTING THE ISLAND, STAGING BASE FOR RAIDS ON THE SUPERFORT BASE ON SAIPAN, 750 MILES TO THE SOUTH IN THE MARIANAS.

AMERICAN WARSHIPS HAD SHELLED THE ISLAND FOUR TIMES PREVIOUSLY, THE FIRST ATTACK BEING MADE LAST JULY 3.

IWO, WHICH HAS AN AREA OF ONLY EIGHT SQUARE MILES, HAS BEEN RAIDED 23 DAYS THIS MONTH, WITH MORE THAN ONE ATTACK ON SOME DAYS. THE ISLAND HAS THUS BEEN ROCKED BY THE MOST INTENSIVE NEUTRALIZATION RAIDS IN THE PACIFIC WAR OVER SUCH A BRIEF PERIOD.

NEUTRALIZING RAIDS CONTINUED AGAINST ISOLATED ENEMY BASES IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS WITH ATTACKS DEC. 25 AND 26 BY MARINE AND NAVY AIRCRAFT.

NN340PCW NM ASKED

BY VERN HAUGLAND

TWENTYFIRST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, DEC 27-(AP)-AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESSES, TURNED LOOSE ON JAPAN NOV. 24, DROPPED 3,000,-000 POUNDS OF BOMBS THE FIRST 30 DAYS, COMPLETELY KNOCKING OUT THE ENEMY'S LARGEST TWIN-ENGINE BOMBER PLANT, CRIPPLING A SECOND AIRCRAFT FACTORY, DAMAGING TOKYO'S CROWDED WATERFRONT AND BLASTING NAGOYA'S SHIPYARDS AND POWER PLANT.

"THE B-29 AIRPLANE HAS PROVED ITSELF A MAGNIFICENT WEAPON OF WAR," SAID BRIG.GEN.HAYWOOD HANSELL, JR., IN SUMMARIZING THE RESULTS TODAY.

THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AUTHENTICATED BY RECONNAISSANCE PHOTOGRAPHS, ARE BUT A FORETASTE OF WHAT CAN BE DONE TO JAPAN AFTER THE LESSONS OF THE "EARLY EXPERIMENTAL STAGES" HAVE BEEN LEARNED, THE 21ST'S COMMANDER POINTED OUT.

"JAPAN IS BLEEDING INTERNALLY NOW," HIS STATEMENT CONCLUDED, "AND WHILE THE CAUSE OF THIS CRITICAL AILMENT IS EASILY DIAGNOSED, THERE IS NO CURE FOR IT THAT THE JAPANESE CAN DEVISE UNTIL THE WAR WITH JAPAN IS ENDED."

TWO B-29S WERE LOST DURING THE FIRST MONTH OVER THE TARGETS--VITAL INDUSTRIAL AREAS OFTEN DEFENDED BY INTENSE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE AND ON OCCASIONS BY SWARMS OF ENEMY FIGHTER PLANES--AND AN UNDISCLOSED NUMBER OF OTHER GIANT BOMBERS WENT DOWN AT SEA AS OPERATIONAL CASUALTIES OF THE 3,000-MILE ROUNDTRIP FLIGHT FROM SAIPAN. MORE THAN HALF THE CREWS HAVE BEEN RESCUED, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF ADDITIONAL RESCUES PROMPTING THE WITHHOLDING OF THE EXACT FIGURES.

"THESE OPERATIONAL LOSSES HAVE IN NO SENSE BEEN HEAVY" AND THEY "HAVE BEEN FEWER THAN EXPECTED," GENERAL HANSELL SAID.

SOME OF THE RESULTS:

"I CAN BELIEVE I CAN SAY FLATLY THAT THE HATSODOKI PLANT (NAGOYA'S PRODUCER OF TWIN ENGINE BOMBERS AND FIGHTER PLANES), LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN JAPAN, IS AT THIS TIME OUT OF BUSINESS WITH AT LEAST 40 PERCENT OF ITS BUILDINGS DESTROYED OR GUTTED BY FIRE.

"THE KOKUKI (AIRCRAFT) PLANT (AT NAGOYA) HAS ALSO SUFFERED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE WITH RESULTANT INTERRUPTION OF PRODUCTION."

"HEAVY CONCENTRATIONS OF BOMB HITS" ALSO WERE REGISTERED ON NAGOYA'S STEAM POWER PLANT AND SHIPYARDS.

A9FX
TS TO TOKYO EFFO

A9FX

AT TOKYO, EFFORTS TO DEAL A CRIPPLING BLOW AT THE MUSASHINO AIRCRAFT FACTORY--IT WAS THE B-29S INITIAL TARGET NOV. 24--WERE THWARTED BY OBSCURING WEATHER BUT A FEW BUILDINGS WERE DESTROYED AND "A GOOD DEAL OF DAMAGE" WAS DEALT THE ALTERNATIVE TARGET OF THE INDUSTRIAL WATERFRONT.

GENERAL HANSELL SAID "THE RAIDS ON NAGOYA (JAPAN'S THIRD LARGEST CITY AND CENTER OF HER AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION) WERE MORE ALONG THE LINES OF WHAT WE INTEND TO DO AGAIN AND AGAIN TO ENEMY WAR PLANTS IN OUR PINPOINT STRATEGIC BOMBARDMENT OF JAPAN FROM OUR BASES IN THE MARIANAS."

"I WOULD SAY IN SUMMING UP OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE 30 DAYS SINCE WE FIRST BOMBED TOKYO," THE GENERAL CONSERVATIVELY COMMENTED, "THAT THESE FIRST ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING BUT THAT THEY ARE FAR FROM THE STANDARDS OF PERFECTION.

"AND WHEN THEY FAIL TO PUT BOMBS RIGHT ON THE PRIMARY TARGETS, THEY DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THEY HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB EVEN THOUGH THEIR BOMBS HIT OTHER FACTORY AREAS AND EVEN THOUGH THEIR BOMBS DO GREAT DAMAGE IN THOSE ADJACENT AREAS.

OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE IN ADDITION TO THE BOMB DAMAGE, THE B-29S HAVE "DEMONSTRATED IN TERMS WHICH THE MOST IGNORANT JAPANESE COULD UNDERSTAND THAT THE JAPANESE MILITARY LEADERS WERE NOT DOING VERY WELL IN THEIR EFFORT TO LICK AMERICA."

MM1150PPW NM

A126(CQ)FX (BOMBER CREW RESCUED)
K(380)

HEADQUARTERS THIRTEENTH AIR FORCE, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC -(AP)-SHOT DOWN TEN MINUTES AFTER BOMBING BALIKPAPAN OIL REFINERIES ON BORNEO, ALL BUT ONE OF THE CREW OF A LIBERATOR BOMBER WERE RESCUED NEXT DAY FROM AN ENEMY-HELD ISLAND.

THE BOMBER WAS PILOTED BY LT. CLEMET B.BALDWIN, 1920 CALUMET DR., HOUSTON, TEX. THOSE RESCUED WITH HIM BY A NAVY PATROL VESSEL, AFTER ESCAPING DANGERS OF SEA AND JUNGLE, WERE: LT.ROBERT E.CONNELL, COPILOT, 408 SOUTH LIBERTY ST., ELGIN, ILL.; LT.HARLEY L.DROLLINGER, BOMBARDIER, ROUTE 7, SPOKANE, WASH.; SGT.WARREN W.SMITH, TURRET GUNNER, 535 EAST CARLISLE ST., SPOKANE, WASH.; SGT.JOHN S.MORRISON, NOSE GUNNER, 16 COSGUTH ST., PAWTUCKET, R.I.; STAFF SGT.BARNEY RODRIGUEZ, WAIST GUNNER, LAMESA, TEX.; STAFF SGT.ROBERT C.VAN GORDER, ENGINEER, LOWER MAPLE AVE., ELMIRA, N.Y.; SGT.ROBERT W. BLAKE, WAIST GUNNER, 610 BLANTON ST., PARIS, TENN.; SGT. ROBERT L.WINGERT, TAIL GUNNER, 674 FRANKLIN AVE., ALIQUIPPA, PENN., AND STAFF SGT.RODNEY C.AVENIUS, PHOTOGRAPHER, 174 NASSAU BLVD., GARDEN CITY, N.Y.

THE NAVIGATOR, WHOSE NAME WAS WITHHELD, WAS NOT SEEN AFTER HE CAME DOWN WITH HIS PARACHUTE IN THE SEA.

BALDWIN AND SMITH BAILED OUT AND CAME DOWN JUST OFF THE ENEMY-HELD ISLAND. THEY SWAM AND WADED TO THE BEACH.

CONNELL'S PARACHUTE CAUGHT ON THE TOPS OF TREES IN THE JUNGLE, A MILE INLAND. HE MANAGED TO FREE HIMSELF AND CRAWLED DOWN THE TRUNK OF THE TREE. AFTER TWO HOURS OF WANDERING AND STUMBLING, ONCE OVER A CROCODILE, HE JOINED BALDWIN AND SMITH.

THE EXPERIENCES OF MORRISON AND RODRIGUEZ WERE SIMILAR, EXCEPT THAT THE LATTER ENCOUNTERED TWO MEAN LOOKING WILD PIGS INSTEAD OF A CROCODILE.

DROLLINGER ALSO CAME DOWN IN THE JUNGLE AND MADE HIS WAY TO THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE ISLAND. THERE HE WAS MET BY VAN GORDER, BLAKE AND WINGERT, ALL OF WHOM HAD DRIFTED DOWN INTO THE WATER, AND BY AVENIUS, COMING OUT OF THE JUNGLE.

BALDWIN'S PARTY SPENT THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY AND THE NIGHT IN CORAL ROCKS JUTTING OUT INTO THE SEA AFTER THEY HAD BEEN SPOTTED BY A FRIENDLY PLANE, WHICH DROPPED EMERGENCY PROVISIONS.

DROLLINGER'S PARTY MADE THEIR WAY, ONCE SWIMMING A RIVER, TO AN ABANDONED NATIVE HUT IN A COCONUT GROVE. THEIR ONLY FOOD WAS COCONUTS AND CHOCOLATE BARS. THEY WERE KEPT AWAKE BY LAND CRABS, ANTS AND MOSQUITOES. THE NEXT MORNING THEY SIGHTED THE PATROL VESSEL AND WERE TAKEN ABOARD AFTER IT RESPONDED TO THEIR SIGNALS. THE BOAT THEN WENT AROUND THE ISLAND AND PICKED UP BALDWIN'S GROUP.
MM753PPW NM

BY SPENCER DAVIS
(WX) ABOARD A TASK GROUP FLAGSHIP OFF ORMOC BAY, DEC.7 -(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE DESTROYER O'BRIEN STOOD OFF LESS THAN 1,000 YARDS FROM THE BURNING LITTLE DESTROYER TRANSPORT WARD, WALLOWING DEAD IN THE WATER.

THE O'BRIEN'S CAPTAIN, COMMANDER W.W.OUTERBRIDGE OF WASHINGTON, D.C., HAD A LUMP IN HIS THROAT AND SUSPICIOUS MOISTURE ABOUT HIS EYES AS HE WATCHED THE DESTROYER'S FIVE-INCH GUNS TRAINS SQUARELY ON THE ABANDONED WARD AND GAVE THE ORDER:

"COMMENCE FIRE."

THE WARD HAD BEEN BADLY DAMAGED BY ENEMY BOMBERS SHORTLY AFTER LANDING HER COMPLEMENT OF TROOPS AT ORMOC BAY AND NOW SHE WAS TO BE DESTROYED BY OUR OWN GUNFIRE. EVERY OFFICER AND MAN HAD BEEN REMOVED TO SAFETY.

THE FIRST SALVO LANDED SQUARELY ON THE TARGET. THERE WAS A CRIMSON FLASH AND THEN THE WARD WAS ENVELOPED BY A MIGHTY BLOSSOM OF SMOKE AND STEAM AS AN EXPLOSION BURST HER OPEN. IT WAS THE END OF A GALLANT SHIP AND ONE FOR WHICH COMMANDER OUTERBRIDGE HAD PARTICULAR AFFECTION.

(LOSS OF THE WARD WAS DISCLOSED IN A DEC.22 NAVY COMMUNIQUE.)

EXACTLY THREE YEARS BEFORE--DEC.7, 1941--OUTERBRIDGE HAD BEEN IN COMMAND OF THE WARD AT PEARL HARBOR. HIS SHIP WAS ON ANTI-SUBMARINE PATROL THAT MORNING AND HAD ESTABLISHED A DEFINITE SUBMARINE CONTACT. IT DROPPED DEPTH CHARGES WHICH BROUGHT UP AN OIL SLICK. FINALLY BITS OF A JAPANESE SUBMARINE FLOATED TO THE SURFACE. THE WARD THUS HAD FIRED THE FIRST OFFICIAL SHOT OF THE WAR.

OUTERBRIDGE WAS GIVEN A NAVY CROSS FOR HIS PERFORMANCE. NOW HE HAD BEEN CALLED UPON TO DESTROY THAT VESSEL AND IT WAS THE TOUGHEST ASSIGNMENT OF THE WAR FOR HIM.

OUTERBRIDGE'S GUNNERY OFFICER AT THE TIME THE WARD SANK THE SUBMARINE WAS LT.RICHARD W.FARWELL OF SAN DIEGO, CALIF. BY A STRANGE TWIST OF CIRCUMSTANCE IT WAS FARWELL WHO WAS COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE WARD TODAY.

LT807PEW

WITH WASHINGTON AVIATION

OTTAWA, DEC.27-(AP)-REVISION OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS GOVERNING AIR TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES WILL BE UP FOR DISCUSSION AT A MEETING BETWEEN AVIATION OFFICIALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES IN JANUARY.

THE MEETING PROBABLY WILL BE HELD IN NEW YORK AND IS EXPECTED TO MAP OUT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ENLARGED CIVIL FLYING ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO DEVELOP AS SOON AS AIRCRAFT AND MANPOWER ARE AVAILABLE.

THE PRESENT AGREEMENT GOVERNING TRANS-BORDER AIRLINES NOW IS FOUR YEARS OLD AND HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR THE DURATION OF THE WAR. THE EFFECT OF THIS ACTION WAS TO FREEZE EXISTING SERVICES AS THEY WERE IN 1940.

THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENT IS EMBODIED IN TWO DOCUMENTS, ONE PROVIDING FOR RECIPROCITY OF FLYING RIGHTS IN GENERAL TERMS AND THE OTHER SETTING OUT WHAT AIR SERVICES ARE TO OPERATE AND WHO IS TO OPERATE THEM.

PS140PEW

UNDATED CURTIN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
PRIME MINISTER JOHN CURTIN OF AUSTRALIA LEFT THE MELBOURNE HOSPITAL WHERE HE HAS BEEN CONVALESCING SINCE NOV.4, THE MELBOURNE RADIO REPORTED.

THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID HE LEFT BY AUTOMOBILE FOR CANBERRA, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS DAUGHTER. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CONFINED TO THE HOSPITAL ON THE DOCTOR'S ORDERS TO TAKE A "COMPLETE REST".

WW648APW NM

UNDATED
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AN UNCONFIRMED JAPANESE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY DISPATCH ASSERTED TODAY THAT JAPANESE NAVAL SURFACE CRAFT AND AIR UNITS ATTACKED AN AMERICAN CONVOY OFF THE WEST COAST OF MINDORO, PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, LAST NIGHT AND "SANK OR DAMAGED" FOUR FULLY LOADED AMERICAN TRANSPORTS AND "DESTROYED" TWO TORPEDO BOATS.

THE RADIOED DISPATCH, INTERCEPTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUMICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID THERE WERE NO JAPANESE LOSSES.

WW751APW NM

UNDATED GODO (100)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
A FORMER JAPANESE MINISTER OF COMMERCE DECLARED TODAY THE UNITED STATES IS RUNNING OUT OF WAR MATERIALS AND IS "ANXIOUS TO AVOID A PROTRACTED" STRUGGLE AND CALLED ON JAPAN AND GERMANY TO "DEAL BLOWS THAT WILL BRING AN END TO THEIR COMMON ENEMIES, AMERICA AND BRITAIN."

THE FORMER CABINET MEMBER, VICE ADMIRAL TAKUA GODO, GAVE HIS VIEWS IN AN ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY THE NEWSPAPER TOKYO SHIMBUN AND QUOTED BY DOMEI IN A BROADCAST INTERCEPTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION.

THE VICE ADMIRAL DISCOUNTED THE POSSIBILITY OF "UNREST" IN JAPAN DECLARED GERMANY POSSESSED EVERY MEANS NECESSARY TO WIN THE WAR -- NATIONAL UNITY, ENTHUSIASM ON THE PART OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MEN, AND A PERFECT AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM.

WW706APW NM

30. 24- 21599

UNDATED YAP
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
RADIO TOKYO SAID THAT YAP ISLAND, 300 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE PALAU GROUP, WAS RAIDED IN DAYLIGHT YESTERDAY, JAPANESE TIME, BY "MORE THAN 10 ENEMY PLANES."
THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE ALLIED CONFIRMATION OF THE BROADCAST RECORDED BY U.S.GOVERNMENT MONITORS.
GG1028ACW NM

DEC 28 1944

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (120)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (WED):
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: LINE UNCHANGED; PATROLS ACTIVE.
U.S. NINTH ARMY: CLEARED WINDEN, NEAR ROER RIVER; REST OF LINE UNCHANGED; PATROLS ACTIVE.
U.S. FIRST ARMY: AMERICANS ON NORTHERN FLANK OF COUNTEROFFENSIVE DEALT NAZIS FIRST SERIOUS SETBACK OF DRIVE; SMASHED DEEP WEDGE INTO ENEMY LINE; GERMANS SEEMED ON DEFENSIVE ALONG NORTHERN FLANK. DRIVE BLUNTED AT WESTERN EXTREMITY AND PUSHED BACK SLIGHTLY, WITH AMERICANS REPORTED SLOWLY REGAINING INITIATIVE IN FLUID FIGHTING.
U.S. THIRD ARMY, RELIEF COLUMN REACHED BESIEGED AMERICAN GARRISON AT BASTOGNE; NO MAJOR CHANGE REPORTED ON SAAR FRONTS.
U.S. SEVENTH ARMY: MADE SLIGHT GAINS IN FORESTS WEST OF WISSEMBOURG.
FRENCH FIRST ARMY: REPULSED ENEMY RAID ON THANN IN SOUTHERN VOSGES.
CB934PEW

UNDATED SIEGES
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
AMERICAN DOUGHBOYS BESIEGED IN BASTOGNE, BELGIUM, SINCE DEC. 20 CONTINUED TODAY TO FIGHT OFF GERMAN EFFORTS TO PENETRATE INTO THE TOWN. THEIR EPIC STRUGGLE MAY GO DOWN IN HISTORY ALONG WITH THE SIEGES OF BATAAN, SEVASTOPOL, TOBRUK, LUCKNOW, STALINGRAD, LADYSMITH AND LENINGRAD.

DEC 28 1944

TWO DAYS AFTER THE CURRENT GERMAN WESTERN FRONT OFFENSIVE TRAPPED THE YANKS THE GERMANS SENT THEM AN ULTIMATUM TO SURRENDER. IT WAS IMMEDIATELY TURNED DOWN. TODAY AMERICAN RELIEF COLUMNS WERE REPORTED OFFICIALLY FOUR AND A HALF MILES FROM THE TOWN AND PLANES DROPPED SUPPLIES TO THE GARRISON.
THE SIEGE OF BATAAN BEGAN JAN. 3, 1942. OUTNUMBERED AMERICANS AND FILIPINOS HELD OUT DOGGEDLY UNTIL APRIL 9 WHEN THE LAST WEARY REMNANTS WITHDREW TO CORREGIDOR OR SURRENDER TO THE JAPANESE. CORREGIDOR CAPITULATED MAY 6.
SOME 92,000 FILIPINO AND 14,000 AMERICANS WERE ENGAGED IN THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINE CAMPAIGN. IN BATAAN THESE FORCES WERE REDUCED TO 36,853 FILIPINO AND AMERICAN EFFECTIVES WHO FOUGHT OFF SOME 150,000 JAPANESE FOR THREE MONTHS.
DURING STALINGRAD'S 162-DAY SIEGE THE GERMAN ARMY LOST SOME 330,000 TROOPS PLUS FIELD MARSHAL FRIEDRICH PAULUS AND 15 OF HIS GENERALS. STALINGRAD MARKED THE HIGH TIDE OF THE GERMAN ADVANCE INTO RUSSIA.
SEVASTOPOL, RECAPTURED BY THE RUSSIANS MAY 9, TWICE BEFORE HAD UNDERGONE MEMORABLE SIEGES--FOR 11 MONTHS IN 1854-55 WHEN THE BRITISH AND FRENCH FOUGHT THE CRIMEAN WAR WITH RUSSIA, AND FOR NINE MONTHS, FROM OCT. 1941 TO JULY 3, 1942 WHEN THE GERMANS FINALLY TOOK IT.
LENINGRAD, RUSSIA'S SECOND LARGEST CITY, WITHSTOOD A GERMAN SIEGE FOR 2 1/2 YEARS BEFORE THE RED ARMY FORCED THE NAZI TROOPS TO RETREAT FROM THE APPROACHES TO THE CITY. DURING THE MONTHS THAT THE GERMANS POUNDED AT THE GATES OF THE CITY THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF TONS OF SHELLS WERE HURLED AT THE CITY, AS THE NAZIS SOUGHT FUTILELY TO FORCE ITS SURRENDER.

B53
THE BRITISH FIRST CAPTURED TOBRUK, 80 MILES FROM THE EGYPTIAN BORDER, ON JAN. 22, 1941, AND HELD ON TO IT FOR 17 MONTHS. WHEN IT WAS FINALLY TAKEN, JUNE 22, 1942 BY FIELD MARSHAL ERWIN ROMMEL'S TROOPS SOME 33,000 BRITISH TROOPS WERE CAPTURED. ITS LOSS WAS ONE OF THE WORST DEFEATS SUFFERED BY THE BRITISH IN NORTH AFRICA. FIELD MARSHAL BERNARD L.MONTGOMERY'S EIGHTH ARMY RECAPTURED THE LIBYAN PORT FOUR MONTHS LATER.
ONE OF THE MOST TRAGIC AND GLORIOUS STANDS OF THE PRESENT WAR WAS MADE BY BRITISH AIRBORNE TROOPS AT ARNHEM WHERE ONLY ABOUT 2,000 OF AN ORIGINAL FORCE OF 8,000 CAME BACK. BUT IT COST THE GERMANS HEAVILY WITH SOME 12,000 TO 15,000 NAZIS ESTIMATED KILLED IN FIERCE ATTACKS ON THE TRAPPED PARATROOPERS. THE MAIN REMNANTS OF THE BRITISH FORCE WERE RESCUED SEPT. 26 AFTER AN EIGHT-DAY STAND.
ANOTHER FAMOUS BRITISH STAND WAS MADE DURING THE BOER WAR AT LADYSMITH WHERE FORCES COMMANDED BY SIR GEORGE WHITE WITHSTOOD A FOUR MONTHS SIEGE BEFORE BEING RESCUED FEB. 28, 1900 BY SIR REDVERS BULLER.
AT LUCKNOW, INDIA, DURING THE MUTINY OF 1857 1,700 BRITISH RESIDENTS AND TROOPS HELD OUT FOR 12 WEEKS AGAINST 10,000 BESIEGERS.

DEC 28 1944

6
--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 366 MILES (FROM HRON RIVER).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 547 MILES (FROM NEAR ALFONSINE).
BZ639AEW

DEC 28 1944

NEW YORK, DEC. 27-XXX PERPLEXED FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION MONITORS REPORTED TO THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION TODAY THAT THEY HAD RECORDED THE FOLLOWING BROADCAST FROM THE FRENCH RADIO STATION AT BRAZZAVILLE:

"IT WAS OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING AT THE SUPREME COMMAND OF THE ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES THAT NEW YORK WAS BOMBED LAST NIGHT. THE ATTACK WAS MADE BY ONE PLANE."

THE XXXXXXX MONITORS SAID THEY HAD CHECKED AND RECHECKED

THE RECORDING OF THE BROADCAST, WHICH WAS IN FRENCH AND BEAMED TO FRENCH AREAS, BUT THAT THERE COULD BE NO DOUBT OF THE TEXT (4)

IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THE ~~SHORBR~~ BRAZZAVILLE STATION MIGHT HAVE ~~IXEXZ~~ MISINTERPRETED A HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCEMENT CONCERNING THE BOMBING OF PARIS LAST NIGHT.

DEC 28 1944

OWI--JA-- 220A

NEW YORK, DEC. 27--(AP)--MYRON C. TAYLOR, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AT THE VATICAN, ANNOUNCED IN ROME TODAY THAT THE DISTRIBUTION OF MORE THAN 6,000,000 POUNDS OF CLOTHING AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES ~~XXXXXXXX~~ HAD BEGUN IN SEVEN PROVINCES OF ITALY, ACCORDING TO A DISPATCH TO THE OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION. THE SUPPLIES WERE DONATED BY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

DEC 28 1944

EW DEC. 27 OWI

NEW YORK, DEC. 27-(AP)-LOUIS ARCHER ZAHNE, 56, DESCRIBED BY THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AS "ONE OF THE NAZIS ABLEST PAID SPEAKERS AND PROPAGANDISTS," WAS SENTENCED TODAY TO A YEAR AND A DAY IN PRISON ON HIS RECENT PLEA OF GUILTY TO MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS BEFORE AN ARMY EXCLUSION BOARD.

ZAHNE, AMERICAN-BORN NEW YORK REAL ESTATE OPERATOR, PLEADED GUILTY TO TESTIFYING FALSELY BEFORE THE BOARD THAT HE WAS NOT A MEMBER OF THE FRIENDS OF NEW GERMANY, PREDECESSOR OF THE GERMAN-AMERICAN BUND, AND THAT HE HAD NOT WRITTEN A LETTER TO A.AMMEN VON BOROWSKY, FORMER OFFICER IN THE U.S.ARMY RESERVE, WHO HAD BEEN EXCLUDED FROM THE EAST COAST BY ARMY AUTHORITIES.

THE GOVERNMENT CHARGED THAT ZAHNE WAS GROUP UNIT LEADER OF THE FRIENDS OF NEW GERMANY, AND WAS ONE OF ITS INCORPORATORS.

EJ/WM1003PEW

DEC 28 1944

NEW YORK, DEC 27-(AP)-TURKEY WILL BUY $6 MILLION WORTH OF AMERICAN RAILROAD EQUIPMENT AS THE FIRST STEP IN POSTWAR EXPANSION OF ITS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, GALIB GURAN, ASSISTANT GENERAL DIRECTOR OF TURKISH STATE RAILWAYS, SAID TODAY.

"THE LONG TERM PROGRAM WILL AMOUNT TO SEVEN TIMES THE INITIAL EXPENDITURE, DEPENDENT UPON THE RECEPTION AND SERVICE MY GOVERNMENT RECEIVES FROM AMERICAN BUSINESS," GURAN SAID DURING A VISIT TO THE AMERICAN BRAKE SHOE CO. LABORATORIES AND FOUNDRY.

GURAN, WHO IS BEGINNING A TOUR OF EASTERN HEAVY INDUSTRY, WILL ADVISE A SPECIAL TURKISH PURCHASING COMMISSION EN ROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES ON RAILROAD EQUIPMENT AND ROLLING STOCK.

THE TURKISH RAILROAD REPRESENTATIVE SAID MOST EQUIPMENT WILL BE BOUGHT IN FOREIGN MARKETS FOR SOME TIME TO COME BECAUSE DOMESTIC TURKISH MANUFACTURE OF RAILROAD EQUIPMENT IS OUT OF THE QUESTION FOR THE PRESENT.

SW543PEW

DEC 28 1944

BLANK

30.24 — 21601
30.24 — 21603
} Missing!!

30. 24 — 21605

tanks joined the attack on the beleaguered band so two jeeps carrying a total of five men were slipped out to seek help, but fire from the east bank of the Sure had become too heavy to enable relieving forces to reach the town.

Radio communication had failed by then and while the Americans slowly fought their way back toward the river, news of the lost unit, which up to Tuesday had lost one man, came from prisoners.

All Dead Or Captured

On December 33, one German said his men still were giving wide berth to the town area where "crazy Americans" still were firing. The next day another prisoner said he had seen about 50 Americans being marched out of the town to the east. Still hope was not abandoned.

Nothing more was heard until yesterday when Private John B. Sampley, of Fort Payne, Ala., came out. He had hidden in cellars by day and moved a few blocks each night. He finally got out to open country. He said he feared his companions were all dead or captured.

CARNAGE SPREAD OVER FROZEN SOIL

Wreckage Of Panzer Army 3 Miles From Meuse Described

By HAROLD V. BOYLE

Near Celles, Belgium, Dec. 28 (AP)—Here on the raw cold soil of Belgium, where an American armored outfit stopped von Rundstedt's great offensive 3 miles short of its Meuse river goal, is spread some of the ghastliest carnage of the European war.

Destroyed in four days of unceasing battle which kept the American armies from being chopped in half, the human and steel wreckage of the German *Panzer* army lies in frozen ruin over miles of Belgium's fields and woodland.

An incomplete inventory of this disaster discloses hundreds of enemy dead and at least 63 tanks, 49 guns and 177 vehicles destroyed or captured.

1,200 Prisoners Taken

More than 1,200 prisoners have been taken from this shattered and broken elite *Panzer* formation that made up Adolf Hitler's farthest thursting spearhead.

"It is one of the bloodiest battles I ever fought," said an American tank commander, a veteran of three campaigns.

Heavy fog shrouds the hillock and valley with a gray veil that gives fantastic shapes to the leafless trees, burned-out tanks and dead soldiers.

It is a sight to sicken any human who is taught only the glory of war and never the price of defeat. That price is spread everywhere on this wintry landscape of torn flesh and bomb and shell blasted guns.

There has been no time yet to clean up the battlefield. Men are still grimly slugging black remnants of German shock troops.

A light snow lies on crisp fields and ice-sheathed roads. It has collected in little ridges around the blackened yellow bellies of burnt-out German tanks and wheels of silent breech-blown German guns.

It goes unheeded on spent chill faces of German soldiers stretched in death's perpetual frost.

RUSSIAN FORCES TIGHTEN CORDON AROUND BUDAPEST

Fierce Street Fighting Rages in Invaded City as Nazi Losses Mount.

DRIVE TOWARD AUSTRIA

Germans Hurled Out of 12 Suburbs of Burning Hungarian Capital.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 29—(AP) Russian troops, tightening their trap on invaded Budapest, yesterday hurled the enemy out of 12 eastern suburbs two to four miles from the Hungarian capital as other mobile columns raced through the Danube valley to within 58 miles of Austria and 92 of Vienna.

Budapest was partly in flames, shelled heavily by Russian artillery and its installations dynamited by an enemy which Berlin admitted had retreated into the capital's "inner defenses."

Reds Close In On Pest

Soviet troops, fighting street by street through Buda, western half of the Danubian capital, were within nine miles of a cross-city junction with other units slowly closing in on Pest, the eastern part of the city.

At times Junker transport planes attempted to fly in supplies as they did when Field Marshal von Paulus' army was encircled and smashed at Stalingrad, but Soviet dispatches said that Red army planes dominated the skies over the doomed city.

On the eastern side of the capital the Russians were within two miles of the city limits, within six miles of the capital's heart, and also only four miles from the eastern end of Vasuti bridge, one of six spans across the Danube connecting Buda and Pest.

Other Soviet units which had invaded the western part of the city apparently were in control of the western approaches to Vasuti bridge in the Kelenfold district, but Moscow did not announce the progress of the troops infiltrating the western part of the capital.

A midnight Moscow communique said the Germans were suffering "enormous losses," with battlefields littered with the enemy dead, smashed arms and other equipment.

North of the city the Russians also narrowed the noose on a second body of enemy troops surrounded in the Pilis Hills, capturing Pilisszenkereszt in a mile and one-half advance through the forested uplands in the Danube loop.

Nazi Forces Annihilated

The Germans in this area tried desperately to break out to the west, Moscow said, and while they are being annihilated by Soviet shock troops other Red army units were rolling on toward Austria and Bratislava, puppet Slovak capital.

Units of two powerful armies were engaged in the westward drive, attacking through the broad Danube valley on both sides of the river.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army, striking through Hungarian-annexed Czechoslovakia north of the Danube, reached the Hron (Garam) river on a 30-mile front from Leva (Levice) down to the Danube. His men were within 65 miles east of Bratislava and 96 miles from Vienna.

Below the river Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army drove 34 miles northwest of burning Budapest along the main railway to Vienna, capturing Tovaros, only 63 miles southeast of Bratislava and 92 miles from Vienna.

Dispatches delayed through neutral countries said Vienna's war-swollen refugee population was in panic, with thousands fleeing the Austrian capital and the Germans pressing other thousands into fortification work.

By capturing Tovaros the Russians were only 11 miles southeast of Komarom, an important Danube crossing on the route to Bratislava, and 30 miles east of Gyor, big transit center in west Hungary. The Russians also were attacking the stronghold of Tata, less than a mile south of Tovaros, and also had taken Neszmely, on the south bank of the Danube six miles northeast of Tovaros and 12 east of Komarom.

The Russians also gained ground southwest of Szekesfehervar, 32 miles southwest of Budapest, in their effort to break open invasion routes through the Bakony mountains toward Vienna. The communique announced the capture of Polgardi, nine miles south and slightly west of Szekesfehervar, and a number of other towns between that Russian-held stronghold and Lake Balator, including Nadasdladany, eight miles southwest.

A total of 5,454 German and Hungarian prisoners were taken in Wednesday's operations, both in Hungary and Slovakia, Moscow said. Among them was a Hungarian general and eight colonels, captured in the encircled Danube loop north of Budapest.

Gains also were made by Russian troops hitting northeast of Ipolysag (Sahy), in Czechoslovakia 34 miles north of Budapest, as the Russians sought to trap thousands of Germans fighting in the Losonc-Kassa sectors of eastern Slovakia.

On a 20-mile semi-circle around Pest, eastern half of doomed Budapest, the Russians closed in steadily against the Germans, but Moscow did not mention any further progress in Buda, on the western side of the river where the Russians already are within two miles of the city's heart.

Among the places seized on the eastern side were Dunakeszi, on the Danube, three miles north of Upjest, industrial suburb adjoining Pest; Alagi, two miles northeast of Upjest; Arpad, two miles northeast of the municipal city limits; Cinkota, three miles east of the city limits; Rakoskeresztur, four miles east of Budapest; and Pestszentlorinc, six miles from the heart of the city on the southeast.

REDS TIGHTEN SIEGE LINES AT BUDAPEST

Germans Reeling Back in Western Part of City Lose Airport.

NAZIS SPLIT ABOVE CAPITAL

Commander of Hungarian Forces Reported Killed Fighting Russians.

Moscow, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—A doomed Nazi garrison reeled backward in the smoke-filled streets of western Budapest today, but clung with suicidal resistance to positions in the eastern sector of the capital.

[A Berlin broadcast monitored in London said early today that the German garrison in Budapest "has taken up positions on an inner defense ring of the capital" after several Russian penetrations of the German-Hungarian lines. "The Russians are now attacking from the southeast, northeast and west," the broadcast said.

[Tonight's Russian communique announced the entire east bank of the Hron River in Slovakia had been cleared of Germans, the Associated Press reported from London.]

The German and Hungarian defenders were reported to have already been denied the use of one of two remaining airports for evacuation of troops as Soviet forces advanced toward the heart of the city.

With the Red Air Force holding complete mastery in the skies German transports were able to operate only at night from this last field, near Pest, and the casualties were reported great.

Russian troops pushed across the eastern arm of the Danube north of Budapest yesterday, splitting the Nazi troops and driving part of them into the mountainous area in the Great Danube Bend. The remainder were pressed back into Buda, where Soviet units engaged them in house-to-house fighting.

The crossing of the river, which resulted in the Russian capture of Szentendrei Island and a juncture of Red forces on the west bank, cost the Germans and Hungarians 3,000 killed, a Soviet communique said.

Other Red Army troops stormed into Buda from the west and southwest in numerous new penetrations of the suburban arc.

Simultaneously, Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's First Ukraine Army made new gains northwest of the capital along the Budapest-Vienna railroad and captured several localities in the Great Danube Bend.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's forces north of the Danube continued preparations today to storm the Hron (Garam) River line guarding Austria as the Russian communique reported a drive to clear the Germans from the area between the Hron and Ipoly rivers, in the Czecho-Slovakian-Hungarian frontier region.

The communique, however, again emphasized the proportions of the squeeze on Budapest, reporting the capture of four fortified suburbs on the east bank of the Danube and two on the west bank.

There was no clear delineation of the relative sizes of the split German troops west of the Danube, but the total number of Nazis defending Budapest was originally estimated at about 100,000 men.

[The Budapest radio announced today that Gen. Ivan Hindy, identified as commander of the Hungarian troops defending the capital against the Russian advance, was killed in action.]

Other Soviet forces captured eight places east of Ipolysag in the drive on the key border rail hub of Losonc. More than 3,500 prisoners were taken in the fighting along the Czecho-Slovakian fronts Tuesday, it was announced.

GERMAN RAILWAY LINES BOMBARDED

Big RAF Fleet Follows Up 3,000-Plane Daylight Blow

London, *Friday*, Dec. 29 (AP)—A big fleet of RAF heavy bombers struck railway targets at Bonn and Munchen-Gladbach in Germany last night after a daylight *Blitz* by more than 3,000 Allied warplanes from Britain had pounded rail lines supplying Field Marshal von Rundstedt's western salient.

While sleet cut off the battle-front from close aerial support for the first time in six days, upward of 1,200 Fortresses and Liberators of the United States 8th Air Force escorted by 700 Mustangs and Thunderbolts dumped 3,600 tons of bombs on ten targets between the German salient and the Rhine.

Four American bombers were lost, but all the escorting fighters returned safely.

Railway yards, bridges and other critical points in the German transport network came under the aim of "magic eye" instruments, which probed through snowstorms below the bombers to give bombardiers a line on their objectives.

Railway Workshops Hit

In the early dawn, a force of 500 RAF Halifaxes and Lancasters hit rail workshops at Opladen, 12 miles north of Cologne, where the Germans have been repairing military rolling stock. Later this afternoon Lancasters escorted by Mustangs and Spitfires attacked railway yards at Cologne.

The main weight of the American armada was hurled at rail yards and bridges in the vicinity of Neunkirchen, near Saarbrucken on the French border, and at Kaiserlautern, Coblenz and Bonn. This was the first trip in six consecutive operations that United States flyers were able to carry out their missions without being tackled by the German air force.

In the six-day period ending today, the United States 8th Air Force made nearly 6,000 bomber and fighter sorties against more than 70 rail and road line targets essential to the German salient. During this period they also attacked eleven *Luftwaffe* air bases used for tactical support of von Rundstedt's drive.

3,080 Tanks Destroyed

Incomplete reports for the past five days reveal American planes have destroyed 3,080 tanks, armored vehicles, trucks, locomotives and freight cars. The RAF has accounted for at least 1,000 more. Approximately 600 enemy planes have been shot down by Allied fighters and bombers.

Meanwhile, Italian-based heavies

of the United States 15th Air Force ranged northward today and smashed at scattered German oil facilities in Czechoslovakia and hit Brenner Pass rail lines. These raids followed an attack by 500 15th Air Force Fortresses on Austrian oil plants yesterday.

RAF Spitfire pinpoint bombers today resumed their attacks on German V-bomb sites in Holland and destroyed two storage and maintenance depots for rockets. One of these, returning pilots reported, was hidden in the shadow of a large hospital.

GERMANY RAIDED BY 1700 BOMBERS

London, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Seventeen hundred heavy bombers hammered eleven rail targets in western Germany today despite bad weather which curtailed close air support for American ground forces.

Five hundred British bombers struck just before dawn, aiming their bomb load of about 2,500 tons on ground flares planted by pathfinder planes at Opladen, twelve miles north of Cologne.

The United States Eighth Air Force's 1,200 heavies, also based in Britain, bombed the other targets by instruments through dense clouds. They were escorted by 700 United States Fighters which encountered no opposition from German planes. The British escort, likewise, had no opposition in the air.

The 4,000-ton bomb load of the American armada fell on ten rail yards and bridges and on junction points between the German salient in Belgium and the Rhine. The R. A. F. hit the railway workshop at Opladen, where the Germans have been trying to repair damaged military rolling stock.

Italian-based 15th United States Air Force heavy bombers struck at oil storage centers and rail yards at Regensburg in southern Germany, and Liberators attacked oil refineries in Czechoslovakia.

Official accounts said almost 2,000 pieces of German rail and road transport were demolished yesterday and ninety German fighters were shot down by some 4,000 Allied bombers and fighters which took the air. Allied losses were five bombers and twenty-three fighters.

Rail And Bridge Targets

The heavy bombers concentrated on rail traffic. The medium bombers picked out bridges and supply dumps. The fighters scouted roads and fields for German tanks, trucks and troops.

Allied losses were five bombers and 23 fighters.

Colonel Gets 2 Medals For Bagging 5 Planes

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—Col. David Schilling of Traverse City, Mich., received today the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Cross for his destruction of five German fighter planes in combat last Saturday.

Schilling commands the 56th Fighter Group, formerly under Col. Hubert Zemke, now a prisoner of war. He has shot down 24 German planes and destroyed 10½ on the ground.

German Air Force Strength Dwindling

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—*Aeroplane*, authoritative British magazine, estimated today that the German air force has only about 1,700 aircraft available at any one time for defense of the Reich and support of von Rundstedt's drive.

The bulk of the air force is concentrated in Western Europe where it has a strength of about 2,300 planes, of which about 75 per cent are available at any time, *Aeroplane* estimated.

Hitler 'Shuns Joys Of Life': Goebbels

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—Silent and secluded, Adolf Hitler is having sleepless nights, goes around with his head bent from poring over maps and is living a frugal existence in which he "shuns the daily joys of life and all its comforts," Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels reports in the publication, *Das Reich*, the DNB news agency said today.

Calling Hitler a "man the whole world would worship if it only knew what his message is," Goebbels described intimate details of Hitler's current daily program and explained his five months' silence this way:

"He can afford to remain silent for months even if his enemies wish him to speak so that he would reveal his intentions."

Flu Sweeping

Reich, Report

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Brussels radio said today an influenza epidemic had broken out in Germany.

The broadcast said the situation was particularly serious in the southern sections of the Reich, where the cold weather and shortages of food, doctors and medicine have been felt acutely. It said there have been many deaths in Munich.

Civilians Building Nazi Line.

London, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—The Moscow radio declared today the Germans were employing 10,000 civilian workers to fortify the Austrian frontier against the Russians.

The entire faculty and student body of the University of Vienna are among the workers, and additonal helpers are arriving in large numbers from Moravia and western Austria, the broadcast said.

Gen. Brownrigg Declares Eisenhower's Burden Is Too Heavy.

HE SUGGESTS A DEPUTY

Would Put Land Operations in Western Europe in Charge of U. S. Chief's Aids.

London, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Sir Douglas Brownrigg, a retired lieutenant-general, said today that Gen. Eisenhower was trying to carry too heavy a load in personally directing the land fighting and suggested that he delegate some of his duties.

Gen. Brownrigg was adjutant-general to the British expeditionary force in France at the time of his retirement in 1940.

He wrote in the London Evening News that "I have met no one who has any doubt whatever that Gen. Eisenhower is the ideal man as supreme commander, but no one can carry the load he has imposed upon himself."

Gen. Brownrigg said that in the North African campaign Gen. Eisenhower left the running of the land battle to Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, but on September 1 "Eisenhower descended from the supreme perch and took over the personal control of the land fighting without, so far as I am aware, shedding any of his other responsibilities."

Montgomery's Opinion.

Up to the time Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery was Allied ground commander, Air Chief Marshal Trafford Leigh-Mallory was air commander, and Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay was sea commander.

Since then, Gen. Browning said, Leigh-Mallory has been killed and no single commander for combined Allied air forces has been named.

Four days before the Germans started their counter-offensive, Gen. Brownrigg said, he talked with Marshal Montgomery and the British commander told him "it will require the greatest military skill to beat Von Runstedt."

Gen. Brownrigg suggested that Gen. Eisenhower choose his best subordinate to conduct the land battle "or else let him have Alexander once more as his deputy."

Allies Urged To Close Ranks For United Fight

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—The United States Army publication *Stars and Stripes* urged the Allied nations today to close ranks for a united fight against Germany.

The newspaper editorial referred to British troubles in Greece, the controversy over Italian politics, the unrest in Belgium, the Canadian crisis over conscription, the disputes about the Polish-Russian setup, and complaints concerning the international air conference at Chicago.

"Unity and solidarity," the newspaper said, "were strong when the United Nations were militarily weak and the war was in a bad way. Well, the bugles of battle are heard again above the bickering. For the holy love of God, let's listen to the dead. Let's learn from the living. Let's join ranks again against the foe and toward the future."

Bombs and Robots Kill 8,098 Britons in 1944

21,137 Civilians Seriously Injured in 11 Months

LONDON, Dec. 28 (AP).—German bombers and V bombs killed 8,098 British civilians and seriously injured 21,137 in the first eleven months of this year, the government announced tonight. This brought the total dead since Jan. 1, 1940, to 54,205.

Deaths in previous years were 1940, 19,779; 1941, 20,844; 1942, 3,122; 1943, 2,362. Seriously injured were 1940, 25,655; 1941, 21,788; 1942, 3,953; 1943, 3,409.

V-Bombs Again Skip Whole Day

London, Dec. 28 (AP)—For the second time in less than a week England has had a 24-hour period unmarred by German V-bombs, the Air Ministry disclosed today.

The Germans withheld long-range bombardment of England up until dawn, although today's communiqué from Berlin said "Liege and Antwerp were subjected to strong shelling."

Last night's respite and that of Christmas Day were the only two breathing spells in four months.

Danielle Darrieux Gets Lead Part In 'Yseult'

Paris, Dec. 28 (AP)—Danielle Darrieux prepared today to step from two years of seclusion with her first stage appearance in seven years as the leading lady of a two-act play, her first attempt at serious drama.

The one-time Hollywood star, now the wife of a Dominican diplomat, signed a contract with the manager of the Theatre Edouard VII to play the heroine in "Yseult" beginning in February. The actress described it as the hardest role of her career.

French Critics of Allies Berated by Paris Paper

'Combat' Assails Grumbling Over Lack of Supplies

PARIS, Dec. 28 (AP).—Frenchmen were reminded by a Paris newspaper today that if the Americans failed to bring all the supplies which some had hoped for at the time of the liberation, then the Americans now were offering France something more precious—their lives.

Commenting upon the tendency among some Frenchmen to berate the Allies for not bringing enough foodstuffs, chocolate and fuel for the civilian population, the newspaper "Combat" editorially pointed out that many young Americans seen in the Paris subways are on their way to death in battles on the Rhineland fronts.

"There you have their Christmas gift—instead of chocolate.

"There these days you have products which the United States is throwing in profusion upon the European markets—strong flesh and young blood."

French Editor Gets 15 Years At Hard Labor

Paris, Dec. 28 (AP)—Lucien Combelle, owner of the weekly newspaper *National Revolution* since 1942, was sentenced today to fifteen years at hard labor by the purge court.

He was charged with constantly praising Gauleiter Sauckel and with friendliness to German aims, but newspaper friends testified he was the only journalist who supported Pierre Laval without profiting by it.

The prosecutor had demanded the death penalty.

[Fritz Sauckel, *Gauleiter* or governor of the German province of Thuringia, became a factor in French life after he was named Nazi High Commissioner of Labor. In this post he was responsible for the conscription of French workers taken to Germany for compulsory labor.]

French Exporters Ask Same Prices For GI's

Paris, Dec. 28 (AP)—Representatives of great French exporting industries adopted a resolution today asking French merchants to give Allied soldiers the same treatment in prices as given French customers.

Spokesmen for dressmaking, perfume, textile, wine, jewelry, linen and other trades took the action while meeting with the commercial committee of the group "France-Amerique" to study postwar trans-Atlantic business relations.

Seine Base Head Honored

Paris, Dec. 28 (AP)—As a token of their gratitude to Allied troops for the liberation of Paris, members of the capital's police force presented a captured German rifle to Brig. Gen. P. B. Rogers, commander of the Seine base section and American troops stationed here.

Souvenir Stamps Help French War Victims

Paris, Dec. 28 (AP)—Wives and children of Frenchmen killed while participating in resistance against the Germans became the beneficiaries today of $200,000 collected from the first day of public sale of counterfeited stamps printed by Patriots during the occupation.

The stamps were printed by the underground to save money in the circulation of clandestine newspapers and pamphlets.

The sale was conducted jointly by the War Ministry and the national liberation movement.

Billy Conn Has Two Narrow Escapes in Plane

By FRANKLIN F. BANKER

PARIS, Dec. 28—(AP) Corp. Billy Conn, who was cool as an iceberg when he faced the fearsome fists of heavyweight champion Joe Louis, said today he had two close calls all in one day—a plane mishap and German bombing—which "scared me half to death."

Shortly after Corporal Billy and his party of GI boxing mates, who are touring the European theater, took off from a French airfield Tuesday, the pilot of their C-41 plane discovered his elevator controls were locked.

"We circled over the field and sweated for two hours," Conn said, "while a mechanic chopped his way through part of the plane in an attempt to unlock the controls.

"But it was 'no soap,' and it looked like we'd all get killed.

Finally the pilot figured out a plan. He had me and three others run up and down the plane so our weight would lower the tail, then the nose, so we could land.

Hit at 150 M.P.H.

"We hit the runway at 150 miles an hour, and made it okay, but it left me shaking for two days."

Billy and his entourage no sooner hit Paris that night than the Germans decided to bomb the city for the first time in four months. One bomb landed so close to Conn's hotel that the blast blew out the window panes.

"They left me nervous like buzz-

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bombs in London," Conn said. "I don't like them worth a damn."

It was back on June 18, 1941, that Conn met Louis in a world title heavyweight match in New York. The Pittsburgh flash, boxing like a master, had the champ outpointed for 12 rounds and apparently had the crown all wrapped up. Then he elected to slug it out with Louis and was kayoed in the 13th.

Despite that knockout, the "Brown Bomber" is the only bomber Bill is anxious to meet again.

The first thing he wants to do when the war ends is to fight Louis and try again to win the title to which he came so close. Until then, Conn said, he is happy with his job of giving boxing exhibitions for doughboys thousands of miles from home.

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Since arriving in England last June he's traveled 50,000 miles about the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Corsica and Sicily, boxing four nights weekly and cheering up wounded GI's in hospitals.

Tipping the scales at 189 pounds, 27-year-old Conn looked rugged and fit despite continuous travel, K-rations (he called them the worst food on earth) and the knockabout life of a GI.

"Boxing's my game," he chuckled. "I'm a corporal, and I'll never get any higher. They can make me a private any day—you have about 9,000,000 bosses, but it doesn't make any difference."

Degrelle Condemned By Belgian Court

Brussels, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Leon Degrelle, chief of the now outlawed Belgian Rexist (Fascist) movement, has been condemned in absentia to be shot to death. The Brussels court of collaborators and traitors pronounced the judgment yesterday by default. Degrelle has been in the hands of the Germans since before they left Belgium.

Charges included allegations that Degrelle, as Rexist chief, supplied the Germans with soldiers, workers, food, arms and ammunition, tried to foment civil war, bore arms against Belgium and was promoter of the Walloon Guard, made up of combat formations under German officers.

YANKS ...LL BACK ON ITALIAN FRONT

Germans Attack in Serchio River Valley, Capture Barga.

ROME, Dec. 28—(AP) Strong Allied air and ground forces were thrown into battle today in an effort to halt the German assault on a six-mile front in the Serchio river valley, where American Doughboys have been driven from the important road town of Barga in two days of fierce fighting.

The Germans declared that the U. S. 92nd Negro division had been knocked back "some kilometers" by the stubborn drive, which evidently was aimed at the vital Allied supply port of Livorno (Leghorn) 33 miles away. Barga is a mile and a half east of the Serchio river and about 15 miles north of the provincial capital of Lucca.

Nazis Smash Forward

Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's forces hit through flatlands and mountains on both sides of the Serchio in the first action of any importance in the Fifth army's west coast sector in several weeks. The attacking Nazis were supported by artillery.

The Allied tactical air forces hurled the full fury of their bombs, cannon and machineguns against the attacking enemy, with well over 1,000 warplanes participating in headlong strikes against troop concentrations, gun posts, occupied buildings and road junctions in the battle area.

American Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters and Mitchell medium bombers were joined by British and South African Spitfires and Kittyhawks in the blistering assault. Many fires and explosions were seen around Barga and two towns to the immediate northwest, Castelnuovo and Gallicano.

In three days of clear weather the tactical air forces had flown well over 4,000 sorties, their greatest burst of activity since the invasion of Southern France in mid-August.

Nazis Capture Barga

Despite the furious ground and air resistance, Allied headquarters announced that the German attack still was being pressed "with determination" and had forced Allied troops to make a "further slight withdrawal," including the surrender of Barga.

Although the extent of the withdrawal was not disclosed, the American 92nd division was known to have been at least a mile north of Barga two days ago.

In support of their push near the Tyrrhenian sea the Nazis became unusually active in the central sector of the Fifth army front and there was bitter fighting before strong enemy units were repulsed south of Monte Sole, a 2,100-foot peak 12 miles south of Bologna.

To the east British Eighth army troops pushing north along the Senio river slashed into German defenses at Alfonsine, nine miles northwest of Ravenna. Enemy strongpoints were being mopped up all the way from captured Faenza on the Bologna-Rimini highway to Bagnacavallo, 19 miles to the northeast.

MORE GROUND LOST BY YANKS IN ITALY

Rome, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—German forces are continuing their counter-attacks in the Serchio Valley sector on the western flank of the Italian front and Fifth Army troops have made further withdrawals, in that area, Allied Headquarters announced today.

The town of Barga, captured a month ago by the Fifth Army, was enveloped in the German counter-assault that struck out on a six-mile front on each side of the Serchio. Barga is a mile and a half east of the river and about fifteen north of the city of Lucca, capital of Lucca province.

The Nazi drive through the valley flatlands and the flanking mountains was supported by light artillery.

Meanwhile, Eighth Army troops in the Adriatic sector fanned out along the east bank of the Senio River and drove into fortified German positions at Alfonsine, nine miles northwest of Ravenna.

Allied patrols ran into heavy German mortar fire in the area north of Bagnacavallo. South of that town enemy strongpoints were being mopped up all the way to captured Faenza, on the Bologna-Rimini highway.

Allied positions below Monte Sole, twelve miles south of Bologna, underwent several attacks by the Germans who were repulsed with a number of casualties. Heavy enemy guns fired on Allied positions at Monte Grande, due south of Bologna.

ITALIAN GENERAL OUSTED

Azzi Had Urged Army Be Made National Rather Than Loyal

ROME, Dec. 28 (AP)—Gen. Arnaldo Azzi, who wrote a newspaper article calling for reorganization of the Italian Army, has been relieved of his command in the Lazio-Umbria-Abruzzi region, the War Ministry announced today.

General Azzi, 59-year-old officer who fought the Germans in Albania after the Italian armistice, advocated making the army national rather than royal, eliminating the oath of the King, and "democratizing" relations between officers and men. He made his suggestions in an article that appeared Christmas Eve in the Actionist newspaper L'Italia Libera.

The afternoon newspaper Voce Repubblicano, in a two-column editorial, endorsed General Azzi's views. It asserted that under the present set-up the "generals are a caste at the beck and call of the King."

The Labor-Democrat organ Ricostruzione said "Azzi doesn't seem to know that during battle soldiers need to know only how to fight," in supporting the War Ministry's action.

Italian War Ministry Relieves Azzi of Post

General in Article Asked for 'Democratizing' of Army

ROME, Dec. 28 (AP).—General Arnaldo Azzi, who wrote a newspaper article calling for reorganization of the Italian Army, has been relieved of his command in the Lazio-Umbria-Abruzzi region, the War Ministry announced today.

In his article, which appeared Christmas Eve in the Actionist newspaper "L'Italia Libera," the general advocated making the army national rather than royal, eliminating the oath to the King and "democratizing" relations between officers and enlisted men.

The Leftist Italian press promptly assailed the War Ministry's action. The Socialist organ "Avanti," in an editorial titled "The Azzi Scandal," asserted that Fascist generals, war criminals and capitulators remain in service. Azzi, fifty-nine, fought the Germans in Albania after the Italian armistice.

Pope Praises U.S. Charity

Vatican City, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano*, commenting on the arrival in Rome of the first shipment of goods sent by Americans for Italian relief, praised "the spirit of charity which animates the citizens of the United States."

Bishop Of Faenza Dies, Result Of Bombardment

Vatican City, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Vatican newspaper *Osservatore Romano* announced today the death of Msgr. Antonio Scarante, 71, Bishop of Faenza, and said he succumbed to "heart disease caused by the bombardments of the town."

[Faenza, on the Rimini-Bologna highway, recently was captured by British 8th Army troops.]

100 PERSONS KILLED IN VIENNA RIOTS

Workers in Armament Factories Battled Gestapo, Bern Reports.

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BERN, Dec. 28—(AP) Labor riots in Vienna where 750,000 foreigners are employed in German armament industries resulted in the deaths of more than 100 persons Dec. 23, according to information reaching here today.

The reports said that 72 workmen were killed, either in street fighting against the Gestapo and Ukrainian mercenaries or in public hangings. Many others were wounded.

The Gestapo and mercenaries themselves lost 45 killed and some wounded in the outbreak which occurred after the Gestapo tried to halt numerous acts of sabotage by beating workmen, the reports said.

GREEK REGENT TO BE URGED

Churchill And Eden Leave To Press King For Consent

What Cheek!

New York, Dec. 28 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill used just two words to comment on a sniper's attempt to shoot him on the steps of the British Embassy in Athens yesterday, the London radio said today. According to the broadcast, Churchill's comment was:

"What cheek!"

Athens, Dec. 28 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill and Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary, left for London today to recommend to King George II, exiled Greek monarch, that he consent to the immediate establishment of a regency as the first essential step toward solution of Greece's political problems.

A statement issued by the British Ambassador here tonight said that the Archbishop of Athens, acting as chairman of the peace conference which began two days ago at Churchill's request, had told Churchill and Eden there was an "overwhelming desire for an immediate establishment of a regency."

Conference Adjourned

"Churchill and Eden undertook on behalf of his Majesty's Government to recommend acceptance of this course to the King of the Hellenes," the Ambassador said, adding that the conference had been adjourned pending developments.

[A London dispatch said King George of Greece was holding long conferences with his advisers at a London hotel. The feeling persisted in Greek circles there that the King still opposed a regency.]

Fighting continued, meantime, between British troops and the Left-wing ELAS, and before he left Athens Churchill watched the beginning of cleaning-up operations by Tommies and tanks in the central part of the capital.

The British leader saw stiff fighting in narrow, winding streets northwest of the Acropolis and south of Omonia Square. ELAS forces fought back with mortars, machine guns and hand grenades, and before finally giving in they blew entire buildings into the streets in many places. The British took 170 ELAS prisoners, most of them in civilian clothes.

Push Toward Market Area

Considerable progress was made in clearing the industrial section west of Athens. Pushing up Piraeus street toward the market section of the city, British paratroopers and newly enrolled Greek National Guardsmen eliminated all snipers to within 300 yards of Omonia Square.

Once-fashionable Piraeus street was piled with the rubble of houses and littered with tangled streetcar cables and household belongings. Sewers are damaged and refuse lies in heaps. Thousands are living in the wreckage of what were their homes. Drainage systems are wrecked and water gushes from broken water mains.

News reached British headquarters from the Epirus front that Gen. Napoleon Zervas, chieftain of the Rightist EDES guerrillas, was fighting a rear-guard action against between 15,000 and 20,000 ELAS troops as he fell back toward a 20-mile line north of Preveza.

Zervas was reported to have lost half his original forces of 10,000 men by desertion.

Churchill, Eden Quit Athens For London

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Athens, Dec. 28 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden have left for London, a communiqué from the British Ambassador announced today, and will recommend to King George II of Greece the acceptance of a regency for his nation as a step toward Greek peace.

The communiqué said Archbishop Damaskinos, who presided at the two-day conference between Greek parties and the Greek and British Governments, told the British Ministers that those present "reported an overwhelming desire for the immediate establishment of a regency as an essential prelude to the solution of many other problems before the conference."

As warring Greek political factions agreed to the formation of a regency, British military authorities reported a withdrawal of some ELAS forces from Athens to positions on highways leading into the city.

A majority of the conferees expressed themselves in favor of an immediate regency while a minority favored postponement, it was announced by Archbishop Damaskinos, the chairman.

An Allied force headquarters communiqué said insurgent troops which entered the city appeared to be evacuating and leaving the fighting in the "built up" areas to the original Athens ELAS corps, concentrated at Piraeus and in the northern and southern districts of the city.

Bullet Misses Churchill

The communiqué said the process of clearing Athens of the ELAS was progressing slowly but satis-

factory.

In a prelude to the political discussions a sniper's bullet narrowly missed Prime Minister Churchill yesterday morning as he stood in front of the British embassy.

British headquarters commented this morning that sniping had been fairly continuous across the front entrance of the embassy and that there was no indication the sniper, who was manning a machine gun, aimed especially at Churchill.

Watch Fighting

The Prime Minister and the British commander, Lieut. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, watched British parachute troops, infantry, tanks and armored cars begin driving the ELAS from central Athens today.

Standing on Filopappas (Monument) Hill, they saw stiff fighting waged in the narrow, winding streets of the Iroon district northwest of the Acropolis and south of Omonia Square.

The ELAS fought back with mortars, machine guns and grenades and before finally giving in they blew whole buildings into the streets in many places. Teller mines were found sown in the debris.

The British took 170 prisoners, most of them in civilian clothing.

Rear-Guard Action

A dispatch to British headquarters from the Epirus front said that Gen. Napoleon Zervas, commander of an EDES army reduced from 10,000 to 5,000 by desertions, was fighting a rear-guard action against ELAS forces and falling back to the neck of the Preveza Peninsula. The attacking ELAS army was estimated to number from 15,000 to 20,000 men.

Meanwhile, in view of the regency agreement, it appeared that the next move would be up to the Greek King, now in London, who has been reported as unfavorably inclined toward a regency.

Greeks Still Divided.

Although all factions appeared agreed upon the proposal for a regency, now or later, divisions persisted upon other points in the Greek crisis. The ten-point program advanced by the ELAS negotiations yesterday drew from Themistocles Sophoulis, the Liberal leader, the comment: "When I heard the Insurgents' terms, I took my hat and went off. There is no ground for an understanding or continuation of the negotiations. Apart from 50 per cent of the seats in the Cabinet, they want a Premier of common confidence, which means their own Government."

"Of course, we must expect that in a not very long time President Roosevelt, Marshal Stalin and myself will meet again and we will certainly review the situation," Mr. Churchill told a press conference.

Hill U.S. Air Chief in Russia

8th Air Force General Gets Post: End of Shuttle Service Denied

MOSCOW, Dec. 28 (AP).—The United States Air Force's Russian command has a new chief, Brigadier General Edward Hill, from the 8th Air Force, and the shuttle service to and from American bases in the Soviet Union has not ended, despite reports to that effect published abroad.

Some of the staff at the American bases have left them, but the main body are still there. The shuttle service is not operating now, it is explained, because present American bases are considered too far behind the westward-moving Russian front.

The shuttle service, according to the best information available here, had no connection with Soviet failure to attend the Chicago air conference.

SHUTTLE BOMBING STALLED BY WEATHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—(AP) An air force spokesman said today no consideration other than the weather and the military situation were involved in the suspension of shuttle bombing of Germany through the use of Russian bases.

American planes have not been stopped from flying over Russian soil and will continue to do so, he emphasized.

The shuttle bombers flew from British and Italian bases to Russia and returned, bombing German targets on the two-way trip. Drew Pearson, newspaper columnist, said yesterday that shuttle bombing had been stopped because of a Russian refusal to continue to provide bases for the planes.

Any resumption of the shuttle bombing system, the air force spokesman said, will depend upon whether it is desirable or necessary from a military viewpoint. He pointed out that many former targets of the shuttle bombers have been captured and that, currently, winter weather makes such operations extremely difficult.

BRITISH ADVANCE 20 MILES IN BURMA

CALCUTTA, India, Dec. 28—(AP) British troops driving southward in Burma have gained up to 20 miles against light Japanese resistance and have advance elements within approximately 95 miles of the big enemy supply base on Mandalay, Allied headquarters announced today.

The leading British force was reported in the vicinity of Kanbalu, on the main north-south Burma railroad 95 miles above Mandalay, while a parallel force pushing down the Irrawaddy river to the east made satisfactory progress, said the announcement, issued by the Allied land forces of Southeast Asia command.

Japanese troops were opposing the British advance only with suicide rear guard units as their main forces apparently withdrew to a prepared defense line some 20 miles above Mandalay. They were reported destroying some stores they could not take with them.

Troops of the 25th Indian division driving down the Burma west coast were disclosed to have advanced southward 30 miles in the past 14 days, reaching Foul point at the tip of the Mayu peninsula, just across a bay from the important Japanese base of Akyab.

Another Indian force pushing inland from the coast reached a village about 22 miles southeast of Buthidaung. These Allied troops were approximately 330 airline miles from Rangoon, enemy supply port for all Burma.

Reports from the northeastern Burma combat area indicated that the developing threat to Mandalay by British troops was having a "tenderizing" effect on all Japanese forces in the sector near Bhamo and that this enemy group was slowly pulling southward.

Capture of Mandalay would cut the main supply line to this Japanese army, which is opposed by Chinese troops and an American task force. Chinese patrols were reported active along the Bhamo-Namkham road.

Allied heavy bombers yesterday attacked enemy dumps and stores at Prome and a railway bridge at Pyinmana [illegible]th in southern Burma. Pyinmar[illegible] on the railway between R[illegible]n and Mandalay.

AMERICANS CLAIM NO JAPS LANDED ON MINDORO ISLAND

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Dec. 29—(Friday)—(AP) American Liberation forces on Mindoro island ascertained today that the Japanese did not use their Tuesday night naval attack on Yank positions there to screen the landing of troops on other portions of the island.

The Nipponese task force which fired erratically on the U.S. beachhead area disappeared into the China sea, pursued by American planes, and enemy ground and air activity on the island was lacking Wednesday, Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported today.

Jap Landings Expected

It was thought at first that the Japanese naval units had taken the great risk to draw American attention while putting their troops ashore at some other point.

One reason for this suspicion was that the shelling itself not only was ineffective but came only from light guns—5-inchers—although the task force included a battleship and a heavy cruiser which could have used much bigger guns.

After the attacking force had been driven off with a loss of three destroyers sunk and bomb hits on the battleship and cruiser, cub planes flew reconnaissance missions extensively on the Mindoro west coast and found no evidence of any enemy beachhead.

The Japanese naval force was last sighted off Busuanga island, above the north tip of Palawan island, southwest of Mindoro. Lightning fighters carrying 1,000-pound bombers patrolled the Sulu sea approaches to Mindoro for any possible remnants of the enemy force.

The island search for possible Japanese amphibious action was conducted under the direction of Brig. Gen. William C. Dunckel, commander of the Mindoro garrison.

The mopping up of isolated Japanese on Leyte island went on along the Valencia-Palompon highway and another 912 enemy dead were counted, most of them in the sector held by the U. S. 77th infantry.

Mop Up On Leyte

Yanks who landed on Leyte behind Japanese troops at Palompon Dec. 25, continued to meet only light resistance. The main American force, pushing toward the west coast through mountain country ran into tough localized fighting.

Jim Hutcheson, Associated Press war correspondent who flew back to headquarters from the Palompon beachhead, reported the terrain was extremely difficult and that much mop-up work lies ahead. Maj. Gen. Andrew D. Bruce, commander of the 77th, described it as "the battle of bridges." Yank progress has been slowed by the difficulty of replacing or installing bridges to bear mechanized units.

The Americans made rapid time against strong Japanese resistance on the west Leyte lowlands but they now are pushing slowly against stubborn hill positions. Hutcheson described their route as a series of tortuous "S" curves, resembling the Burma road, through a succession of ridges.

General MacArthur announced the knocking out of another 20 Japanese planes and another probable in an attack on Clark field near Manila on Tuesday, bringing the total in three days of raiding to 144.

American planes also bombed airdromes and other Japanese installations on Negros and Mindanao islands and hit shipping and oil storage in the Borneo, Celebes and Moluccas areas. The communique listed the loss of one U. S. bomber and one fighter.

The Japanese navy has suffered its second defeat within two months in futile efforts to bolster Nippon's steadily worsening position in the Philippines, where Japanese militarists look for "final victory."

Sneaking within range of Mindoro island at dusk Tuesday, an enemy force of eight warships lobbed a few shells toward positions American Liberation forces have occupied for 11 days on this strategic island just south of Luzon.

3 Destroyers Sunk

They stirred up aerial and PT boat resistance that sent the force reeling seaward after three destroyers had been sunk and a battleship and heavy cruiser hit. Apparently only three destroyers escaped unscathed, and they were pursued by American warplanes.

General MacArthur said the enemy shelling was "fruitless and inaccurate." A coordinated air attack on Mindoro likewise was broken up, only "minor damage" being caused.

It was the first enemy naval opposition to the Mindoro landings, and it was doomed to failure from the moment that a sharp-eyed Navy Liberator pilot spotted the task force in fading day and radioed a report to the American bombing headquarters on Mindoro.

That report by Pilot Lt. P. F. Stevens of Joplin, Mo., really agitated the base. Spencer Davis, AP War correspondent, reported these things happened in a hurry:

Brig. Gen. Donald F. Hutchinson, chief of staff of the 5th Airforce, ordered all available planes gassed and bombed. Before this could be completed an enemy air force swarmed over the hills to attack the airdromes at San Jose.

Some American planes roared away to the attack before they could be loaded with bombs. To assist in the takeoffs on new, dusty fields, all lights were turned on.

The first planes headed seaward to meet the enemy challenge just as the first target-marking star shells from destroyers began to fall. Other planes tore into the attacking enemy air force and smashed it, downing three Nipponese planes.

PT boats swung into the attack on the enemy warships. So devastating was the American air and light naval response that the enemy force retired toward the China sea without loosing an expected heavy bombardment.

PACIFIC NAVIES TRADE BLOWS

Jap Force Shells Mindoro —Yanks Hit Iwo Jima.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Heavy guns of Jap and American naval task forces traded raiding blows Tuesday and Wednesday on island bases, 1,500 miles apart, but the Nipponese came off worse, with three destroyers sunk, a battleship and cruiser damaged. Two United States warships of undisclosed type were dealt slight damage.

The Japs shelled Mindoro, Central Philippines, from the China Sea Tuesday night, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

[The Americans, making their third appearance this month within 750 miles of Tokyo, bombarded Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, from the Pacific, Tuesday, United States date, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced yesterday at Pearl Harbor. That is Wednesday in the time zone where the attack occurred.]

The enemy warships—a battleship, cruiser and six destroyers—accomplished "some fruitless and inaccurate shelling" of the American invasion scene on southwest Mindoro, Gen. MacArthur said. From the time the warships approached at dusk until they withdrew around midnight, they were under attack by Mind[illegible] based Mitchell bombers and [illegible] underbolt fighters and by sw[illegible] patrol-torpedo boats.

How U.S. Planes Smashed Jap Raid Told

By Spencer Davis

Bomb Wing Headquarters, Mindoro, Philippines, Dec. 28 (AP)—The enemy attempt to bombard American installations at Mindoro with a formidable surface battle force can be added to the long list of failures of the Japanese Navy suffered in the Philippine compaign.

Although an enemy battleship, a heavy cruiser and six destroyers stood off Mindoro's western coastline at what might be considered a safe distance to lob star shells and a few five-inch shells toward the airfields, they were not prepared to withstand the fury of an almost continuous air assault.

Arriving at one of Mindoro's airstrips a few hours after the Japanese naval attack, this correspondent was not able to find a single shell crater marring the field. There were no burning structures or rubble heaps of smoking aircraft.

A Few Fires

There were two grass fires and one fire off San José was still smoking and this appeared to be the extent of the damage.

Once again the enemy's threat has been far more serious than the actual damage he accomplished.

When the Nipponese came within airplane striking range at dusk, they were spotted by a single Navy Liberator search plane piloted by Lieut. P. F. Stevens, of Joplin, Mo., who reported them immediately to

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Bomb Wing Headquarters, Mindoro.

The force consisted of one Kagi class battleship, one heavy cruiser and six destroyers. Stevens said they were heading toward Mindoro at 28 knots.

Planes Get Orders

Brig. Gen. Donald F. Hutchinson, chief of staff of the 5th Air Force, immediately ordered all available planes gassed and loaded with bombs.

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Before this could be completed, enemy fighters swept over the hill and onto San Jose's airdromes for bombing and strafing runs.

Thunderbolts, Lightnings, Mitchells and Black Widow night fighters had to take off whether or not they had bombs under their wings. It was growing dark and to help the takeoffs the fields were completely lighted.

As fighter after fighter cleared the runways and headed for the approaching Japanese task force, the first star shells broke overhead. They were fired by the enemy destroyers in an apparent effort to set the range for the shelling to come.

Heavy Shelling Never Started

But the heavy sustained bombardment never did start and the answer seemed to lie in the violence of the attacking planes.

Lieutenant Stevens, who first spotted the force, returned to Mindoro and had his Liberator tanks filled to capacity and his bomb bay loaded with four 500-pound bombs and streaked back to a point where he had last seen the enemy.

He located the battleship and dropped the bombload in a low level attack. No. 3 and No. 4 bombs hit squarely.

Although his bombs were expended, Stevens stayed with the enemy, reporting its course.

A flight of Mitchell bombers, part of a reconnaissance unit, led by Major Howell C. Wise, of Beverly Hills, Cal., struck the lead destroyer. Wise saw his bombs explode amidship and set the enemy ship aflame. Other Mitchells dived on the second destroyer, hitting it repeatedly. It was seen to explode violently three times.

PT Boats In Action

PT boats had likewise responded and they closed with the heavy cruiser for a torpedo run and secured a possible hit but thereafter they were called back to avoid confusion with friendly aircraft overhead. In the moonlight several PT boats had suffered an inadvertent attack from our own aircraft.

The Japanese destroyers had approached closest to shore as the enemy force swept down from the north to the south of Mindoro. As the air attack gained in fury, the battleship and cruiser headed into Sulu Sea and made an 180-degree turn to the north.

The destroyers opened fire with the 5-inch guns, and from later investigation it appeared they had fired less than 50 rounds. Then they rejoined the rest of the task force while Thunderbolts and Lightnings nagged them in continuous bombing and strafing runs.

One pilot said he thought he was approaching a destroyer and opened up at him with his 20-mm. cannons blazing, but then "he opened up on me and I found out he was a battleship. Wow!"

A West Virginian, Second Lieutenant Charles A. Gregg, piloting a Thunderbolt, made two bombing runs and returned to the field to plead for 1,000-pounders for a third attack. His anxious request was denied and he sat on the field the rest of the night.

Major Carroll C. Smith, of Monrovia, Cal., commanding a newly arrived night-fighter unit, had an aerial view of the entire attack as he directed the fighters to the targets.

He said: "Sam Goldwyn would have paid a million dollars for that show."

Task Force Withdrew

At approximately 1.30 this morning, Manila time, the Japanese force retired to the north, having accomplished very little after their bold approach. When last seen the force was retiring toward the China Sea and there they remained all of today while bomb-laden Lightning fighters scoured the Sulu Sea for the remnants of the task force.

There was no evidence that the Japanese had made any sort of landing—if that had been their intent.

General Hutchinson said that the Japanese surface force was under attack from 7 P. M. until almost 11 30 P. M., Manila time.

"The almost continuous air attack broke up a sizable Japanese threat," the general said. "They may have been able to get a few troops ashore who disappeared into the undergrowth, but reconnaissance has given no evidence of this and certainly no supplies were landed to support them. It was a highly successful action for us."

Honolulu Barge Blast Kills 2

Honolulu, Dec. 28 (AP)—Two men were killed in the explosion of a tank barge in Honolulu harbor today. The blast, of unknown cause, shattered windows in many waterfront buildings.

JAP BOMBERS RAID B-29 BASE

Damage In Attack On Saipan And Tinian Slight

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Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 28 (AP)—Japanese bombers raided the American Superfortress base on Saipan and Tinian islands in the Marianas on December 26 for the second time within three days, inflicting minor damage, a navy communiqué announced today.

These attacks, in small force, were made from the enemy's Iwo Jima base in the Volcanos, 750 miles north of Saipan, despite the heavy bombardments of Iwo this month by American warships and the almost daily raids by Yank planes, including Superfortresses.

7 Planes In 2 Groups

Five planes made up the first raiding group, the communiqué said. There were only two in the second. Two of the raiders were downed by American fighter planes.

The fact that the enemy employed seven planes in his latest slashes at the Marianas indicates the difficulty he is having in staging these attacks from Iwo.

Iwo has been pounded for twenty consecutive days by American warplanes, starting with December 7, and shelled by Yank warships three times this month.

The Japanese also can stage raids on Saipan from Marcus Island and probably from bases in the Bonin Islands, north of Iwo.

Iwo Bombed On Same Day

The same day Saipan and Tinian were bombed the Strategic Air Force, Pacific Ocean area, sent Liberators and Lightning fighters to bomb and strafe Iwo. One enemy plane was shot down over Iwo, two destroyed on the ground and two others damaged.

A navy search plane, reconnoitering in the Bonins, caught and shot down an enemy bomber.

Strategic Air Force Liberators also took a crack at Chichi Jima in the Bonins, December 26, bombing airfields and shipping. A direct hit was scored on a coastal cargo ship, the Navy reported.

Marine planes bombed Babelthuap in the Palau Islands December 26 and enemy bases in the Marshalls the next day.

Sea-Air Attack on Iwo

SOMEWHERE IN THE MARIANAS (via Navy Radio), Dec. 27 (Delayed) (AP)—In the second coordinated Army and Navy assault upon Iwo today, Seventh Air Force Lightnings and Liberators strafed and bombed that Japanese base for staging raids against Saipan, then withdrew to permit naval units bombard the enemy installations.

The Lightnings, reversing the usual procedure, were escorted by two Superfortresses which remained offshore and did not participate in the bombing.

The Lightnings, operating near the limit of their fuel capacity, in some cases remained near the target area almost an hour. When they and their B-29 guides departed B-24 Liberators roared in and bombed visually with results described as good. Airstrips and various installations were their particular targets.

Maj. Gen. Robert W. Douglass, commander of the Seventh Air Force and deputy commander of the Strategic Air Force, which directs coordinated missions, said the results were "pleasing." He added:

"Those bombs got a hell of a lot of Japanese troops."

When the Liberators finished their bombing runs, fleet surface units opening up and setting afire an enemy landing ship, blew up a Japanese gunboat and hit coastal defenses.

Leading the P-38's in their strafing sweep only 100 feet above the ground, was Maj. Warren K. Roeser of 20-40 169th Street, Flushing, Queens, a 24-year-old operations officer.

Roeser's flight, which included Lieut. Anthony J. Stolz of College Point, N. Y., downed the only airborne enemy plane encountered, a twin-engined Nick headed northward toward Japan. Stolz sighted it twenty-five miles northwest of Iwo. All three Lightnings attacked and saw it crash into the sea and explode.

Mitscher Sees Another Battle with Jap Fleet

Lanteborg

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 28—(AP) Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher, who directed the Navy's air arm in the two battles of the Philippines sea, said today he anticipated another action with remnants of the enemy's surface force.

The small, grizzled commander of U. S. fast carrier forces, returning from a month and a half leave in California, told war correspondents:

"They've reached the point where they'll throw everything in the fight. I think in another year we should have their Navy pretty well cleaned up."

Mitscher said if the Japanese refused to commit their remaining fleet units in a sea battle "we will be in a position to clean them out wherever they are."

He expressed conviction that land-based bombers of the Philippines will be able to bar the enemy use of the China sea.

"They will be able to cover the whole area," he added.

The carrier commander, whose fliers cut Japanese carrier air strength to pieces in the first battle of the Philippines sea off Saipan last June and helped defeat the enemy off the Philippines in October served the Nipponese this warning:

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"By next Summer, Tojo will be sitting on a decidedly uneasy seat in the Empire."

Admiral Mitscher, who turned over his carriers to Vice Adm. John S. McCain at the end of October following rout of the enemy fleet, said the Nipponese lost face as a result of heavy air losses and ship casualties in the first battle of the Philippines sea.

"They had to do what they did" when MacArthur's troops landed on Leyte, he explained.

"They were pretty clever."

In the three-pronged naval offensive, the enemy "tried to get our flank."

"We were fortunate enough in discovering them in plenty of time," Mitscher said.

He called out mysterious directions such as "go see" and "scram."

"That's how they make decisions in Washington," he said as a smile wrinkled his face.

Mitscher did not amplify his remark, but joined correspondents in a hearty laugh at his sally.

WASHINGTON DECISIONS REBUKED BY MITSCHER

Tokyo Caught by Surprise.

Headquarters, Twenty-first United States Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 28 (A.-P.).—Superfortresses, streaking in through a clear sky, yesterday pummeled a surprised Tokyo for an hour and a half, and one returning pilot said that his formation alone laid a pattern of explosives two blocks wide and seven blocks long across an important industrial area.

The Musashima factory of the Nakajima Aircraft Company was the primary target, but the first formation, led by Capt. Vance Black of Fairfax, Okla., was pushed by a terrific tailwind and overshot the plant.

Capt. Black declared, however: "The bomb train started at a railway junction where a bridge crossed the river, and extended toward the waterfront in an area where no bomb could fall to hit a target."

Early photographs showed at least a dozen new bomb hits in the plant, and pictures of budding bomb bursts gave rise to hope that later photographs would show heavy damage in the works, one of the keys to Japan's aircraft production.

One of the Superfortresses was lost over Tokyo, but the formations shot down perhaps the largest number of enemy planes so far destroyed over Honshu, the island in which the capital is situated. The total bag has not been officially announced.

It was the fifth time in little more than a month that the B-29s had hammered Tokyo in force. The city's busy industrial center was swept by great fires, returning airmen reported. The smoke could be seen eighty miles away.

Japanese Warships Hunted

ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS on Leyte, Friday, Dec. 29 (AP)—Only a few light shells hit Mindoro in the Japanese task force attack. The withdrawing enemy warships were last sighted off Busuanga Island, above the north tip of Palawan Island, southwest of Mindoro. Lightning fighters carrying 1,000-pound bombers patrolled the Sulu Sea approaches to Mindoro for any possible remnants of the enemy force.

The Americans who landed on Leyte behind Japanese troops at Palompon, on Dec. 25, continued to meet only light resistance, but the main American force, pushing toward the west coast through mountain country ran into tough localized fighting.

American planes bombed airdromes and other Japanese installations on Negros and Mindanao Islands and hit shipping and oil storage in the Borneo, Celebes and Moluccas areas.

Salvador War Threat Charged By Guatemala

exico City, Dec. 28 (AP)—The temalan Embassy charged to- El Salvador is preparing for a litary invasion of Guatemala.

'Osmin Aguirre (President of Salvador) continues by means the radio and press to make opaganda to create an atmosere that would justify his aggresn against Guatemala and even obtain the help of some foreign overnment and to organize a mili- ary expedition to our country," said a statement issued by the embassy.

The embassy also asserted that Aguirre is soliciting the aid of émigrés in Mexico who supported the fallen Ubico and Ponce Governments in "leading the public to believe that the Government of Guatemala is weak and unpopular."

The embassy attributed to such a campaign reports of preparations for another revolution in Guatemala, and said the country is quiet after the recent Presidential elections.

Canada's 1944 War Output

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Ottawa, Dec. 28 (AP)—Canada's war production, although entering 1945 at close to its peak output, is still to be stepped up sharply in some items, particularly certain types of ammunition, Munitions Minister Howe said tonight.

In a statement reviewing activities of the Dominion's war industries during the last year, Howe said that there was no prospect of any substantial over-all cutback for at least the next three months.

Although production continued at a high level throughout 1944, improved manufacturing methods and virtual completion of all war construction meant a drop in expenditures.

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Over-All Figures

During the year the department spent nearly $8,000,000 a day for shells, ships, guns, fighting vehicles, planes and other war supplies. This was about $1,000,000 a day less than in 1943 and $1,000,000 a day more than in 1942.

Canada also has produced 15,000 planes, more than 1,400,000 machine guns and other small arms, more than 50,000 complete artillery units and more than $450,000,000 worth of radar equipment.

Figures of ammunition production are: 110,000,000 heavy projectiles, 4,200,000,000 rounds of small-arms ammunition and 150,000,000 tons of chemicals and explosives.

Lumber And Steel

Since the war started Canada has felled about 25,000,000,000 board feet of lumber, enough to build some 2,400,000 homes.

Steel output for the war period is estimated at 11,982,000 long tons of ingots, more than enough to build a double-track railroad around the world. Canada's contribution toward the Allied metals pool has been nickel, 85 per cent.; zinc, 20; copper, 14; lead, 19; asbestos, 78, and aluminum, 35.

Only about 30 per cent of the Canadian war production is delivered to Canadian forces at home and abroad, the remainder going to the Dominion's allies.

General equipment purchased by the munitions department for both Canada and her allies is estimated to have reached a total of $1,467,000,000 at this year end. It includes: food, $242,000,000; clothing, $412,000,000; gasoline, oil and fuel, $230,000,000 and electrical equipment, $178,000,000.

Capital commitments estimated to October 31, 1944, amounted to $1,422,000,000, of which $790,000,000 was for Government-owned industrial facilities and $632,000,000 for defense construction and wartime housing.

Japs Produce Gasoline From Pine Tree Roots

New York, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Japanese are producing from the roots of their pine trees high-octane aviation gasoline equal, if not superior, to that type of fuel obtained from petroleum, Domei News Agency said today in a Tokyo broadcast.

"The picturesque Japanese pine, indispensable in every Japanese garden, has at last joined the ranks as a valuable munitions raw material," Domei said in the broadcast heard by the Federal Communications Commission.

Reporting an "official disclosure," the news agency said the new synthetic gasoline was under production through a "simple patented process, and already is being mass-produced on an industrial scale."

JAPS COMPLETE TUNNEL CONNECTING ISLANDS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Japanese Domei news agency reported today completion of the Honshu-Kyushu tunnel under the strait separating these two principal industrial islands.

"Following two years of steady and strenuous labor," said Domei in an overseas broadcast recorded by the Federal Communications commission, "the boring of the Kanmon underground national highway connecting the mainland (Honshu) and Kyushu was completed at 10 o'clock tonight."

The dispatch said the project was started in January, 1943, and that 130,000 workmen had been employed on it.

Taxes Forgiven Japs Hit By Quake

New York, Dec. 28 (AP)—An indication that heavy damage may have been caused in Japan by the December 7 earthquake, although Japanese broadcasts previously had given no such impression, came from the Tokyo radio today.

A broadcast recorded by FCC said the Japanese Government had decided to grant "total exemption or postponement" of income and house taxes to corporations and individuals "who suffered losses" in the "fire and tidal waves resulting from the quake."

It will be the first time, Tokyo reported, that Japanese corporations have been included as beneficiaries of such an action.

'Bombs Fall Near Tokyo'

San Francisco, Dec. 28 (AP)—A Japanese broadcast said a "minor formation" of Superforts dropped incendiaries on Ibaraki prefecture north of Tokyo today. The broadcast, recorded here, said the Saipan-based B-29's were kept from the Tokyo area by the "might of our crack units." FCC monitors reported a Japanese radio station, apparently on Kyushu Island, sounded an airalert at 8.27 P.M. [Tokyo time].

Domei, the Japanese news agency, said the Superforts "fled eastward" after hitting the Ibaraki prefecture and causing a "small fire" in the forest area.

The news agency also broadcast the unconfirmed report that Japanese night bomber units Wednesday night (United States time) raided Allied airfields at Suichwan and Kanchow in Kiangsi province, southeastern China, hitting runways and destroying seven American planes. Domei said despite anti-aircraft fire all Japanese planes returned to their bases.

Von Kluge, Nazi Field Marshal, Kills Himself

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BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Field Marshal Guenther von Kluge, former supreme commander of German forces on the western front, killed himself in remorse over his refusal to join the revolt against Hitler last summer, a military correspondent of the British radio said last night.

Earlier yesterday the British radio said that Von Kluge's suicide had been confirmed in a captured order of the day issue by the German high command Aug. 31. The order was quoted as saying:

"In view of the depressing responsibility for the outcome of the battle in Normandy, Von Kluge resigned from his post as commander of the western front and subsequently committed suicide. Further comments on this incident are banned."

However, the BBC military correspondent said in the later broadcast—beamed to Germany and recorded by OWI—that the reason given in the German order was not the true one.

Nazis Confirm Suicide Of Marshal Von Kluge

New York, Dec. 27 (AP)—The British radio said in a broadcast recorded by the OWI today that a newly received copy of a German high command order August 31 confirmed that Nazi Field Marshal Guenther von Kluge had killed himself.

"In view of the depressing responsibility for the outcome of the battle of Normandy," the order was quoted, "von Kluge resigned from his post as commander of the Western front and subsequently committed suicide.

"Further comments on this incident are banned."

Von Kluge had relieved Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt as supreme commander of German forces on the Western front early last summer. Von Rundstedt was returned to the command later.

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

By Associated Press.

Dec. 28, 1940.—Law decreeing death penalty for extreme cases of food hoarding passed in Italy. British submarine Seal, captured by Germans, reported at sea with Nazi crew.

STIMSON SEES NAZI FAILURE

Predicts Disastrous Consequences From 'Throw Of Dice'

Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—Secretary Stimson, though describing the present situation on the European front as "critical," expressed confidence today that the Germans eventually will reap "disastrous consequences" from their gambling counteroffensive.

"War is not an easy game to play and you can't always win every battle," the War Secretary told a news conference, "but I am confident that we are winning and that time will reveal that this German throw of the dice will have disastrous consequences for him."

The Secretary acknowledged that American efforts to stem the German drive have cost us "severe" casualties, but asserted that the Nazi Army, too, has "taken hard blows" in personnel and matériel losses.

Looks To Air "Superiority"

Indicating that the Allied high command is relying heavily on air superiority to throw back the German thrust, he said that aside from the fighting spirit of our troops "no other factor in the present situation means so much to us as flying weather."

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In the five-day period beginning Saturday, he reported, Allied airmen destroyed 483 German planes and 507 armored vehicles and destroyed or damaged 3,177 motor vehicles. In addition, Stimson said, the enemy's marshaling yards are "being blown to bits."

He emphasized the continuing advance of Allied flanking troops attempting to narrow the German offensive corridor in Belgium.

It is too early to predict, he said, what additional power the enemy may be able to throw into the salient and added that as long as any Nazi column progressed it would not be "appropriate to say that the Germans have been contained or that the danger is over."

Too Early To Assess Blame

Likewise, he said in obvious reference to some criticism of Allied intelligence, it is soo soon "to pass judgment as to whether any person or group should be censured" as a result of the German breakthrough.

Undoubtedly, he added, the Germans made use of every advantage in weather, forest cover and long nights, to mobilize their forces under "excellent" staff supervision.

Stimson asserted that "an important factor" in the German decision to risk the offensive was the use to be made of it in Nazi propaganda efforts to divide the Allies.

628,441 Casualties By Dec. 14

Casualties in the armed forces increased 65,973 during the two weeks ended December 14, boosting the total losses to 628,441, the Army and Navy reported today.

The Army's killed, wounded, missing and taken prisoner accounted for 547,823 of the total, an increase of 63,866. These figures, however, do not include the losses in the current German counter-offensive which Secretary Stimson said have been "severe."

Navy casualties amounted to 80,618, an increase of 2,107.

Casualties Classified

Army casualties by classification and the increases:

Killed 102,961, an increase of 10,826.

Wounded 319,935, increase 47,584.

Missing 65,762, increase 2,976.

Prisoners of war 59,165, increase 2,480.

Navy figures:

Killed 31,182, increase 1,153.

Wounded 35,942, increase 1,439.

Missing 9,010, decrease 483.

Prisoners of war 4,484, decrease two.

The decreases in the latter two categories apparently represent a shifting to other classifications.

U.S. WILL PROTEST NAZI SHOOTING OF CAPTURED YANKS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28—(AP) The United States, in angry helplessness, is preparing to protest the shooting of American soldiers captured by the Germans during their forward rush into Belgium.

The State department is gathering from the War department evidence which will form the basis of the protest. The information and the warning that German authorities will be held responsible when the day of reckoning comes will then be transmitted to Berlin through Swiss diplomats.

But there is little expectation that this gesture will accomplish any positive results. Among military men there is a growing conviction that the German High command has thrown the rules of war completely out the window.

The evidences are cited to support this conclusion. One is the shooting of prisoners, particularly by Von Rundstedt's leading armored elements. Apparently they had orders not to bother with prisoners since that would have slowed up their advance.

The other is the use of a "spy" force, trained saboteurs and assassins dressed as American soldiers and equipped with American munitions.

Both the shooting of prisoners and the assignment of men to fight in the uniform of the enemy are contrary to the basic rules of war.

The belief is now pretty firmly fixed here that the Germans will stop at nothing to gain their objectives. It is said they have forsaken all hope of retaining any of the outside world's good-will or respect which might modify the treatment accorded them.

It is assumed that the attitude of the Army leadership has come to be about the same as that of the Nazi party leadership whose record for atrocities goes back far beyond the start of the war.

Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—The United States, Britain and Russia apparently are preparing to deal with the provisional Hungarian Government of Col. Gen. Bela Miklos.

The first act to regularize relations probably will be the signing of an armistice, which the Allies are now rushing to completion.

Miklos was about to ask for an armistice last October when the Nazis poured troops into Hungary and took over the government. He later escaped to Russian controlled territory.

Jolted Into Action

The Russian drive to Budapest and establishment of the new Government in a large part of Hungary occupied by the Red Army have now jolted the three major allies into finishing up the armistice terms.

So far as is known here, negotiations have not yet begun with Miklos. Soviet favor for him is evidenced in a Moscow dispatch which declares that it has "the overwhelming support" of the Hungarian people.

Seek Oil-Plant Data

Miklos, who was commander of the 1st Hungarian Army, brought over most of the general staff when he left Budapest for Russian-occupied territory.

British and American diplomats taking up the Hungarian situation in Moscow are also seeking details from the Russians on the removal of oil equipment from Romania.

According to latest reports here, the Russians have stopped removing such goods, but the Allies want to find out how much has been taken and to reach an understanding with the Russians on what they are entitled to remove in fulfillment of their assurances that they will protect American and British interests.

Moscow Queried On Oil Move

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Washington, Dec. 28 (AP) — The United States and Great Britain are asking Russia to explain in detail the removal of equipment from the oil fields of Romania to the Soviet Union.

Officials here said no criticism of Russia's action in seizing the equipment is implied. Washington

Allies Expected To Negotiate With Miklos Hungary Regime

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and London are merely trying to get the facts of a very confused situation, it was explained.

Inquiries have been made in Moscow by the British and American Ambassadors.. Russia's initial answer, regarded here as incomplete in that it supplies no details, is said to have given assurances that American and British interests in the oil fields would be protected and to have claimed that the equipment removed was German.

The United States and Britain now have political representatives in Bucharest, but Romania is under the military command of Russia in the name of all the Allies. In line with Russian policy, wherever Soviet control exists the movements of non-Russians and the information they are allowed to gather are sharply restricted.

Lend-Lease For France Planned

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Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—Negotiations are now under way here on a lend-lease agreement for France and allocation of shipping for French civilian requirements.

Jean Monnet, French minister without portfolio who is conducting the talks, said today the object is to enable France to make a positive contribution to the Allied war effort.

Monnet told a news conference that the French import program, which for the next six months is on an average of twenty per cent of prewar imports, is based on what supplies possibly can be obtained rather than on needs.

Buying U.S. Housing

While Monnet held his conference, announcement was made that France is buying from the United States temporary housing for 150,000 workers engaged in repairing French dock areas for war use.

The Foreign Economic Administration and the national housing agency announced that the deal involves about 5,000 barracks, 20 by 48 feet each, and that the French Provisional Government has agreed to pay cash on delivery.

As much of the order as possible will be filled from surplus war housing in this country. Some of the housing units are at Niagara Falls, N.Y.

Port Capacity Up

Monnet said there has been a tremendous improvement in French port capacity and internal transportation since D-day but that over 50 per cent of available facilities presently are used directly for the war.

He estimated that 80 per cent of French industrial plants remain in good shape but said factories are rapidly closing down because they lack raw materials and fuel. Unemployment now stands at about 1,000,000 men and is shooting upward.

On the point of fuel, Monnet said coal production jumped from a million tons a month in September to over 2,500,000 in December. Electricity has increased from 10 per cent to 90 per cent of prewar production.

Imports Nil Up To Now

Monnet said that France has imported virtually nothing up to now. Financing of the proposed import program depends on Washington and is expected to be divided among lend-lease, cash and credits.

An important item on the program is cotton from which France hopes to produce textiles for Allied armies and other liberated countries as well as to meet her own needs.

Monnet was unable to say how much additional tonnage would be needed to meet the French program but emphasized that shipping is what is needed to enable France to contribute further to the war effort.

"France's capacity to fight depends on arms made available, not on men, who are there," he said.

SUPPLY STEALING IN FRANCE FOUGHT

Washington, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Steps have been taken to break up hi-jacking and pilfering of military supplies in France, the War Department said today, and reported that they are achieving success.

As soon as the thefts became known, the department said, security forces and military police battalions were increased to make certain that shipments of supplies reached their destinations.

News dispatches from Paris have said that diversion of supplies became so widespread at times that military operations were menaced.

Success of counter-measures, the department said, is reflected in the number of convictions of soldiers for the theft and sale of Army supplies to the French black markets. Gasoline, clothing, food and cigarettes have been included in the loot cited in Paris accounts of various courts-martial. Sentences ranging up to life imprisonment have been imposed.

ATTEMPT TO KILL FRANCO IS DENIED

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Washington, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—Recent reported attempts to assassinate Gen. Francisco Franco were strongly denied today by the Spanish Embassy here on information received from its foreign office in Madrid. Referring to the report, which originated in Paris, the Spanish foreign office cable quoted by an embassy official, read:

"Alleged attempts on the life of Generalissimo Franco can be denied in the strongest terms. The reports are so fundamentally false that no other comment seems necessary."

The report, quoting two persons who had just left Spain, first appeared in the French newspaper Aurore a week ago. Shots were said to have been fired at Gen. Franco's car, wounding the chauffeur. The account said that the general, together with his passenger, Eduardo Aunos, Spanish Minister of Justice, escaped harm and the assailants fled.

SUB SEAWOLF BELIEVED LOST

Craft Under Previous Skipper Honored For "Epic" Cruise

Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—The submarine Seawolf, scourge of Japanese shipping in far Pacific waters, is overdue from patrol and has been given up for lost.

The 1,450-ton vessel was under command of Lieut. Com. Albert M. Bontier, of White Plains, N.Y., who was reported missing. No announcement was made of casualties, but vessels of that type normally carry a crew of 62. Next of kin of casualties have been notified.

Compare Losses And Toll

The Seawolf was the 34th United States submarine lost during the war from all causes, and 239th combat vessel of all types. On the other side of the ledger, submarines have exacted a toll of 99 Japanese combat ships and 835 noncombatant vessels, totaling more than 3,500,000 tons.

Built at the Portsmouth (N.H.) Navy Yard, the Seawolf was commissioned December 1, 1939. Her first skipper was Lieut. Com. (now captain) Frederick B. Warder, of 706 Maple avenue, Grafton, W.Va., who won the Navy Cross and a gold star in lieu of a second cross for his services.

Commander Bontier took over her command in June, 1944.

Much more than the usual detail on the Seawolf's career was revealed by the Navy in connection with award of Captain Warder's decorations.

Score In Single Patrol

During a single patrol in February, March and April, 1942, the Seawolf sank a light cruiser, a destroyer, and a large transport and damaged two light cruisers, a large transport and another unidentified vessel. These actions took place off Bali and off Christmas Island, south of Java.

It was this patrol, described by the Navy as "one of the epic stories of submarine warfare," for which Captain Warder won the Navy Cross.

A second patrol of the Seawolf under Captain Warder, not identified as to time or place, resulted in destruction of 16,810 tons of enemy shipping and damage to an additional 5,000 tons. For that patrol he received his second decoration.

Fourth Providence, A Cruiser, Launched

Quincy, Mass., Dec. 28 (A. P.).—The light cruiser Providence, the fourth vessel so named, was launched today at the Bethlehem Steel Company Shipyard, the thirty-seventh vessel sent down the ways at that plant in 1944.

Three sailing vessels, which participated in the Revolutionary War, bore the name Providence.

FDR, AVERY CLASH ON ARMY SEIZURE OF 7 WARD PLANTS

Order Follows Company's Refusal to Comply with WLB Directives.

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NO OPPOSITION OFFERED

Avery Charges Action Violates Constitution, Refuses to 'Accept or Obey'.

CHICAGO, Dec. 28.—(AP) President Roosevelt and Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward and company, collided headon tonight on the issue of the presidential powers in seizing company facilities in seven cities.

The Army took over under Presidential executive order in the climax of Ward's long refusal to comply with War Labor board directives for employes' wage increases and maintenance of union membership.

Avery Assails Seizure

Avery, remaining at company headquarters throughout the day, asserted the Presidential order violated the Constitution and the company could not "accept or obey." By afternoon he and the military manager, Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, were functioning in separate offices.

Army public relations officers said no restrictions were placed on Avery's movements but the military position was that authority now rests with General Byron, not Avery.

President Roosevelt in an accompanying statement declared Avery guilty of "consistent and wilful defiance" of WLB decisions, threatening the structure for impartial adjudication of disputes. He said the government "can not and will not tolerate any interference with war production in this critical hour" and that Ward's would not be allowed to set aside government wartime policies "just because Mr. Sewell Avery does not approve of the government's procedure for handling labor disputes."

There was no physical or outward opposition to the Army taking control in Chicago, Detroit, St. Paul, Denver, Jamaica, N. Y., Portland, Ore., and San Rafael, Calif.

But after a long conference with the military manager, Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, director of the Army's Special Service division, Avery issued a statement asserting that the President's order was "a violation of the Constitution," that Congress "has given the President no power to seize the non-war business of Montgomery Ward" and that:

Will Not Obey Order

"Ward's cannot in good citizenship accept or obey the commands of those who have no legal power to give them and who are seeking to deprive Ward's of its constitutional rights and liberties."

Avery said Ward's welcomed the opportunity to present its case in the courts.

This would come in Chicago Federal court where government attorneys simultaneously with the seizure petitioned for an injunction to restrain Ward's from possible interference with Army operations and for a declaratory judgment establishing legality of the Presidential power and the seizure.

The company has 20 days to answer and Harold Smith, company attorney, said "Ward's doesn't contemplate any hasty action; we will study the issues closely before taking any counter-action."

Under the Presidential order the WLB directives would be put into effect by the military operators, including retroactive back pay. Samuel Wolchock, president of the union involved, the CIO United Retail, Wholesale and Department store employes, estimated the back pay at $2,000,000.

When the Army took over, strikes were in progress in Chicago, stetting early today, and Detroit, since Dec. 9, and Kansas City, since yesterday. After the Army moved in Henry B. Anderson, Chicago union local president, said this action terminated what he called a "lockout" and pickets were withdrawn.

Detroit union officials also said the strike ended when the Army seized the properties and indicated unionists would return to work tomorrow. Kansas City was not included in the seizure order because the labor dispute there still is in the hands of the WLB.

Gen. Byron and his staff arrived at the main offices here in four Army staff cars. Avery greeted the general pleasantly, shook hands and they were closeted for several hours.

Avery slipped out of his own office, finally, and with reporters and photographers pursuing, rushed down four flights of stairs to the executives' lunch room for luncheon. He shut the door, grinning. Later he returned to his office and Gen. Byron, refusing to comment until the formal statement was issued.

Second Seizure in Year

This was the second seizure in Chicago this year. After a strike which began April 12 the Department of Commerce, with the aid of troops, took over April 26. Avery was carried from his office bodily by two soldiers the next day. On May 9 the union won a National Labor Relations board collective bargaining election and the property was returned to the company.

The government also seized a Ward's subsidiary, the Hummer Manufacturing company, Springfield, Ill., engaged in war work, on May 21 and is still operating that plant.

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General Byron, 52, of Williamsport, Md., a leather tanning company executive in civil life, in a statement issued when he arrived to take charge of Ward's facilities asked for cooperation of all Ward executives and employes.

Hugh B. Cox, assistant to the solicitor general, heading the Government attorneys who came to Chicago from Washington to handle the court proceedings, told reporters the Government hoped to settle "once and for all" the extent of executive powers in labor-industry disputes and the Ward dispute in particular.

The attorneys worked through the night until 5 a. m., then returned to file the complaint shortly after 10 a. m. when General Byron served the seizure order on Avery. The law suit was assigned to Federal Judge Philip L. Sullivan.

Accompanying the complaint were affidavits by William H. Davis, WLB chairman; Fred M. Vinson, economic stabilization director; Clifford E. Mack, Treasury department director of procurement; Robert P. Patterson, Undersecretary of War, and others.

WARD CO. FILES SUIT AGAINST CIO UNION

DETROIT, Dec. 28.—(AP) Montgomery Ward & company today filed a $50,000 suit against a CIO union, whose members were involved in a strike at four of the company's stores in the Detroit area.

The action was entered in Wayne County Circuit court even as Army officers took over the stores on Presidential orders and as Roy Scoggins, Union spokesman, declared the strike was over. He promised the army representatives that all union workers would be back at their jobs Friday.

The suit is based on a disturbance at the firm's Dearborn store Wednesday, during which about 50 persons entered the store, overturned counters and tossed merchandise about.

Defendants are Local 832 of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes, CIO; Scoggins, Michigan director of the union; Merritt Martin, local president, and two United Auto Workers union (CIO) members, who were detained by Dearborn police after the disturbance.

The pair, William E. Smith and Stanley Bukowski, were released in $2,500 bond when arraigned in Circuit court today on a writ of habeas corpus. Hearing was set for Jan. 4.

No incidents marred the Army's entry into the four stores. Pickets cheered as the officers entered and union representatives as well as company officials held brief conferences with the army men.

Two special assistant U. S. Attorneys, Edward J. Ennis and George F. Spangler, arrived from Washington and conferred with U. S Attorney John C. Lehr here. Ennis said they would advise the military on any legal questions arising from government possession of the stores.

Roosevelt-Avery Statements

By The Associated Press

The statement issued yesterday by President Roosevelt explaining his action in ordering the seizure of Montgomery Ward facilities in seven cities and the declaration issued by Sewell L. Avery, chairman of Montgomery Ward's board of directors follow:

PresidentRoosevelt'sStatement

We are today at a crucial point in the war. Great battles which will determine the fate of the world are raging in Europe and in the Pacific. The tempo and the fury of the conflict are mounting.

Our commanders in the field are demanding weapons in increasing quantities so that they may hit the enemy harder and harder. The supreme effort of all of us here at home is imperative if we are to give them what they need. Nothing less will suffice.

The government of the United States cannot and will not tolerate any interference with war production in this critical hour.

Nearly three years ago we set up war-time labor relations machinery to insure that our troops and our allies would get essential supplies without interruptions caused by industrial disputes. This machinery, embodied in the National War Labor Board, has had the support of all responsible elements in American management and American labor. It has been a vital element in the attainment of our unparalleled record of war production.

Now the confidence which employers and workers rightly place in this structure for the impartial adjudication of disputes is being threatened by consistent and willful defiance of its decisions by the head of one of the great corporations of this country—Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward & Co.

This company, under Mr. Avery's leadership, has waged a bitter fight against the bona fide unions of its employees throughout the war, in reckless disregard of the government's efforts to maintain harmony between management and labor. Its record of labor relations has been a record of continuous trouble.

Twice the government has had to seize properties of Montgomery Ward as a result of Mr. Avery's defiant attitude, once in Chicago and once in Springfield, Illinois, where the Hummer Manufacturing Company, a Montgomery Ward division, has been operated by the War Department since last May.

For more than a year the company has refused to accept decisions involving workers in ten of its retail stores. Four of these stores are in the Detroit area, the very heart of war production from the viewpoint of urgency. A strike is in progress in these four stores, and strikes are threatened in other cities where the company's stores are located. There is a distinct threat that workers in some of our most critical war plants may join the strike in support of the Montgomery Ward employees if the government fails to act. We are not going to let this happen.

Strikes in war time cannot be condoned, whether they are strikes by workers against their employers or strikes by employers against their government. All of our energies are engrossed in fighting a war on the military battle fronts. We have none to spare for a war on the industrial battle fronts. It is up to us to uphold and strengthen our machinery for settling disputes without interruptions of production. We cannot do this in a total war if we permit defiance to go unchallenged.

The findings submitted to me by the War Labor Board were unanimously adopted by the board, including the representatives of industry.

We cannot allow Montgomery Ward & Co. to set aside the wartime policies of the United States government just because Mr. Sewell Avery does not approve of the government's procedure for handling labor disputes. Montgomery Ward & Co., like every other corporation and every labor union in this country, has a responsibility to our fighting men. That responsibility is to see that nothing interferes with the continuity of our war production. It is because Montgomery Ward & Co. has failed to assume this obligation that I have been forced to sign an Executive order directing the Secretary of War to take over and operate certain properties of Montgomery Ward & Co.

Sewell L. Avery's Statement

The order of the President of the United States to effect the seizure of the property and business of Montgomery Ward is a violation of the Constitution of the United States, which the President has sworn to uphold and defend. The Congress, which is the sole law-making authority under the Constitution, has given the President no power to seize the non-war business of Montgomery Ward.

The purpose of the President's order is to enforce by an exercise of arbitrary power orders of the War Labor Board which the courts have declared to be merely advisory and unenforceable. The courts have held that any one who refuses to comply with orders of the War Labor Board is not defying a command of the government and that, since the orders are merely advisory, no government official has the right to impose punishments on those who do not comply.

The President's order does not arise from any failure on Ward's part to pay fair wage rates. Ward's policy is, and has been, to pay wages as high or higher than those paid by other employers in the community for similar employment. Ward's only objection to any of the War Labor Board's wage recommendations has been in those instances where the board has arbitrarily demanded that Ward's substantially increase its rates above those of its competitors in the highly competitive retail field.

The President has ordered the Army to restrict the liberties of Ward's employees by imposing upon them the closed shop in the form of union maintenance. This is the final step in the coercion used by the administrative agencies of the government to force the closed shop upon employers and employees throughout the nation. Ward's has long believed that when the public awakens to the extent of this coercion, it will rise in indignation.

Ward's defense of the freedom of its employees has not been prompted by any feeling of anti-unionism. All employees at Ward's are free to join or not join a union, as they wish. Ward's fully recognizes this privilege and has assured all employees that their opportunity with the company will be the same whether they are union members or not.

Ward's cannot in good citizenship accept or obey the commands of those who have no legal power to give them and who are seeking to deprive Ward's of its constitutional rights and liberties. Ward's takes this position in defense of the constitutional rights and liberties of every citizen of the United States.

The issues are now before the courts, where Ward's has sought for two years to have them decided. Ward's welcomes the opportunity to present its case to the courts.

U. S. Spending, Borrowing, Taxing Set New World Records in 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 — (AP) In 1944 the United States government collected more, spent more, and borrowed more money than in any previous year of its history.

Uncle Sam established new world records which may stand up a long time.

However, the deficit—the amount by which spending exceeded income—did not set a record, and that's considered good news. It was still huge—52 billion dollars—but in 1943 it was 53 1-2 billion.

An unofficial analysis of the daily Treasury statements through December 26 shows that in the calendar year 1944:

Total expenditures, not counting several billions spent by government corporations, will hit 97 billion dollars. Last year they were 88 billion. In 1939, less than 10 billion.

If you subtract the net receipts from the total expenditures, you arrive at the aforementioned deficit of 52 billion.

Of the 97 billion expenditures, war spending amounted to about 89 billion. Adding 1 1-2 billion dollars spent on the war by the Reconstruction Finance corporation, the grand total of 1944 war costs is over 90 billion. The comparable figure for last year was around 85 billion.

To pay for the war, the government increased its public debt by a record-breaking 62 billion dollars. For the first time, three war loans were held in one year.

The total debt, including obligations guaranteed by the government, rose from 170 to 232 billion dollars. The greatest previous increase in the debt in any one year was 58 billion last year.

Borrowing of 62 billion in 1944 was enough to take care of the 52-billion deficit and, in addition, raise the net Treasury balance by 10 billion. This balance was 12 billion a year ago. It's about 22 billion now.

By pure coincidence, government spending this year was the same as estimated consumer spending—97 billion dollars.

Dean Landis To Return To Harvard Law School

Cambridge, Mass, Dec. 28 (AP)—Harvard University officials said today that James M. Landis, who has been serving as American Minister in the Middle East, would return to Harvard "in the near future" to resume his duties as dean of the law school.

He was returning, they said, under an arrangement reached several months ago.

Landis went to Cairo as American director of economic operations in the Middle East and principal American civilian representative at the Middle East supply center with the personal rank of minister.

NORDEN OFFICIALS PLEAD INNOCENT

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 — (AP) Pleas of innocent were entered in Federal court today by six defendants indicted on charges of conspiracy to hamper the output of the world-famed Norden bombsights used by U. S. Army and Navy air forces.

G. Osmond Hyde, special assistant to the attorney general's office, asked bail of $1,000 be fixed for each defendant and requested they be fingerprinted and photographed.

Judge Edward A. Conger denied the first request, paroling the defendants in custody of their attorneys, but granted the second with the stipulation that the records be kept in the court building and be destroyed if the defendants were acquitted.

The Federal Grand Jury indictments, returned Dec. 19, charged conspiracy to impede and defeat Navy supervision of production of the war-vital bombsights and named the following as defendants:

Carl L. Norden, Inc., and Theodore H. Barth, president, and Warde E. Marvelle, vice president of the firm, and Navy Comdr. John D. Corrigan and Robert H. Wells and their survey firm, Corrigan, Osburne and Wells.

Declaring that the Norden company possessed several Navy "E" awards, former U. S. Attorney Charles H. Tuttle, counsel for the firm and its two officers, told the court the present situation was fomented by the "powerful Remington-Rand company."

The Norden concern, the indictments charged, supplied faulty information to the Remington-Rand, Elmira, N. Y., plant, a sub-contractor, and as a result Corrigan, then in charge of the Navy Ordnance Bureau's production sub-section, could recommend that the plant be taken over by the Navy.

Attorney for the Corrigan, Osburne and Wells firm issued a statement in which Wells reiterated that there had been no misconduct by Corrigan, the firm or him.

FINDS GUAYULE IS PROFITABLE

But House Group Would End Federal Production.

Washington, Dec. 28 (A. P.).—The House Special Rubber Committee recommended today that the Government get out of the guayule production business, but continue experiments in growing and processing of the latex-bearing plant.

In a report filed with the Speaker of the House, the committee advised that no existing guayule rubber plantings be destroyed as long as the war continues and sources of natural rubber in the Dutch East Indies are not available.

Shortly after Pearl Harbor Congress appropriated $45,083,000 to develop natural rubber supplies in the southwestern part of the United States. Under the emergency program the Government

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acquired ownership and control of all guayule production in the United States. Plantings then were carried on in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

Headed by Representative Poage (D.-Tex.), the House committee expressed a conviction that guayule might be produced profitably in this country and suggested that in order to establish "a sound post-war industry in private hands," the Government establish and guarantee for a period of from seven to ten years a definite floor under the price of domestically produced guayule rubber.

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Urges 28-Cent Price

"We believe this floor should be somewhere between 20 and 30 cents per pound of rubber content," the committee said. "Probably it should be fixed at the established price of 28 cents per pound.

"It should be offered for a definite acreage only so as to prevent any undue drain on the Treasury if the cost of production is reduced as low as we hope it may by quantity production."

The committee observed that in 1930 Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, then a major, investigated guayule production possibilities in connection with a War Department study of vital materials, and had suggested that 400,000 acres be devoted to its cultivation in the Southwest.

Commenting on its recommendation that the Government continue a comprehensive program of research and experiment, the committee report stated that there still exists a question how far north and how far east guayule can be grown in the United States.

The changeover of production and processing from Government to private ownership should be done "just as soon as reasonable arrangements can be made with private interests" to buy the Government holdings, the report added.

Guayule Held Satisfactory.

As to the results obtained from guayule rubber, the committee said the B. F. Goodrich Company advised the War Production Board on November 21, 1944 that "guayule is satisfactory as a 100 per cent replacement for other rubber in the outer carcass plies of heavy duty, S-4 tires."

The report said experiments show the Russian dandelion "does not seem to offer a solution to the wartime rubber needs" because of the expense incurred in keeping plants free of weeds.

The committee disclosed plans for an inspection trip this weekend to Haiti to see a 43,000-acre cryptostegia development. The Rubber Development Corporation, a United States Government agency, financed the project in Haiti as a part of the war emergency program.

Pan Am To Resume Trans-Atlantic Trips

New York, Dec. 28 (AP) — Pan American World Airways today announced its trans-Atlantic division would return to commercial operations January 1 following termination of its contract with the Naval Air Transport Service.

The company said its fleet of 42-ton Boeing clippers would be operated on regular schedule to Europe and Africa, but that priority control would remain with the Navy Department.

Describing its planes as the largest in commercial service anywhere, the company said that in the last five and one half years it had flown 6,700,000 plane miles, carrying 68,000 passengers and 9,820,000 pounds of express and mail.

Coffee Quota Raised To Spur Importation

Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—The Inter-American Coffee Board today substantially raised coffee quotas above the basic quotas to encourage importation of coffee.

The coffee board ordered an emergency increase in the quotas for the United States market as of January 1, 1945, for three months to 200 per cent of the basic quotas.

The board announced that the quotas (given in bags), beginning the first of the year will be as follows:

Brazil — 16,607,475, Colombia—5,622,071, Costa Rica — 357,150, Cuba—142,860, Dominican Republic—214,290, Ecuador—267,863, El Salvador—1,071,450, Guatemala—955,376 Haiti—491,081, Honduras—35,715, Mexico—848,231, Nicaragua—348,221 Peru—44,644, Venezuela—750,015.

Stored Fuel Oil Drops

New York, Dec. 28 (AP)—A further drop in stored stocks of fuel oils was reported today by the American Petroleum Institute in its weekly statistics.

Light fuel oils decreased 1,567,000 barrels to a total of 40,846,000, and heavy fuel oils were down 771,000 barrels to 58,509,000. Stocks of gasoline increased 618,000 barrels to 83,365,000.

The week's production of light fuel oil was estimated at 4,605,000 barrels compared with 4,353,000 the previous week and 4,411,000 a year ago. Heavy fuel oil output was 8,798,000 barrels against 8,727,000 the week before and 8,697,000 a year ago.

Gasoline production for the week was 14,635,000 barrels compared with 14,145,000 in the previous week.

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Civilian Output Hits New Snag

Washington, Dec. 28 (AP)—Shortages of two important war metals, copper and lead, threatened today to cause further civilian belt-tightening in 1945.

Because of the sharply rising army demands for bullets and artillery shells, the Office of Civilian Requirements may be called upon to give back half the tonnage of copper brass mill products allotted to it for the manufacture of civilian goods next quarter, WPB officials revealed.

Stock Pile Dwindles

A 40 per cent cut in civilian use of lead, required in a WPB order announced last night, was explained as necessary to protect the Government's stock pile, which has dwindled to less than one month's wartime consumption.

The lead curtailment will affect storage batteries, paint, tetraethyl for civilian gasoline and other items. The copper deficit is expected to hit hooks, eyes, fasteners and—to a severe degree—civilian shotgun shells and cartridges.

Other Metals "Easy"

Aside from copper and lead, however, the metal picture was described as the "easiest supply situation" in two years.

Steel supplies were reported "fairly well balanced" with prospective demand, and aluminum "relatively easy." Only about half the country's plant capacity for producing ingot aluminum now is being used.

The steel plate supply was considerably eased by a big drop in Maritime Commission requirements for the January-February-March quarter.

Less Carbon Steel

Nevertheless, the carbon steel allotment to Office of Civilian Requirements, for consumer goods and other civilian activities, has also been cut rather deeply—from 228,000 tons this quarter to 163,800 tons next quarter.

In addition, 250,000 tons have been allotted for civilian goods manufactured under the "spot" authorization plan—where individual plants may apply to make civilian items if they can prove they have machinery and labor not needed for war work. WPB officials frankly stated, however, they did not believe half the tonnage would be used, because of limitations placed on the spot program to conserve manpower.

LONDON--SECOND ADD NIGHT LEAD RUSSIAN X X X THE SOUTHEAST.

FORTY MILES NORTHEAST OF BUDAPEST IN AN ATTACK JUST BELOW THE CZECHOSLOVAK BORDER THE RUSSIANS CAPTURED SEVEN HUNGARIAN LOCALITIES IN FOUR MILE GAINS ON A 16-MILE FRONT, INCLUDING SZECSENY, 17 MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE IMPORTANT SLOVAK RAIL JUNCTION OF LOSONC (LUCENEC); KARANCSALJA, 13 MILES SOUTH OF LOSONC, AND SALGO, 15 MILES SOUTHEAST OF THAT OBJECTIVE.

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NORTHWEST OF THIS SECTOR, IN ADJOINING SLOVAKIA, OTHER UNITS WERE STRIKING INTO THE MOUNTAINOUS INTERIOR AT THE REAR OF LOSONC. THEY TOOK SEVEN SLOVAK LOCALITIES, INCLUDING OPAVA, 13 MILES NORTHEAST OF IPOLYSAG AND 24 MILES SOUTHWEST OF LOSONC.

OF THE PRISONERS TAKEN ON ALL FRONTSN 2,200 OF THEM WERE SEIZED IN THE AREA BETWEEN IPOLYSAG AND THE HRON RIVER AND ALONG THE SLOVAK-HUNGARIAN FRONTIER IN THE SZECSENY AREA.

LONDON--FIRST ADD FIRST LEAD AERIAL XXX 23 FIGHTERS.

THE TACTICAL AIR FORCE IN ITALY, ENJOYING THE BEST STRETCH OF WEATHER IN WEEKS, FLEW 1,506 SORTIES AGAINST THE ENEMY'S BATTLEFIELD STRONGPOINTS AND REAR AREA COMMUNICATIONS YESTERDAY.

THIS BROUGHT EHT TOTAL FLIGHTS IN TWO DAYS TO 3,028, THE FORCE'S GREATEST 48-HOUR SHOW S

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THIS BROUGHT THE TOTAL FLIGHTS IN TWO DAYS TO 3,028, THE FORCE'S GREATEST 48-HOUR SHOW SINCE THE INVASION OF SOUTHERN FRANCE IN MID-AUGUST.

MITCHELL BOMBERS MADE FOUR SWOOPS TO THE BRENNER PASS RAILWAY AND, IN ADDITION, DESTROYED MOST OF AN ENEMY SUPPLY DUMP SOUTHWEST OF BOLOGNA.

THE MEDIUM BOMBERS AND LIGHTER CRAFT TOGETHER DESTROYED OR DAMAGED 26 LOCOMOTIVES, 99 RAILWAY CARS AND 109 ENEMY-OCCUPIED BUILDINGS. RAILWAYS WERE CUT IN 26 PLACES.

A THUNDERBOLT FORMATION LED BY LT. ELMER L.BELCHER OF 400 CHESTNUT STREET, ROANOKE, VA., ACCOUNTED FOR NINE OF THE LOCOMOTIVES AND HIT THREE ENEMY AIRFIELDS.

FIELD DISPATCHES THIS MORNING SAID AIR ACTIVITY DIRECTLY OVER THE BATTLEFIELDS APPEARED IMPOSSIBLE BECAUSE A SLEET STORM WAS COVERING THE REGION WITH ICE.

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JP812AEW

LONDON, DEC 28-(AP)-THE EVENING NEWS TODAY HAILED THE "GI JOES OF BASTOGNE" AS THE EQUALS OF BRITAIN'S RED DEVILS OF ARNHEM AND AMONG THE GREATEST HEROES OF THE WAR.

"ALL AMERICA HONORED THE MEN OF ARNHEM," SAID THE EDITORIAL. "ALL BRITAIN TODAY HONORS THE MEN OF BASTOGNE."

"IT WAS NOT FOR THE MEN OF BASTOGNE TO ASK, AS THE PEOPLE AT HOME HAVE ASKED, WHY THE HIGH COMMAND WAS TAKEN UNAWARES. IT WAS THEIR TASK TO STAND FIRM AT THE CROSSROADS."

ME153PEW

LONDON, DEC 28-(AP)-THE BUDAPEST RADIO ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT GEN. IVAN HINDY, IDENTIFIED AS COMMANDER OF THE HUNGARIAN TROOPS DEFENDING THE CAPITAL AGAINST THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE, WAS KILLED IN ACTION.

ME1051AEW

BY CHARLES CHAMBERLAIN

AN EIGHTH AIR FORCE FIGHTER BASE, ENGLAND, DEC. 28-(AP)-THE EXPLOITS OF MAJ. MIKE CLADYCH, "THE FLYING POLE," ARE BECOMING LEGENDARY AMONG ALLIED FIGHTER PILOTS.

CLADYCH HAS BEEN SERVING WITH THE FAMED 56TH THUNDERBOLT GROUP -- WHICH HAS A RECORD OF 800 NAZI PLANES TO ITS CREDIT -- FOR MORE THAN A YEAR NOW WITHOUT ANY OFFICIAL STATUS. THE AMERICAN PILOTS CHIP IN EACH MONTH TO GIVE HIM SPENDING MONEY, AND MEANWHILE HE GOES ON TAKING THUNDERBOLTS OVER GERMANY TO SHOOT UP ANYTHING BEARING THE HATED SWASTIKA.

THE STORY OF THIS AMAZING AIRMAN HAS BEEN PIECED TOGETHER BIT BY BIT BY OTHER FLIERS. IT FORMS ONE OF THE MOST FANTASTIC TALES TO COME OUT OF THE WAR.

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CLADYCH, NOW 35, WAS A MEMBER OF THE POLISH AIR FORCE WHEN THE NAZIS OVERRAN POLAND, KILLING HIS PARENTS, HIS SWEETHEART AND MANY OF HIS FRIENDS. HE ESCAPED BY PLANE TO FRANCE AND JOINED THE FRENCH AIR FORCE. SHOT DOWN IN A GERMAN-OCCUPIED AREA, HE WAS HIDDEN BY A FRENCH DOCTOR IN AN INSANE ASYLUM WHILE THE GESTAPO SEARCHED FOR HIM.

LATER HE WAS WAYLAID IN A PARIS ALLEY BY THE GESTAPO, WHO LEFT HIM FOR DEAD AFTER BEATING HIM OVER THE HEAD WITH LEAD PIPES, BUT THE FRENCH DOCTOR MANAGED TO GET HIM BACK TO THE ASYLUM AND TREATED HIM THERE FOR MONTHS.

HE DID NOT FULLY RECOVER UNTIL AFTER ALL FRANCE HAD BEEN OCCUPIED BY THE NAZIS, AND THEN WAS SMUGGLED TO BRITAIN. HE JOINED THE RAF AND FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE OF BRITAIN, LATER BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE POLISH SQUADRON FORMED BY THE BRITISH.

A YEAR AGO HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE FOR DETACHED DUTY. HE ASKED TO BE SENT TO THE 56TH THUNDERBOLT GROUP AFTER HEARING OF ITS REPUTATION FOR KNOCKING ENEMY PLANES FROM THE SKY.

CLADYCH CHECKED IN WITH THE 56TH FOR 48 HOURS, HAS STAYED A YEAR AND WANTS TO STAY ANOTHER.

GARBED GENERALLY IN A GRAY UNIFORM WITH THE POLISH EAGLE INSIGNIA, THE DARK-HAIRED CLADYCH WILL NOT TALK OF HIS EXPLOITS. APPARENTLY ALL HE WANTS TO DO IS KILL NAZIS, BUT THE MEN OF THE FIGHTER GROUP, INTENT UPON KEEPING UP THEIR RECORD OF KILLS, HAVE A HARD TIME PUMPING FROM HIM THE NUMBER OF HIS VICTORIES.

"MAYBE I GET TWO PLANES," HE SAYS UNCONCERNEDLY WHEN ASKED TO REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF A DOGFIGHT. "BUT I CANNOT COUNT BECAUSE I AM TOO BUSY SHOOTING WHAT'S AHEAD OF ME INSTEAD OF LOOKING BACK TO SEE WHAT I LEFT BEHIND ME."

HIS WING CAMERAS SHOW HE HAS SHOT DOWN AT LEAST 11 ENEMY PLANES, BUT HIS BUDDIES HE HAS ACTUALLY ACCOUNTED FOR AT LEAST 15 MORE. DURING HIS TIME WITH FOUR DIFFERENT AIR FORCES HIS TOTAL IS BELIEVED TO RUN TO PERHAPS 45.

JR456AEW

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PARIS THIRD ADD FIRST LEAD WESTERN FRONT XXX HOLLAND.

ARTILLERY GENERAL ERIC BRANDENBERGER'S REFORMED SEVENTH ARMY, ORIGINALLY MET IN NORMANDY, WAS MEETING ANEW THE SHOCK OF THE AMERICAN ATTACK ON THE SOUTHERN FLANK.

TWO ARMORED ARMIES, THE FIFTH COMMANDED BY LT.GEN. HASSO ECKHARDT VON MANTEUFFEL AND ANOTHER COMMANDED BY SS GEN. JOSEPH DIETRICH, ONE-TIME BARTENDER TURNED NAZI STRONG MAN, ALSO WERE UNDER HEAVY ATTACK.

(THE GERMANS IN THEIR COMMUNIQUE TODAY SAID AN ARMORED BATTLE "OF THE GREATEST POSSIBLE SCALE" WAS RAGING ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PENETRATION.)

GERMAN BROADCASTS TOLD OF VIOLENT ALLIED ATTACKS AT THE SAME TIME FROM THE NORTH, AND AN ASSOCIATED PRESS FIELD DISPATCH SAID ENEMY TANK FORMATIONS HAD BEEN FORCED TO DROP OFFENSIVE ACTION ON THE MARCHE-MANHAY LINE--THE GERMAN SALIENT'S NORTH SHOULDER--AND DIG IN DEFENSIVELY.

THE ALLIED-CONTROLLED LUXEMBOURG RADIO SAID LAST NIGHT THAT AMERICAN ATTACKS HAD CUT THE WIDTH OF THE GERMAN-HELD TERRITORY TO LESS THAN 20 MILES--A FIGURE THAT COINCIDES WITH THE DISTANCE BETWEEN BASTOGNE AND LAST REPORTED AMERICAN POSITIONS IN THE LIERNEUX AREA TO THE NORTH.

IN A DISPATCH SENT FROM THE FIELD ABOUT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT HAL BOYLE SPOKE OF THE SALIENT'S WIDTH AS 29 MILES.

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BOYLE QUOTED RETURNING FLIERS AS REPORTING YESTERDAY THAT THE GERMANS WERE SETTING FIRE TO THEIR TANKS AND OTHER SELF-PROPELLED VEHICLES IN THE CELLES AREA, AT THE POINT OF THE NAZI'S DEEPEST PENETRATION TOWARD THE MEUSE RIVER, AND THAT AMERICAN ARMOR WAS IN OPERATION THERE. PREVIOUSLY, MANY GERMANS HAD BEEN REPORTED ABANDONING THEIR ARMOR FOR LACK OF GASOLINE.

BOYLE ALSO WROTE THAT THE LATEST GERMANS TAKEN PRISONER COMPLAINED ABOUT "THE DIFFICULT SUPPLY SITUATION" AND DECLARED THEY HAD BEEN WITHOUT FOOD FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS--AN INDICATION THAT THE FIVE DAYS OF UNCEASING ALLIED AIR ATTACKS WERE BEGINNING TO STARVE BOTH VON RUNDSTEDT'S MEN AND MACHINES.

THE AMERICAN THRUST TO BASTOGNE WAS DESCRIBED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT WES GALLAGHER AS FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT'S "GREATEST BLOW TO DATE."

"RUNDSTEDT'S ENTIRE SOUTHERN FLANK APPEARED TO BE SAGGING UNDER THE AMERICAN ONSLAUGHT AS GAINS OF TWO TO FOUR MILES WERE REGISTERED," WROTE GALLAGHER. "UNLESS HE CAN QUICKLY HALT THE AMERICAN ADVANCE, PARTICULARLY IN THE BASTOGNE SECTOR, THE GERMAN MARSHAL'S BELGIUM BULGE WILL BE IN A CRITICAL CONDITION."

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30.24— 21615

THE FORCES ATTACKING FROM THE SOUTH HAVE NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY IDENTIFIED, BUT BERLIN SAID LAST NIGHT THAT "PRACTICALLY THE WHOLE THIRD AMERICAN ARMY" UNDER LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON HAD MOVED UP.

PATTON, BERLIN SAID, WAS AIMING A THRUST IN THE VICINITY OF VAUX LES ROSIERES, NINE MILES SOUTHWEST OF BASTOGNE, IN AN EFFORT TO "CORNER GERMAN DIVISIONS BETWEEN THE SALM AND OURTHE RIVERS." THE GERMANS ACKNOWLEDGED WITHDRAWALS IN LUXEMBOURG NEAR THE GERMAN FRONTIER.

THE BASTOGNE DEFENDERS, WHOSE STAND DENIED THE GERMANS BADLY NEEDED SUPPLY ROADS, WITHSTOOD THREE FIERCE ENEMY ATTACKS IN THE 24 HOURS BEFORE BEING RELIEVED. A FIELD DISPATCH SAID THEY REPORTED DESTROYING AT LEAST 87 GERMAN TANKS DURING THE SIEGE. AT TIMES THE AMERICANS WERE COMPRESSED IN AN AREA LESS THAN 2,000 YARDS IN DIAMETER.

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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS GAVE NO LATE INFORMATION ON THE SITUATION ALONG THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE ENEMY SALIENT, BUT THE GERMANS THEMSELVES DECLARED "BATTLES OF THE GREATEST SCALE" WERE BEING FOUGHT THERE AS WELL AS ON THE SOUTH.

BERLIN ASSERTED LAST NIGHT THAT A BRITISH DIVISION HAD JOINED WITH "STILL ANOTHER AMERICAN DIVISION WITHDRAWN FROM THE AACHEN FRONT IN MAKING PARTICULARLY GRIM COUNTERATTACKS" IN THE NORTH.

ACCORDING TO LATEST AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THE WESTERNMOST SPEARHEADS OF THE GERMAN DRIVE WERE BEING HELD, AND POSSIBLY PUSHED BACK.

ALL THE LATEST ALLIED AND ENEMY REPORTS COULD BE PIECED INTO A PICTURE DEFINITELY CHEERING TO THE ALLIES, BUT IN HIS DISPATCH LAST NIGHT BOYLE CAUTIONED THAT "THE ENEMY MIGHT CHANGE THE SITUATION BY HURLING IN FRESH RESERVES--IF ANY ARE AVAILABLE--OR WORSENING WEATHER MIGHT ROB THE ALLIES OF THE ADVANTAGES GIVEN THEM BY GREAT AIR SUPERIORITY."

GALLAGHER LIKEWISE SUGGESTED THAT NEW CRISES MAY COME--POSSIBLY ON ANOTHER SECTOR OF THE WESTERN FRONT.

"THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT VON RUNDSTEDT HAS NEW BLOWS UP HIS MILITARY SLEEVE," GALLAGHER WROTE.

ON THE COLOGNE PLAIN, WHERE THE AMERICAN NINTH AND FIRST ARMIES TRIED THROUGHOUT THE FALL TO BREAK THROUGH TO THE RHINE, THE GERMANS HAVE NOW BUILT TWO NEW BRIDGES ACROSS THE ROER RIVER NORTH OF LINNICH, GALLAGHER SAID, ADDING:

"AT THE SAME TIME, BY CONTROLLING DAMS ALONG THE RIVER, THEY HAVE DROPPED THE HEIGHT OF THE WATER TWO AND A HALF FEET IN 24 HOURS, WHICH WOULD MAKE CROSSING EASIER."

THE GERMANS ALSO WERE WATCHING THIS SECTOR. ONE ENEMY BROADCAST SAID "POSITIONS OF THE U.S. NINTH ARMY HAVE BEEN TAKEN OVER BY BRITISH FORMATIONS UNDER COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY" WHILE THE AMERICANS WERE HURRIED TO THE BELGIUM BATTLE.

BZ526AEW

Add Paris Rifle xxxx stationed here.

THE PREFECT OF POLICE, CHARLES LUIZET, MADE THE PRESENTATION.

THE RIFLE BORE A PLAQUE INSCRIBED, "FROM THE FIGHTING POLICE OF PARIS TO GENERAL ROGERS AND THE LIBERATING ALLIED TROOPS."

MC 642PEW DEC. 28 DYNANS 021500

PARIS--~~THIRD~~ ADD NIGHT LEAD WESTERN FRONT X X X OUR RIVER.

FOR 48 HOURS UP TO (Trenned) WEDNESDAY, THE GERMAN WINTER OFFENSIVE HAD BEEN HELD WITHOUT A SINGLE SIGNIFICANT GAIN. THE REPORTS REACHING HERE INDICATING THAT VON RUNDSTEDT HAD BEGUN PULLING HIS ARMOR BACK INTO THE CNTER OF THE BULGE SUGGESTED HE WAS WITHDRAW

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INTO THE CENTER OF THE BULGE SUGGESTED HE WAS WITHDRAWING TO LASH ONCE MORE WITH FULLEST FORCE IN A NEW QUARTER.

THERE WAS ALSO THE POSSIBILITY THAT VON RUNDSTEDT BELIEVED GEN. EISENHOWER HAD SUMMONED ENOUGH STRENGTH TO CHECK THE OFFENSIVE, AND MIGHT BE PULLING THEM BACK INTO RESERVE, LEAVING THE SEVENTH ARMY AND THE RAG-TAG VOLKSTURM DIVISIONS TO TRY TO HOLD THE GAINS.

SHOULD VON RUNDSTEDT ACCOMPLISH SUCH A WITHDRAWAL, HE DEFINITELY WOULD HAVE WON TWO ROUNDS INSTEAD OF ONE BY NOT ONLY BREAKING UP THE ALLIED OFFENSIVE BUT BY WITHDRAWING WITH THE BULK OF HIS ARMORED RESERVES INTACT.

ON THE NORTHWEST, WHERE THE GERMAN PLANNERS PROBABLY HOPED TO BREAK THROUGH TO ANTWERP, THE FORCE OF AMERICAN COUNTERBLOWS NOT ONLY PUSHED THE ENEMY FROM GRANDMENIL BUT NEARBY MANHAY AS WELL. THE GERMANS ALSO GAVE GROUND NEAR MARCHE, 14 MILES SOUTHWEST OF GRANDMENIL.

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ONE GERMAN ARMORED FORCE WHICH HAD PUSHED TO NEAR CINEY, 15 MILES SOUTHEAST OF THE MEUSE RIVER CITY OF NAMUR, HAD BEEN SHOVED BACK UNTIL THE BATTLE LINE NOW WAS SEVEN TO EIGHT MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST OF THE VILLAGE.

A FEW MILES TO THE SOUTH, WHERE GERMAN PATROLS HAD PRESSED TO WITHIN FOUR MILES OF THE MEUSE AROUND CELLES AN ENEMY FORCE SEVERAL HUNDRED STRONG WAS WIPED OUT AND VIOLENT FIGHTING FLARED TWO

MILES SOUTHEAST OF THE VILLAGE.

ENEMY ARMORED FORCES IN THIS SECTOR APPEARED DISORGANIZED, LARGE NUMBERS OF PRISONERS WERE TAKEN IN 24 HOURS, AND LARGE FIRES BLAZED FROM BLASTED EQUIPMENT, A FRONT DISPATCH SAID.

FARTHER SOUTH, GERMAN ARMORED PATROLS WHICH REACH

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ED BEAURAING, BUT THREE MILES FROM THE FRENCH BORDER WHERE IT JUTS SHARPLY INTO BELGIUM, WERE REPORTED DEMOLISHING BRIDGES AND LAYING MINEFIELDS, INDICATING THIS WAS A DEFENSIVE RATHER THAN AN OFFENSIVE THRUST.

THE ENEMY'S TROUBLES WERE MULTIPLYING ALONG THE WHOLE LINE OF THE SURE AND CLERF RIVERS OF NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG, WHERE COUNTERBLOWS HAD CARRIED EISENHOWER'S TROOPS ACROSS THE SURE AT FOUR POINTS AND UP TO THE TWO RIVERS' SOUTH BANKS OR DOMINATING HIGH GROUND ALL ALONG THE FRONT.

THREE CROSSINGS OF THE SURE WERE FORCED 22 MILES NORTHWEST OF THE DUCHY'S CAPITAL, WHERE THE VILLAGE OF LIEFRANGE WAS RECAPTURED. A FOURTH CROSSING WAS MADE FARTHER WEST NORTH OF MARTELANGE.

TO THE NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL, THE AMERICANS FIGHTING THROUGH FIR-COVERED HILLS OVERWHELMED A GERMAN FORCE WHICH TRIED TO MAKE A BASTOGNE-LIKE STAND AT BEAUFORT, A MILE AND A HALF FROM THE REICH'S FRONTIER.

FROM BEAUFORT, WHICH IS 17 MILES NORTHEAST OF LUXEMBOURG'S CAPITAL, THE AMERICANS SMASHED ON TOWARD THE BORDER. SOME ENEMY TROOPS TRYING TO GET BACK INTO GERMANY SOUTHWEST OF NEARBY ECHTERNACH WERE ATTEMPTING TO REPAIR A BRIDGE ACROSS THE SURE RIVER UNDER ARTILLERY FIRE.

FARTHER NORTH, WHERE THE OUR BECOMES THE BORDER STREAM AS THE SURE BRANCHES WEST, 250 GERMANS WERE SEEN TRYING TO SWIM THE ICY CURRENT.

STRONG GERMAN PATROLS WERE LANCING INTO ALLIED POSITIONS IN HOLLAND, APPARENTLY TRYING TO LEARN IF BRITISH AND CANADIAN FORCES HAD BEEN SENT SOUTH TO JOIN THE BATTLE IN BELGIUM. THEY CAME ACROSS THE MAAS IN NORTHWEST AND EASTERN HOLLAND, BUT WERE BEATEN BACK.

THE LINES WERE UNCHANGED ELSEWHERE ALONG THE SPRAWLING WESTERN FRONT.

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THE U.S. SEVENTH ARMY IN THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE GERMAN PALATINATE WARDED OFF THREE SMALL ATTACKS, WHILE THE FRENCH TO THE SOUTH IN ALSACE IMPROVED THEIR VOSGES MOUNTAIN POSITIONS WEST OF COLMAR.

EJ423PEW

SECOND LEAD WESTERN FRONT

BY JAMES M.LONG

PARIS, DEC 28-(AP)-AMERICAN FORCES CUTTING INTO BOTH SIDES OF THE VON RUNDSTEDT BULGE AT ITS THINNEST NECK HAVE FOUGHT TO WITHIN LESS THAN 20 MILES OF A JUNCTION, 36-HOUR OLD REPORTS FROM THE FRONT SAID TONIGHT.

THE WHOLE SOUTHERN FLANK OF THE ENEMY SALIENT FROM BASTOGNE TO THE GERMAN BORDER YIELDED SLOWLY TO HAMMERING. DOUGHBOYS AND TANKS CROSSED THE SURE RIVER AT FOUR PLACES AND THREW THE ENEMY BACK INTO THE REICH AT TWO PLACES IN THE ECHTERNACH AREA AT THE EASTERN END OF THE WEDGE.

THE RAZOR-THIN RELIEF CORRIDOR TO EPIC BASTOGNE HELD FIRM AGAINST GERMAN INFANTRY AND ARMORED ATTACK.

THE GERMANS WERE BUFFETED BACK FURTHER IN HARD FIGHTING NEAR GRANDMENIL AND MARCHE, POINTS 20 MILES AWAY ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BULGE.

PART OF THE GERMAN SPEARHEAD WHICH HAD DRIVEN DEEPEST INTO BELGIUM AT CELLES WAS ENCIRCLED AND BEING HAMMERED INTO DISINTEGRATION BY A RING OF GUNS AND ARMOR, AND ANOTHER POCKET ALONG THE UNDERBELLY OF THE SALIENT WAS RECEIVING SIMILAR TREATMENT.

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THE PROBING ARMOR THAT HAD PUSHED CLOSE TO CINEY, 15 MILES FROM NAMUR IN THE NORTHWESTERN TIP OF THE BULGE, HAD BEEN BEATEN BACK UNTIL THE BATTLELINE RAN SEVEN TO EIGHT MILES SOUTHEAST OF THE VILLAGE.

THE MAIN FIGHTING IN THE CELLES AREA WAS NOW IN THE VICINITY OF VERRE, TWO AND ONE HALF MILES TO THE SOUTHEAST.

ALONG THE SOUTHERN FLANK THE AMERICANS CONTINUED TO GAIN AND WERE ACROSS, UP TO OR ALMOST UP TO THE WHOLE LINE OF THE SURE RIVER FROM THE BASTOGNE AREA TO THE GERMAN FRONTIER. WHERE THEY WERE NOT ACROSS STREAM THEY HELD THE HIGH GROUND ON THE SOUTH SIDE.

THE VILLAGE OF LIEFRANGE, 10 MILES SOUTHEAST OF BASTOGNE, WAS SEIZED IN ONE CROSSING NORTH OF THE VILLAGE OF BONNAL.

GAINS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE SALIENT INCLUDED CAPTURE OF GRANDMENIL AND MANHAY AND THE PARTIAL RECAPTURE OF HUMAIN WHERE STREET FIGHTING WAS IN PROGRESS.

IT WAS TOO EARLY X X X 4TH GRAF AS BEFORE

EJ227PEW

30 24— 21617

Add SHAEF Retreat (Long) xxxx different Topics

RICH WAS A RIFLEMAN IN A COMPANY ASSIGNED TO THE SECURITY GUARD OF DIVISION HEADQUARTERS. FOR ONE WHOLE DAY HE FOUGHT A BATTLE IN WHICH AMERICAN INFANTRYMEN ALONE HELD THEIR LINES ALTHOUGH PITTED AGAINST GERMAN TANKS.

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—THAT DAY THE GERMANS HURLED 40 TANKS THAT RICH COULD SEE FROM HIS POSITION AGAINST THE DOUGHBOY LINE ALONG A HILL NEAR HAMIVILLE, WEST OF CLERVAUX.

—BUT THE INFANTRY HELD UNTIL AMERICAN TANK DESTROYERS GOT UP FROM THE REAR. THEN THEY FELL BACK ACROSS STREAMS AND MOUNTAINS, JUST AS WILLIAMS' FORCE HAD DONE, FIGHTING AS THEY WENT ALONG.

—FINALLY THEY JOINED UP WITH SOME OF THEIR OWN TANKS, BUT THEY WERE BADLY OUTNUMBERED AND HAD TO SCATTER AND MAKE FOR AN ASSEMBLY POINT WELL TO THE REAR.

—I GOT INTO ONE OF OUR TANKS WITH THREE OTHER INFANTRYMEN AND THE WHOLE TANK CREW. WE WERE SQUEEZED IN PRETTY TIGHT. WE HAD SOME RIDE," SAID RICH.

—THE TANK WAS CUT OFF FROM THE DIRECT ROUTE, SO IT PLOUGHED STRAIGHT BACK THROUGH THE GERMAN LINE AND TOOK A BIG CIRCLE WHICH LED 30 MILES THROUGH ENEMY-HELD COUNTRY AND TOWNS BEFORE IT COULD CUT AROUND INTO ALLIED TERRITORY.

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—WE DIDN'T DO MUCH SHOOTING—WE DIDN'T WANT TO ATTRACT FIRE FROM ARTILLERY," SAID RICH. "BUT ALONG THE WAY WE COULD HEAR ENEMY SMALLARMS FIRE CLATTERING OFF OUR SIDES."

—WE WENT THROUGH ST.VITH AFTER IT WAS IN ENEMY HANDS BUT KEPT TO THE SIDEROADS ALL WE COULD—AND WE MADE IT."

G-MACGPTH

BY LEWIS HAWKINS

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WITH THE U. S. THIRD ARMY IN LUXEMBOURG, DEC. 28—(AP)—VIGOROUS SHOUTING IN ENGLISH, GERMAN AND ITALIAN AND TWO PISTOL SHOTS FIRED INTO THE AIR BROUGHT ABOUT THE SWIFT SURRENDER OF 13 SUPPOSEDLY TOUGH GERMAN PARATROOPERS TO FOUR AMERICANS LAST NIGHT—BUT THE YANKS DO NOT GUARANTEE THIS FORMULA.

CAPT. DOMENIC PRATO, OF 46 NORMAN ST., BOSTON, MASS., PROVIDED THE SHOUTING, WHILE LT. WILLIAM A. SIGARD, OF 219 LYON AVE., EAST PROVIDENCE, R. I., DID THE SHOOTING. AND HERE IS THE WAY THE LIEUTENANT—WHO RECENTLY WON A BATTLEFIELD PROMOTION FROM A SERGEANT'S RANK—DESCRIBED THE EPISODE:

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"FOUR OF US WERE IN A JEEP DRIVING BACK TO A TOWN WE JUST HAD TAKEN WHEN I SAW A MAN WEARING A WHITE CAMOUFLAGE CAPE STANDING IN THE MOONLIGHT BESIDE A CULVERT. HE STOPPED THE JEEP AND CAPT. PRATO AND I JUMPED OUT. AS WE DID SO, SOME MORE GERMANS CLIMBED OUT OF A DITCH AND THEY—SOME 13 IN NUMBER—STRUNG ACROSS THE ROAD IN FRONT OF US.

"THEY WERE POINTING BUMP GUNS AND SOME OF OUR CAPTURED GARAND RIFLES AT US WHILE WE WERE ARMED ONLY WITH PISTOLS. AS WE STOOD FACE TO FACE A FEW FEET APART, CAPT. PRATO BEGAN SHOUTING AS BOLDLY AT THEM AS IF WE WERE AT THE HEAD OF A STRONG COLUMN. HE TOLD THEM IN ENGLISH AND IN GERMAN AND FINALLY IN ITALIAN TO DROP THEIR GUNS BECAUSE RESISTANCE WAS USELESS.

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"THEY SEEMED UNDECIDED SO I FIRED TWO SHOTS OVER THEIR HEADS AND THE NEXT FEW SECONDS REALLY WERE TOUGH ONES. WE DID NOT KNOW WHAT EFFECT THE SHOOTING WOULD HAVE ON THEM. WE DID KNOW THEY WOULD EITHER USE THOSE GUNS OR DROP THEM. I AM STILL HERE SO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY DID."

THE UNIT COMMANDED BY PRATO CAPTURED 160 GERMANS LAST NIGHT AND TODAY IN CLEANING OUT A TYPICAL LITTLE HILL TOWN THAT SITS DOWN INSIDE A BOWL FORMED BY SNOW-CLAD, WOOD-PATCHED RIDGES.

A BATCH OF 49 OF THESE PRISONERS WERE SNATCHED FROM THEIR FOXHOLES BY A DETAIL OF NINE MEN LED BY SGTS. WOODROW WILSON MAXWELL, OF GLENVILLE, WEST VA., AND CORDELL HULL DISHMON, OF LIVINGSTON, TENN. HERE IS THE WAY MAXWELL TOLD OF THIS FEAT:

"WE WERE SENT ALONG A RIDGE OVERLOOKING THE TOWN TO PROTECT A PLATOON MOVING IN BELOW AND WE DREW FIRE FROM A SNIPER IN SOME WOODS SO WE MOVED DOWN INTO IT.

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"JUST AS WE GOT INTO THE TREES, WE SAW THERE WAS MORE THAN ONE SNIPER. THERE WERE DOZENS OF TWO-MAN FOXHOLES THERE AND MOST OF THEM WERE FULL. WE FIRED A FEW ROUNDS AS THE SURPRISED KRAUTS STUCK THEIR HEADS OUT. THEY WERE ARMED WITH MACHINE PISTOLS AND HAD FIVE MORTARS, THREE HEAVY MACHINEGUNS AND PLENTY OF RIFLES. BUT THEY NEVER FIRED A SHOT AS WE CLOSED IN ON THEM.

"WHILE SIX OF US KEPT THE HOLES COVERED, PVT. SAUL LEAVITT (1418 PRESIDENT ST., BROOKLYN) AND TWO OTHER MEN MOVED FROM HOLE TO HOLE, MAKING THE GERMANS CLIMB OUT AND DROP THEIR WEAPONS."

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"I DON'T KNOW WHY, WITH ALL THOSE WEAPONS THE GERMANS DIDN'T RESIST. BUT THEY APPARENTLY WERE VERY SURPRISED AND MUST HAVE THOUGHT WE WERE THE FIRST OF A MUCH STRONGER FORCE. I HATE TO THINK WHAT WOULD HAVE HAPPENED IF THEY HAD KNOWN THERE WERE ONLY

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NINE OF US."

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MAJ. DONALD HEALEY, OF WESTFIELD, MASS., WAS AS PUZZLED AS MAXWELL ABOUT THE SPOTTY CHARACTER OF GERMAN RESISTANCE THROUGH THESE HILLS AND SUMMED IT UP IN THIS WAY:

"THESE TROOPS WE ARE TAKING NOW ARE MEN OF GOOD QUALITY PHYSICALLY, MANY OF THEM ARE STRONG NAZIS AND PRACTICALLY ALL INSIST THAT GERMANY IS GOING TO WIN THE WAR EITHER THROUGH THEIR PRESENT OFFENSIVE OR THROUGH SECRET WEAPONS. SOMETIMES THEY FIGHT WELL BUT, AT OTHER TIMES, THEY GIVE IN WITH MINIMUM RESISTANCE."

IN THE CASE OF THE TOWN JUST TAKEN BY PRATO'S MEN, THE LATTER WAS TRUE AND HIS OUTFIT SUFFERED ONLY FOUR CASUALTIES FROM THE TIME THE ATTACK ON THE VILLAGE STARTED LAST NIGHT UNTIL IT WAS CLEARED COMPLETELY AROUND NOON TODAY. ONLY ABOUT SIX GERMANS REFUSED TO SURRENDER AND HAD TO BE KILLED.

WITH U S THIRD ARMY IN BASTOGNE (ADDING TO DATELINE 7:35 P.M.) --FIRST ADD BALLS EYEWITNESS X X X GRANDIOSE PLAN.

TODAY THERE WERE SOME 200 DESTROYED GERMAN TANKS LYING IN AND ABOUT BASTOGNE, HUNDREDS OF DEAD AND MORE HUNDREDS OF PRISONERS IN CAGES. IN THIS SETTING OF SNOW AND FROZEN EARTH IT IS A PICTURE OF DEFEAT SUCH AS THE GERMANS HAVE SEEN IN RUSSIA.

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HERE IN THE WOODS OUTSIDE BASTOGNE IS A COLUMN OF 21 ARMORED VEHICLES, SOME BURNED OUT, OTHERS INTACT. THE FACT THAT SO MANY VEHICLES BORE NO DAMAGE INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THEY WERE HALTED BY LACK OF FUEL.

SOME QUARTERS HAVE DRAWN A PARALLEL BETWEEN VON RUNDSTEDT'S "FINAL EFFORT" OFFENSIVE AND THE KAISER'S LAST CAMPAIGN OF 1918. WHETHER THIS IS TRUE REMAINS FOR THE FUTURE, BUT THE FACT TODAY IS THIS--VON RUNDSTEDT DEFINITELY HAS LOST THE FIRST ROUND.

HE LOST IT TO AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN WHO DID NOT KNOW WHAT IT WAS TO SURRENDER, MEN WHO FOUGHT ON RATIONED AMMUNITION AND SCANT FOOD UNTIL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY BROKE THE RING ABOUT BASTOGNE WITH SPECTACULAR AID FROM OUR AIR FORCES.

IF THE GERMANS ACTUALLY ARE EXPERIENCING A SHORTAGE OF FUEL--WHICH IS LIKELY AFTER THE BLOWS GOTTEN IN BY OUR AIR FORCE BEFORE FOG SETTLED OVER THE BATTLEFIELD AGAIN TODAY--THEN THE REST OF THEIR BREAKTHROUGH FORCES ARE IN SERIOUS STRAITS.

IN THIS CONNECTION, PRISONERS SAY SOME ENEMY FORCES JUMPED OFF WITH ONLY TEN DAYS SUPPLY OF FOOD, FUEL, AND AMMUNITION AND WERE DEPENDING ON "VAST AMERICAN STORES" WHICH THEY WERE TO SEIZE AT BASTOGNE BUT DID NOT.

TO NAME THE HEROES OF BASTOGNE WOULD BE TO CALL THE ENTIRE ROLL OF OFFICERS AND MEN WHO STOOD OFF THE GERMANS. IN FACING AND SQUARING THIS FIRST SERIOUS AMERICAN REVERSE SINCE BATAAN THEY ALL WERE HEROES.

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MEN LIKE SGT.RICHARD DEASTER, OF OSHKOSH, WIS., WHO KNOCKED OUT SEVEN GERMAN TANKS OF 31 DESTROYED IN ONE BATTLE.

DEASTER, WHO WAS IN AN OUTFIT COMMANDED BY CAPT.STEPHEN P.CHOR OF MOUNT SHASTA, CALIF., BAGGED ALL HIS VICTIMS WITH ONE SHOT APIECE EXCEPT THE LAST ONE, WHICH TOOK TWO TO GET.

LT.DAVID K.HAGENS, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., DEASTER'S SECOND IN COMMAND, DESCRIBED THE SERGEANT'S SHOOTING GALLERY PERFORMANCE AS ONE OF THE OUTSTANDING PIECES OF MARKSMANSHIP DURING THE WHOLE BASTOGNE BATTLE.

SGT.SABIN LANDRY, OF BATON ROUGE, LA., CAME IN SECOND FOR GUNNERY HONORS IN HIS OUTFIT. LANDRY PICKED OFF FOUR GERMAN TANKS IN 15 MINUTES IN SEPARATE PARTS OF THE TOWN. HE KNOCKED THEM ALL OFF WHILE UNDER THE HEAVIEST KIND OF ENEMY FIRE.

WHEN EVERY OTHER GUN AROUND HIM WAS KNOCKED OUT, CORP.CHARLES SCOTT, A SOUTH CAROLINIAN (HOME TOWN UNAVAILABLE), TURNED HIS MULTIPLE MOUNT OF FOUR .50 CALIBER ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS AGAINST A TIGER TANK COMING DOWN THE ROAD. THE TIGER, APPARENTLY DAMAGED BY SCOTT'S FIRE, TURNED TAIL AND BEAT IT.

"MOST OF THE TIME WE WERE SURROUNDED, MY OUTFIT LIVED ON K-RATION CRACKERS AND COFFEE. WE WERE THINKING MORE ABOUT AMMUNITION THAN EATING," SAID SGT.GILBERT OKEN, OF 627 JEFFERSON ST., WASHINGTON, D.C.

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CONCERN ON THIS SCORE WAS JUSTIFIED BECAUSE ON THE AFTERNOON OF DEC. 24--BEFORE SUPPLIES HAD BEEN PARACHUTED TO SOME POCKETS--SEVERAL UNITS HAD ONLY 25 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION FOR EACH OF THEIR ARTILLERY GUNS. THIS IS LESS THAN ENOUGH FOR A SUSTAINED TEN MINUTE BARRAGE. THE GASOLINE RESERVE HAD FALLEN TO 350 GALLONS BEFORE BEING REPLENISHED.

AN ARTILLERY OFFICER HELD OFF ONE GERMAN COLUMN THREATENING THE TOWN BY RALLYING A BUNCH OF STRAGGLERS WHO COLLECTIVELY REPRESENTED VIRTUALLY EVERY BRANCH OF SERVICE IN THE U.S. ARMY. THE COMMANDER HIMSELF WAS WOUNDED MORTALLY WHILE THE BATTLE WAS IN PROGRESS BUT HIS LITTLE MAKESHIFT ARMY KEPT FIGHTING UNTIL THE GERMANS WITHDREW.

THE FINISHING TOUCH IN BREAKING THE BASTOGNE RING WAS CREDITED TO A SPIRITED UNIT OF DOUGHBOYS WHO PULLED A FAST ONE ON THE GERMANS.

THE DOUGHBOYS OVERRAN ONE GERMAN FORCE WHICH WAS SCREENING ANOTHER ENEMY OUTFIT PREPARING TO JUMP OFF ON ANOTHER ATTACK AGAINST THE TOWN.

"PRISONERS TAKEN FROM THE SECOND OUTFIT EXPRESSED A POOR OPINION OF THEIR FELLOW SUPERMEN WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SCREENING THEM," SAID LT.COL.HARRY E.BROWN, 4701 CORNELIUS ST., INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

SN1021PEW

WITH U.S. THIRD ARMY--~~FOURTH~~ ADD PATTON (BY HAWKINS)

X X X PATTON'S FRONT.

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THE GERMAN RADIO PREVIOUSLY HAD REPORTED THAT PATTON WAS HITTING FROM THE SOUTH AND TODAY'S OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION WAS THE STRONGEST KIND OF EVIDENCE THAT THE INAUGURAL PHASE WAS PAST AND THE ISSUE SQUARELY JOINED IN A BID TO BREAK THE WEHRMACHT'S OFFENSIVE.

DETAILS OF MOVEMENTS OF THE THIRD ARMY STILL WERE CLOAKED BY THE SECURITY TIME LAG, BUT THE FEATS ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED BY UNITS UNDER THE SALTY-TONGUED GENERAL EQUAL SOME OF THOSE WHICH MADE THE THIRD FAMOUS FOR ITS GREAT PURSUIT OF THE NAZIS ACROSS FRANCE.

ALL ALONG THE FRONT THIS DRAMATIC RUSH INTO THE BREACH HAS LIFTED THE SPIRITS OF THE MEN AND DESPITE FIERCELY COLD WEATHER, HEARTBREAKING TERRAIN AND STUBBORN GERMAN RESISTANCE, THE MORALE SEEMS HIGHER THAN IT HAS BEEN FOR WEEKS--AND IT NEVER WAS BAD.

NORTHEAST, NORTH AND NORTHWEST OF LUXEMBOURG CITY THE GERMANS HAVE BEEN SHOVED BACK TWO TO 14 MILES, ROUGHLY TO LINES ALONG THE OUR RIVER FORMING THE LUXEMBOURG-GERMAN BORDER AND TO THE SURE RIVER WHICH WINDS ACROSS NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG.

THE LATTER STREAM HAS BEEN CROSSED AT SOME POINTS A FEW MILES WEST OF THE LUXEMBOURG-BELGIUM BORDER.

(THIRTY-THREE WORDS CENSORED) THE RELIEF OF THE GALLANT DEFENDERS OF BASTOGNE WAS PROBABLY THE HEAVIEST BLOW YET DEALT THE GERMANS' HOPES FOR FORCING A COMPROMISE PEACE BECAUSE THIS BELGIAN CITY IS THE CENTER OF A ROAD AND RAIL NET NEEDED FOR EFFECTIVE SUPPLY OF NAZI ELEMENTS FARTHER WEST. LACKING IT THEY ALREADY HAVE BEEN FORCED ON THE DEFENSIVE ALL THE WAY TO THE MEUSE.

PROVIDENCE SMILED, PERHAPS SYMBOLICALLY, ON THE THIRD ARMY BY SENDING THE FIRST REALLY GOOD FLYING WEATHER IN WEEKS ON THE DAY AFTER THE PUSH STARTED AND THEN RUNNING UP A STRING OF FIVE CONSECUTIVE CLEAR DAYS. FOG AND CLOUD RETURNED AGAIN TODAY, BUT VANISHED LATE THIS AFTERNOON.

WITH THE U.S. THIRD ARMY OUTSIDE ECHTERNACH--FIRST ADD LOST INFANTRYMEN (BY HAWKINS) X X X DEAD OR CAPTURED.

STILL, SAMPLEY HAD BEEN SEPARATED FROM THE MAIN BODY SINCE SOON AFTER THE GERMAN ATTACK SO UNDER THE DIRECTION OF LT. COL. JOSEPH GOLDEN, OF ARLINGTON, VA., AND LT. WILLIAM ANDERSON, OF ST. PAUL, MINN., AND SEATTLE, WASH., A RELIEF PATROL WAS ORGANIZED AND IT ENTERED THE CITY, NOW HALF ENCIRCLED BY AMERICANS AND WITH THE GERMANS WITHDRAWING.

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TWO MEN WHO RAN THE GANTLET OUT OF THE TOWN LAST WEEK, PFC. ARTHUR B. GILLEY, OF ATMORE, ALA., AND PVT. EARL R. CARR, OF MUNCIE, IND., WENT IN LAST NIGHT WITH PFC. JOHN PENDERGRASS, OF SANTIAGO, CALIF., PVT. JAMES MCQUILLAN, OF 15529 NORBORNE AVE., DETROIT, MICH., PFC. LLOYD B. FLOYD, OF OLANTA, S.C. AND PVT. FRED G. PRAYNE, OF 2217 WEST ROOSEVELT ROAD, CHICAGO, ILL.

THROUGH SILENT AND DESERTED STREETS THEY SEARCHED, SOFTLY CALLING THE NAMES OF THE MEN THEY SOUGHT. THEY FOUND GERMANS STACKED HIGH BY AMERICAN BULLETS AND LEFT UNBURIED BY THEIR OWN COMPANIONS. THEY FOUND THE KITCHEN WHICH HAD BEEN AMERICAN HEADQUARTERS BUT THEY SAW NO LIVING SOLDIER, AMERICAN OR GERMAN.

THE ONLY ENCOURAGING NEWS THE COURAGEOUS PATROL COULD BRING BACK TO THEIR LINES IN THE HILLS OUTSIDE THE TOWN WAS THAT THERE WERE FEW KHAKI-CLAD CORPSES. FROM THIS, THEY THOUGHT THAT MANY OF THE LITTLE LOST BAND STILL MAY LIVE IN PRISON CAMPS.

RP1040PEW

FIRST LEAD BASTOGNE

BY JAMES M.LONG

DEC 28 1944

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, DEC 28-(AP)-A MILE-WIDE AMERICAN-CUT CORRIDOR TO BASTOGNE HELD FIRM AGAINST GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS UP TO MID-DAY YESTERDAY, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED TODAY.

THERE WAS EVERY INDICATION THAT THE LIFELINE TO THE HEROIC GARRISON WAS REGARDED AS FIRM AFTER A HAPPY-ENDING TO THE ALAMO-LIKE STAND. IT WAS HELD BY ARMOR AND INFANTRY.

THE AMERICAN GARRISON OF SEVERAL THOUSAND MEN WAS BOLSTERED DURING ITS WEEK-LONG SIEGE BY THE BIGGEST AERIAL SUPPLY TASK FORCE EVER ATTEMPTED BY THE ALLIES, HEADQUARTERS SAID TODAY AS A PART OF THE STORY UNFOLDED.

AT LEAST 842 C-47 TRANSPORT AND 50 GLIDER DROPS WERE MADE IN FOUR DAYS. THESE MISSIONS WERE CARRIED OUT ON DEC. 23, 24, 26 AND 27.

IF THE ALAMO HAD BEEN REACHED IN TIME; IF FLEET-GUARDED TROOPSHIPS COULD HAVE GUNNED THEIR WAY THROUGH TO BATAAN, THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE STORY OF BASTOGNE, THE AMERICAN ARNHEM, AS IT APPEARED TODAY.

IT WAS A BLOODY, HEROIC, SUICIDE STAND WITH PROMISE OF A BRIGHT ENDING.

THE MEN WHO FOUGHT AND DIED IN THE TANK-POUNDED OUTPOSTS AROUND THE TOWN FOR A WEEK, AND SOME OF THEM PROBABLY STILL ARE FIGHTING AND DYING THERE, CANNOT YET BE IDENTIFIED.

THEY ARE SEVERAL THOUSAND STRONG -- OR WERE WHEN THE BATTLE STARTED IN WHICH THEY TIED UP THE BETTER PART OF FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS AND DENIED FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT THE MOST IMPORTANT ROAD HUB IN HIS OFFENSIVE BULGE.

BUT IT CAN BE DISCLOSED THAT MANY WERE VETERANS OF BATTLES FOUGHT UNDER MUCH THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES.

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NEITHER CAN THE ARMOR AND INFANTRY WHICH FOUGHT THEIR WAY THROUGH TO THEM BE IDENTIFIED. IN THAT DRIVE THE AMERICAN TANKS CARRIED TEN MILES OR MORE UP THE ARLON-BASTOGNE ROAD AND HELD A THIN, HARD RELIEF CORRIDOR OPEN THROUGH THE FIRST 24 TO 36 HOURS WITH A DETERMINATION WHICH SUGGESTED IT WOULD STAY OPEN.

THE BASTOGNE POCKET WAS UNDER DAY AND NIGHT PRESSURE FROM EVERY SIDE AGAINST ODDS COMPARABLE TO THOSE WHICH BRITISH PARACHUTE TROOPS FACED AT ARNHEM, IN HOLLAND. THERE WAS NO WAY OF TELLING HOW MUCH LONGER THE AMERICAN GARRISON COULD HAVE HELD OUT -- BUT THE STORIES OF THE MEN WHO FOUGHT THERE NOW MAKE CLEAR HOW THEY WITHSTOOD THE SIEGE.

WHEN THE RELIEF COLUMN BURST THROUGH IT FOUND THE AMERICANS NOT SMASHED BACK INTO THE STREETS BUT CLINGING GRIMLY TO THE OUTPOST LINE.

THERE WAS NO INDICATION AT HEADQUARTERS THAT THE GERMANS HAD BEEN ABLE TO SMASH INTO THE TOWN ITSELF FROM ANY SIDE, ALTHOUGH TIME AND AGAIN TANKS DID BREAK THROUGH THE PERIMETER.

AROUND THE SHELL-TORN BASTOGNE RING THE WRECKAGE OF 87 GERMAN TANKS ATTESTED TO WHAT SUCCESS THE NAZI THRUSTS ENJOYED.

THUS FAR THERE IS NO OFFICIAL WORD TO INDICATE WHAT THE NEXT DEVELOPMENTS MAY BE. THERE ARE THESE POSSIBILITIES:

THE BATTLE-WORN BASTOGNE DEFENSE FORCE MIGHT BE WITHDRAWN AS QUICKLY AS IT IS POSSIBLE TO MOVE IN FRESH TROOPS.

THE WHOLE FORCE MIGHT BE WITHDRAWN THROUGH THE CORRIDOR AND BASTOGNE GIVEN UP -- ITS JOB DONE.

IT MIGHT ONLY BE SUPPLIED AND REINFORCED QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE THE HOLDOUT IN THE EVENT A NAZI COUNTERATTACK PINCHES OFF THE CORRIDOR.

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(EDS: DATELINE READ IT "PARIS" NOT PARS)

ME1041AEW

30. 24— 21621

BY THOBURN WIANT

A FRENCH SPITFIRE AIRDROME, DEC 28-(AP)-FRENCH-PILOTED SPITFIRES NOW ARE SUPPORTING U.S.SEVENTH ARMY OPERATIONS FROM THIS AIRDROME WITHIN A STONE'S THROW OF GERMANY. PROBABLY NO OTHER OPERATIONAL AIRDROME ON ANY OTHER BATTLE FRONT IS CLOSER TO THE ENEMY.

THE FRENCH PILOTS--ABOUT HALF OF WHOM WERE IN THE FRENCH AIR FORCE BEFORE THE 1940 ARMISTICE--CAN TAKE OFF AND BE OVER ENEMY LINES BEFORE THEIR ENGINES HAVE WARMED UP. IN THE FIRST MISSION FROM THIS FIELD, EIGHT SPITFIRES WERE JUMPED BY 20 GERMAN ME109S. THE FIGHT LASTED ONLY FIVE MINUTES. THE FRENCH DESTROYED FIVE OUT OF THE 20 GERMANS, GOT TWO PROBABLES AND LOST TWO OF THEIR OWN.

MANY OF THE FRENCH PILOTS HAVE BEEN TRAINED IN THE UNITED STATES. ONE OF THE SQUADRON LEADERS, 30-YEAR-OLD MAJ.MICHAEL DORANCE, SERVED AS ASSISTANT AIR ATTACHE AT WASHINGTON FOR THE VICHY GOVERNMENT FOR NEARLY TWO YEARS. INTERNED FROM NOVEMBER, 1942, TO JANUARY, 1943, HE WENT TO SARASOTA, FLA., WHEN RELEASED AND TOOK REFRESHER COURSES FOR TWO MONTHS. HE THEN JOINED OTHER FRENCH FLIERS IN NORTH AFRICA.

DORANCE DOWNED 13 GERMANS BEFORE THE FRENCH ARMISTICE BUT HAS NOT HAD A CRACK AT A NAZI PLANE SINCE THE FRENCH AIR FORCE RETURNED TO ITS HOMELAND.

SK1107PEW

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WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM DEC 27-(DELAYED)-(AP)-NINE MEMBERS OF A QUARTERMASTER COMPANY TRAPPED BY THE RECENT GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH IN THIS AREA TOLD TODAY HOW THEY HID IN AN OLD CREAMERY STORAGE VAULT WHILE NAZI TANKMEN RANSACKED BINS OF NEW AMERICAN COMBAT CLOTHING "LIKE A BUNCH OF CHILDREN."

"THE HEINIES WERE TICKLED PINK TO GET THAT CLOTHING," SAID PVT.B.C.MALLORY OF MINERAL WELLS, TEXAS. "THEY ALL PICKED SOME UP, WAVED IT AROUND AND KEPT YELLING: 'AMERICANS KAPUT (AMERICANS FINISHED)."

THE NINE MEN HID IN THE CREAMERY SEVEN HOURS WATCHING THROUGH A WINDOW AS THE GERMANS HELPED THEMSELVES TO AMERICAN EQUIPMENT BEFORE PULLING OUT WHEN U.S.ARTILLERY STARTED TO SHELL THE TOWN.

THE OTHER EIGHT INCLUDED:

CORP.BENJAMIN E.ONDRUSEK, YOAKUM, TEXAS; PVT.SMITH R.TAYLOR, CORVIN, KY.; PFC.JAMES MORRIS, LEBANON, IND.; PVT.HERSCHEL G.WHITE, 1422 26TH ST., WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS; PVT.MANDRED E.DAVIS, PAMPA, TEXAS; CORP.E.J.KOPECKY, SWEETHOME, TEXAS; T-5 HERMAN A.POPE, KNIGHTSTOWN, IND., AND PFC.DALE L.PHELPS, LYTLE, TEXAS.

KK541AEW

(120) WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM DEC 27-(DELAYED)-(AP)-CORP. WILLIAM S.SIMPSON OF 2822 NORTH WILDON AVE., CHICAGO, TOLD TODAY HOW A FLAT-TIRED JEEP CARRIED HIM SAFELY THROUGH THE GERMAN LINES WHEN HE WAS CUT OFF FROM HIS UNIT BY THE RECENT NAZI BREAKTHROUGH IN THIS SECTOR.

SIMPSON SAID HE SET OUT TO RUN THE GAUNTLET OF RAMPAGING ENEMY ARMORED FORCES IN A TRUCK, BUT ABANDONED IT FOR A JEEP WHICH HE FOUND IN A PARKING AREA.

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"THE JEEP HAD A FLAT TIRE, BUT EVEN SO I FIGURED IT WOULD BE FASTER THAN A TRUCK," HE SAID. "STARTING THROUGH THE NEXT TOWN I SAW AHEAD OF ME A GERMAN WEAPONS CARRIER WITH EIGHT JERRIES STANDING BESIDE IT. "I JUST POURED ON THE GAS AND WENT BY SO FAST THEY DIDN'T EVEN FIRE A SHOT."

SIMPSON KEPT ON GOING FOR FOUR MILES BEFORE HE STOPPED AND CHANGED THE TIRE.

KK422AEW

SITUATIONER (800)

BY WES GALLAGHER

WITH U.S. FORCES IN BELGIUM, DEC. 28-(AP)-HAVING LOST AT LEAST THE EQUIVALENT OF TWO PANZER DIVISIONS, FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT WITHDREW TODAY TO REFIT, REST AND REORGANIZE HIS FORCES FOR THE NEXT BLOW.

PRELIMINARY ARMY ESTIMATES PLACED GERMAN TANK LOSSES AT 400 THROUGH GROUND ACTION SINCE THE GERMAN OFFENSIVE STARTED WHILE THE AIR FORCE CLAIMED ANOTHER 415 TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES DAMAGED, WITH AN ADDITIONAL 310 DESTROYED.

"THE ENEMY HAS WITHDRAWN BEHIND DEFENSIVE POSITIONS IN THE BREAKTHROUGH AREA TO REST AND REFIT IN THE LULL BEFORE THE NEXT STORM," A HIGH STAFF OFFICER SAID. "THIS LULL MAY LAST TWO OR THREE DAYS. HE EXPENDED HIMSELF IN THE INITIAL EFFORT AND NOW FACES A DIFFICULT DECISION.

"HE CAN EITHER GO ALL OUT AND COMMIT ALL THE BIG RESERVES HE HAS OR COMMIT HALF OF THEM TO FIGHT A REARGUARD ACTION TO GET HIS PRESENT FORCE BACK INTO GERMANY."

EXCEPT FOR THE STEADY AMERICAN PROGRESS ON THE SOUTH IN THE BASTOGNE AREA, THE BREAKTHROUGH FRONT IS COMPARATIVELY QUIET, WITH THE GERMANS BREAKING CONTACT AND ESTABLISHING DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AROUND THE GROUND GAINED.

VON RUNDSTEDT STARTED HIS OFFENSIVE WITH DIVISIONS THAT WERE AS WELL EQUIPPED AS THOSE WHICH HAD RACED THROUGH FRANCE IN 1940. EXCEPT FOR MORE USE OF TIGER AND PANTHER TANKS, THERE WAS LITTLE NEW IN THE WAY OF FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

BURSTING THROUGH A WEAK SPOT IN THE WESTERN FRONT, NAZI LEGIONS OVERWHELMED AMERICAN DEFENDERS TO BREAK OUT INTO THE OPEN BUT, UNLIKE PREVIOUS BREAKTHROUGHS, THE TREMENDOUS ALLIED SUPERIORITY IN THE AIR, ARTILLERY AND MANPOWER EXACTED A TERRIFIC TOLL IN BRINGING THE DRIVE TO A HALT.

GROUND FIGURES ARE INCOMPLETE BUT, BESIDES THE EQUIPMENT OF TWO PANZER DIVISIONS, THE GERMANS SUFFERED HEAVILY IN CASUALTIES. IT PROBABLY WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE THESE ARE FULLY ASSESSED. WHEN THEY ARE ASSESSED, THE PROPORTION OF DEAD IS LIKELY TO BE HIGHER THAN FOR ANY ALLIED BATTLE IN THIS WAR. COMPARATIVELY FEW PRISONERS ARE BEING TAKEN. THE GERMANS ARE FIGHTING TO THE LAST.

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VON RUNDSTEDT'S WITHDRAWAL FOR REST AND RENOVATION HAS BEEN FAVORED BY THE WEATHER AS BLACK CLOUDS, SNOW AND RAIN ARE GIVING HIM A MUCH-NEEDED BREATHING SPELL AND A CHANCE TO GATHER HIS STRENGTH TOGETHER AGAIN.

JUST WHAT THIS REST MEANS TO THE GERMAN HIGH COMMAND MAY BE SEEN IN THE OFFICIAL COMBINED AIR FORCE FIGURES RELEASED FOR THE PAST 12 DAYS OF HEAVY FIGHTING.

ALLIED AIR FORCES HAVE FLOWN 33,930 SORTIES, DROPPING 30,478 TONS OF BOMBS, ALL IN THE BATTLE OR REAR AREAS.

THIS TERRIFIC TONNAGE DESTROYED 3,355 MOTOR TRANSPORT AND DAMAGED 1,619; DESTROYED 415 TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES AND DAMAGED 310; DESTROYED OR DAMAGED 337 LOCOMOTIVES, 4,332 RAILWAY CARS AND 1,655 MISCELLANEOUS TARGETS.

SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE GERMAN PLANES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED IN THE AIR OR ON THE GROUND FOR A LOSS OF 455 ALLIED PLANES. IN ADDITION, 355 GERMAN PLANES WERE DAMAGED OR PROBABLY DESTROYED.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASSESS EXACTLY THE VALUE OF THIS DESTRUCTION ON THE GERMAN GROUND EFFORT BUT IT PROBABLY IS IN CLOSE PROPORTION TO THIS TABLE OF THE REDUCED EFFORT OF THE GERMAN AIR FORCE, WHICH IS VON RUNDSTEDT'S WEAKEST LINK.

IN THE LAST FIVE DAYS OF FURIOUS AIR BATTLES, GERMAN FIGHTER SORTIES OVER THE BATTLE AREA HAVE FALLEN OFF AS FOLLOWS: DEC.23, ABOUT 600; DEC.24, ABOUT 550; DEC.25, ABOUT 400; DEC.26, ABOUT 350; AND DEM27, ABOUT

ABOUT 600; DEC.24, ABOUT 550; DEC.25, ABOUT 400; DEC.26, ABOUT 350; AND DEC.27, ABOUT 325.

"THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS DROP IN THE LUFTWAFFE EFFORT IS DUE TO THE TOLL EXACTED BY THE ALLIED AIR FORCES," AN AIR FORCE STAFF OFFICER SAID.

IN THE SAME MANNER, VON RUNDSTEDT HAS BEEN FORCED TO HALT HIS DRIVE TO MAKE UP FOR THE LOSSES SUFFERED ON THE GROUND AND IN THE AIR.

THAT HE IS ABLE TO MAKE UP MOST OF THESE LOSSES AND PUT FORTH A TREMENDOUS EFFORT IF HE WANTS TO IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED. ALLIED INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN SURPRISED BY THE STRENGTH THE GERMANS HAVE SHOWN. EXCEPT FOR A SHORTAGE OF GASOLINE, THE DIVISIONS VON RUNDSTEDT HAS HURLED INTO THIS DRIVE SINCE THE START--ESTIMATED AROUND 15---HAVE BEEN FULLY EQUIPPED IN TANKS, GUNS AND MUNITIONS AND ARE UP TO 1940 STANDARDS. TIGER AND PANTHER TANKS HAVE REPLACED THE CONVENTIONAL MARK IV'S OF 1940 ALTHOUGH A FEW MARK IV'S STILL ARE BEING USED.

THE GERMANS HAVE USED LIBERAL QUANTITIES OF CAPTURED AMERICAN EQUIPMENT BUT THIS HAS BEEN DUE TO THE DESIRE TO DECEIVE AND INFILTRATE RATHER THAN DUE TO ANY SHORTAGE OF THEIR OWN MATERIALS.

THE WESTERN FRONT BATTLE THUS FAR IN THE BREAK-THROUGH HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED BY ANY QUALITATIVE SUPERIORITY IN GERMAN TANKS AND EQUIPMENT BUT RATHER BY THE OVERWHELMING FORCE OF ONE SIDE OR ANOTHER.

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A117

THE FIRST GERMANS BROKE THROUGH BY A COMBINATION OF SURPRISE AND SUPERIOR TACTICS AND OVERWHELMED THE THIN AMERICAN DEFENSE LINE. THEN THE AMERICANS THREW IN GREAT QUANTITIES OF EQUIPMENT, COMBINED WITH THE SHEER DETERMINATION OF INDIVIDUAL GI'S THAT THE GERMANS SHOULD NOT PASS AND THIS SLOWED THE DRIVE. THEN, ALLIED AIR SUPERIORITY TIPPED THE SCALES ENOUGH TO BRING VON RUNDSTEDT TO A HALT.

WITH CLOUDS TO CLOAK HIS MOVEMENTS AND GIVE HIM A RESPITE, VON RUNDSTEDT NOW SITS REORGANIZING AND PREPARING FOR HIS NEXT MOVE.

JUST WHEN AND WHERE IT WILL COME IS ANYONE'S GUESS.

ROME, DEC 28-(AP)-THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS WAS AWARDED POSTHUMOUSLY TODAY TO LT.ALEDA E.LUTZ, 29, AMERICAN AIR EVACUATION NURSE KILLED NOV.1 WHEN THE C-47 HOSPITAL PLANE IN WHICH SHE WAS ATTENDING 15 PATIENTS CRASHED NEAR LYON, FRANCE. DEC 281944

THE CITATION CREDITED THE NURSE WITH "SELFLESS DEVOTION TO DUTY AND OUTSTANDING PROFICIENCY." SHE HAD FLOWN 196 EVACUATION MISSIONS FOR A TOTAL OF 814 HOURS AND LANDED MORE THAN 3,500 PATIENTS.

HER HOME WAS AT FREELAND, MICH. SHE ARRIVED AT NORTH AFRICA IN FEBRUARY, 1943, WITH THE 802ND EVACUATION SQUADRON AND HAD FLOWN WOUNDED FROM TUNISIA, SICILY AND ITALY, INCLUDING TAKEOFFS FROM THE ANZIO BEACHHEAD.

BZ750AEW

ROME, DEC 28-(AP)-THE LIBERATOR "DYNAMITE" FLEW HER 100TH BATTLE MISSION YESTERDAY AND THE GROUND CREW CHIEF, SGT.VERNON E.BULLARD OF 206 EAST DELAVARE AVE., KNOXVILLE, TENN., WHO WENT ALONG AS GUEST OF HONOR, SAID SHE "BEHAVED LIKE A NEW PLANE." DEC 281944

THE TARGET WAS AN AUSTRIAN RAILWAY YARD.

THE PILOT WAS LT.DAN W.MAGGERTY OF 314 FERNANDALE PLU., FLINT, MICH.

"DYNAMITE'S" FIRST MISSION WAS AN ATTACK LAST FEB.8 AGAINST THE GERMANS IN ORVIETO, ITALY.

Add Athens Greek xxxx a press conference.

ASKED WHAT WAS LIKELY TO HAPPEN IF NO SETTLEMENT WERE REACHED AT THE ALL-PARTY CONFERENCE, CHURCHILL REPLIED:

"IF NO AGREEMENT IS REACHED, THE GUNS WILL GO ON FIRING, THE TROOPS WILL CLEAR THE DISTRICT AND WE SHALL ESTABLISH PEACE, ORDER AND SECURITY IN ATTICA." DEC 281944

DURING THE SESSION, WHICH WAS HELD IN A TENSE ATMOSPHERE AS FIGHTING FLARED UP THROUGHOUT THE CITY, GREEK PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU WAS SAID TO HAVE OFFERED TO RESIGN AS A MEANS OF EXPEDITING THE REGENCY, PRESUMABLY UNDER ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS OF GREECE.

(A GREEK POLITICAL COMMUNIQUE BROADCAST BY THE ATHENS RADIO LAST NIGHT AND REPORTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID A MAJORITY AT THE CONFERENCE HAD AGREED ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGENCY "WHILE THE MINORITY REQUESTED POSTPONEMENT.") DEC 281944

CHURCHILL WAS FIRED UPON BY AN ELAS SNIPER YESTERDAY MORNING AS HE STOOD OUTSIDE THE BRITISH EMBASSY. HE WAS WITH FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY EDEN AND AMBASSADOR REGINALD H. A. LEEPER. THE BULLET WHISTLED CLOSE BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND STRUCK A YOUNG WOMAN 300

YARDS AWAY.

AT A LATER PRESS CONFERENCE CHURCHILL'S COMMENTS WERE PUNCTUATED BY THE SOUND OF SNIPER FIRE OUTSIDE THE EMBASSY AND THE THUD OF BRITISH ARTILLERY SHELLING ELAS POSITIONS. DEC 28 1944

CHURCHILL TOLD NEWSMEN THAT WHEN THE LEADERS OF THE THREE GREAT POWERS GET TOGETHER SOON, THE GREEK QUESTION WILL BE "ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS ON THE AGENDA."

"WE FEEL OUR COURSE HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY RIGHT," HE SAID. "IN AUGUST, IN CONSULTATION WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, WE AGREED TO BRING IN FOOD AND RELIEF AND HELP UNTIL THINGS SETTLED DOWN. PREMIER STALIN WAS CONSULTED AND GAVE HIS CONSENT TO THIS COURSE."

CHURCHILL DENIED THAT BRITAIN IS ENDEAVORING TO BRING BACK KING GEORGE II AND "IMPOSE A PARTICULAR RULE" ON GREECE.

A20

"IT IS CLEAR TO ME THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A MASSACRE IF WE HAD NOT INTERVENED," HE SAID, ADDING A FURTHER DENIAL OF ALLEGATIONS THAT BRITAIN HAD TERRITORIAL CLAIMS OR DESIRED BASES IN GREECE. HE SAID THE BRITISH WOULD NOT NOW WITHDRAW UNTIL THE REVOLTING FORCES HAD BEEN DRIVEN OUT OF ATTICA OR WITHDRAWN FROM THE "BUILT UP AREA" AROUND THE CAPITAL. DEC 28 1944

MEANWHILE, IN VIEW OF THE REGENCY AGREEMENT, IT APPEARED THAT THE NEXT MOVE WOULD BE UP TO THE GREEK KING GEORGE II, NOW IN LONDON. HE HAS BEEN REPORTED AS UNFAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARD A REGENCY SINCE IT WAS FIRST SUGGESTED BY GREEK POLITICAL LEADERS.

BEFORE THE VOTE ON THE REGENCY YESTERDAY'S CONFERENCE SEEMED HEADED FOR ANOTHER DEADLOCK. PEACE PROPOSALS OFFERED BY THE LEFT WING ELAS WERE DECLARED UNACCEPTABLE BY MEMBERS OF THE GREEK POPULIST PARTY. HOWEVER, OTHER CONFERENCE DELEGATES SAID THEY WOULD CONSIDER THE ELAS TERMS AND PRESENT THEIR REPLY LATER. DEC 28 1944

JR&FW41AEW

MOSCOW, DEC 28-(AP)-A RED ARMY MILITARY COMMENTATOR SAYS THE GERMANS' STRATEGY IN THEIR WESTERN FRONT OFFENSIVE VIOLATED THE ELEMENTARY REQUIREMENTS OF MILITARY SCIENCE.

"THAT A DECISIVE VICTORY CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY BY ANNIHILATING OR DEFEATING THE STRONGEST ENEMY GROUPING IS AXIOMATIC," DECLARED LT.COL. V.KRAVTSOV IN TODAY'S MOSCOW NEWS. "THE GERMAN COMMAND RESORTED AGAIN TO ITS FAVORITE BUT BY NOW RATHER HACKNEYED METHOD OF STRIKING CONCENTRIC BLOWS AT TWO POINTS WITH THE AIM OF ENCIRCLEMENT. BUT THIS CHOSE AT THE OBJECT OF ENCIRCLEMENT A SECTOR WHERE THE ALLIED TROOP CONCENTRATION WAS LOWEST.

"TO STRIKE AT A WEAK SPOT CAN BE EFFECTIVE ONLY WHEN DEVELOPMENT OF THIS BLOW BRINGS THE ATTACKING FORCE IN CONTACT WITH THE MAIN ENEMY FORCE; OTHERWISE, SUCCESS MAY BE NO MORE THAN TACTICAL AND THUS MAY LEAD TO A MAJOR CATASTROPHE. THE GERMANS NOT ONLY FAILED AT COMPLETE ENCIRCLEMENT BUT LEFT A CLAW OF THEIR PINCERS HANGING IN MIDAIR."

ME925AEW DEC 28 1944

JERUSALEM, DEC 28-(AP)-DR.CHAIM WEIZMANN, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION, SAID TODAY "OUR NATIONAL MOVEMENT WAS NEVER FROM THE OUTSET A PHILANTHORPICAL UNDERTAKING FOR RESCUING INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS OF JEWS CONFRONTED WITH A CRITICAL POSITION--OUR PURPOSE WAS TO RESCUE ISRAEL AS A NATION."

SPEAKING AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVE ZIONIST CONFERENCE HELD AT TELAVIV UNDER AUSPICES OF THE PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND, DR.WEIZMANN CONTINUED:

"IT IS NOT FROM A FEELING OF DESPERATE PESSIMISM, BUT FROM SOBER APPRAISAL OF HARD REALITIES THAT WE STATE THE INCONTRAVERTIBLE FACT THAT NO OTHER SOLUTION EXISTS FOR THE JEWISH PROBLEM THAN REESTABLISHMENT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN LAND.

"CERTAIN DEVELOPMENTS WHICH OCCURRED IN LIBERATED COUNTRIES AND PARTICULARLY IN THOSE WITH A TRADITION OF FREEDOM AND JUSTICE, SHOW US THAT NEW INTERESTS HAVE ARISEN IN THE PAST FEW YEARS IN ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WHICH STRENUOUSLY OPPOSE THE RESTORATION OF JEWS TO THEIR PREVIOUS POSITION.

A150 DEC 28 1944

"MOREOVER, IT WILL TAKE GENERATIONS UNTIL THE POISON INSTILLED IN THE MINDS OF YOUTH IN THE NAZI-OCCUPIED COUNTRIES VANISHES. NOT ONLY HAVE WE NO POSSIBILITIES OF RETURNING TO THAT WORLD, BUT WE DO NOT WANT TO GO BACK."

SK12AEW

CHUNGKING, DEC 28-(AP)-MAJ.GEN.ROBERT B.MCCLURE OF PALO ALTO, CALIF., CHIEF OF STAFF OF U.S. FORCES IN CHINA, HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER IN THE CHINA THEATER, GENERALISSIMO CHIANG KAI-SHEK, CHINESE AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED TODAY. (MAJ.GEN.ALBERT C.WEDEMEYER IS CHIANGS CHIEF OF STAFF).

THE APPOINTMENT INSURES FOR MCCLURE A DIRECT CONTACT WITH CHIANG AT ALL TIMES. DEC 29 1944

G103PEW

BOMBERS AND THUNDERBOLT FIGHTERS AND BY SWIFT PATROL-TORPEDO BOATS.

(A JAPANESE COMMUNIQUE TODAY SAID THE NAVAL UNITS BOMBARDED "THE ENEMY (SAN JOSE) AIRFIELD AND MUNITIONS DUMP AND LEFT THE NEARBY AREA IN A VERITABLE SEA OF FIRE." THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID ONE DESTROYER WAS "HEAVILY DAMAGED."

(THE COMMUNIQUE CLAIMED THAT ON THE SAME NIGHT JAPANESE NAVAL CRAFT OFF SAN JOSE ATTACKED A UNITED STATES CONVOY, SINKING FOUR TRANSPORTS, A TORPEDO BOAT AND TWO SMALLER VESSELS)

(NIMITZ SAID THE AMERICAN TASK FORCE, COORDINATING ITS ATTACK WITH PLANES OF THE STRATEGIC AIRFORCE, PACIFIC OCEAN AREAS, POUNDED COASTAL AND AIRSTRIP INSTALLATIONS AT IWO JIMA, SET A LANDING SHIP AFIRE AND BLEW UP A GUNBOAT. ENEMY COASTAL GUNS SCORED THE HITS ON THE WARSHIPS)

THE YANKS HAVE AN AIR BASE ON MINDORO WITHIN A HALF HOUR'S FLYING TIME OF MANILA WHOSE AIRFIELDS, MACARTHUR DISCLOSED TODAY, WERE BLASTED TUESDAY FOR THE FIFTH STRAIGHT DAY BY LAND-BASED BOMBERS WITH A FIGHTER ESCORT.

(IWO JIMA, TAKING ITS 20TH STRAIGHT DAY OF AERIAL NEUTRALIZATION WHILE THE WARSHIPS SHELLED IT, IS THE AIR BASE FROM WHICH THE ENEMY HAS SENT PLANES 750 MILES SOUTH TO SAIPAN IN AN ATTEMPT TO KNOCK OUT THE TAKEOFF POINT FOR B-29S RAIDING JAPAN)

THE JAPANESE AIRFORCE RAIDED YANK GROUND POSITIONS ON MINDORO IN COORDINATION WITH THE ENEMY NAVAL STRIKE. ENEMY PLANES ALSO STRUCK THERE THE NIGHT BEFORE, TODAY'S COMMUNIQUE ACKNOWLEDGING "MINOR DAMAGE" AND REPORTING THREE RAIDERS DOWNED.

THE NAVAL MOVE AGAINST MINDORO REPRESENTED THE ENEMY'S FIRST SUCH OFFENSIVE EFFORT IN BATTLESHIP STRENGTH SINCE NIPPON'S DISASTROUS DEFEAT IN LATE OCTOBER IN THE SECOND BATTLE OF THE PHILIPPINES SEAS.

MACARTHUR SAID THE ENEMY FORCE, SPOTTED BEFORE IT GOT WITHIN SHELLING RANGE, "WAS IMMEDIATELY ATTACKED BY OUR MEDIUM BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS AND OUR PT BOATS."

(GEORGE FOLSTER, NBC CORRESPONDENT, REPORTED THAT A NAVY PATROL PLANE LUCKILY DISCOVERED THE TASK FORCE WHILE THE PLANE WAS OFF ITS COURSE. ALTHOUGH ALREADY IN THE AIR 10 HOURS, IT RACED TO MINDORO, PICKED UP BOMBS AND JOINED IN THE ATTACK.)

THE WARSHIPS KEPT ON UNTIL THEY COULD LOOSE SALVOS BY MOONLIGHT ON THE COAST BUT WITHDREW AFTER SEVERAL HOURS UNDER "REPEATED ASSAULT SORTIES BY OUR AIR ELEMENTS." THE ACTION WAS BROKEN OFF SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT BUT THE PURSUIT ACROSS THE CHINA SEA WAS RESUMED YESTERDAY MORNING.

(THE WARSHIP BOMBARDMENT OF IWO JIMA ANNOUNCED BY NIMITZ QUICKLY FOLLOWED ONE ON DEC. 23. A SIMILAR WARSHIP-PLANE POUNDING WAS GIVEN IWO ON DEC. 7. WARSHIPS HAVE SHELLED IWO FIVE TIMES, DELIVERING THEIR FIRST PUNCH LAST JULY 3)

REPORTS OF GROUND ACTION WERE LIMITED TO THE KILLING OF 827 MORE JAPANESE TUESDAY IN MOP UP OPERATIONS ON THE WEST COAST OF LEYTE BUT EXTENSIVE AIR ACTION WAS REPORTED THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES AND OVER ISLANDS TO THE SOUTH.

LIBERATORS CRATERED MANILA'S CLARK FIELD WHILE THEIR GUNNERS AND ESCORTING FIGHTER PLANES SHOT DOWN 13 OUT OF 20 ENEMY INTERCEPTORS. IN THREE DAYS, THROUGH TUESDAY, 124 ENEMY PLANES HAVE BEEN SHOT OUT OF THE SKIES OVER THAT BIG AIRFIELD.

IN OTHER ATTACKS SOUTHWARD TO MINDANAO, AIRDROMES WERE BOMBED, A HARBOR WATERFRONT HIT, A JETTY DESTROYED, THREE SMALL FREIGHTERS, A COASTAL VESSEL AND BARGE SUNK.

AT HALMAHERA, 300 MILES SOUTHWEST OF MINDANAO, AND CLOSE BY THE AMERICAN AIR BASE ON MOROTAI, 160 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES WERE DUMPED ON AIRDROMES AND BIVOUACS.

(A DUTCH NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENT IN A DISPATCH FROM MOROTAI SUGGESTED THE INTENT OF THESE ATTACKS BY REPORTING THE ENEMY IS MAKING STRENUOUS NIGHT-EFFORTS TO SEND BARGE-LOADS OF SOLDIERS FROM HALMAHERA TO MOROTAI AND ALSO IS PRESSING NUISANCE AIR RAIDS AGAINST THE AMERICAN POSITIONS).

LIBERATORS PLASTERED JAPANESE AIRFIELDS AND RAILROAD SHOPS ON DUTCH BORNEO WITH 161 TONS. PATROL PLANES SANK TWO FREIGHTERS AND FORCED ANOTHER TO BE BEACHED.

MM1212APW NM

B-29S HAD HAMMERED TOKYO IN FORCE.

A SUPERFORT COMMANDED BY LT.AL WILLIAMS, DALLAS, TEX., HAD A NARROW ESCAPE. NEAR THE TARGET, ONE ENGINE CAUGHT FIRE. IT WAS EXTINGUISHED, AND THE SHIP FLEW ON THREE ENGINES UNTIL ANOTHER STARTED TO FAIL JUST OFF HONSHU.

LIMPING ALONG ON TWO ENGINES, WITH A THIRD CUTTING ON AND OFF, THE PLANE WAS IN THE LAST FORMATION OVER TOKYO. IT WAS ATTACKED REPEATEDLY BY ENEMY INTERCEPTORS. APPROXIMATELY 50 PASSES WERE FENDED OFF BY THE B-29'S GUNNERS, THE LAST ON THE HOME TRIP BY A GROUP OF FIGHTERS WAITING OVER THE HONSHU COAST TO PICK OFF CRIPPLES. THE PLANE WAS THE LAST ONE TO RETURN, ENDING A TRIP OF 16 HOURS, 25 MINUTES.

A PLANE PILOTED BY CAPT.HAROLD F.SCHRAMM, ST. LOUIS, MO., WHOSE WIFE LIVES AT ARANSAS PASS, TEX., ALSO CAME HOME ON TWO ENGINES WHEN FORCED TO FEATHER THE OTHER TWO PROPELLERS TO CONSERVE FUEL. HE TRAVELED THE LAST 150 MILES IN THIS FASHION, AND LANDED 15 MINUTES AFTER HE HAD ABOUT DECIDED TO ABANDON SHIP.

WHEN LIEUTENANT WILLIAMS' PLANE GOT IN ITS JAM, A B-29 COMMANDED BY LT.CHARLES W.MORGAN, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., TURNED BACK TO HELP AND ALMOST MET DISASTER ITSELF. THE SHIP WAS CAUGHT IN WILLIAMS' SLIPSTREAM AND FELL OUT OF CONTROL FOR 4,000 FEET. MORGAN ESCORTED WILLIAMS MOST OF THE WAY HOME.

(1c MM1152PPW

Somewhere in the Marianas-Lightnings (thru gland) x explode,

CAPT.RAYMOND CREEKMORE, MAMARONECK,N.Y., FORMER ARTIST FOR THE BALTIMORE SUN AND NOW CORRESPONDENT FOR THE AIR FORCE MAGAZINE, RODE IN AN ESCORTING B-29 AT 500 FEET, SAW THE P-38S SWEEP ACROSS THE MIDDLE OF THE ISLAND, STARTING TWO FIRES, AND THEN ATTACK AN ARMED NAVAL VESSEL ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE ISLAND. THEY SWARMED OVER HER LIKE BEES ON THEIR REPEATED STRAFING RUNS.

THE LIGHTNINGS RETURNED FROM THEIR LONG HOP SAFELY.

BEFORE DOWNING THE JAPANESE WARPLANE, THE PILOTS STRAFED THE ISLAND AND ATTACKED A VESSEL OFFSHORE.

THEN THEY AND OTHER PILOTS ATTACKED A VESSEL TENTATIVELY IDENTIFIED AS A 6,000 TO 8,000 TON NAVAL TRANSPORT OR FREIGHTER A MILE OFF THE

EAST COAST, HITTING THE BRIDGE SUPERSTRUCTURE DESPITE INTENSE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. THEY LEFT IT SMOKING IN SEVERAL PLACES.

LT.JAMES A.DE YONKER, OF (173 TEMPLE ST.), PATERSON, N.J., STRAFED THREE SINGLE ENGINE FIGHTERU PARKED WINGTIP TO WINGTIP, AND SAW THE MIDDLE ONE EXPLODE AND BURN SO FIERCELY THAT THE OTHER TWO WERE PROBABLY BADLY DAMAGED.

DEC 28 1944

ANOTHER LIGHTNING PILOT, 2ND LT.JOSEPH G.SULLIVAN, (4514 CONNECTICUT AVE.), WASHINGTON, D.C., ACCOMPANIED THE ONLY DAMAGED P-38 HOME.

LTS.BOONE RUFF, (533 NORTH SERGEANT ST.), JOPLIN, MO., AND WILLIAM D.FANCHER, (949 ALMER ROAD), BRONXVILLE, N.Y., MADE SEVEN PASSES AT A SEAGOING TUG OFFSHORE AND SAW IT CRASH ONTO ROCKS AT THE SOUTHEAST TIP OF THE ISLAND.

OTHERS PARTICIPATING INCLUDED CAPT.WILBUR MCGOWAN, (511 WEST OREGON ST.), URBANA, ILL.; LT.MELVIN G.PETTY, (53 RIVER ST.), SCRANTON, PA.; 2ND LTS.WARREN J.SHENEMAN, (632 THIRD ST.), LANCASTER, PA.; JAMES PORRIS, (88 KENSINGTON ST.), NEW HAVEN, CONN., AND FLIGHT OFFICER HARRY W.JAMES, WHARTON,N.J.

RA 54PCW

(THIS DELAYED DESCRIPTION OF ONE OF THE STRANGEST CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS AN ARMY EVER HAD, WAS WRITTEN BY JAMES HUTCHESON, THE ONLY WAR CORRESPONDENT WHO MADE THE CHRISTMAS DAY LANDING AT PALOMPON WITH THE U.S. 77TH DIVISION.)

DEC 28 1944

BY JAMES HUTCHESON

WITH THE 77TH DIVISION AT PALOMPON, LEYTE, P.I., DEC 26-(DELAYED)-(AP)-TOO BUSY INVADING PALOMPON TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ON DEC. 25, THE U.S. 77TH DIVISION HELD A BIZARRE YULETIDE SERVICE ON THE BATTLEFRONT TODAY WITH CAROL SINGING, HOT TURKEY AND AN IMPROMPTU PIANO CONCERT, TOPPED OFF BY JAPANESE BOMBS.

THE LACK OF OPPOSITION TO THE AMPHIBIOUS OPERATION MADE CHRISTMAS SEEM ALMOST A DAY OF PEACE AND GOODWILL TO THE MEN WHO HAD EXPECTED A HARD BATTLE.

THEY TRAVELED 40 MILES FROM ORMOC IN NEARLY 100 AMPHIBIOUS TANKS AND TRACTORS TO SEIZE THIS LAST IMPORTANT JAPANESE PORT ON LEYTE. THREE DISABLED AMPHITRACKS SANK, BUT NO LIVES WERE LOST.

FROM THE START SUSPENSE HUNG OVER THE EXPEDITION. LED BY LT. COL.JAMES E.LANDRUM OF KOSCIUKO, MISS. HIS WIFE LIVES AT 4491 ROYAL PALM AVE., MIAMI BEACH, FLA.) THE TROOPS WERE WITHOUT NAVAL GUN SUPPORT AND AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR LEARNED THAT MOUNTAIN BASED ARTILLERY WAS UNABLE TO REACH THE BEACH.

LANDRUM ORDERED THE LANDING TO GO AHEAD BEHIND A LIGHT ROCKET BOMBARDMENT. HE WAS AMAZED AT THE LACK OF RESISTANCE.

AS THE STRANGE CONVOY WADDLED THROUGH CHRISTMAS EVE, SGT. WILLIAM LATHWOOD, (2964 PERRY AVE.) NEW YORK, REMARKED, "THIS IS ONE CHRISTMAS EVE WE WILL NEVER FORGET."

"I WONDER," SAID CAPT.WESLEY BROWN OF TPQ CHEROEE BLVD.) KNOXVILLE, TENN., "IF MY LITTLE DAUGHTER IS HALF AS EXCITED TONIGHT AS I AM." ITS A SAFE BET SHE WASNT.

AS THE GUNS STARTED SHOOTING INTO THE COASTAL WOODS CHRISTMAS MORNING, WILLIAM ANDERSON OF (1113 OWEN ST.) SAGINAW, MICH., COMMENTED, "IT SEEMS MORE LIKE THE FOURTH OF JULY THAN CHRISTMAS. BUT I DON'T MIND. I GOT A PACKAGE OF COOIES FROM THE FOLKS YESTERDAY. IT GAVE ME A BIG LIFT."

LT.JOHN J.KELLEY (1715 CANON AVE.) LAKEWOOD, OHIO, REMARKED AS THE SHOOTING DIED DOWN, "AND A YEAR AGO TODAY I WAS GETTING ENGAGED BACK HOME."

THE DELAYED CHRISTMAS SERVICES WERE CONDUCTED BY CAPT.N.B. SAUCIER OF COFFEEVILLE, MISS.

DEC 28 1944

B58KX

AFTER THE TURKEY DINNER, THE MEN BROUGHT THE PIANO FROM PALOMPON TO THE BEACHHEAD FOR A GALA AFTERNOON. ROBERT TOAZ, (9 MYRTLE AVE.) HUNTINGTON, N.Y., AND PFC KENNETH HOWELL (2574 EAST 19 ST.) BROOKLYN, ENTERTAINED WITH A WIDE RANGE OF BOOGIE WOOGIE.

IN THE BACKGROUND FIRES STILL BLAZED IN THE DESERTED TOWN OF PALOMPON. CAPT.HUGH PLOWDEN, GEORGETOWN, S.C., LED THE FIRST TROOPS IN A MINUTE SEARCH OF EVERY HOUSE IN THE TOWN.

THE FIRST TANK INTO PALOMPON WAS COMMANDED BY LT.HARRY W. GEE, JR., (STAMS LANE) WHEELING, W.VA. A SIGN ON THE FRONT READ, "MERRY CHRISTMAS."

SECOND IN COMMAND OF THE ENTIRE EXPEDITION WAS MAJ.HENRY KOEPCKE, (215-3200 TWELVE AVE.) QUEENS VILLAGE, LONG ISLAND, N.Y. LT.COL.O'NEILL KANE, WHOSE WIFE LIVES IN LAUREL, MD., COMMANDED THE AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE UNIT.

GG1114ACW

BY VERN HAUGLAND

SOMEHWERE IN THE MARIANAS, DEC 28-(AP)-AIRPLANES ALONE CANNOT DEFEAT JAPAN AND IT WOULD TAKE MANY OF THEM TO KEEP EVEN AN ISLAND AS SMALL AS IWO JIMA PERMANETLY INOPERATIVE, MAJ.GEN.ROBERT W. DOUGLASS, COMMANDER OF THE SEVENTH AIRFORCE AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE PACIFIC STRATEGIC AIR FORCE, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW TODAY.

"THE AIR FORCE BY ITSELF CANNOT DEFEAT JAPAN," HE ASSERTED. "THE PSYCHOLOGY OF HER PEOPLE IS SUCH THAT SHE MUST BE OCCUPIED BEFORE SHE WILL ADMIT DEFEAT.

"THE JAPANESE ARE ABLE TO KEEP EVEN MUCH-BOMBED IWO JIMA IN SHAPE EVERY TIME OUR MEN FLY OVER THEY FIND AIRFIELDS REPAIRED, JUST AS THEY USED TO FIND THEM ON WOTJE AND MALOELAP IN THE MARSHALLS.

"THE JAPANESE WITH A COUPLE OF BULLDOZERS CAN REPAIR THEIR CORAL FIELDS IN HALF AN HOUR. IT WOULD TAKE THOUSANDS OF PLANES, DROPPING BOMBS EVERY HOUR, TO KEEP IWO JIMA KNOCKED OUT ALL THE TIME."

DOUGLASS EXPRESSED PARTICULAR PRIDE IN TWO COMPARATIVELY NEW AND UNKNOWN COMBAT ARMS--MARINE-OPERATED ROCKET-FIRING MITCHELL B-25S, KNOWN HERE AS PBJS. WHICH ARE USED AGAINST SHIPPING AND

OTHER TARGETS IN THE BONINS AND VOLCANOS AREAS, AND THE P-61 BLACK WIDOW NIGHT FIGHTERS WHICH ARE MAKING NOCTURNAL RAIDS ON THE MARIANAS INCREASINGLY COSTLY FOR THE JAPANESE."

DOUGLAS SAID THE MITCHELLS ARE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE IN CUTTING DOWN JAPANESE ATTEMPTS TO SUPPLY THE BONINS AND VOLCANOS.

DEC 28 1944

MM615PPW NM

BY VERN HAUGLAND

SAIPAN,MARIANAS,DEC 25 (DELAYED)-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-DEMONSTRATING THE DIFFICULTY OF KEEPING ENEMY AIR BASES KNOCKED OUT, 15 TO 20 JAPANESE TWIN-ENGINED BOMBERS RAIDED THIS SUPERFORTRESSES BASE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF THE COORDINATED ARMY-NAVY BOMBING AND SHELLING OF IWO JIMA FROM WHENCE THE BOMBERS SUPPOSEDLY WERE LAUNCHED.

IT WAS THE FIRST RAID SINCE DEC.7.

ONLY A FEW OF THE ENEMY PLANES GOT IN CLOSE ENOUGH TO DROP THEIR LOAD ON SAIPAN.

ONE BOMB SET A PLANE AFIRE AND DAMAGED FIVE OTHERS, SERIOUSLY INJURING THREE GROUND CREW MEMBERS. A SECOND BOMB LOAD LANDED AT THE AVIATION ENGINEER'S BUILDING AND KILLED ONE AND INJURED FOUR.

NIGHT FIGHTERS POLISHED OFF THREE JAPANESE PLANES WHILE ANTI-AIRCRAFT KNOCKED DOWN ONE, PROBABLY A SECOND AND DAMAGED A THIRD.

TWO TWIN-ENGINED BOMBERS FELL TO "MOON HAPPY" PILOTED BY LT. DALE HABERMAN OAKLAND, CALIF., WITH OBSERVER LT.RAYMOND P. MOONEY (445 EAST 136TH ST) NEW YORK CITY, AND GUNNER PVT. PATRICK J.FARRELLY (565 WEST 175TH ST.) NEW YORK CITY.

MEXICO CITY,DEC 28 (AP)-TWO NEW AMBASSADORS, MARCO A.KOHLY OF CUBA AND CARLOS MONTENEGRO OF BOLIVIA, PRESENTED THEIR CREDENTIALS TODAY TO PRESIDENT MANUEL AVILA CAMACHO.

THE ENTIRE PERSONNEL OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY ACCOMPANIED KOHLY, WHO SUCCEEDS DR.JOSE MANUEL CARBONELL, TO THE NATIONAL PALACE. MONTENEGRO IS THE FIRST BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR HERE SINCE ENRIQUE FINOT WAS RECALLED LAST YEAR.

DEC 28 1944

GG341PCW

BRDADCAST

CANDIA

NEW YORK, DEC. 28------TO COMM. WILLIAM W. OUTERBRIDGE OF TIFTON, GA., FELL THE DUTY OF SINKING THE U.S. DESTROYER TRANSPORT WARD, WHICH HE ONCE COMMANDED, AFTER SHE WAS FATALLY STRICKEN RECENTLY BY A JAPANESE [redacted] BOMBER [redacted] OFF LEYTE, NBC SAID TODAY.

DEC 28 1944

THE STORY WAS PRESENTED IN A [redacted] DEC. 9 DISPATCH FROM THE PHILIPPINES [redacted] WRITTEN BY NBC WAR REPORTER PAT FLAHERTY AND JUST APPROVED BY THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

OUTERBRIDGE WAS THE WARD'S M SKIPPER AT THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR. SHE WAS CREDITED WITH SINKING A JAPANESE SUBMARINE THE DAY OF PEARL HARBOR DEC. 7, 1941. LT. RICHARD E. FARWELL OF SAN DIEGO, CALIF., COMMANDED HER DURING THE ORMOC OPERATION.

"THE JAP PLANE KEPT COMING IN, APPARENTLY FALTERING AT TIMES BUT NEVER COMPLETELY OUT OF CONTROL," FLAHERTY WROTE. "AND THE BOMB STRUCK THE WARD JUST ABOVE THE WATERLINE, LITERALLY TEARING A HOLE ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE SHIP. BY SOME MIRACLE, NOT A MAN ABOARD WAS INJURED, EVEN THOUGH THE SHIP WAS [redacted] FATALLY HIT."

THE CREWMEN WERE RESCUED FROM THE FLAMING VESSEL BY TWO OTHER DESTROYERS, ONE OF THEM THE U.S.S. O'BRIEN COMMANDED BY OUTERBRIDGE. THEN THE O'BRIEN'S GUNS, UNDER DIRECTION OF OUTERBRIDGE, SANK HER.

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED DEC. 22 THAT THE WARD AND THE DESTROYER MAHAN WERE THE TWO WARSHIPS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED SUNK IN THE ACTION OFF LEYTE.

DEC 28 1944

Add Undated von Kluge [redacted] the [redacted] one-

THE CORRESPONDENT, HUGH CARLETON GREEN, SAID HE HAD HEARD THE DETAILS OF VON KLUGE'S DEATH ON A RECENT TRIP TO PARIS BUT HAD NOT BEEN "ALLOWED TO DISCUSS THEM UP TO NOW."

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VON KLUGE REMAINED ALOOF FROM THE PLOT AGAINST HITLER, BUT AFTER

30. 24— 21627

THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT FAILED AND MANY OFFICERS WERE ARRESTED, TORTURED AND EXECUTED BECAUSE OF IMPLICATION IN THE PLOT, THE COMMANDER WAS OVERCOME WITH REMORSE, GREEN SAID, AND ADDED:

"IT WAS THEN THAT VON KLUGE COMMITTED SUICIDE BECAUSE OF REGRET AND THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HIS INDECISIVENESS AND REFUSAL TO ACT AT THE CRITICAL MOMENT HAD BROUGHT HIS OLD COMRADES TO DEATH AND TORTURE."

RP1052PEW

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UNDATED DUNKERQUE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A GERMAN GARRISON ISOLATED MORE THAN 150 MILES BEHIND THE WESTERN FRONT RETAINS ITS HOLD ON HISTORIC DUNKERQUE.

SOME 8,000 ENEMY TROOPS WERE CUT OFF WHEN THE ALLIES' SUMMER DRIVE SWEPT PAST THE FRENCH PORT FROM WHICH THE BRITISH HAD EVACUATED AN ARMY OF 335,000 ABOARD MOTLEY RESCUE FLEETS BEFORE ABANDONING IT JUNE 4, 1940.

THE ALLIES HAVE A 25-MILE SIEGE LINE ABOUT DUNKERQUE AND SUBJECT THE GERMANS REGULARLY TO BOMBARDMENT. NEUTRALIZED, SHORT OF TRANSPORT, MUNITIONS AND SUPPLIES, THE GARRISON IS CAUSING NO REAL TROUBLE.

HOWEVER, THE GERMANS DO TIE UP WITH SIEGE DUTY ALLIED REGIMENTS WHICH MIGHT BE EMPLOYED IN MORE ACTIVE SECTORS AND PREVENT THE USE OF PORT FACILITIES FOR SUPPLIES, BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN.

MUCH THE SAME SITUATION APPLIES AT LORIENT, ST.NAZAIRE, BORDEAUX, THE VANNES AREA AND THE CHANNEL ISLANDS. IT WAS ESTIMATED IN LONDON TWO MONTHS AGO THAT A TOTAL OF 116,000 GERMAN TROOPS WERE QUARANTINED IN THESE POSITIONS BEHIND THE ALLIED LINES.

THE GERMAN RADIO ANNOUNCED NOV.11 THAT THE ENTIRE CIVILIAN POPULATION OF DUNKERQUE, 62,500 PERSONS, HAD BEEN EVACUATED. FRENCH AIRMEN HAVE PARTICIPATED IN BOMBARDMENT OF THE CITY.

HEAVY EXPLOSIONS EMANATING FROM THE DIRECTION OF DUNKERQUE THREE WEEKS AGO LED LONDONERS TO BELIEVE THAT THE GARRISON WAS DESTROYING INSTALLATIONS, PERHAPS IN A PRELUDE TO SURRENDER. BUT NOTHING HAS COME OF IT.

G156PEW

DEC 28 1944

UNDATED JAPANESE HOARDERS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO RADIO LAST NIGHT (THURS) URGED JAPANESE NOT TO HOARD THEIR MONEY AT HOME IN FEAR OF AIR RAIDS, BUT TO PUT IT IN THE BANK WHERE IT WOULD BE SAFER.

THE BROADCAST, HEARD BY THE FCC, SAID A NUMBER OF JAPANESE HAD LOST THEIR MONEY THROUGH FIRE IN AMERICAN SUPERFORTRESS RAIDS AND IN THE DEC. 7 EARTHQUAKE.

MM610PEW

UNDATED CHURCHILL

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE BRITISH BROADCASTING COMPANY SAID LAST (THURS) NIGHT THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO GREECE PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL "HAD HIS HEADQUARTERS ON A BRITISH BATTLESHIP WITHIN RANGE OF AN ELAS BATTERY, AND A SHELL FELL 200 YARDS FROM THE SHIP ON THE AFTERNOON AFTER MR.CHURCHILL'S ARRIVAL."

THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY CBS, SAID: "RAF PLANES STRAFED THE BATTERY AND OUR ARTILLERY FIRED ON IT. MANY OF MR.CHURCHILL'S CONFERENCES, INCLUDING ONE WITH ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS, WERE HELD IN THE SHIP."

SK1140PEW

UNDATED TOKYO RAID

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE ASAHI AND MAINICHI, TWO JAPANESE NEWSPAPERS, UNDER THE CAPTION "FORTY-ONE B29S SHOT DOWN, HEAVILY DAMAGED" IN YESTERDAY'S TOKYO RAID, PRINTED PICTURES TODAY OF A WRECKED B29 AND OF ANOTHER SUPERFORTRESS "TRAILING WHITE SMOKE FROM THREE OF ITS ENGINES."

GEN. H.H. ARNOLD, COMMANDER OF THE 20TH AIR FORCE, ANNOUNCED IN WASHINGTON THAT ONE B29 WAS SHOT DOWN IN THE TOKYO AREA.

JAPANESE MILITARY HEADQUARTERS CLAIMED 14 SUPERFORTRESSES SHOT DOWN, FIVE OF THEM PROBABLES AND 27 DAMAGED.

WW417APW

DEC 28 1944

UNDATED EXCHANGE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY SAID TODAY THE STEAMER HOSHI MARU WILL SAIL FROM KOBE JAN 4 FOR CHINA CARRYING THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF COMFORT PACKAGES FOR ALLIED WAR PRISONERS AND INTERNEES.

THE PACKAGES WERE SENT FROM THE U.S. FOR WAR PRISONERS AND INTERNEES IN JAPAN, CHINA AND SOUTHERN REGIONS, THE REPORT SAID.

ON DEC. 22 DOMEI QUOTED SADAO IGUCHI, SPOKESMAN FOR THE JAPANESE BOARD OF INFORMATION, AS SAYING THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ALREADY HAD DISTRIBUTED RELIEF PACKAGES TO ALLIED WAR PRISONERS AND INTERNEES IN JAPAN AND OCCUPIED KOREA AND MANCHURIA AND THAT WAR PRISONERS IN SOUTHERN CHINA AND THE PHILIPPINES WOULD RECEIVE THEIR SHARE OF THE SUPPLIES "IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE."

THE REPORT, INTERCEPTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, SAID THAT THE JAPANESE STEAMER KAKUSAN MARU BROUGHT THE PACKAGES FROM VLADIVOSTOK RECENTLY.

WW615APW NM

THE ROAD TO BERLIN

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC 28 1944

1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 366 MILES (FROM HRON RIVER).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 547 MILES (FROM NEAR ALFONSINE)

JR659AEW

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT TODAY:

CANADIAN FIRST ARMY: NO CHANGE IN FRONT.

BRITISH SECOND ARMY: NO CHANGE REPORTED OFFICIALLY. GERMANS SAID DIVISIONS WERE BEING SHIFTED TO HOLD NINTH ARMY FRONT AND TO AID IN FIRST ARMY SECTOR TO THE SOUTH.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: NO IMPORTANT CHANGE REPORTED ON ROER RIVER LINE IN GERMANY. BERLIN REPORTED AMERICANS HERE BEING HURRIED TO BELGIUM BATTLE.

U.S.FIRST ARMY SECTOR: AMERICANS ATTACKED HEAVILY BOTH ON NORTH AND SOUTH FLANKS OF GERMAN SALIENT IN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG. BASTOGNE SAVED, NECK OF GERMAN BULGE AT THAT POINT REPORTED NARROWED TO 20 MILES; GERMAN UNITS THROWN BACK FROM WESTERNMOST TIP OF PENETRATION. SOUTHERN FLANK REPORTED SAGGING UNDER HEAVY BLOWS; WEATHER BAD.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: THE GERMANS REPORTED VIRTUALLY ALL THIRD ARMY THROWN INTO BATTLE ON SOUTHERN FLANK OF BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG BULGE, AND EATING INTO GERMAN SECTOR SOUTH OF BASTOGNE. THE GERMANS ACKNOWLEDGED WITHDRAWALS IN LUXEMBOURG NEAR THE FRONTIER. NO CHANGE REPORTED ON SAAR FRONTS.

U.S.SEVENTH, FRENCH FIRST ARMIES: NO MAJOR CHANGES REPORTED.

JP835AEW

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELGIAN	
LA GLEIZE	LAH GLAYZ'
CELLES	SELL
COBREVILLE	KOHBR-VEEL'
CHAUMONT	SHOH-MOHN'
TINTANGE	TEHN-TAHNJ'
GERMAN	
LULTHAUSEN	LOOLT'-HOW-ZEN
KEHMEN	KAY'-MEN
ZWOLLE	ZVOH'-LAY
THANN	TAHN
ITALIAN	
SERCHIO	SAIRK'-YOH
HUNGARIAN	
ESZTERGOM	ESS'-TAIR-GOHM

MQ455PEW

Dec 28 1944

FRENCH

WASHINGTON, DEC. 28-(AP)-NEGOTIATIONS ARE NOW UNDER WAY HERE ON A LEND-LEASE AGREEMENT FOR FRANCE AND ALLOCATION OF SHIPPING FOR FRENCH CIVILIAN REQUIREMENTS.

JEAN MONNET, FRENCH MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO WHO IS CONDUCTING THE TALKS SAID TODAY THE OBJECT IS TO ENABLE FRANCE TO MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIED WAR EFFORT.

MONNET TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE THAT THE FRENCH IMPORT PROGRAM, WHICH FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS IS ON AN AVERAGE OF 20 PERCENT OF PREWAR IMPORTS, IS BASED ON WHAT SUPPLIES POSSIBLY CAN BE OBTAINED RATHER THAN ON NEEDS.

WHILE MONNET HELD HIS CONFERENCE, ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE THAT FRANCE IS BUYING FROM THE UNITED STATES TEMPORARY HOUSING FOR 150,000 WORKERS ENGAGED IN REPAIRING FRENCH DOCK AREAS FOR WAR USE.

THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION AND THE NATIONAL HOUSING AGENCY ANNOUNCED THAT THE DEAL INVOLVES ABOUT 5,000 BARRACKS, 20 BY 48 FEET EACH, AND THAT THE FRENCH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO PAY CASH ON DELIVERY.

AS MUCH OF THE ORDER AS POSSIBLE WILL BE FILLED FROM SURPLUS WAR HOUSING IN THIS COUNTRY. SOME OF THE HOUSING UNITS ARE AT NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

MONNET SAID THERE HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS IMPROVEMENT IN FRENCH PORT CAPACITY AND INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION SINCE D-DAY BUT THAT OVER 50 PER CENT OF AVAILABLE FACILITIES PRESENTLY ARE USED DIRECTLY FOR THE WAR.

HE ESTIMATED THAT 80 PERCENT OF FRENCH INDUSTRIAL PLANTS REMAIN IN GOOD SHAPE BUT SAID FACTORIES ARE RAPIDLY CLOSING DOWN BECAUSE THEY LACK RAW MATERIALS AND FUEL. UNEMPLOYMENT NOW STANDS AT ABOUT 1,000,000 MEN AND IS SHOOTING UPWARDS.

ON THE POINT OF FUEL, MONNET SAID COAL PRODUCTION JUMPED FROM A MILLION TONS A MONTH IN SEPTEMBER TO OVER 2,500,000 IN DECEMBER. ELECTRICITY HAS INCREASED FROM 10 PER CENT TO 90 PER CENT OF PRE-WAR PRODUCTION.

MONNET SAID THAT FRANCE HAS IMPORTED VIRTUALLY NOTHING UP TO NOW. FINANCING OF THE PROPOSED IMPORT PROGRAM DEPENDS ON WASHINGTON AND IS EXPECTED TO BE DIVIDED AMONG LEND-LEASE, CASH AND CREDITS.

DEC 28 1944

D136WX

AN IMPORTANT ITEM ON THE PROGRAM IS COTTON FROM WHICH FRANCE HOPES TO PRODUCE TEXTILES FOR ALLIED ARMIES AND OTHER LIBERATED COUNTRIES AS WELL AS TO MEET HER OWN NEEDS.

MONNET WAS UNABLE TO SAY HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL TONNAGE WOULD BE NEEDED TO MEET THE FRENCH PROGRAM BUT EMPHASIZED THAT SHIPPING IS WHAT IS NEEDED TO ENABLE FRANCE TO CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO THE WAR EFFORT.

"FRANCE'S CAPACITY TO FIGHT DEPENDS ON ARMS MADE AVAILABLE, NOT ON MEN, WHO ARE THERE," HE SAID.

GW510PEW NM

30. 24 — 21629

AMERICANS SQUEEZE GERMAN SALIENT TIGHTER; PATTON'S ADVANCE CUTS ITS WAIST TO 13 MILES; FOE'S SPEARHEAD DRIVEN BACK TO ROCHEFORT

ENEMY CORRIDOR CUT TO 13 MILES BY HEAVY ATTACKS

Third Army Strengthens Life-line Leading to Strategic Bastogne.

15 TOWNS OVERRUN

German Forces Reorganize For Defensive Stand Against U. S. Blows.

PARIS, Saturday, Dec. 30.—(AP) Powerful blows by the U. S. First and Third armies have knocked back the Germans 12 miles at the western end of their thrust into Belgium and compressed the enemy's corridor from the Reich to 13 miles.

There were indications that the Germans, their initiative lost, were preparing for a defensive stand as long as possible on the lines of their bulge. Observers reported intensive movements inside the enemy salient and at many places along the perimeter Nazi soldiers were feverishly throwing up fortifications and planting mines.

The First army, punching forward a mile and a half, reached the edge of Rochefort—12 miles from the point where the German advance once was within three miles of the Meuse river.

Bastogne Positions Strengthened

At the same time Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army pounded to the Reich border at three points in northeast Luxembourg, broke the enemy's Sure river line and cemented positions four miles north of Bastogne—only 13 miles from the point where the First is fighting down from the north.

In a dispatch covering developments up to yesterday morning, Associated Press Correspondent Lewis Hawkins said the corridor into Bastogne was strengthened against stout resistance from the west, but lesser opposition from the east.

In this period at least 15 more towns had been overrun by the two American armies and Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's steel spearheads had been shattered with fearful slaughter.

Some of the best news was that clear weather returned today to the Third army front. The sky was laced with condensation trails as everything from heavy bombers to fighterbombers blasted the Germans who for two days had moved under the cover of fog.

(Reuters correspondent William Steen with U. S. forces in Belgium said the German withdrawal from the Ardennes salient "has developed into a rout at some points tonight.")

Once more Supreme headquarters was able to announce that the Germans had been unable to score gains up to yesterday morning.

It is almost three days now since there was an announcement that the Germans had advanced in Adolf Hitler's ambitious scheme to crack the line and roll up the Allied front from behind.

3 Divisions Held Nazis

Supreme Headquarters disclosed that three divisions figured prominently in stemming the German rush—the First infantry which landed on D-Day and broke the Siegfried Line at Aachen; the Seventh armored which saved the Antwerp offensive by beating off German counterblows, and the 82nd airborne, which landed in Cherbourg and in the Holland invasion.

On the northern flank, the Germans sent two battalions against the African lines in the "hot corner" near Monschau under cover of a heavy artillery barrage but they were thrown back without gaining ground, a front dispatch said.

To the west, 100 Germans slipped past American lines in the neighborhood of the small but important crossroads hamlet of Grandmenil, but were surrounded and at last reports were being wiped out.

The Germans falling back from northern Luxembourg held stubbornly to high ground inside the duchy with their backs to the Sure river, but Third army forces drove up to that borderline stream east of Bigelbach, 18 miles northeast of the Duchy's capital.

American and British heavy bombers, flying from Britain, attacked railheads, bridges and other targets between the front and the Rhine, while the Ninth Air Force alone put up 450 planes which knocked out 63 armored vehicles and 125 trucks along the front.

A late front dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher said Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army had advanced up to three miles in the last 24 hours east and west of liberated Bastogne, tightening the squeeze on the German bulge.

Two more attempts by the Germans to slash the Bastogne lifeline—now broadened to as much as six miles—were beaten back.

Enemy Forces Regroup

For the second day in a row, however, sleet and fog protected the movement of German forces and it was considered possible that despite his enormous losses, Von Rundstedt was regrouping and planning fresh blows, possibly from a new quarter.

Far to the north pilots had reported heavy German troop movements of an undisclosed nature in Holland, where enemy patrols still lashed out aggressively at the British and Canadian positions.

Supreme headquarters looked askance at reports bannered in the Paris press that the enemy agency DNB had announced the withdrawal of Von Rundstedt's powerful forces to the Siegfried Line.

(This report may have sprung from one recorded by the Associated Press both in London and New York which merely announced withdrawal of forward elements in the west and south and made no mention of a retreat to the Siegfried Line inside Germany).

Latest dispatches to the Associated Press from its front correspondents suggested that Von Rundstedt still had powerful forces in the center of the Belgian bulge and might lunge out in one more big attack before giving up. There was no sign, however, that such an assault was imminent.

Reports of German fortifications of its Belgian and Luxembourg positions indicated that he might pull out his two crack armored armies for another day and leave poorer troops to fight it out.

In addition to having failed to seize the main east-west railways to feed his enormous forces in the bulge, Von Rundstedt now must deal with the gathering threat of Patton's hard-charging veteran Third army on the south, and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' resurgent First army on the north.

For 50 hours up to yesterday morning the three German armies committed to the Winter offensive had failed to attack.

Von Rundstedt has the power to strike again, but with the massing of Allied power there could be no repetition of the Luxembourg-Belgian breakthrough.

Bastogne Positions Cemented

The position at Bastogne, 17 miles south of where the U. S. First army is banging away at the enemy's northern flank, was becoming more secure and was developing swiftly into an acute threat to the whole German position.

Here the 101st airborne and parts of the Ninth and Tenth armored divisions had by their stand denied the Germans the use of seven highways and a railway for their push toward Sedan.

Now Patton, who sent the 80th Infantry and the Fourth Armored divisions into the city Tuesday, was pouring in fresh troops and building up his power close to the heart of Von Rundstedt's entire position.

The Germans were routed from Jodenville and Villerous, five and three miles southwest of Bastogne, and from Sainlex and Liverchamps five miles to the south in fighting up to yesterday morning.

East of Bastogne, the Third army was across the Sure river at numerous points and had sent vanguards to within three miles of the town of Wiltz, 25 miles north of Luxembourg's capital.

They had thrust to the German border at three points along the Sure river northeast of the capital, where the veteran Fourth and Fifth Infantry divisions were revealed to be in action.

At one point on the border they were drawn up at Rosport, four miles east of Echternach, which the Germans announced yesterday they had evacuated. A number of the escape routes back into Germany were under American shellfire.

In the break across the Sure, which turning westward from the German border forms a river barrier in northern Luxembourg, the Third overran Boulaide, Baschleiden, Bavigne, Mechner-Dubkredt and Kaundorf, all 19 to 22 miles north of the capital. Kaundorf is but three miles south of Wiltz.

Another crossing was forced at Esch-Sur-La-Sure, 22 miles north of the capital.

Mop-up forces swinging up behind the spearheads seized Ettelbruch, three miles southwest of Diekirch, and Eppeldorf, four miles southeast of Diekirch, in fighting 15 miles north and northeast of the city.

To the west of Bastogne it was the Germans who now were fighting a battle of encirclement and at heavy cost.

Yanks Reach Rochefort

American armor chased shattered remnants of the armed column which had speared 60 miles through Belgium and Luxembourg to within three miles of the Meuse back across the narrow Lesse and Homme rivers around Rochefort. They took at least 1,000 prisoners.

Ten miles northwest of Rochefort the battle of the Celles pocket was ended with more than 1,000 Germans slain and the remainder of the regiment of 3,000 either captured or straying through the woods trying to rejoin the main force.

Resistance ended in Humain only after bitter and sustained fighting in which the Americans routed panther tankers and panzer grenadiers with planes, artillery infantry and tank destroyers.

All the way from Celles to Rochefort the Doughboys cleaning up behind the tank columns flushed stray Germans, deserters and stragglers while armored cars and light tanks seized wandering German trucks and armored vehicles trying to find a way out.

The western portion of the north flank was quiet. The Germans sent out patrols, one of which lost 129 men as captive Wednesday night. German small arms and artillery fire increased along the Malmedy sector to the east.

The failure of the Germans to take two main rail lines leading westward out of Germany played an important part in bogging down the surprise offensive.

One of these crosses the frontier near Buchholtz and loops north-

ward, where the Germans on the northern flank were unable to clear it of American forces.

Another enters the bulge at Echternach, but this too was never secured, and now it is under artillery fire even at Echternach.

Another line enters the bulge from the Prum region. Allied fighter-bombers concentrated on this one, and it is doubtful if it was kept open all the way through.

Nazis Attack Near Gangelt

On the Roer river front to the north of the Belgian bulge, the Germans made two counterattacks near Gangelt, five miles north of Geilenkirchen, capturing two villages which Allied troops then retook, snaring 70 prisoners.

The German Winter offensive succeeded in reducing Allied pressure on the Reich on the Saar front, but the Roer front positions have been maintained each of Aachen and even some small gains have been made, it was said here.

Tension in Aachen, a German city of 15,000, was reported eased with news that the drive of the civilians' own countrymen had been halted. Fear had swept through the city that all citizens found there if the army came back would be shot as collaborators.

Heavy fog over the front made extensive air operations impossible today but the Ninth air force made almost 100 flights in attecking trains and other objectives.

back and United States Third Army troops advanced up to three miles today in a squeeze from the south.

Von Rundstedt's December offensive had been kicked into reverse by American forces which slammed into all three sides of his extended bulge, with Lieut.-Gen George S. Patton's Third Army sensationally changing its front and advancing twenty miles into the German flank in six days.

German Rout Reported.

The situation was not an unmixed success, however, for Gen. Patton's shift of front brought his own offensive along the Saar to a stop, and obliged the Americans to give up their hard-won bridgehead across the Saar at Dillingen, where they had broken into the initial defenses of the Siegfried Line.

[A late dispatch from London quoted a British correspondent on the Belgian front as saying that Von Rundstedt's withdrawal from the Ardennes salient had developed into a rout at some points tonight. Over-all gains of three miles have been made today, with most of the progress on the southern flank, where Gen. Patton's men are attacking, the dispatch said.]

Yanks Reported Near Rochefort.

American armored forces, hitting Von Rundstedt's offensive on the nose, had driven his forward elements back ten miles and thrown them across the rivers Lesse and Homme, according to one front-line dispatch, and according to another, the Americans had entered Rochefort's outskirts on the east bank of the Homme by 10 A. M. yesterday. Rochefort is a tourist center dating from medieval times and is three and a half miles north of the famous Han Grottos, where the Lesse flows through a series of subterranean chambers.

fog which limited visibility to fifty yards.

The Lesse and Homme at Rochefort wind approximately fourteen miles east of the Meuse and ten miles southeast of Celles, deepest point of German penetration toward Dinant.

Here the critical battle was fought in the hamlet of Humain, four miles southwest of Marche and four miles north of Rochefort.

The Germans were driven out of the village with planes, artillery, infantry, tank destroyers and finally flamethrowers, and the Americans were firmly in control of the town, including its old chateau where a cornered German group made its last stand.

Celles, where the enemy offensive was stopped, was one of the ghastliest carnage scenes of the war.

Here a German pocket was wiped out, 1,200 prisoners were taken, and sixty-three enemy tanks, forty-nine guns and 177 military vehicles littered the terrain. The Germans said a British Second Army Division of Highlanders had a part in this battle.

Another small pocket of infantry and tanks was cleared up in the vicinity of Marche.

Enemy armored columns which [illegible] west

hinge of the Nazi rim.

That was the situation as of thirty-six hours ago.

Given the task of caving in Von Rundstedt's southern flank three days after the German offensive started on December 16, Gen. Patton had swung his divisions into the battle with a spectacular dash and by swift and decisive action had hurled the Germans back as much as twenty miles in six days.

The prisoner count in the first seven days of the Patton counterattack mounted to 5,351 and Von Rundstedt's over-all tank losses from air and ground action mounted to 710—the equivalent of nearly four German armored divisions.

200 Wrecked at Bastogne.

Of these burned out and disemboweled tanks, 200 alone were counted in Bastogne, sixty-three more at Celles and ten near Hotton on the northwestern rim.

Allied air power had knocked out 3,355 trucks used in the German offensive and 755 planes.

But for the second straight day winter cracked a frozen whip over the front, spreading a fog umbrella over the German Army's operations and interfering with Allied air attacks.

Gen. Patton's powerful armored formations repulsed fresh attacks on their corridor to Bastogne and chewed off the German strongpoints which hemmed in the corridor.

On the west side they reached Sibret, four miles southwest of Bastogne and mopped up Salvacourt and Hompre, three and four miles south of Bastogne.

Third Army troops have entered the villages of Jodenville and Villeroux, near Sibret, Villeroux is two and a half miles southwest of Bastogne.

Heavy Fighting In Woods.

Heavy fighting was in progress in the woods north of Assenois, but three miles southwest of Bastogne.

The Americans also occupied two more towns to the east. These were Ettelbruck, three miles southwest of Diekirch, and Eppeldorf, four miles southeast of Diekirch in further advances toward the Sure River. They continued to gain upon Wiltz from their bridgeheads across the Sure.

On the east they captured Sainlex, Livarchamps, Surre, Boulaide, Baschleiden, Bavigne, Kaundorf and Mercher-Dunkredt from five and one-half to ten miles southeast of Bastogne. All these towns are twenty-three to twenty-seven miles northwest of the city of Luxembourg.

Kaundorf is but three and a half miles southwest of Wiltz in northern Luxembourg, and just to the east the Third Army made a new crossing of the Sure River at Esch, three miles south of Wiltz.

Still further east on this southern flank the Americans reached the Sure on the German border at three more points, including Rosport, three miles east of Echternach.

Echternach itself was disclosed as another epic point of American resistance after armor again had forged into the town. A small infantry garrison, which had refused to leave the town with a relieving armored force, was not found. All around were stacks of German dead. But there were few khaki-clad dead. Presumably most of the garrison still lived in Nazi prison camps.

While Patton's personally directed power assault appeared to have broken the back of the high-geared Von Rundstedt offensive, front dispatches cautioned that the Nazi Field Marshal might yet lash out with vicious new attempts to extend the bulge or attack in entirely different sectors.

Achieved One Objective.

The German commander already had achieved one of his objectives, however, bringing Patton's Saar drive to a stop and obliging the American general to pull his tanks out of hard-won Dillingen.

The Third Army still held bridgeheads across the Saar between Saarlautern and Saarbrucken, however.

Typical of Nazi probings elsewhere in their constant efforts to feel out Allied lines was a strong assault by two enemy companies at dawn Wednesday against British Second Army troops in the Gangelt area five miles north of Geilenkirchen, Germany.

The Germans captured two hamlets in the initial stages, but the British quickly threw the Germans out and took seventy prisoners.

British flyers spotted German road movements over a wide area in northern Holland, but the direction was not clear. British planes sank eleven small German boats off the Dutch island of Schouwen, north of Allied-held Beveland and Walcheren islands.

German patrols also stabbed at Canadian positions at scattered spots in Holland.

The Germans pressed with renewed vigor against the northern hinge of their Belgian penetration, in the Monschau sector, but their pressure northwest along the Stavelot-Hotton stretch tapered off.

Doughboys caught one German column infiltrating this hot corner, captured 120 of the enemy and broke up the attack. To the northeast, just below Duren on the Cologne Plain, another fifty-man German patrol tried to slip through American First Army lines, but it was taken under fire and mopped up.

In Alsace, west of Colmar, French troops occupied Le Gras, southeast of Lapoutrie.

The Germans themselves admitted their drive had been halted and that the Allies were lashing back with fierce counterattacks on both the northern and southern flanks.

The Berlin radio quoted a spokesman as saying: "The days of the blitzkrieg in the 1939-40 style have passed. Von Rundstedt's gains in the new offensive have been hard come by. Today we must seek to apply different standards."

The London optimism once again soared. The Reuters military commentator declared: "Von Rundstedt may be on the verge of a major disaster. His position in his corridor is worse than was thought."

Once again it was Patton who claimed British headlines, with the Evening Standard's banner reading, "Patton Chases Them."

SPEARHEAD CHASED ACROSS TWO RIVERS

DEC 30 1944

Enemy's Escape Gap Cut to 17 Miles—London Hears Retreat Becomes Rout in Some Places.

Paris, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—American armored blows on the nose of Field Marshal von Rundstedt's offensive have beaten his most advanced spearheads back more than ten miles and chased them across the narrow Lesse and Homme rivers into Rochefort.

Field dispatches, reporting this development up to Thursday morning, said the Von Rundstedt escape gap at the same time was cut to less than seventeen miles north of Bastogne.

Von Rundstedt's troops were reported digging in at the western end of their salient while his armor drew

The French press put banner headlines today on a report attributed to DNB that Field Marshal von Rundstedt has ordered withdrawal of his forces from the Belgian pocket. Supreme Headquarters had no comment on the report, but some eyebrows were raised at the idea that if Von Rundstedt had issued such an order it would have been broadcast.

The big turning point was the seven-day stand of the United States 101st Airborne Division and other units at Bastogne, one of the gateways to French Sedan.

Germans Driven Out.

And now the Americans were hitting back. Throughout the northwestern area of the German penetration, from Celles to Rochefort doughboys, tanks and greyhound armored cars slashed across the frozen fields, overrunning German trucks, armored cars and infantrymen wandering blindly. The Americans groped for their disorganized enemy in a fled Jamblinne, five miles west of Rochefort, were chased by American tank formations which claimed more than 1,000 prisoners.

Other Spearheads Isolated.

Other spearheads in the southwestern tip of the salient were isolated near St. Hubert and were fighting a death struggle.

The long, thin corridor by which hard-driving Third Army reached the beleagured 101st United States Airborne Division and other troops in Bastogne was broadened to six miles wide and six miles deep.

Twelve more towns were captured as Gen. Patton poured men in, building up this area to a power wedge close to the heart of the Nazi bulge, and expanded his grip on the north side of the Sure River to a width of fourteen miles.

More Germans were thrown back into Germany in the Echternach area at the southeastern

GERMANS ADMIT REVERSES IN WEST

Wheeler

LONDON, Dec. 29—(AP) Berlin military commentators focussed the home front's attention tonight on the southern flank of Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's front, where Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's sledge-hammer blows sobered the hitherto optimistic broadcasts.

Berlin radio spoke concernedly of the Marshal's problems in the south "where the German flank is exposed to the strongest pressure from the Third American army."

"The Americans are storming with vastly superior forces and have at some places continued to make further gains of ground," said Capt. Ludwig Sertorius.

"The Allies have started very strong counterattacks from the south against the German penetration area and have launched other attacks on single sectors of the northern flank," said a foreign office spokesman.

Guenther Weber, correspondent

at Von Rundstedt's headquarters, indicated the German High command had ceased attempts to lunge westward, adding that "this may last until new reserves are brought up from the rear."

Reichsminister Paul Joseph Goebbels in a new year's message to the German press, said the Reich still "must overcome immense dangers and difficulties."

The propaganda chief asserted, however, that by the German offensive "we've not only completely upset the Allied timetable but above all gained time—most valuable time—which allows us to be active again."

The High command's communique claimed progress only on the Stavelot-Marche sector in the northwest and admitted the Allies "made some local territorial gains."

The war bulletin asserted that Gen. Eisenhower had committed only 24 of 44 American divisions posted along the western front, indicating that still heavier blows might be impending.

For want of ground gains, the German broadcasts bore down on what it said were Allied losses. DNB claimed the Americans had lost 65,900 men in the 14 days of the German Winter offensive.

McAuliffe Man Who Said 'Nuts!' Didn't Give Up

Bastogne, Dec. 29 (AP)—The commander of Bastogne's 10,000, who made history with a single word—"Nuts"—was 46-year-old Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe, one of America's youngest generals.

He was acting commander of the 101st Airborne Division and odds and ends of the United States 3d Army's 9th and 10th Armored divisions, which had been thrown in hurriedly to stem the German rush toward Sedan.

This soldier from Washington, D. C., and his troops had been in tough spots before, for they were in the Normandy landings and the airborne penetration of Holland.

And so when the commander of the German forces drawn up in a siege ring around Bastogne sent in an ultimatum to surrender, McAuliffe sent back this now-famous reply which deserves to rank with John Paul Jones' "We have just begun to fight!"

It was simply this one word:

"Nuts!"

Then the young general told his tough fighters what he had done, and this typical bit of American repartee became a rallying call for the garrison of 10,000.

Besides the 101st ("Screaming Eagle") airborne and the Ninth and Tenth armored divisions, these other Third army divisions took relief roles in the Bastogne drama: the Fourth armored, the 80th ("Blue Ridge") infantry and the 26th ("Yankee") infantry.

Two other units, the Fourth ("Ivy") and Fifth ("Red Diamond") infantry divisions, were named today as having aided in the Third army's great offensive against the south of the German bulge, operating in northeast Luxembourg.

The answer of "nuts" went back to the German lines on Dec. 22.

Four days later, when the 80th infantry and fourth armored divisions broke through to their relief, the fields before the American lines around Bastogne were littered with the debris of 200 German tanks which had butted in vain against the Doughboy positions. They had been attacked by five German divisions.

Units of the 26th infantry division also had helped to smash the encirclement of Bastogne.

Next day, the 101st's regular commander, Major Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, arrived after a trip by plane and Jeep from Washington, D. C. Taylor had been in Washington on Christmas Eve.

More and more of the epic story of American courage at Bastogne was disclosed today. The stand well may have frustrated the well-laid plans of Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt.

Certainly, the Germans could not keep the drive toward France going at full steam without Bastogne's seven highways and one railroad.

And McAuliffe and his troops told the enemy in terms that fighting men understand that they could not have the roads.

The 101st airborne had been spoiling for a fight, and they got one when they were rushed into Bastogne by truck just before the waves of attacking Germans closed around the city.

Elements of the two armored divisions and remnants of other infantry units who had been able to make it into Bastogne completed the garrison.

"In Normandy and Holland I jumped out of a C-47," said one dismounted parachute trooper. "Here I jumped out of the rear of a truck."

"These parachute troopers were the best morale bucker-uppers we had," said Major Charles E. Fife, Los Angeles. "Those boys fought like hell from the word go."

Lt. Col. Harry E. Brown, Indianapolis, a Fourth armored staff officer, was high in the praise of the seasoned 80th infantry which fought in to the Bastogne garrison's relief.

"80th's Doughboys really did themselves proud," he declared. "You can't say too much for them."

The 80th helped weld the Normandy trap that destroyed the Seventh German army, broke across the Seine, Marne and Meuse and made the first crossing of the Moselle.

The Fourth armored division which came up and made certain that the relief corridor held firm is another famous outfit. It spearheaded the Normandy breakthrough and the Moselle river crossings at Metz and the Saar river crossings into Germany.

The first actual contact with the surrounded garrison was made by an infantry patrol led by Lt. Walter P. Carr, Hot Springs, Ark., who worked his way through the enemy lines without being challenged to an outpost of the 101st Engineers.

Then came the 80th division's 318th regiment, commanded by Col. Lansing McVickar, Cold Springs Harbor, Me., whose battalion commanders were Major George W. Connaughton, Paris, Ark., and Lt. Col. Glenn S. Gardner, Athens, Ohio.

The 26th division, commanded by Major Gen. Willard S. Paul, Shrewsbury, Mass., was a newcomer to the European theater, having been committed on the Saar front just before going into action against Von Rundstedt's breakthrough.

The Ninth armored is under Major Gen. John W. Leonard, Toledo, Ohio, and the Tenth armored is commanded by Major Gen. William H. Morris, Jr., Washington. These also were relatively new outfits in European combat.

The Tenth participated briefly in the Saar and Moselle operations while the Ninth saw first action along the Luxembourg border.

It also was disclosed that the Fourth and Fifth infantry divisions had engaged the Germans northeast of the city of Luxembourg.

The Fourth landed on the coast of France on D-day and captured Cherbourg and sent the first troops into Paris. As part of the U. S. First army, the Fourth broke into the Siegfried Line and participated in the bloody Hurtgen forest fighting before shifting to Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army command.

The Fifth infantry, commanded by Major Gen. LeRoy Irwin Stafford, Fort Monroe, Va., had a big role in the Moselle river campaign around Metz and was in on the capture of the city.

The 80th's present commander is Major Gen. Horace L. McBride, Elgin, Neb. Commanders of the Fourth armored and Fourth infantry divisions cannot now be disclosed.

Gen. Taylor Made His Way Through Enemy Line to Reach Bastogne.

By EDWARD D. BALL.

Bastogne, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Brig.-Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe was disclosed today as the leader of the gallant Bastogne garrison of almost 10,000 men—the commander who said "Nuts" to the German demand that he surrender.

DEC 30 1944

Gen. McAuliffe was serving as acting commander of the 101st Airborne Division, which was encircled seven days in this Belgian road hub together with elements of the Ninth and Tenth Armored Divisions. The 101st's regular commander, Major-Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, was in Washington when his division was hurled against the Germans in the Belgian bulge, as a stopgap measure.

Gen. Taylor arrived in Belgium on December 26, made his way through enemy lines and reached Bastogne early on December 27. Armored elements and stragglers from various infantry units were hemmed in the town along with the 101st.

Gen. McAuliffe is 46 years old and one of the youngest generals in the Army. He is a native of Washington, D. C. His wife and two children, Patricia and John, live in Washington.

The relief corridor from the south was opened by Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr., waging a kind of war that is to his liking.

Screaming Eagle Division In.

Gen. Patton used the veteran Fourth Armored Division and units of the Eightieth and Twenty-sixth Infantry divisions to smash the siege of Bastogne. Two other Third Army divisions, the Fourth and Fifth Infantry divisions, were disclosed to be fighting the Germans in the area northeast of the city of Luxembourg.

Troops of the 101st (Screaming Eagle) Division had been rushed into Bastogne by trucks just before the German encirclement was completed The hard fighting youths, who participated in airborne operations in Normandy and Holland, were spoiling for action and they found it here.

"In Normandy and Holland I jumped out of a C-47; here I jumped out of the rear of a truck," said a dismounted parachute trooper who started fighting less than hour after arriving in Bastogne and kept on until he was carried off, wounded.

Major Charles E. Fife of Los Angeles, member of an armored force headquarters staff, said: "These parachute troopers were the best morale bucker-uppers we had.

"Those boys fought like hell from the word go," he said. "They know their stuff and they proceeded to show it."

Where They Hail From.

The Fourth Armored Division, which spearheaded the St. Lo breakthrough and the Moselle and Saar river crossings, drove into Bastogne behind units of the Eightieth Infantry Division from the south while the Twenty-sixth Infantry was battling toward the town from the southwest.

Contact with the Bastogne forces was established by the Eightieth Division's 318th Regiment, commanded by Col. Lansing McVickar of Cold Spring Harbor, Me. The first actual link-up with the pocketed units was made by a doughboy patrol led by Lieut. Walter P. Carr of Hot Springs, Ark. He wormed his way through the German line without once being challenged, and reached an outpost held by 101st Airborne Engineers.

"Never before have men fought like these boys," said Lieut.-Col. Harry E. Brown of Indianapolis. "The Eightieth's doughboys did themselves proud. You can't say too much for them."

The Twenty-sixth (Yankee) Division, is commanded by Major-Gen. Willard S. Paul of Shrewsbury, Mass., a newcomer to the European theater. It had been committed to action on the Saar front just before Von Rundstedt's breakthrough.

The Ninth Armored was under Major-Gen. John W. Leonard, a native of Toledo, Ohio, and the Tenth Armored was commanded by Major-Gen. William H. Morris Jr. of Washington, also a relatively new outfit in European combat.

The Tenth Armored participated briefly in the Moselle-Saar operations while the Ninth Armored saw its first action in October along the Luxembourg border.

Veterans of D Day.

The Fourth (Ivy) Infantry Division landed on a French beach on D day, captured Cherbourg and sent the first American troops into Paris. As part of the First Army it broke into the Siegfried Line and participated in the bloody Hurtgen Forest fighting before being shifted to Gen. Patton's command.

The Fifth (Red Diamond) Infantry Division, commanded by Major-Gen. Leroy Irwin Stafford of Fort Monroe, Va., had a big part in the Moselle campaign and helped capture Metz.

The 80th (Blue Ridge) Division had a part in fashioning the Falaise-Argentan trap which destroyed the bulk of the German Seventh Army, slashed across the Seine, the Marne and the Meuse and threw the first bridgehead across the Moselle. The division's commander is Major-Gen. Horace L. McBride of Elgin, Neb.

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TOUGH FIGHTING UNITS IDENTIFIED

1st Infantry, 7th Armored, 82d Airborne Divisions Named

Kennedy

Supreme Allied Headquarters, Paris, Dec. 29 (AP)—Three more of the American divisions which helped to wreck Adolf Hitler's ambitious scheme to roll up the Allied lines on the Western front were identified today.

They are the 1st Infantry, the 7th Armored and the 82d Airborne divisions.

Their valor was of the same caliber as that of the 101st Airborne and elements of the 9th and 10th Armored divisions, which held out for a week in beleaguered Bastogne.

Some Brooklyn Boys

And the same as the 80th Infantry and 4th Armored Division, which fought to the relief of the Bastogne garrison.

And the same as the 4th Infantry in northern Luxembourg. And many another whose stories cannot yet be fully told.

The 1st Infantry, which saw long and hard service in North Africa and Sicily before coming to France, originally was composed of boys from New York—especially from Brooklyn—and from adjacent States.

In line with the Army's later policy of not making divisions regional, it now includes soldiers from all over the country, but that does not mean there no longer are Brooklyn lads in the ranks.

"Roosevelt's SS"

This division bore the brunt of the enemy's strong attacks around Monschau on December 21, 22 and 23.

[An Associated Press dispatch from the front disclosed that the German divisions hurled against the American 1st were the crack 1st Adolf Hitler *Panzer* and the 12th SS *Panzer*, both of which were badly mauled in the initial twelve days of the offensive.

[Since its heroic stand around Monschau, the American 1st Division has been nicknamed "Roosevelt's SS" by the Germans, the front dispatch said.]

The 7th Armored was around Vith and prevented the junctio the Germans' two big drives time to be effective. It was t action which largely upset Germ plans for cutting northward toward Liege and Antwerp.

Was Resting At Time

The 82nd Airborne Division, with its companion 101st Airborne was resting at the time the German offensive broke.

Both were many miles from the front, but they were rushed forward to handle the situation.

The 82d was thrown into line as elite infantry on the north flank and fought savagely around Stumont and Stavelot, cutting off the attacks of the 1st and 12th SS German *Panzer* divisions.

The 101st soon found itself surrounded in Bastogne, quite unaccording to Allied plan, but in much the same position as if it had been dropped there from the air.

It fought as it would have fought if dropped, perhaps better, because the soldiers were angry at being trapped in a pocket not of their own making.

Described By Miss Evans

The 4th Infantry was resting behind an area in which the Germans attacked. It jumped into action and engaged in heavy fighting around the Echternach area, near the German border northeast of the capital of Luxembourg.

To know the two airborne divisions, it is perhaps worth listening to the testimony of Drucilla Evans, daughter of John Evans, former chief of the Associated Press foreign service.

Miss Evans, a Red Cross worker, was assigned to them while they were resting.

"They are like caged lions," she said. "We have doors to our Red Cross club, but they prefer to come in the windows. Immediately after dinner they come in for doughnuts and eat until they are all gone."

When some of the stalwart airborne fighters once were arrested by MPs in Rheims while attempting to burn down a cafe because the proprietor refused to sell them any more cognac, they said: "Nobody understands us here."

They sat around cafe tables then telling anyone who would listen what killers they were, but when a certain WAC said she wouldn't have dates with them because they were killers they got indignant and blamed the airforce for that sort of thing and vowed they would waylay the next airforceman who showed up.

While some were confined to quarters for misconduct one welfare worker put on a test to amuse them. "What famous airborne regiment has been confined to quarters for misconduct?" she said

They thought hard but couldn't get it.

She finally said "your own, o course," and one of the men sai "oh, yeah, I hadn't thought of that."

Hemmed in and restrained whil on a rest period they now hav gone into action—and the worl knows the results.

Yanks Made 100-mile Dash to Smash Nazi Push for the Meuse.

By HAL BOYLE.

Near Celles, Belgium, Dec. 28 (Delayed) (A. P.).—Everywhere over this abandoned front, which yesterday rocked with the crashing sounds of battle as an American armored outfit stopped Von Rundstedt's drive three miles short of the Meuse River, lies a silence compounded of cold, fog and death.

The evidence of recent battle, however, is plain to see—the bodies of hundreds of enemy dead and the wreckage of Nazi tanks, armored cars, trucks and field guns scattered over miles of field and woodland.

Sharing equally in the victory over the enemy striking force were American doughboys, tanks and artillery teamed in perfect co-ordination with Allied air power.

"The airmen gave us wonderful support," said one American tank commander, who personally knocked out four tanks during the engagement. "Those planes helped us get nineteen of our sixty-three enemy tanks. And some British Typhoons which pitched in with us did a particularly fine job. They knocked off seven out of a column of eight German tanks coming up behind us and trying to break through to relieve their friends in the Celles pocket."

Tells Story of Battle.

Striding up and down before a log fire in the booklined library of a house which he had converted into a command post, the stocky little commander told the story of the battle.

"We reached the front after rolling a hundred miles overnight across country we had never seen before," he said. "We didn't even have time to assemble and plan our operation. Some of our reconnaissance men were shot up by the Germans.

"The Germans were moving up fast and there wasn't any time to prepare defenses. There was time to do only one thing—attack them.

"I grabbed hold of one of my captains and said: 'Son, get to hell up there near Ciney village with what tanks you've got and start kicking hell out of them. We'll be along soon to back you up.'"

Fought for Four Days.

"That was the way it started, and it hasn't let up for four days and four nights—but the morale of my boys has picked up 200 per cent because they know they're doing fine. It's like they were making a breakthrough again themselves.

"That first night we were moving up with infantry ahead of us when we ran into a German column head-on. Our doughboys just pulled off the road and our tanks let go at forty yards and butchered up the Germans.

"We knocked out seventy-five vehicles and there were dead Krauts lying all over the place."

The closest German vehicles to the Meuse were three tanks which Allied armor caught and destroyed just east of the river town of Dinant.

"At Celles," the commander continued, "we surrounded a big bunch of Krauts and fought them all night and all the next day—the damnedest Christmas week I ever spent. We hit them with everything — artillery, fighter-bombers, tanks and doughboys.

British Typhoons Helped.

"They just wouldn't surrender. We really had the drawstring around them, too, and were going after them hammer and tongs from three directions. That was when their relieving column of eight tanks and infantry came up behind us. And that was where those British Typhoons came in, too.

"We could have turned around and dealt with those tanks all right, but some of the Germans in the noose in front of us might have slipped out. But the Typhoons got rid of seven of the tanks and their infantry scattered for home.

"Later we cornered what was left of the Germans around Celles in a woods east of the town. They still wouldn't quit, so we wiped them out. Now there are dead Krauts all over the ground—thrown all over the woods for miles."

Some of the fiercest fighting raged in the streets of the village of Humain, four miles southwest of the Marche Road junction, where seven Panther tanks kept firing even after they were plastered by five heavy American artillery serenades.

"I got two of my tank destroyers working on one Panther," said the commander. "He was sneaking back down the street away from one when my other sneaked up behind him. He let the Panther get within six feet of him before he let go. That shell blew the rear end of the Panther up in the air and knocked off the turret.

Flame Throwers Turn Trick.

"Some more Krauts holed up in an old chateau and we couldn't blow them out with anything. They wouldn't budge, so I sent back for flamethrowers. As soon as they came up the Germans came out with their hands up. It broke the heart of my flamethrowers.

"In one village one of my captains who had only twelve tanks with him at the time stopped sixteen Panthers and knocked out seven of them. That was Capt. Henry Chatfield (a Harvard Law School graduate who lives at Third and Plum streets in Cincinnati). He lost only one gun and the turret off one tank. I am going to recommend a medal for that boy."

Nazis Asleep Upstairs.

The tank commander told of one humorous incident that occurred during the battle.

"Last night some of my boys were dog tired and went to sleep on the ground floor of a building without searching it. In the morning one woke up early and got curious. He climbed to the second floor and there were seven Germans asleep. They're prisoners now—but it makes me feel bad because my boys were so careless. It's good one of them was an early riser.

"They're really worn out—my boys. They've been fighting hard for days and, by God, they can keep on for days more if they have to."

The commander was dull-eyed with fatigue. But a gleam lit his weary eyes and he grinned through his frazzled gray moustache as he said: "Well, all in all, I guess we did a pretty good job on those 'Krauts.' My boss just sent me over a bottle of whisky."

COL. HEYDTE IS CAPTURED

Swaggering, "Cheeky" Nazi Paratrooper Surrenders

Monschau, Germany, Dec. 29 (AP). A kingpin prisoner taken by the Americans in the German offensive is swaggering Lieut. Col. Friedrich von der Heydte, parachute troop commander who fought the Allies in Africa and Normandy.

Arrogant as ever, von der Heydte was dropped on his most important mission the night of December 17 as the leader of 600 Nazi parachute troops in the Eupen-Malmedy area for the purpose of disrupting Allied communications and gathering information on Allied troop dispositions.

Most of his men were rounded up quickly, but for five days, although suffering injuries, the obdurate officer hid in the woods, cold, hungry and useless to his Führer.

Finds Shelter

Then on December 22, hearing a German propaganda broadcast that Monschau was in Nazi hands, he started into this town—only to learn it was firmly held by the Americans.

He managed to find shelter in the home of a Belgian civilian who soon hurried to the office of Capt. Robert A. Goetcheus, of Temple, Texas, commander of a Military Government detachment, and handed him a letter containing the voluntary surrender of the German officer.

The Colonels' Letter

Von der Heydte wrote:

"*Dear Sir*—I tried to meet German troops near Monschau. As I could find there no German troops I surrender because I am hurt and ill and at the end of my physical forces.

"Please be kind enough to send me a doctor and an ambulance because I am unable to walk.

"I am lying in bed at Herr Bouschery's and am waiting for your help and your orders.

"Yours sincerely,

"Freiherr von der Heydte, lieutenant colonel commanding the German parachute troops in the section of Eupen and Malmedy."

Von der Heydte was taken to an American army hospital where he was treated for what may be pneumonia and trench feet. Later in the day German civilians brought in four more enemy parachute troopers who surrendered to Captain Goetcheus.

A Lot Of Cheek

Von der Heydte is the German commander who at El Alamein in Egypt attempted a bluff by sending an ultimatum to New Zealanders under the command of Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, telling them they were surrounded and demanding their surrender. The ultimatum was ignored.

Last June in Normandy, Montgomery had his revenge when Americans fighting under Montgomery sent an ultimatum to a German parachute unit declaring:

"Surrender or withdraw immediately, or we will level your position with the full weight of our entire air force."

The German commander thought it over for a few hours and then withdrew under cover of night. The withdrawal permitted the Allies to link up two beachhe[illegible]. The commander was von der Heydte.

"Too bad we didn't catch this von der Heydte," said a British captain at the time. "Our lads would like to have a look at him. He certainly had a lot of cheek."

BIG GERMAN TANKS FAILED IN BATTLE

With United States Tanks Near Humain, Belgium, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Adolf Hitler's black-clad SS armored crews and their touted heavyweight tanks have failed to live up to advance billing in the current battle.

Outweighed and outgunned American Shermans and tank destroyers, in a series of heavy battles with the most advanced prong of the German winter offensive, knocked out forty-four Nazi tanks for a loss of four—a victory margin of eleven to one.

Lieut.-Col. Eugene A. Trahan of Lafayette, La., said that he believed that the American success was due to the maneuverability of American armor and more experienced crews.

"Most of the prisoners we took from the Panzer outfits were good soldiers—young, strong and eager — but they weren't what you would call well-trained troops," he said. "They had been intensively trained, but for too short a time to learn all they needed. They were arrogant and cocky because things had gone so well the first few days, but after they ran short of food and ammunition and began to take a beating, their morale dropped quickly. They don't think now they are going to win the war. At least, they have strong doubts."

United States First Army 90-mm. anti-aircraft guns also have played an important part in stemming German attacks, particularly when they were turned down and used as anti-tank guns. They are powerful enough to smash through even six-inch armor plate, such as that of the Royal Tiger, German armored kingpin.

From Nazi Front to West Point

Brooklyn G. I. Bolts German Captivity and Learns He Is to Be Military Cadet.

With United States Troops Near Bitche, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—With bewildering speed Pfc. Murray Lafkowitz found himself a prisoner of the Germans and then a few hours later an appointee to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

It happened like this:

Lafkowitz, a resident of 1801 50th street, Brooklyn, N. Y., was a mortar gunner. In the shadow of the Maginot Line forts at Bitche he left his company's column to adjust his equipment, and was overtaken by darkness.

He lost his way in his hurried effort to rejoin his outfit—hurried, because he held the sight to a section gun, without which the weapon would be no good.

In the dark woods he ran into a German who quickly thrust a rifle against his chest and headed him toward the German lines. They were joined en route by a Nazi non-commissioned officer and three German privates.

Apparently the enemy soldiers also lost their way. In a moment Lafkowitz heard a G. I. voice twenty yards ahead, which he recognized as that of his platoon sergeant, Bill Grant, of Utica, N. Y. The Germans halted nervously. Soon there was a sound of an approaching jeep.

Lafkowitz identified the voices of Sergt. Robert Williams of Irvington, N. J.; Corporal Lewis Marone of 306 East 155th street, the Bronx, N. Y., and Pfc. Mike Confirti of Hoboken, N. J.

As the Nazi holding the gun turned his head toward the noise, Lafkowitz shoved him into the others and yelled, "Jerries!" Then he dived for the dirt.

The jeep trio also hit the dirt, their rifles in hand.

Three Germans rose, their arms in the air. The non-commissioned officer vanished.

Lafkowitz spent a calm night in a foxhole. At daybreak he was told to report to his commanding officer. He did and was told:

"Your application to enter the United States Military Academy at West Point has been approved."

Dummy Paratrooper Rounded Up Quickly

With American Troops in Belgium, Dec. 26 [*AP—Delayed*].—The Germans are dropping dummy parachutists in American front lines simultaneously with real parachute troops, apparently to deceive observers as to the strength of their landing forces.

"One dummy and one live paratrooper came down together within 20 feet of one of our command posts," said Lieut. Gen. Stuart L. McClure, former San Francisco *Examiner* reporter, whose wife lives in Richmond, Va.

"We picked up the dummy pretty quick, but the live one ran into some woods and it took us several hours to capture him. The dummy wore blue pants, light-blue shirt and had a white cloth face. He was dropped in a camouflaged mottle-green parachute."

"They make swell souvenirs," a soldier commented.

G. I. WON'T GIVE PASSWORD AWAY

Humain, Belgium, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Even a battle commander can't pull enough rank now to get spy-wary doughboys along the front to give him the password. One commander was in such a hurry to get to a sector of his battlefront that he forgot to ask headquarters for the password for the day.

When challenged by a G. I. sentry he said, "Son, I don't know the password, but you recognize your commander don't you?"

"Sure, sir, I've seen you lots of times."

"Then you'll let me pass?"

"Sure, sir."

"That's fine," said the commander. "Now tell me the password."

The doughboy gripped his rifle nervously and replied:

"I hate to turn you down, sir,

but I have been told not to tell that password to anybody and I ain't goin' to."

"That's a good soldier," the commander commented, driving on.

GALLANT YANKS MAY BE CAPTIVES

With United States Third Army Outside Echternach, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—German bodies are stacked high in Echternach, left unburied by their comrades, but most of the gallant band of American infantrymen who held out in the town against topheavy odds still may be living in German prison camps behind the Nazi lines.

Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton's swift reaction to the German counter-offensive had not been fast enough to rescue the men, cut off when the Germans slashed across the Sure River from Germany into Luxembourg December 16. But few of the bodies found in the town by a relief patrol were clad in khaki.

On the fourth day of the battle American tanks managed to enter the city and offered to take all back to the American lines two miles outside the town. The young commander replied he had no orders to retreat.

Later that day and throughout the next enemy pressure mounted. Five men slipped out in two jeeps to seek help, but fire from the east bank of the Sure had become too heavy for a relieving force.

One German, on December 23, called them "crazy Americans," and said they still were firing. Another prisoner said on Christmas Eve he had seen fifty of the Americans marched from the town eastward.

The relief patrol entered the town and found it silent and deserted. No living German or American was to be seen.

TWO 'DEVILS' LEAD MIGHTY GERMAN DRIVE IN BELGIUM

LONDON, Dec. 29.—(AP) A daredevil and a "man-devil" are Marshal Von Rundstedt's panzer commanders in the great battle in the Ardennes, and capture of either by the Allied forces would be a big feather in the Allied cap. They are S. S. Col. Gen. Sepp Dietrich and Gen. Hasso Eckhardt Von Manteuffel.

Gen. Dietrich's rise was meteoric. Until June 30, 1934, when Hitler purged Ernst Roehm, his most intimate friend, Gen. Kurt Von Schleicher, former chancellor, Karl Ernst, leader of Berlin's brown-shirted Storm Troop division, and some 1,000 lesser Nazi lights — Dietrich was merely Hitler's trusted personal chauffeur.

Suddenly Dietrich became commander of a large Elite guard unit. People asked why. Dietrich was known merely as typical Bavarian beer hall roustabout, a compact, wiry bit of humanity of distinctly a buccaneer type who lounged about in Hitler's anterooms until ordered to dash off with his Fuehrer at breakneck speed.

The story generally circulated in Berlin at the time was that Hitler came within an inch of being killed during the purge but was saved by Dietrich.

News of Roehm's revolt reached Hitler at the delightful Rhine resort of Godesberg, where in 1938 he later met British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain for a talk on the Czechoslovak situation. All through the night Dietrich drove him to Lake Wiessee in Bavaria where Roehm with his trusted friends was staying.

Reaching Wiessee about 4 a. m., Hitler reportedly jumped out of the car brandishing a revolver, and from the hotel emerged the Storm Troop leader for Silesia, named Heines, notorious as a murderer of men suspected of revealing Nazi secrets.

Heines carried a gun. Except for intervention by Dietrich, who knocked the gun from Heines' hand, Hitler might then have been a dead man.

From then on Dietrich's rise was phenomenal. Daredevil that he was, he proved a dashing military leader and gave a good account of himself as a panzer division leader during the Normandy battle.

But he also acquired an ugly reputation for cruelty. During the Russian campaign when old-line generals often proved squeamish about exterminating civilians, Dietrich with his fanatic Elite guard troops committed acts which made the Russian government place him on its list of war criminals for atrocities committed at Kharkov.

Unlike Dietrich, Manteuffel is just another Prussian general. But his name, literally meaning "man-devil," is as significant as is his lineage. His forebears probably acquired the name because of their fierceness as warriors.

The most distinguished of the family was Baron Edwin Von Manteuffel, whom Prussian King William the fourth in 1848 made an aide-de-camp for his part in defence of his sovereign during the Berlin uprisings.

Later this ancestor fought in the Danish war in 1864, the Austrian war in 1866,—and especially in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. Much of the territory being covered by the present-day Manteuffel was also the scene of battles fought by Field Marshal Edwin.

London Paper Praises Patton For His Attack

London, *Saturday*, Dec. 30 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton received a tribute today in a *Daily Express* editorial for his slashing of Field Marshal von Rundstedt's flank.

"There is need for a quick thruster as well as a deep thinker to show the way to Berlin. A fine example of the thruster is Patton. As he led that amazing dash through the gap in the Normandy line right across the width of France his soldiers said, 'Give Georgie a pint of petrol and he'll go anywhere.'

"Patton's vigor once caused controversy. There is nothing but praise for him today."

NAZIS USE HITLER'S FAVORITE TROOPS

IN THE MONSCHAU SECTOR, Dec. 29.—(AP) Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt used Hitler's favorite troops to spearhead the German drive into Belgium—the First Adolf Hitler SS division and the 12th Hitler Jugen SS division, it was revealed today.

The First SS division, which originally was composed of Hitler's bodyguard, has been virtually annihilated several times—the last time in Normandy—but always has been rebuilt with the cream of German soldiers and the best equipment.

Leading the drive, the first SS division pushed directly west through St. Vith and then northwest, trying to crack through the roads leading to Liege from Stavelot, Malmedy and Stoumont.

There it was stopped and its heart was torn to pieces by the heroic stand of an American division—as yet unnamed—which the Germans have nicknamed "Roosevelt's SS."

The 12th SS division was assigned the task of trying to break through to Spa and Liege at the vital northern hinge of the breakthrough at Monschau. In a dozen savage battles near Butenbach, it was stopped cold by a U. S. infantry division.

The rolling hills between Butenbach and Bullinger became a graveyard for Nazi youths and equipment as they tried to beat through the American divisions' stonewall defense. This veteran Yank division had been rushed into the line from a rest area after experiencing heavy losses in the fighting near Duren.

TENSION IN AACHEN EASED BY WAR NEWS

AACHEN, Germany, Dec. 29. — (AP) -Tension in this American-held German city of 15,000 eased today with the news that Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's drive was halted.

For several days there was a widely expressed fear among the Germans that the city would be overrun and all the citizens left here would be executed by the German army as collaborators.

"Many of the population were terrorized at the prospect of the German army getting back, and came to us for reassurance," said Maj. Jack Bradford of St. Paul, Minn. "They heard on the radio that the Nazis had characterized them as traitors because they refused to leave their homes."

Bradford said there had been no evidence thus far that any Germans in the city had tried to get in touch with Nazi parachutists or agents who might have been left to hide behind American lines.

German Planes Bomb U.S. Hospital In France

With the Sixth Army Group, Dec. 29 (AP)—A United States general hospital at Mirecourt, France, was bombed and strafed in moonlight Tuesday by two German planes.

The buildings are clearly marked with red crosses—some of them placed there by the Germans, who used the buildings as a hospital before their withdrawal. A number of soldier patients and military personnel were wounded.

Gen. Patton Decorated For Battle Last Summer

With U.S. 3d Army, Dec. 29 (AP)—Lieut. Gen. Omar N. Bradley today decorated Lieut Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., for leading the 3d Army's spectacular dash across France last summer, presenting him the oak-leaf cluster to the Distinguished Service Cross.

"He has contributed immeasurably to the success of Allied operations on the Continent," the citation said.

RUSSIANS SMASH TOWARD HEART OF DOOMED BUDAPEST

Savage Street Fighting Rages as Troops Enter New Parts of City.

REDS TIGHTEN NOOSE

Soviet Army Crosses Hron River in Drive Toward Austrian Frontier.

LONDON, Saturday, Dec. 30. — (AP) Russian shock battalions smashed into new sections of encircled Budapest from the west yesterday and began slaughtering a trapped Axis garrison in hand-to-hand fighting raging through streets clogged with enemy dead and wrecked guns and tanks, the Soviet High command announced at midnight.

Berlin said the Russians already were in the "heart" of the burning Hungarian capital, locked in a struggle unrivalled in ferocity since Stalingrad where another German army met disaster in the snow.

Reds Tighten Death Trap

As the great churning struggle raged on the western side of the Danube, in the Buda section of the tottering capitol, other Soviet units tightened their death trap on German-Hungarian units caught in the Pilis hills north of the city, killing 2,500 of them during the day and capturing 2,200 the previous day.

Still other Russian units forced the Hron river, one of the last big water barriers to the Bratislava plain leading to Vienna, Austrian capital, and sped two miles beyond, capturing Nana and Parkany near the Hron's confluence with the Danube.

This last stroke put the Russians within 76 miles southeast of Bratislava and 105 miles from Vienna. Other sections of the same army arrayed on a 35-mile front along the east bank of the Hron to the north were only 64 miles from Bratislava, and they killed or captured 11,000 Germans in two days, the bulletin said.

South of the Danube, meanwhile, other mobile Russian units were attacking on the approaches to Komarom, only 53 miles southeast of Bratislava and 81 miles from Vienna. The phalanx of the two armies moving westward, even without awaiting the fall of Budapest, was 100 miles wide.

A midnight Soviet bulletin said that Budapest's western streets were studded with anti-tank and anti-infantry obstacles. Corner buildings and all cellars had been converted into blockhouses and "saturated with machineguns, mortars and anti-tank artillery."

Nevertheless the communique said the Russians were decimating the garrison. "The enemy is suffering heavy losses," it said. The streets are blocked with the bodies of Hitlerites and smashed and abandoned weapons."

Nazi Forces Withdraw

Earlier in the week the Russians were only two miles from the Danube in the northwestern part of Budapest and less than that distance south of the Royal Palace, in the center of the city on the west bluffs of the Danube. Berlin admitted that its troops now had withdrawn "into the inner fortress" part of the city.

The Budapest garrison inside the city, and another segment trapped to the north in the Pilis hills in the Danube loop, originally was estimated at 100,000 men. Although Moscow gave no indication of the size of the trapped enemy groups the Russians said they were killing and capturing thousands and taking an enormous toll of enemy equipment.

Moscow's bulletin did not identify the new west Budapest districts seized during the day.

The combined forces of Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine army and Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's Third Ukraine army captured 8,200 German and Hungarian prisoners during Wednesday and Thursday and killed more than 5,000, Moscow said.

Since Oct. 6 when Malinovsky's invasion of Hungary was announced, the two armies have inflicted more than 438,198 casualties on the enemy, on the basis of Moscow announcements. Of this total Malinovsky's men have taken 262,491 prisoners and killed more than 130,000 of the enemy in drives through Hungary, northern Transylvania and old Czechoslovakia.

Many Prisoners Taken

In the liberation of Belgrade, Yugoslav capital, and the surge northward through western Hungary since Oct. 8, Tolbukhin's forces have captured no less than 25,907 enemy trops and killed more than 20,000.

In the Pilis hills north of Budapest Tolbukhin's units narrowed the ring around trapped German and Hungarian troops to a 50-square-mile area, the communique disclosed, and drove to within three miles of the Danube with the capture of Pilisszentlaszlo, 11 miles north of Budapest. Once the Danube is reached the Russians will have split the enemy pocket, and there is no escape across the river because Malinovsky's men hold the north bank.

Curving around inside the rim of the Danube loop the Russians also took Visegrad, on the Danube four miles south of Pilisszentlaszlo, while other units took Pilisszentlelek, six miles west of Pilisszentlaszlo and only four miles from the Danube, thus pinning the remaining enemy units gainst the river in a 10-mile stretch between Visegrad and Esztergon on the west.

During Thursday's fighting in the Pilis hills the Russians captured 2,200 Germans and Hungarians, the communique said.

BERLIN ADMITS REDS ARE DEEP IN BUDAPEST

House-to-house Clash Said to Be Raging in Heart of Hungarian Capital.

RUSSIANS ATTACK HEAVILY

German Reports Declare Fury of Battle Is Unequaled Since Stalingrad.

London, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—The Russians are fighting in the heart of Budapest, the German High Command announced today as house-to-house battles for the Hungarian capital reached a fury unequaled on the Eastern Front since Stalingrad.

Referring briefly to the fighting in the capital, the German communique said that "the garrison of Budapest defended the heart of the city against heavy Soviet attacks." It declared the Germans had checked Russian breakthrough bids between Lake Balaton and the Danube.

The German news agency DNB said United States and British planes were operating over the western Balkans from an airfield near Ungvar, at the Hungarian-Czecho-Slovak border, and that

the field had been "put at the Allies' disposal by the Soviet command with the consent of the Czecho-Slovak mission."

Inner Defense Cracked.

Moscow, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Russian forces cracked the first of three inner defense rings of the encircled Nazi garrison at Budapest today while the Austrian-bound Red Army to the north stepped up its drive along both sides of the Danube River.

The Red Forces made an all-out bid to win strategic control of the Hungarian capital in a matter of days, if not hours, as fanatical Nazi troops in the hilly district of Buda and the populous flatlands of Pest gave ground under a score of assaults by Russian combat teams of tommy-gunners, tanks and self-propelled guns.

The enemy was hurled out of twelve eastern suburbs of the city yesterday by the hard-driving Soviets.

[BBC, heard by NBC, quoting German reports, said today that the Germans have blown up the famous Danube bridges in Budapest, and that retreating German troops this morning blew up the ancient Budapest City Hall.]

A battle of even greater military importance raged on the approaches to the Danubian communications center of Komarom, which is less than eighty-five miles southeast of Vienna and within fifty-three miles of Bratislava.

Two columns from Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army group converged on the city from the east and southeast, while across the Danube to the northeast Marshal Rodion Malinovsky mounted a powerful smash at the Nazi Hron River defense line.

There was evidence that Russian vanguards may now be fighting on the west bank of the Hron, whose confluence with the Danube, west of the Great Danube Bend, has already been outflanked by Tolbukhin.

Komarom has several big railway and highway bridges across the Danube and of the six rail lines radiating from the city, four lead to Vienna.

Fighting down the northwestern slopes of the Vertes Mountains, Russian troops reached points less than ten miles from Komarom, while another Soviet force advancing along the Danube River highway from captured Esztereom was reported even closer to the city.

This two-pronged Russian drive by Tolbukhin was supported stoutly by Malinovsky, who threw in massed infantry and armored divisions along twenty-five miles of the east bank of the Hron, striking in the direction of Ersekujvar, fifteen miles due north of Komarom.

The Nazi salient, which had extended six miles outside the eastern limits of Pest, was whittled down to barely a mile in several sectors as Budapest shook from the concussion of heavy gunfire. Frontline dispatches said that the Germans clung to each crumbling wall and rubble-strewn cellar before withdrawing toward the center of the capital in the face of incessant Soviet attacks.

The Pest zone was described by an Izvestia combat correspondent as three belts of fortifications protecting the inner city, with the first of these already smashed and the remaining two under the blasting fire of Soviet artillery.

REICH ROADS BOMBED AGAIN

RAF Follows Up Day Blows By 2,300 Allied Heavies

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—Two large fleets of RAF heavy bombers kept the Allied around-the-clock aerial offensive against Germany going tonight by attacking rail yards at Troisdorf, near Bonn, and a synthetic oil plant at Scholven-Buer in the Ruhr Valley.

The double night raid followed daylight attacks by some 2,300 heavy bombers and more than 1,000 fighters on the transportation network serving the Germans' western offensive. The day raiders dropped nearly 9,000 tons of explosives.

The United States 8th Air Force spearheaded the attacks again, sending 800 Fortresses and Liberators with an escort of 700 fighters against communications behind the German lines. Ten bombers and three fighters were missing tonight.

Before this fleet of American planes returned to its bases in Britain the RAF also launched an attack involving 800 heavy bombers with fighter escort.

Double Raid On Coblenz

Halifaxes and Lancasters made a double-header raid on two congested rail yards at Coblenz, on the Rhine, and other Lancasters dropped cargoes of six-ton "earthquake" bombs on boat pens at Rotterdam.

Despite poor flying weather, heavy bombers of the United States [illegible] in It[illegible] 15th Air Force [illegible]aly hit rail targets at Innsbruck and Salzburg in Austria and unannounced objectives in Germany. The Brenner Pass into northern Italy also was attacked for the fourth day.

The United States 8th Air Force Fortresses and Liberators from Britain struck five rail and road junctions in a 15-mile arc behind the German offensive bulge in Belgium. The main weight of the attack struck glutted freight yards at Bingen. Aschaffenburg and Frankfurt, which are on the southern rail route, now overburdened since the northern lines have been all but immobilized by previous bombings. The Trier-Euskirchen area also was hit.

Results Obscured

Thick clouds masking some sectors obscured the results near the battle area, but the main loads were spread visually over the three main rail centers, and returning crewmen were elated with the effectiveness. One pilot said a 10-square-mile area was set afire with incendiaries at Bingen.

The German air force again was grounded, and anti-aircraft fire was reported intense only over Frankfurt, which was hit by the Americans for the fifteenth time. Escorting Mustangs and Thunderbolts strafed targets.

Thick weather masking most sectors of the battlefront postponed the aerial assault on the halted German army in Belgium, but Thunderbolts and Lightnings of the Continental 9th Air Force were able to make 90 sorties before noon.

Locomotive Knocked Out

One locomotive was knocked out near Kaiserslautern and 60 cars packed with equipment were destroyed. Rail yards at Dilsburg, 8 miles north of Saarbrucken and Lebach, 15 miles east of Merzig, were strafed and 70 motor trucks shot up.

These American sweeps along the United States 3d Army front were unopposed, but RAF pilots of the 2d Tactical Air Force making 700 patrol flights between the Rhine and Munster despite dense fog shot down nineteen enemy fighters.

During Thursday night RAF Mosquitos and Lancasters attacked enemy supply lines and freight yards at Bonn and Munchen-Glabach and some formations also flew far to the north and attacked shipping at Oslo, Norway.

German Underground Fuel Reservoir Is Hit

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—American pilots scored a direct hit on a German underground fuel reservoir near Bingen today during an attack on communication routes in rear areas by 800 United States-British based bombers.

"A bomb landed in a wooded area and a huge plume of flame and black smoke spilled into the sky," said Lieut. Richard Tevens, of Ferris, Ill., a Mustang pilot. "It must have struck such an underground oil dump."

Sergt. John Porcher, of Littlefield, Texas, said enemy ground gunners seemed to be using a new type of ack-ack shell.

UNITED ALLIED POLICY URGED FOR LIBERATED LANDS

LONDON, Dec. 29—(AP) Allied diplomatic difficulties stemming from Europe's ideological struggles raised the likelihood today that Britain soon would attempt to establish a united "Big Three" policy for preventing violence in liberated lands.

Amid sharp criticism of Britain's intervention in Greece, the report circulated in London's diplomatic colony that the joint policy effort would be based on a proposal to establish a temporary inter-Allied control over newly-freed governments if trouble threatened.

Suggestion Circulated

There were reliable reports that this "suggestion" had been circulated among some of the exiled governments in London.

The possible attempt to extend the Allied Control commission plan—originally intended only for enemy territory — was hinted at in Churchill's declaration that some kind of "international trust" may have to be set up in Greece if a compromise among fighting factions cannot be reached.

Significantly, in mentioning this possibility at an Athens press conference, the Prime Minister did not confine it to Greece. He said that he, Premier Stalin and President Roosevelt would review the situation "in not a very long time," and added that "we cannot afford to see whole peoples drifting into anarchy."

Speculation over establishment of any form of an "international trust" was pinned squarely to the condition that, to be successful, it would have to receive unqualified support and participation from the United States. There yet, however, was no clear-cut indication that the U. S. State department was ready to abandon its hands-off policy in Europe's political woes.

There was mounting concern among the Allies, including the United States, over the impact of diplomatic differences on the military situation, as reflected by War Secretary Stimson's remark yesterday that propaganda designed to split the Allies undoubtedly was one consideration of the Germans in launching their Winter offensive.

Here in London there is no tendency to discount the gravity and grief involved in the use of Allied forces to preserve peace in liberated lands at a time when the demands of war both for men and materiel are underscored by the enemy's Western front attack.

There is a feeling in many quarters that the political troubles of Europe are just beginning, with these alternatives confronting the Allies:

1. To let the factions fight it out without intervention.
2. To take single-handed action, such as that by Britain in Greece.
3. To establish commission rule by Allied countries until the people of each country gain a ballot box opportunity to decide for themselves the type of government they want and the people they want in it.

Support for the third idea has developed chiefly among those who see in single-handed intervention an increasing trend toward regional blocs and spheres of influence.

This school of thought is backed by those whose political future would be precarious if Europe were carved into spheres. For example, few members of Poland's exiled government in London could expect to return to power if their country were left in a Russian zone. But many feel they would have a chance in a free, post-war election.

Would Meet Some Opposition

By the same token, any "international trust" plan probably would be opposed by groups supported by a neighboring great power or by exiled governments who have worked out detailed plans for their return to authority as soon as their countries are freed—such as the Dutch and the Czechoslovaks.

For example, Dutch officials—apparently confident they will be able to avert the difficulties which have arisen in Belgium, Greece, Poland and, in some measure Yugoslavia—want no part of even a temporary inter-Allied control plan.

The chief reasons for the belief that the United States may give at least consideration to the proposal are these:

1. General American antipathy toward regional blocs, in the fear that they would endanger Dumbarton Oaks world security hopes.
2. Huge U. S. war commitments on the continent, with the need for preventing any disruption of traffic and communication lines.
3. America's chance to preserve Allied diplomatic equilibrium as a neutral in any clash of Anglo-Russian political interests.

BRITISH ASSAIL CRITICISM BY U.S.

LONDON, Dec. 29 (AP) The liberal magazine "Economist" spoke out today at what it called "the recent most violent and sustained criticism and abuse" of Britain in the United States and asked for "an end to the policy of appeasement" toward America.

The magazine listed what it said was American criticism of British policy in Italy and Greece and toward Poland, as well as performance on the Western Front, and charged that the Roosevelt government, "or at least some parts of it," was playing along with Britain's critics.

The periodical described itself as pro-American and claimed therefore the right to do some "plain speaking."

Criticism, it said, is falling on a British people "struggling through their sixth winter of blackout, blockade and bombs, of queues and rations and cold" from a nation "that was practicing cash-carry during the battle of Britain," and such a situation "is not to be borne."

British policy in Italy, the magazine declared, was misunderstood "and quite inadequately explained," and brought a "moralizing rebuke from the State department."

"The fat really was in the fire with the outbreak of fighting in Greece and the Prime Minister's latest speech on Poland redoubled the fury."

The publication detailed other points it said were being made — that Britain was stealing a march "on the poor, repressed American exporter," that "Britain has no intention of fighting the Japanese," and that "Britain is not really fighting in Europe." All these were "painfully familiar," it said.

The magazine added that America had shown no willingness to 'get down into the dust of the arena and attempt to work out" a feasible policy in Greece, Poland, India and Palestine.

loaded with [illegible] of them suffering from shellshock, the Amsterdam was torpedoed by a German submarine and sank in fourteen minutes after breaking in two.

Torpedo Hit Stern

Censorship permitted a London newspaper to publish the bare fact of the sinking November 21, but no announcement of full details has yet come from official quarters.

Accounts of the bravery displayed by six officers—three of them nurses—and four enlisted men, all British, disclosed that the torpedo hit the stern of the ship. Some patients in a ward under the afterdeck were killed by the explosion. Others drowned.

The Order of the British Empire was awarded to Lieut. Oliver Gray, of Glasgow, who was in charge of the ward, which was sheared in half when the vessel parted.

"He did not leave the ward until all living patients had gone," the citation read. "The ship capsized and sank while this officer was standing on the horizontal starboard side trying to rescue a nurse through a porthole of the lower deck where she was trapped."

Three Nurses Stayed Aboard

Three nurses, instead of taking positions in lifeboats, remained aboard the stricken vessel, evacuating the seriously wounded until the ship sank and they were thrown into the sea.

One of these was Miss Lily McNicholas, who could not swim and was floundering about in the water until rescued by a United States Navy cutter.

Four enlisted men were awarded the British Empire Medal. One, a sergeant, Alistair Mitchell, was blown out of his cot in the stern deckhouse but he entered the wrecked ward and began carrying patients to the deck.

BRITISH FLEETS TO STRIKE JAPS

British Reveal Tragic Details Of Sinking Of Hospital Ship

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—The War Office, in announcing ten decorations for heroism, today disclosed many tragic details of the sinking of the 1,200-ton hospital ship Amsterdam off Cherbourg last August 7, although silence was maintained on the loss of life.

A former passenger steamer, [illegible] British wounded, many

England Forming 2 Carrier-Heavy Units For Pacific

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—The British Navy is assembling two mighty fleets with greatly reinforced carrier strength to help the Americans deal knockout blows to the Japanese in the Pacific in 1945, it was disclosed tonight.

An officially approved year-end

review of the Royal Navy's activities said:

"As the year 1944 ends, interest in the war at sea moves from the west to the vast areas of the Pacific and Indian oceans where Britain is assembling two mighty fleets to fight beside our American allies against Japan."

Back To Singapore

These two naval forces are the British fleet under Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser and the fleet of the East Indies Station under Vice Admiral Sir Arthur Powers. The latter's job will be to push the Japanese all the way out of the Indian Ocean and get back to its old base—Singapore.

Fraser's fleet—packed with carriers—will operate under the strategic command of United States Admiral Chester W. Nimitz and Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

The review said Admiral Fraser, commander in chief of British naval forces in the Pacific, "is in full accord with the American strategy of using a large number of aircraft carriers, so it can be assumed that the British carrier fleet will be the strongest that can be assembled there."

[In an interview at Melbourne, Australia, December 12, Admiral Fraser indicated his belief that Britain's contribution in the war against the Japanese would be best confined to sea and air support.]

The Royal Navy's achievements in 1944, which made possible turning attention to the Pacific in 1945, were listed as:

Virtual defeat of Germany as a naval power.

A series of successful operations in which fewer British warships were sunk by enemy action than in any previous year of the war; not a single battleship or aircraft carrier was lost.

Acknowledgment by Germany at the end of March, 1944, that the Atlantic U-boat warfare was a failure and withdrawal of all but a few U-boats from the North Atlantic.

British submarines during the year sank at least 400 enemy ships in addition to 23 warships.

Light coastal forces won a complete victory in the battle of the English channel which lasted nearly 90 days—"a victory as important to success of the invasion as the winning of the battle of the Atlantic was to the war as a whole."

Up to the end of September, 1944, the Navy had moved 10,600,000 British army personnel by sea with a loss of only 2,978 lives, representing .0028 per cent of the total.

Churchill Is Home.

London, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden arrived in Britain today from their conferences in Greece.

V Bombs Blast Southern England

London, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Breaking a one-night lull in their aerial assaults upon Britain, the Germans struck at southern England with V bombs again during the night. The Government announced some damage but no casualties.

Moscow Predicts Nazi Defeat in '45

London, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Russia's top-flight commentator, Ilya Ehrenburg, in a New Year message broadcast today by the Moscow radio, said: "We will finish off the Germans this year."

Wilson Is Elevated To Field Marshal

DEC 30 1944

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, new chief of the British joint staff mission in Washington, has been elevated to field marshal, the War Office announced tonight.

Wilson, former supreme Allied commander in the Mediterranean theater, succeeded the late Field Marshal Sir John Dill in the assignment at the American Capital.

FOREST HILLS MAN TOP ACE IN EUROPE

Paris, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—The United States Ninth Air Force announced today that Lieut.-Col. John C. Meyer of Forest Hills, L. I., with thirty-four German planes to his credit, had become the leading ace in the European theater.

By bagging four planes in the last week Col. Meyer took the lead from Major George Preddy of Greensboro, N. C., who has 32½.

Col. Meyer is a member of a Mustang group commanded by Col. James D. Mayden of Junction City, Kan., which has destroyed forty-seven of 100 enemy planes encountered in its last seven engagements. Two Mustangs were lost, both to ground fire.

Col. Meyer, son of Mrs. August H. Meyer of Forest Hills, Queens, enlisted in the Air Corps while a senior at Dartmouth College. He was trained in this country, sent to Ireland and then to England where he completed a 250-hour combat tour of duty, returned to this country for a thirty-day leave and then went back to England.

Col. Meyer, who is engaged to Lieut. (j.g.) Mary Justina Moore of the Waves, holds the Distinguished Flying Cross with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Silver Star.

Four Collaborationists Killed

PARIS, Dec. 29 (AP).—The French News Agency said today that townspeople from Arles, frustrated in an attempt to lynch a convicted collaborationist who had been their mayor, took four condemned Vichyites from guards in the Fort Vauban prison at Montpellier yesterday and shot them to death in the prison corridors. The ex-mayor was identified as Marcel Farge.

Novelist Beraud Sentenced To Die

Paris, Dec. 29 (AP)—Author Henri Beraud, who replied to charges of collusion with the explanation that he always had been anti-British and still was, was sentenced to death by a purge court jury tonight at the end of a one-day trial.

The jury deliberated only twenty minutes before bringing in the verdict on testimony concerning Beraud's writings during the German occupation. The announcement precipitated a violent courtroom demonstration on behalf of the defendant.

The novelist, tried for his articles in the weekly *Gringoire*, had been assailed by the prosecutor for writing against Britain. He replied:

"I have always opposed the British. Before the war everyone had the right to express his opinion freely and I continued to do the same afterward. I don't like the English." The defendant hastened to add he also "detested" the Germans.

FRANCE TO PRODUCE 25,000 MOTOR CARS

Paris, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—French automobile manufacturers, apparently acting on the theory that the next few months may see the end of the war in Europe, are going ahead with plans to produce 25,000 civilian cars for public sale in the last half of 1945.

Military needs will continue to take precedence in the first half of the year. The French Army expects to take 50,000 trucks from French assembly lines before any materials or man power are released for civilian production.

If the European fighting is ended by July, the manufacturers will be free to start turning out civilian cars under Government supervision. The plans call for concentration on fifteen authorized types—perhaps fewer—instead of the 169 which existed under free production before the war. Various factories will be grouped to turn out the same type. The No. 1 model will be a small two-seater with a four or five horse power motor, designed to make between sixty-eight and seventy miles a gallon of gasoline. These will be built to sell for about $400 at present exchange.

A concentration of producing plants is expected to contribute to lower costs. Present plans call for only fifteen manufacturing units instead of the pre-war forty-eight. Construction will be standardized so that the same type of vehicle can be produced from several factories.

GI'S SEEK KIN IN EUROPE

Men From U. S. Put Red Cross on Trails—Send Many Letters

PARIS, Dec. 29 (AP)—American soldiers in Europe are so keen on finding family relatives on the continent that they have been besieging the American Red Cross at the rate of 200 letters a week for help in tracing their kin.

Miss Dorothy Reeder, Washington, D. C., who is handling civilian war relief for the Red Cross here, said 2,000 such requests had piled up in the last ten weeks.

She is trying her best to be helpful. Her outfit works closely with the advancing Army in attempting to keep up health levels and fulfilling civilian mercy functions until such time as the Army turns over the areas to the UNRRA.

Paris is an old story for her. She was head of the American Library here for sixteen years up to 1941.

GERTRUDE STEIN RETURNS TO PARIS

Paris, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Back in Paris after living among the Maquis near Lyons during the occupation, Gertrude Stein and her secretary, Alice B. Toklas, found that their most distressing problem today was trying to get telephone service restored in their Left-Bank flat.

The enigma of the literary world has not been in the United States since her lecture tour in 1935, and has no immediate intention to return now, but as soon as she was settled again in Paris, she said, she would like to take an airplane trip to America.

Bundled in sweaters and scarves against the cold, her cheeks rosy under her close-cropped gray hair, the author said: "You bet your life we welcomed the Americans when they came up with the Seventh Army. . . . For all the time I have been in France, I have never been called an expatriate, and that I am proud of. I proved that you can be a good American anywhere in the world."

German Attacks In Italy Halted

Rome, Dec. 29 (AP) — German attacks down the Serchio River valley near the western end of the Italian front appeared to have been checked tonight after four days of hard fighting in which American troops were forced back along a 6-mile sector and driven from at least two towns.

An Allied announcement described the situation as "fairly quiet," indicating that the main force of the Nazi assault had been spent. The announcement conceded that the emeny had captured Gallicano, 15 miles north of Lucca, as well as Barga, 2 miles to the northeast.

No Estimate Of Gain

There still was no official estimate of the Germans' total gain. Neither was there an indication whether the attack merely was a large-scale diversionary raid intended to relieve pressure on Nazi defenses south of Bologna, or was a genuine attempt to break through to Lucca and Livorno (Leghorn).

The enemy radio declared that German and Fascist forces had inflicted "heavy losses of men and material" on the 5th Army and had advanced as far as the village of Fornaci, a mile and a half south of Barga.

Credit To Air Force

There were indications that Field Marshal Albert Kesselring had massed a big force behind his attacking units for the purpose of exploiting any breakthrough achieved by the surprise onslaught.

American Mitchell medium bombers battered a large enemy troop concentration around Aulla, a road junction 25 miles northwest of the site of the attack, from which reinforcements quickly could have been thrown into the fighting.

8th Mops Up

Much credit for stemming the German drive before it became dangerous went to the Allied Tactical Air Forces, which flew a total of 4,353 sorties in the first three days, most of them aimed directly at the advancing Nazis. RAF and Brazilian fighter-bombers participated in the assault.

At the opposite end of the front 8th Army troops continued mopping-up operations through the water-sliced areas of the eastern Po Valley. Canadian tanks and infantry cleared the Germans out of Villa Quaglia, a strongly defended hamlet on the east bank of the Naviglio Canal 4 miles northeast of Faenza.

Lieut. Gen. Charles Foulkes, commander of the Canadian corps, estimated in an order of the day that his forces had knocked out at least 4,000 German troops and had cleared the enemy from more than 145 square miles of territory since December 1.

GERMAN DRIVE IN ITALY SLOWED

Rome, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Allied Headquarters announced today that fighting has died down in the Serchio Valley area, where a strong German counter-offensive had driven the American Fifth Army from the important road town of Bargo.

The four-day-old German drive south toward Lucca also had pushed Allied forces from the area of Gallicano, two and a half miles from Barga on the west bank of the Serchio, before it was slowed.

A Fascist radio broadcast claimed that the Germans seized the village of Fornaci, two miles south of Barga.

Headquarters said that the area had become fairly quiet except for enemy artillery pounding and some patrol engagements. It was not stated whether this marked a definite end of the Nazi drive along a six-mile front in the Serchio Valley, which the Fascist radio said had resulted in "heavy losses of men and material" to the Fifth Army.

The central sector of the Fifth Army front south of Bologna also was quieter.

Eighth Army troops continued fanning out through the eastern Po Valley. The Nazis were cleared from Villa Quaglia, four miles northeast of Faenza. Canadian troops inched along toward Alfonsine.

BRITISH HOLD HALF ATHENS

OEC 30 1944

Piraeus Also Controlled As Solid Operations Base

London, Dec. 29 (AP)—King George of Greece conferred with Prime Minister Churchill tonight after the latter had reported to the British War Cabinet on the results of his personal intervention in the Greek civil war.

It was announced officially at 10 Downing Street that King George came to see the Prime Minister and that they remained together a "considerable time." Undoubtedly, however, they discussed the question of a regency for Greece—one point on which the rival factions agreed.

Athens, Dec. 29 (AP)—British forces now hold more than half of Athens and have acquired Piraeus, harbor area of the Greek capital, as a solid base for operations against the ELAS, it was announced tonight.

(King George of Greece conferred with Prime Minister Churchill in London tonight after the latter had reported to the British war cabinet on the results of his personal intervention in the Greek civil war, an official announcement said. King George came to see Churchill and they remained together a "considerable time," the report said. No other details were given although they undoubtedly discussed the question of a Greek regency).

British paratroopers and Greek National Guardists, supported by tank and armored-car units, completed an important phase in the drive to clear the capital by pushing ELAS groups back from a secondary highway that runs through the industrial west side of Athens from Omonia square to the harbor.

This roadway wrested from the ELAS now forms a rough boundary for British-held territory lying between Athens and Piraeus. The fighting between these two points—except for sporadic sniping—has moved to the northwest sector of

this "line."

Churchill, Eden Back

The British completed clearing of the southeastern suburbs of Athens and the capital's east main line communications along the Phaleron road, thus strengthening their grasp on the city's environs.

[Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden arrived back in Britain today following their conferences in Athens seeking to end the civil strife. They immediately convened the War Cabinet to report on the situation. Churchill and Eden are expected to confer shortly with King George of Greece and urge him to accede to the appointment of a regency.]

The climax of clearance operations on the south side of Omonia square came when British paratroopers wearing tennis shoes silently sneaked up on the ELAS forward headquarters and dropped gasoline fire bombs into the building last night after clambering over roof-tops to get to their objective.

British Link Up

British and Greek troops pushing southward from the center of Athens linked up with another column that moved northward from areas in the southeastern sector which were cleared of ELAS Wednesday, it was announced.

Rocket-firing Beaufighters and Spitfires continued to support Anglo-Greek operations.

British units recaptured Arditos Hill in the capital itself after advancing south through Zappion Park against slight opposition. The hill overlooks Averoff stadium, a strong point which the ELAS still hold. The British also entered the Pankrati Cemetery, from where ELAS mortars have been firing into cleared sections across the Phaleron road below the Acropolis.

An official announcement said 7,500 prisoners have been taken by the British and regular Greek forces.

Greek Rightist forces under Gen. Napoleon Zervas, a communiqué said, were fighting a hard rear-guard action against the ELAS while withdrawing toward the port of Preveza in northwest Greece.

BRITISH ATTACK ELAS SOLDIERS

Open Three-pronged Push in Athens Suburbs.

Athens, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—The British opened a three-pronged drive against ELAS forces in the eastern suburbs of Athens today jumping off after a prolonged artillery barrage in the second phase of operations designed to clear the embattled Greek capital.

Against slight opposition, the British forces advanced from the south through Zappion Park on Arditos Hill, which changed hands in a mortar duel a week ago.

After taking Arditos Hill, overlooking a former ELAS strongpoint in the Averoff Stadium, the British troops entered the Pankrati Cemetery, from which ELAS mortars have been firing into cleared sections across the Phaleron road below the Acropolis.

An ELAS raid last night on the Greek-held sector of the northwestern slopes of monastery-topped Likabettos was beaten off by British artillery.

An official announcement said that 7,500 prisoners have been taken by the British and Greek forces.

A Greek mountain brigade meanwhile advanced southward on the suburb of Kissariani—one of the largest ELAS strongholds in the Athens area.

JAP ECONOMY SEEN IN SERIOUS STRAITS

JAN 2 1945

Pravda Says U.S. Victories Have Sharp Effect On Foe

Moscow, Dec. 29 (AP)—*Pravda* said today that steady American Pacific victories had "sharply worsened economic, especially food, conditions inside Japan," and also declared that the frequent Superfortress raids on Tokyo were affecting the general Japanese internal and political situation.

Spread over five columns of the foreign-news page, the *Pravda* article was considered the most significant Soviet utterance about Japan since Premier Stalin's November speech declared her an aggressive nation.

"Continuous Defeat"

Japan, "last and single ally of Hitlerite Germany," has been suffering "continuous defeat on land, sea and in the air," said G. Zhukov, *Pravda* staff political writer. "The development of Pacific events becomes evermore unfavorable for Japan.

"Continuous defeat in the war with Britain and the United States has, sharply worsened economic, especially food, conditions inside Japan."

Zhuvov's article said, in part:

"The Koiso Government faces extremely complicated internal and political problems while the war makes new demands on the tardy industrial facilities of Japan. Japanese militarists will continue to insist upon increasng severe economic controls.

Freedoms Called For

"Japanese public opinion becomes incomparably more somber in evaluating the real strength of Japan's European ally, than two or three years ago. Meanwhile the Koiso Government still tries to persuade the citizenry otherwise. . . .

"Some Japanese newspapers appeal to the Government to guarantee freedom of speech, freedom of the press and reorganization of governmental powers. One pointed out that the time is past for delivery of lectures on the national crisis. This statement indicated that efforts of Fascist propaganda to renounce 'liberal conceptions foreign to the Japanese' have been ineffective."

Army, Capital At Odds

Pravda declared that tension had increased between Japanese capitalists anxious to regain old-time freedom of action and the militarists determined to enforce even more rigid economic controls.

"The military prospects frighten many Japanese business men," it said. "The Japanese press recognizes that home manufacturers are extremely reluctant to make investments in the occupied countries of southeast Asia. The conversion of the capital of Tokyo into a frequent target for American air-raids affects the general internal and political situation."

PRAVDA CALLS JAPS NAZIS' LAST ALLIES

Moscow, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Pravda, describing Japan as Hitler's last ally, said today that she had been suffering continuous defeat on land and sea and in the air.

The article, spread over five columns, appeared to be the most significant Soviet utterance about the Orient since Premier Stalin's November speech classifying Japan as an aggressive nation.

"The development of Pacific events becomes ever more unfavorable for Japan," said the article by G. Zhukov, Pravda staff political writer. "Continuous defeat in the war with Britain and the United States has sharply worsened economic and especially food conditions inside Japan."

Russia Getting Romanian Oil

MOSCOW, Dec. 29 (AP).—Romania has shipped 386,000 tons of petroleum to the Soviet Union in three months, the Tass News Agency said today in a report on fulfillment of armistics terms. It added that 880 freighters loaded with goods ranging from machine tools to beehives, described as recovered Soviet property, had arrived at Constanta for reshipment to Odessa.

Berlin Fights Threat Of Disease In Ruins

Stockholm, Dec. 29 (AP)—Berlin's municipal authorities are battling the threat of epidemics in the ruins of the capital, the German-controlled news agency Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau said today.

The dispatch said Mayor Steeg called the ruined sections of the city a "constant danger" although health authorities had thus far managed effectively.

LOIWING CAPTURED BY ALLIED FORCES

MYITKYINA, Burma, Dec. 29—(AP) Chinese troops under Lt. Gen. Daniel Sultan's command in Burma have crossed the border into China and captured Loiwing, where an American-Chinese aircraft factory was situated before the Japanese overran Burma.

The Chinese troops crossed into China in a 10-mile drive which carried them within 30 miles of Wanting, Burma road town now under siege by other Chinese forces pushing from China.

For many Chinese soldiers it was their first time on Chinese soil since they retreated out of Burma into India with Gen. Joseph Stilwell.

CHUNGKING, China, Dec. 29 (AP)—Japanese troops, evidently ordered to fight to the death to keep the Burma Road supply route closed to the Allies, have opened a series of counter-attacks against Chinese forces near Wanting, road town near the Chinese-Burma border, it was announced today.

All attacks have been repulsed, said a Chinese military spokesman. The main enemy blows were delivered in the vicinity of the Japanese-held village of Mangpeng, twelve miles northeast of Wanting.

The spokesman said Japanese garrisons along the dwindling enemy-held stretch of the highway plainly were prepared to die to prevent military supplies from reaching Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese armies in the overland route from India.

JAP SHIPPING HIT OFF LUZON ISLAND

American Bombers Damage Enemy Freighter in Lingayen Gulf

JAN 2 1945

GENERAL MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Saturday, Dec. 30—(AP) Mitchell bombers hit Japanese shipping in Lingayen gulf, off the western coast of Luzon island in the Philippines and heavily damaged a 7,000-ton freighter, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

Nipponese planes again attacked American positions on Mindoro the night of Dec. 27. Eight of the 23 attacking aircraft were brought down.

Another 268 dead Japanese were counted Dec. 27 in the mopping up of isolated enemy units on Leyte island.

American heavy bombers dropped 72 tons of explosives on San Jose airdrome of Panay island, between Leyte and Mindoro, and knocked out six grounded planes.

General MacArthur acknowledged that the Dec. 27 raid on th Yank airfields and shipping a Mindoro caused "some damage." Ack-ack got some of the attacking aircraft and night fighters brought down the remainder. This raid came about 24 hours after a Japanese naval force had shelled th area and fled after losing three destroyers.

Navy Liberators helped in th Lingayen area raid, shooting down two Japanese planes and damaging a small surface craft.

An enemy airfield at Davao, on Mindanao, major island of the southern Philippines, also was hit by heavy U. S. bombers. Fires and explosions were observed there afterward.

Six small enemy freighters were bombed, strafed and left sinking by U. S. patrol planes off Borneo.

IWO HIT 21ST DAY IN ROW BY LIBERATORS

Anti-Aircraft Fire Intense But Yanks Plant Bombs On Airstrip

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 29 (AP)—American Liberators bombed Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands Wednesday for the 21st consecutive day this month, running into intense anti-aircraft fire, the Navy announced today.

The heavy barrage of ground fire, however, failed to prevent the Yank raiders of the strategic air force from planting their explosives on the airstrip, which may have based enemy planes that have been raiding the American Superfortresses base at Saipan, less than 700 miles to the south.

Campaign One Of Hottest

Iwo, tiny volcanic island 750 miles south of Tokyo, is currently receiving one of the most intensive neutralizing campaigns of the Pacific war.

Iwo has an area of only eight square miles. It has two volcanic cones.

Today's communiqué also reported a raid, the same by marine Corsair planes on Bablethuap, in the Palaus, where docking facilities were strafed. The marine flyers hit Nipponese positions in the Marshall Islands December 28, continuing their almost daily schedule of neutralizing raids in that group.

Tex. Of Communique

The communiqué said:

Liberators of the strategic air forces, Pacific Ocean areas, bombed airstrip installations on Iwo Jima in the Volcanos, December 27 (United States time). Our planes encountered intense anti-aircraft fire but all returned safely.

"Corsairs of the 2d Marine Aircraft Wing bombed and strafed enemy-held bases in the Marshalls December 28 as neutralizing attacks continued in that area."

Japs Blasted Over Saipan.

Saipan, Dec. 26 (Delayed) (A. P.).—For the second night in a row, half a dozen or more high-flying Japanese medium bombers twice attempted to raid the American Superfortress bases tonight. Most of their bombs were jettisoned harmlessly into the sea, however, and the only hit on Saipan was on a Quonset hut. On the nearby island of Tinian, bombs hit a mess hall and another Quonset hut.

Five raiders were shot down, making at least nine destroyed near Saipan in two nights.

Again taking advantage of moonlight and a few convenient clouds, the first planes made individual runs from 8 to 8:30 o'clock. After the all clear, the attacks were renewed from 10:07 to 10:30.

Anti-aircraft gunners shot two in the first raid. P-61 Black Widow night fighters from a nearby Marianas base got one in the first attack and two in the last ten minutes of the raids, all north and northwest of Saipan.

One P-61, the Midnight Mighty, closed with a Japanese Betty and sent her flaming down in a spiral. The gunner was Private Peter Dutkanicz of Hamden, Conn.

Another P-61 set a Betty afire at 1,000 feet and followed her down for 4,000 feet before she exploded. The P-61 carried Second Lieut. Charles A. Ward of 214 Forest avenue, New Rochelle, N. Y., observer, and Sergt. Leroy F. Mozzi of 320 65th street, West New York, N. J., gunner. Ten minutes later, another P-61 caught a Betty at 2,500 feet and shot her down. The observer was Second Lieut. Jean Desclos of 110 Mount Pleasant avenue, Stratford, Conn.

JAPS TOLD AERIAL RAIDS TO INCREASE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 — (AP) Admiral Chester Nimitz today notified the Japanese people that the United States navy will "carry the fighting to the very vitals of Japan" and inevitably defeat her.

The recorded message of the commander in chief of the Pacific fleet was carried in the First American medium-wave broadcast aimed at the home radio sets of Japanese citizens. It was accompanied by an appeal, also recorded, from Undersecretary of State Joseph C. Grew that the Japanese overthrow military rule and create "a government of free men."

The program was relayed by a new psychological warfare transmitter built by the Office of War Information on Saipan. It originated at a new 100 kilowatt short wave station, KRHO, built at Honolulu and described as the highest power short wave station in the central Pacific. Completion of both stations was announced by OWI today.

Admiral Nimitz warned the Japanese that industrial targets in Japan and Manchuria will be ravaged by Superfortresses "just as Allied aerial warfare reduced the productive capacity of Germany."

He gave a factual review of areas taken by American forces, and added:

"The preponderance of United States ships, war materials and manpower portends increased casualties and hardships for Japan's military, increased destruction and suffering for her industrial sectors."

Grew, former U. S. ambassador

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at Tokyo, told the Japanese:

"I have today only the same advice that I gave you when I was in Japan; retrace your steps. Resume again your authority over your policies, and create a government of free men which will have no place for war-mongering and will discharge its responsibilities to other countries."

AUSTRALIA'S RETORT

Canberra, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Replying to the criticism voiced by Representative Ward Johnson (R.-Cal.), that the "Australians are not working as hard as they should be" in their war work, the Navy Minister, N. J. O. Makin, said today that he was sure the United States would accept Gen. MacArthur's assessment of Australia's war effort rather than that of a quick-touring Congressman.

Back from a visit Down Under, Mr. Johnson told reporters in Washington on Wednesday: "There is no indication that we have had any assistance from the British, French or Dutch in the Pacific. Australia has helped some, but I feel disgusted with her present attitude."

CABINET IN PANAMA RESIGNS IN CRISIS

JAN 2 1945

BALBOA, Panama, C. Z., Dec. 29.—(AP) President Ricardo Adolfo de La Guardia's cabinet resigned today, it was announced officially, as intense political agitation swept Panama.

At the headquarters of the Panama Canal department, Maj. Gen. Ralph G. Meyer, deputy department commander, ordered a full alert for U. S. armed forces in the zone because of the political situation across the boundary line which separates the canal zone from the republic of Panama.

The immediate effect of Meyer's order, which was issued at noon, will be to keep U. S. personnel out of Panamanian jurisdiction and at their stations and military posts.

De La Guardia — target of a national Youth Congress blast which asserted that he held the presidency "arbitrarily"—met with political leaders to plan his next step following the cabinet's action. An unofficial report said De La Guardia may form a government junta including himself, Francisco Arias and Domingo Diaz.

The Youth Congress, which called for De La Guardia's resignation yesterday, urged a general strike in opposition to the government's decree calling for a constituent assembly on May 2, 1945. Regular elections are held on Jan. 2 and this move would lengthen the De La Guardia stay in office.

REVOLT IN PANAMA REPORTED BREWING

Not

Balboa, Panama, Canal Zone, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Intense political activity directed against President Ricardo Adolfo de la Guardia developed today. A shake-up appeared likely after twenty-four hours of the most extreme agitation in Panama since the bloodless overthrow of former President Arnulfo Arias on October 9, 1941.

As the President met with members of his Cabinet and prominent political leaders last night, the National Youth Congress adopted a resolution demanding his resignation, asserting that he held the presidency arbitrarily.

The question hinges on a constitutional provision requiring the National Assembly—to be convened on January 2—to elect three Vice-Presidents within ten days after convening. The first of these Vice-Presidents by law would automatically succeed the President.

There have been no Vice-Presidents in Panama since President De La Guardia took office. Two years ago the Assembly abstained from electing Vice-Presidents, holding that it would be unwise to change horses during the war.

The Government said recently that a majority of the Assembly had agreed to again abstain from such an election, thus permitting the incumbent to retain office until February, 1947. However, ten of the thirty-two deputies announced yesterday that they would move for the election of vice-presidents, and at least five more deputies expressed approval of this move. Two more adherents would assure an affirmative vote.

Today the administration was reported considering a decree calling for a constituent assembly, in order to gain time. This would entail dissolution of the regular assembly.

Argentina To Regulate Its Electric Power

Buenos Aires, Dec. 29 (AP)—Argentina's military Government, confronted with a serious shortage of liquid fuel supplies, today ordered its fuel distribution monopoly, Yacimientos Petroliferos Fiscales, to take over regulation of electric power throughout the nation.

The Government earlier announced a ban on the exportation of flaxseed on the grounds that all available supplies were necessary for conversion into substitute fuels. Today's order makes clear that even the available stocks of flaxseed are not enough to cover the country's needs.

Camacho Now Can Send Mexican Troops Abroad

Mexico City, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Senate today authorized President Avila Camacho to send Mexican troops to the battlefronts whenever and in whatever way he deemed advisable to contribute to the victory of the Allied nations.

This authorization applies particularly to the 201st Aviation Squadron of 300 members, now at Greenville, Texas, where on January 20 it will receive its war flag. It is in the final stages of its combat training.

On May 28, 1942, Congress authorized the President to declare war on Germany, Italy and Japan. Mexico would be the second Latin-American country to send troops to a war front. A Brazilian expeditionary force now is in Italy.

Cuba's Presidential Palace Put Under Guard

Havana, Dec. 29 (AP)—Unusual precautions were taken tonight to guard the presidential palace after dismissal of Brig. Gen. Francisco Tabernilla, commandant of La Cabana fortress.

Sandbags were piled up on the roof and guards were doubled at all doors. Sentries also were posted on the roof.

REPORT RIO SEIZURES

Buenos Aires, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Brazilians residing here said today that five men well known in Brazilian business and newspaper circles were arrested on December 22 and were still detained incommunicado in a cavalry regiment barracks in Rio de Janeiro, pending disposition of the case by War Minister Eurico Gaspar Dutra.

These informants said that the five men were Virgilio de Melo Franco, among the younger leaders of the 1930 revolution which brought President Getulio Vargas to power; Lucio Cardoso, a young and prominent business man; Raphael Corrier de Oliveira, who recently returned from London, via New York, on a Government mission; Austregesilo de Athayde, editor of the evening Diario da Noite, which is a Rio member of the Diarios Asociados chain of newspapers; Dario de Almeida Magalhases, a young lawyer, until five years ago director-general of the chain.

U. S. BASES AFTER WAR OPPOSED BY ECUADOR

QUITO, Equador, Jan. 29 (AP)—The Ecuadorean Assembly has opposed proposals that the United States be granted air and naval bases in Ecuadorean territory after the war, it was disclosed today. The United States now has use of bases it constructed at Salinas and in the Galapagos Islands as a wartime measure in agreement with the Ecuadorean Government.

The Assembly advised President José Maria Velasco Ibarra last night that "negotiations which may affect the territorial integrity" of post-war Ecuador "are deemed inadvisable," said a statement issued by the Assembly secretariate. While emphasizing that Ecuadorean-United States relations were friendly, the Assembly declared that the Salinas and Galapagos bases "are indispensable as a safeguard for Ecuadorean sovereignty and national interests."

The bases have been valuable in defense of the Panama Canal Zone and in patrolling the South American west coast.

Recent Washington reports said that the United States had suggested negotiations to permit American forces to use the bases after the war. Ecuador was to receive in return a loan for road building and other purposes.

President Velasco Ibarra asked the Assembly for advice, the statement said, and its decision incorporated his views.

Canadian Aircraft Missing

MONTREAL, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Dominion Department of Transport and Transcanada Airlines, in a statement tonight announced that a Lancaster aircraft in the transatlantic service was unreported "since the early hours of this morning." The plane was carrying one passenger and a crew of four. The passenger was Sir Alfred E. Evans of the British Admiralty Technical Mission at Ottawa.

AIR RAID SIRENS SOUND IN TOKYO

U.S. Bombers Are Reported Over Kobe and Osaka.

JAN 2 1945

In a broadcast recorded by the FCC and distributed by the Associated Press, the Tokyo radio declared today (9 P. M. in Japan) that American planes were sighted approaching the Tokyo-Yokohoma metropolitan district, but that after the sirens had sounded the bombers "again" altered their course and began circling over the north Kwanto district. The great industrial cities of Kobe and Osaka lie in this area.

Single B-29s carried out three raids over south central Honshu between 8:30 P. M. and 5:30 A. M., Japanese time, last night, radio Tokyo added saying that incendiaries were dropped. Shortly thereafter, the broadcaster said "enemy planes" are raiding the same section tonight.

Reporting upon last night's raids, radio Tokyo said that single B-29s had "dropped several incendiary bombs" in the "eastern sector of the capital" at 8:30 P. M. and 10:30 P. M., yesterday, but claimed that "no damage was inflicted."

Another lone B-29 dropped "several incendiary bombs" over the "south Kwanto area" of southeastern Honshu, at 4 A. M., today, Japanese time. "Only a little damage to civilians" was caused in this raid, Domei said.

Jittery Japs Approve New Blackout Measure

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Japanese cabinet has approved a new blackout measure, the Tokyo radio said today, which provides the "alerting" of all lights in homes after 5 p.m. daily.

Other provisions of the measure, said the FCC recorded broadcast, included:

Persons in charge of street, traffic and factory lights "will plan fully so as to be able to black out lights as soon as an air defense warning is issued."

Lights for general traffic, on railroads and for shipping are to observe the alert blackout or be reduced "to the extent of an air raid blackout, according to circumstances."

Lights in homes "should be put out without fail upon retiring, as well as all other unnecessary lights."

CONVOYS REPORTED OFF PHILIPPINES

DEC 30 1944

The Tokyo radio reported late today that several American convoys were attempting to force their way westward through the Mindanao Sea to the Sulu Sea. In a broadcast recorded by the Blue Network, says the Associated Press, Toyko declared that Japanese units have been striking hammering blows at the convoys since the night of December 27.

In a broadcast communique picked up by the FCC and distributed by the Associated Press, Japanese Imperial Headquarters clared earlier that Japanese planes sank six large transports and damaged two others yesterday in the course of an attack on thirty such craft "heading westward in the Mindanao Sea through Suriago Straits." The enemy also declared that Japanese air units on Wednesday night attacked the American air field at San Jose, on Mindoro Island, and set fires at fifteen places and caused a big fire at a gasoline dump.

All these enemy assertions were wholly unconfirmed.

U. S. ARMY RECALLS SEVERAL GENERALS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(AP) The War department has recalled several general officers from overseas commands within recent months, demoting some of them, it was learned tonight.

The recalls have been individual cases, not involving any single situation, but are manifestations of a firm policy adopted by the department.

The most recent case is that of a major general ordered back from France and reduced to the rank of colonel. This case predates the present German offensive.

Explaining that it prefers to avoid public discussion out of regard for the individual officers and because of possible morale effect, the Army declined comment. No names were given.

Those familiar with the situation say the Department's policy is predicated upon its insistence that there be efficiency in command and that recall of commanders is not necessarily a punitive measure.

It is pointed out that frequently a general officer is given an assignment for which he proves unsuited, but later gives an excellent account of himself in another battle command.

In recalling earlier instances, the case of Major General Terry Allen was cited. Allen went overseas in 1942 for the North African campaign, commanding the First division there and in Sicily.

He was returned to the United States in the midst of the Sicilian campaign, but retained his rank and recently reappeared as commander of the 104th Infantry division in France.

In some instances, officers "busted" to lower ranks have been restored to general rank when their cases were re-examined. Ernest J. Dawley was a major general and commander of an Army corps in September, 1943, when he was taken from his command at Salerno, Italy, and reduced to his permanent rank of colonel. Nine months later, President Roosevelt sent his nomination for promotion to brigadier general to the Senate. Those who knew him said that in the interim he again had demonstrated his abilities as a military leader.

U.S. SENDS STRONG PROTEST TO REICH

Shooting Of Captured American Troops Subject

DEC 30 1944

Washington, Dec. 29 (AP)—The United States is forwarding "the strongest possible protest" to Germany over the shooting of captured and disarmed American soldiers.

The State Department tonight issued this announcement:

"The Department of State is forwarding the strongest possible protest to the German Government through the Swiss authorities with regard to the killing by German forces near Malmedy, Belgium, of all but fifteen of a group of about 130 American soldiers and officers who had been taken prisoners by German tank corps and stripped of their equipment."

Accuracy Unquestioned

The official announcement made clear that the American Government has accepted as beyond any question of accuracy reports from army headquarters and front-line correspondents that the Germans have ruthlessly killed some American prisoners.

These reports said that after capturing the men the Germans lined them up and shot them in violation of the basic and internationally accepted rules of war.

Rules Of War Thrown Over

In military headquarters here, speculation is that the Germans were deliberately ordered ahead of time not to bother sending prisoners back to their rear areas since that might slow the speed of their forward advance in the early hours of their breakthrough.

Military men have concluded therefore that the enemy high command has completely thrown over the rules of war and from now on may be expected to wage campaigns more ruthless than any it has yet organized.

Officials here are not at all optimistic about accomplishing anything with the protest to Berlin.

Nevertheless, it will become a part of the formal international record of war and stand as a matter for which the Germans will be held to account when victory is won.

Stettinius Plans No Trip.

Washington, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Secretary of State Stettinius has no plans at present for going to London to discuss international affairs. This was learned on the highest authority today.

Mr. Stettinius personally declined comment when asked about a published report that he might make the trip to discuss the Greek situation with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Minister.

The Inferences

The appointment indicates that:

The American commander in Italy—and therefore the British commander under whom he works, General Sir Harold Alexander—has a direct interest in the impending liberation of Austria.

The boundary between Hungary and Austria roughly represents the western limit of Russia's area of primary interest in southeastern Europe as recognized by Moscow, London and Washington.

What form the American and British participation in the struggle for Austria will take is a military matter. There are, however, some obvious possibilities.

Air Units At Least

Allied conquest of northern Italy at an early date would place the troops now fighting on the Italian front in position to strike into Austria.

There is also always the possibility of amphibious operations at the head of the Adriatic. Quick clean up of political conditions in Greece would release the British units now held there.

Whether or not Allied ground forces are sent into action, it is apparently certain that powerful air units from the Italian theater will support Russian ground troops already approaching Austria through Hungary.

Tighter Liaison Needed

The close co-ordination required for such air support would require a tighter liaison between Russian, American and British commands than ever before, while the actual introduction of Anglo-American ground forces alongside the Red armies would require some sort of joint or co-ordinated operational command.

There is a basic difference between the political situation expected in Austria and that which has existed in the Balkan countries where relations between Russia and the Allies have not always been considered satisfactory.

Basis Laid At Moscow

The basis for co-operation in Austria was laid at the Moscow conference of foreign ministers more than a year ago when all three powers promised to restore the independence of the nation that Hitler absorbed early in 1938.

Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria, on the other hand, have been recognized as spheres of primary Russian interest, although Hungary is considered less so than the other two. In all three countries the Red Army has done all the fighting, Soviet commanders have been in exclusive control and American political and military observers have had to move entirely at Russian discretion, seeing what the Russians were willing for them to see.

Mixed Forces To Free Austria

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Washington, Dec. 29 (AP)—American and British as well as Russian forces will participate in the liberation of Austria from seven years of Nazi tyranny, it was reported tonight.

The battle for Austria is expected by officials here to mark an advance toward closer relations among the three Allied powers by bringing their forces into joint military action on such a scale for the first time.

This was learned after Edward R. Stettinius, Secretary of State, designated John G. Erhardt as political adviser on Austrian affairs. Significantly Erhardt was assigned to work with Lieut. Gen. Mark Clark, commander of the Allied 15th Army group in Italy. Erhardt was given the personal rank of

Giant U.S. Navy Has 1167 Warships

DEC 30 1944

Fleet Totals 61,045 Vessels and Air Arm Numbers 37,000 Planes.

Washington, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—The largest Navy in the world, fighting the most extended war in history, now has 1,167 men-of-war to carry the battle to the enemy. And it is still growing.

This was reported by the Navy today in a review of ship production which showed that in the last year 39,971 new vessels—420 of them fighting ships—joined the fleet, boosting the over-all total to 61,045 Navy ships of all types.

Broken down, the mighty striking force of the Navy—in its warships—is shown in this compilation of warship construction since 1941:

	1941	1942	1943	1944	Total
Battleships	2	4	2	2	10
Carriers	1	1	15	8	25
Carriers, escort	2	13	50	37	102
Battle cruisers	0	0	0	2	2
Heavy cruisers	0	0	4	2	6
Light cruisers	1	8	7	11	27
Destroyers	16	81	128	84	309
Destroyer escorts	0	0	306	197	503
Submarines	11	34	56	77	178
Totals	33	141	568	420	1,162

Much emphasis was placed during 1944 upon landing craft and attack vessels, with construction of 37,724 of the little ships used to batter the way for landings on enemy-held shores.

The new construction also included, the Navy said, 640 patrol boats and mine craft, 630 auxiliaries and 557 harbor craft.

More Landing Craft.

"Important in these statistics," the Navy reported, "is the slightly decreased emphasis on combat and patrol craft, denoting a leveling off in the need for more warships and escort vessels, and the tremendous increase in landing craft, auxiliary attack ships and other supply vessels which have carried the Allied offensive to enemy shores, both in Europe and the Pacific."

Accounting for the Total.

The total of 1,167 warships now with the fleet was described as more than three times the number on hand when the war began three years ago. The Navy announcement added: "Ship losses in action, and the transfer of certain vessels, especially escort carriers, destroyer escorts and landing craft to other Allied nations accounts for the difference between the total number of new ships completed for the Navy and the total on hand."

Two hundred thirty-nine Navy vessels of all types have been announced as lost.

The air force striking arm, the Navy continued, also called for major production in 1944 when 30,070 planes of all types were manufactured to maintain the Navy's Air Force at a stabilized total of about 37,000.

"These figures," the Navy explained, "demonstrate the high rate of obsolescence and attrition attendent upon keeping naval air power supplied with the newest and best planes."

It placed on the critical list for 1945 carriers and cruisers, some of which have been delayed by labor shortage as much as seven to nine months; rockets, ammunition and 40 mm. guns; maintenance and repair parts for the fleets, aircraft, and numerous miscellaneous supplies. Manpower needs were called critical.

Destroyer Rowan Launched

SEATTLE, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Rowan, a 2,200-ton destroyer, was launched today at the Harbor Island plant of Todd Pacific Shipyards. It was the 100th launching by the company at its Seattle and Tacoma yards since Pearl Harbor. The destroyer was named for Vice Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, hero of the Civil and Mexican Wars.

Blast at Houston Sinks Channel Boats

Houston, Tex., Dec. 29 (A. P.).—A tug boat and a barge were sunk and another barge and fireboat damaged by a terrific explosion in the ship channel, east of here early today. No lives were known to have been lost.

E. H. Furstenweld, lieutenant on the Port Houston fireboat, said the tug boat, which was pulling barges loaded with oil, sank along with one of the barges.

Flames from the burning vessels damaged the second barge, the United States Government fireboat and docks of the American Liberty Pipeline Company along the channel. The blast was felt over an area of twenty miles.

Wac to Cut Down Recruiting Personnel

Washington, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—The recruiting personnel of the Women's Army Corps will be reduced next year when emphasis will shift to enlisting women with special skills.

Although over-all WAC quotas will be cut, the War Department has stressed what it terms an acute need for medical and surgical technicians. The range of other skilled personnel sought runs from typists to parachute riggers.

Recruiting personnel no longer needed for that duty will be transferred to other Wac activities. Assignments will be made by the service command to which the present recruiting personnel are attached, Army spokesmen said.

NEW LANDING SHIP SHOWN

Medium 'Pacific Puddle Jumper' Aided Philippines Invasion

HOUSTON, Tex., Dec. 29 (AP)—The Navy unveiled to public view today the latest of its landing ships, a craft described by some officers as the "Pacific puddle jumper."

Now coming off the ways on the Great Lakes, the Atlantic and Gulf coasts by the score, the landing ship, medium, has already made its weight felt in the Japanese struggle when it was used in the Philippines invasion.

More than 200 feet long and 24 broad, the vessel is manned by forty-eight enlisted men and four officers. Its Diesel engines, more powerful than previous designs, enable the craft to slide on a shelving beach and then, with a shove, move inshore with only perceptible shock. It is designed to transport light tanks and gun carriers.

Text of Lehman's Report of Tour

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—The text of a statement by Herbert H. Lehman, Director General of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, on relief problems:

I have just returned after six weeks at our European regional office at London. During the course of my work there I spent ten days on the continent, becoming acquainted with relief problems in liberated areas.

On Nov. 9, two days before I left for London, I met with the Washington press, reporting to them the then current position of United Nations relief programs and the UNRRA part in them. There have been many new developments since then. These have been reported in part. This summary will give the present situation.

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1. GREECE

Under an agreement with the Allied military liaison (which is responsible for the civilian relief operations for which the military has assumed responsibility in Greece), detachments of UNRRA personnel went into the liberated areas of Greec soon after the Germans were expelled. There they have been operating as agents of the military authorities, who have the responsibility for providing civilian relief supplies and services.

Since all transport and stocks of supplies must in the early period after liberation be under military control, it was long since agreed that the liberating military authorities will carry the responsibility for procuring and shipping imported relief goods during the first six months after liberation of any United Nations area by them. The military relief authorities in Greece have been making the imported goods available to the local authorities in the various communities and districts. UNRRA has been assisting the military authorities.

This continues to be the case in and about Salonika and Patras on the mainland, and in the Aegean and Cyclades Islands, and will shortly be true in Crete. In the Athens-Piraeus arear, where combat conditions prevail, members of the UNRRA contingent acted as volunteers, working on both sides of the lines to help in moving civilian wounded and needy people to hospitals and other refuges, and gathering and burying the dead. In the course of this work seven of them were wounded.

Last week, on the advice of military authorities, we evacuated some thirty of the UNRRA personnel from this combat area, sending them to Cairo. From Cairo they will be transferred to the islands and provinces in Greece where relief operations continue at full scale. Some forty UNRRA personnel remaining in the Athens area are assisting in the operation of soup kitchens, hospitals, etc.

The executive chiefs of the UNRRA mission for Greece, who remain in Athens, are proceeding with plans to cooperate with the military authorities during the period of military responsibility and with the Greek Government following that.

2. YUGOSLAVIA

I am considerably concerned at some of the stories which have been appearing in the press indicating that there are serious disagreements between UNRRA and the Yugoslav authorities with respect to the administration of relief in that country. This is not the case.

It is important to understand that two series of negotiations have been going forward with respect to relief for Yugoslavia. One is carried on by the Yugoslav Government and the Allied military liaison, which represents the American and British military authorities. Their aim is to reach agreement on the terms and conditions of relief operations to be carried on with military supplies under military direction during the period of military responsibility for civilian relief in Yugoslavia.

A second series of negotiations has been going on between Yugoslav and UNRRA representatives both at Washington and at London. These discussions have to do with the relief program for Yugoslavia in the post-military period when UNRRA will assume responsibility for the provision of supplies and the overseeing on its own authority of relief activities in Yugoslavia.

With respect to arrangements for this post-military period I can report that there is virtually complete agreement between the representatives of this administration and the representatives of both the Royal Yugoslav Government and Marshal Tito. UNRRA, as has always been contemplated, will permit the Yugoslav authorities themselves to handle all distribution of supplies provided by UNRRA.

The only condition that UNRRA has made is that it be permitted a sufficient number of observers so that it will be possible to certify to the contributing nations and other members of UNRRA that distribution has been made

30.24 — 21639

in accordance with the principles laid down by the council of UNRRA. I have been informed by Yugoslav authorities that they are in substantial agreement with the principles which we have established concerning the administration of relief where supplies are provided by UNRRA, and the conclusion of this agreement awaits only the further clarification and consolidation of the political position in Yugoslavia.

UNRRA has a staff of relief specialists and administrative personnel assembled in Italy ready to go to work assisting either the Allied military liaison during the period of military responsibility or directly assisting the Government of Yugoslavia when UNRRA assumes a direct responsibility for relief operations in this area.

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3. WESTERN EUROPE

During my stay in London a formal agreement was signed by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and myself fixing the responsibilities of UNRRA for assisting the Allied military authorities in occupied Germany and in western Europe during their period of responsibility for civilian relief.

Under the agreement we are placing a liaison officer and such staff as the military decides is necessary with the G5 division of SHAEF. He reports to us through military channels. He works under the direction of the military authorities.

This officer calls forward the UNRRA personnel desired to give assistance to the military authorities in carrying on relief and rehabilitation work. His detachment coordinates and supervises the activities of non-Governmental civil agencies other than those of the individual liberated nations that are doing relief work in the liberated territory.

Under the agreement UNRRA personnel on field service will wear a distinctive uniform and will carry identification as persons accompanying the armed forces.

The chief responsibilities of UNRRA in the countries of western Europe for assistance to the military are in the fields of health, welfare and displaced persons operations. In occupied Germany UNRRA will work with displaced persons under the direction of the military.

It is important to realize the magnitude of the problem of caring for and repatriating displaced persons. There are some 9,000,000 of these most unfortunate victims of war in Germany alone. Under the excellent cooperative arrangements between UNRRA and the United States and United Kingdom military forces, the latter will take on a good deal of the burden in the area which they occupy, particularly in the initial periods. Even so, UNRRA will need at least 2,000 people to help handle this gigantic humanitarian task.

While I was in London we also concluded agreements with the governments of all the western European United Nations—Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands, France and Luxembourg—for the dispatch of UNRRA liaison missions to them. These missions will be concerned mainly with assistance to these governments in the parts of their relief programs having to do with health, welfare and displaced persons activities.

It is hoped that all relief imports to these nations will be financed by their own governments, thus making more of UNRRA's limited supply of goods available to the people whose governments lack foreign exchange resources. It has never been contemplated that UNRRA would furnish supplies to countries with adequate foreign exchange resources.

4. EASTERN EUROPE

The headquarters office of UNRRA in Washington has just completed arrangements with the Combined Shipping Adjustment Board for the assignment of a moderate amount of shipping space to carry relief supplies for Poland and Czechoslovakia—contingent upon assurances that these supplies will be accepted in ports of the U.S.S.R. and given internal transport by U.S.S.R. facilities. These assurances have not yet been received, but it is hoped they will be forthcoming shortly.

We have accepted the invitation of the Czech Government to send a representative with a group of Czech health experts to the liberated parts of that country. Medical supplies will make up an important part of the first relief shipments to Czechoslovakia.

As previously announced, we stand ready to send a delegation of technical experts to Poland. Personnel for the mission is recruited. It will move forward upon the completion of arrangements for transport and for transit visas. We are likewise ready to send an initial mission to Czechoslovakia as soon as circumstances permit.

5. ITALY

The UNRRA mission is in Italy. It is concluding detailed arrangements for the relief program authorized by the UNRRA council at its recent meeting in Montreal. Meantime, on this side of the water arrangements have been completed with the Combined Shipping Adjustment Board which assure a moderate amount of tonnage to transport supplies in the months of January and February.

6. OTHER RELIEF PROGRAMS

The mission to Ethiopia has gone forward. This mission will report on the needs of the Ethiopian people for relief, particularly in the field of health.

Dr. Eduardo Santos, deputy director general, and Lawrence Duggan, assistant diplomatic adviser, and their party have completed visits to eleven Latin American republics and a report on the results of their discussions will be issued next week when Dr. Santos comes to the headquarters office in Washington.

The Southwest Pacific office in Sydney, Australia, has been opened. The staff for the office in Chungking is assembled and will leave shortly. The problems of relief in the Far Eastern United Nations, liberated and to be liberated, are being outlined for consideration by the UNRRA committee of the Council for the Far East, which will meet in Sydney on Feb. 15.

During my stay at European headquarters the staff there worked with me on tightening up the organization for action after the completion of the planning stage and in the light of relief problems as they have now become clarified.

To date UNRRA has been primarily a planning organization. It is only during the last three to four months that areas have been liberated that are accessible to United Nations shipping. Initial responsibility for civilian relief has been the military's.

We are on the threshold of our first major operations. The highest authorities of the major supply and shipping countries are aware of this. We are counting on them to provide us with the goods and the ships. We know they will give us fullest possible support.

Biddle Says Ward Holds Lend-Lease Contracts

Washington, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Government disclosed today that Montgomery Ward & Co., seized by the Army in seven cities, has been under contract to supply quantities of lend-lease goods.

Francis Biddle, Attorney General, made public an affidavit of Clifton E. Mack, director of the Treasury Department Procurement Division, which entered into the contracts with the mail-order firm.

The affidavit was filed in Federal court in Chicago, along with statements from other Government officials intended to show that Ward's is essential to the civilian war economy and the war effort.

Jack said contracts totaling $1,215,685 — three of them entered into this month—had been awarded in 1944 for shoes, coats, suits, dresses and cloth for use in liberated areas.

Other contracts totaling $8,347 went for refrigerators, milk cans, cream separators and hand tools to fill British, Icelandic and French North African requisitions.

During 1943 and 1944 contracts were awarded for agricultural equipment and spare parts on British, French North African and Syrian requisitions.

WARD SEIZURE

IN COURT JAN. 8

Judge Sets Hearing Date As Army Operates Plants

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Chicago, Dec. 29 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Byron and his staff went briskly about the business of operating Montgomery Ward & Co. properties in seven cities in the name of the Government today.

Sewell Avery, Ward's board chairman, was in the headquarters building today, his secretary said, but reporters said they did not see him enter his private office or meet General Byron.

As action continued on the Federal court front, Judge Philip L. Sullivan set January 8 for a hearing on a Government petition for a declaratory judgment establishing legality of the seizure and the executive authority under which it was made, and for an injunction to restrain Ward's officials from interference, should any develop, with the Army men in command.

The court told Hugh B. Cox, assistant to the Solicitor General, if interference arose before January 8 the Government could ask for an immediate temporary injunction. Cox told the court he had not yet heard of any interference.

Meets Union Officials

General Byron's labor relations officer, Lieut. Col. Daniel L. Boland, conferred with officials of the CIO United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employés. Colonel Boland and Lieut. Col. Paul Hebert, legal adviser, requested H. L. Pearson, Ward vice president and treasurer, to turn over certain books and records to the Army.

Pearson told them he would discuss their request with Avery, who had declared the seizure unconstitutional and could not be accepted or obeyed by Ward's.

The company's treasurer later informed the army officers that Avery had not returned to the plant as expected this afternoon and that a decision on their request probably would not be announced until Tuesday.

Labor Contract Sought

Colonel Boland conferred with Samuel Wolchok, international president of the union; Leonard Levy, executive vice president, and Henry B. Anderson, president of the Chicago local.

Wolchok said the union's main objective now was to learn what the Army planned to do about a labor contract. He said the union was ready to negotiate either with Army officers or company officials "as long as we get a contract in black and white."

The seizure of company facilities in Chicago, Detroit, St. Paul, Denver, Jamaica, N.Y.; Portland, Ore., and San Rafael, Cal., resulted from Ward's refusal to comply with War Labor Board directives granting union employés maintenance of union membership, the principal issue, and wage increases.

Highest Court May Get Case

Attorney General Francis Biddle said in Washington he expected the case to reach the United States Supreme Court eventually, no matter which side won in the lower courts. Biddle said he was confident the Government would be successful and that the seizure had congressional backing.

In the first seizure of Ward's Chicago properties last April there was no court determination of the issues. Federal Judge William H. Holly granted a temporary order restraining Ward's from interfering with the Government, but the day before the judge was to make a final decision on the merits of the case the union won a collective-bargaining election and the property was returned to the company. Judge Holly ordered his already prepared decision destroyed and dismissed the case.

In court today Stuart Ball, company attorney, said, "It is not the desire of the defendants to impose any physical obstruction to the Army."

Six More Specialists Arrive

In addition to fifteen officers who took over yesterday under the presidential seizure order, General Byron brought in six more specialists from the Army Special Services Division at Washington.

Draftsmen were busy under army directions in the large board of directors' room, used for a pressroom at the moment. They apparently were preparing to install office facilities for the army men.

The presidential order provided that terms of the WLB directives which Ward's refused to follow on the ground they were only advisory and not legally enforceable should be adopted by the army operators.

"SOME OF THE BIGGEST FLAK EVER SEEN WAS SNAPPED AT OUR FORMATION OVER FRANKFURT," PORCHER SAID. "SMOKE FROM THE BURSTS HAD A DIAMETER OF NEARLY SIX FEET WHEN THEY BURST NEAR US."

SGT. MARIO CRUZ, OF PUEBLO, COLO., DESCRIBED THE BOMBING OF ONE OF THE ROAD AND RAIL JUNCTIONS NEAR MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S BREAKTHROUGH.

"AS WE APPROACHED THE TARGET," HE SAID, "WE COULD SEE TRUCKS MOVING AT THE CROSSROADS AND A TRAIN ON THE RAILROAD. OUR BOMBS HIT RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF THE CROSSROADS AND ON THE TRACKS. WE TORE UP THE WHOLE SYSTEM DOWN THERE, INCLUDING WHAT WAS ON IT."

ROSSPEN

DEC 30 1944

FIRST LEAD AERIAL

LONDON, DEC. 29-(A[illegible]FIFTEEN HUNDRED U.S. BOMBERS AND FIGHTERS FROM BRITAIN, A GREAT [illegible]EET OF RAF HEAVY BOMBERS AND LIMITED NUMBERS OF CONTINENT-BASED PLANES RAINED THOUSANDS OF TONS OF BOMBS TODAY BETWEEN THE WESTERN FRONT AND THE RHINE.

IT WAS THE SEVENTH STRAIGHT DAY OF LONG-RANGE ATTACK BY HEAVY BOMBERS OF THE U.S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE AND THE RAF FROM BRITAIN, AND THEIR ASSAULTS WERE SUPPLEMENTED BY STRIKES FROM ITALY CARRIED OUT BY THE U.S. 15TH AIR FORCE.

A HALF DOZEN ROAD AND RAIL JUNCTIONS AND BRIDGES IN THE EUSKIRCHEN-TRIER SECTOR WERE HAMMERED BY PART OF THE U.S. BOMBER FLEET. OTHERS AIMED THEIR EXPLOSIVES AND INCENDIARIES ON RAIL TRAFFIC IN THE BINGEN-FRANKFURT-ASCHAFFENBURG TRIANGLE.

THE BOMBERS WERE ESCORTED BY 700 MUSTANG AND THUNDERBOLT FIGHTERS, BUT NO ENEMY PLANES WERE SIGHTED, A HEADQUARTERS SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BATTLEFIELD BOMBING WAS DONE THROUGH CLOUDS. OTHER TARGETS WERE HIT VISUALLY.

BAD WEATHER COMPELLED BOMBARDIERS OF THE 15TH AIR FORCE TO USE INSTRUMENTS IN HITTING COMMUNICATIONS OBJECTIVES IN GERMANY. THEY ALSO HAMMERED THE BRENNER PASS RAILROAD FOR THE FOURTH STRAIGHT DAY.

FORTRESSES OF THE ITALIAN-BASED FLEET BOMBED INNSBRUCK AND LIBERATORS ATTACKED SALZBURG AND OTHER POINTS WHICH WERE NOT OFFICIALLY IDENTIFIED.

IN THE RAIDS FROM BRITAIN LT.RICHARD W.STEVENS OF FERRIS, ILL., A MUSTANG PILOT WHO WENT TO BINGEN WITH THE B-17S, REPORTED "TEN SQUARE MILES WERE SET AFIRE ITH INCENDIARIES AND EXPLOSIVES."

SGT. ARTHUR MOIR, 107 WEST IRVING ST., CORRY, PA., SAID: "WE COULD SEE OUR BOMBS HIT NEAR A BRIDGEOVER THE RIVER NEAR ASCHAFFENBURG. THEY FELL IN GOOD PATTERN.

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GROUNDFIRE WAS DESCRIBED AS "MEAGER TO MODERATE, EXCEPT AT FRANKFURT, WHERE, SAID TAIL GUNNER SGT. JOHN W. PORCHER OF LITTLEFIELD, TEX., "FLAK GUNS WERE POUNDING AWAY FROM THE MOMENT WE WERE IN RANGE UNTIL WE BOMBED AND DUCKED AWAY FROM THE TARGET.

IT WAS THE 15TH ATTACK ON FRANKFURT BY AMERICAN HEAVIES, WHICH IN THE PAST WEEK HAVE HAULED MORE THAN 15,000 TONS OF BOMBS IN TACTICAL SUPPORT OF THE AMERICAN FIRST ARMY.

THE WEATHER STILL WAS MISERABLE OVER THE BATTLEFRONT TODAY, AND UP UNTIL NOON THE U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE FLEW LESS THAN 100 SORTIES. ONE DOUBLE-HEADER FREIGHT TRAIN NEAR KAISERSLAUTERN WAS KNOCKED OUT, 70 PIECES OF MOTOR TRANSPORT WERE DESTROYED AND A COUPLE OF RAIL YARDS WERE BOMBED. NO GERMAN FIGHTERS WERE SEEN.

FRONT REPORTS SAID SNOW, SLEET AND CLOUDS WHICH GROUNDED BRITISH AND AMERICAN TACTICAL AIRCRAFT IN THE FIGHTING AREAS YESTERDAY STILL CURTAILED CLOSE SUPPORT FOR U.S. TROOPS SMASHING AGAINST THE GERMAN COUNTEROFFENSIVE.

BRITISH LANCASTERS AND HALIFAXES SHUTTLED THREE TIMES BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE RHINE YESTERDAY, ATTACKING GERMAN RAIL CENTERS WITH SOME 5,000 TONS OF INCENDIARIES AND EXPLOSIVES, WHILE 1,200 FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS WITH 700 ESCORTING FIGHTERS STRUCK AT TEN OTHER RAIL CENTERS IN WESTERN GERMANY WITH 4,000 TONS.

THE AMERICANS LOST FOUR BOMBERS, AND THE BRITISH SIX BOMBERS AND ONE FIGHTER. NO GERMAN FIGHTER OPPOSITION WAS ENCOUNTERED.

THE RAF ALSO SENT A FORCE OF MOSQUITOS AND LANCASTERS FAR NORTH, THE HEAVIES AGAINST A CONVOY IN OSLO FJORD AND THE MOSQUITOS AGAINST SKUDESNESHAVN HARBOR ON THE SOUTHWEST NORWAY COAST, WHERE A MERCHANT SHIP WAS FIRED.

FROM ITALY, U.S. 15TH AIR FORCE HEAVY BOMBERS YESTERDAY HIT OIL AND RAIL TARGETS IN GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WHILE UNITS OF THE COASTAL AIR FORCE ATTACKED NORTHERN ADRIATIC SHIPPING. THE BALKAN AIR FORCE MADE SWEEPS OVER YUGOSLAVIA. FROM THESE AND OTHER OPERATIONS, 11 ALLIED PLANES FAILED TO RETURN. EIGHT ENEMY PLANES WERE DESTROYED ON THE GROUND.

RW926AEW

LO"DO", DEC. 29-(AP)-RAF BOMBERS SET A TA"KER A"D A MERCHA"TMA" ABLAZE A"D FIRED TORPEDOES AT TWO OTHER MERCHA"TME" I" A MOO"LIGHT ATTACK O" A GERMA" CO"VOY I" THE SKAGERRAK LAST "IGHT. DIRECT HITS WERE SCORED WITH THE BOMBS, BUT RESULTS OF THE TORPEDO ATTACKS WERE "OT OBSERVED, THE AIR MI"ISTRY SAID.

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APL KASISCHKES 02014 JB 11PEW

LO"DO", DEC. 29-(AP)-ACTI"G WI"G COMMA"DER JOH""Y BALDWI", WHO LED THE RAF FIGHTER SQUADRO" CREDITED WITH MORTALLY WOU"DI"G FIELD MARSHAL ERWI" ROMMEL, HAS BEE" AWARDED A BAR TO HIS DSO. BALDWI", WHO ALSO HOLDS THE DFC, "OW IS O" A SIX MO"THS LEAVE FROM OPERATIO"AL FLYI"G.

AP KASISCHKES 02004 JB 1055PEW DEC 30 1944

LONDON, DEC. 29-(AP)-SECRETARY OF STATE STETTINIUS IS EXPECTED TO VISIT LONDON TO GET A FIRST HAND ACCOUNT OF THE GREEK SITUATION FROM FOREIGN SECRETARY ANTHONY EDEN AND POSSIBLY SOVIET FOREIGN COMMISSAR VYACHESLAV MOLOTOV MAY JOIN THEM, A REUTERS DISPATCH FROM WASHINGTON SAID TODAY.

BRITISH AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS DISPLAYED THE REPORT PROMINENTLY.

"THEY CERTAINLY WOULD BE WELCOME," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BRITISH

FOREIGN OFFICE. HE ADDED THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE IN LINE WITH A SUGGESTION OF PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE FOREIGN SECRETARIES OF THE BIG THREE.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE, HOWEVER, DECLINED COMMENT WHETHER A CONFERENCE WAS IMMINENT.

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RW919AEW

LONDON, DEC. 29-(AP)-BERLIN BROADCAST TODAY A REPORT THAT ONE AMERICAN DIVISION, DESCRIBED AS THE 106TH INFANTRY, HAD BEEN VIRTUALLY WIPED OUT. IT SAID THE DIVISION HAD 11,840 MEN DEC. 16 BUT EIGHT DAYS LATER "CONSISTED OF 212 MEN WHO ARE WANDERING ABOUT THE ARDENNES AND ARE PERISHING IN A SNOWSTORM." THE ENEMY ASSERTED "MOST OF THE MEN CAME FROM DELAWARE, PENNSYLVANIA AND OHIO." THERE WAS NO ALLIED CONFIRMATION.

RW1007AEW

LONDON, DEC 29-(AP)-THE BATTLES OF BERLIN AND THE RUHR, THE SINKING OF THE GERMAN BATTLESHIP TIRPITZ AND THE DEFEATING OF THE FLYING BOMB ASSAULT HIGHLIGHTED RAF AERIAL WORK FOR 1944, A BRITISH YEAR-END ROUNDUP RECOUNTED TODAY.

AMERICAN AUTHORITIES SAID A SIMILAR REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE U.S. EIGHTH, NINTH AND 15TH AIR FORCES WAS BEING COMPILED.

FIVE MONTHS OF AN INTENSIVE CAMPAIGN TO PUT BERLIN ON ITS KNEES ENDED IN MARCH. THE RAF ESTIMATED THAT THE BOMBINGS COST THE GERMAN CAPITAL'S 980,000 INDUSTRIAL WORKERS A TOTAL OF 19,650,000 WORKING DAYS.

AFTER THE MAIN BATTLE OF BERLIN, THE RAF SWITCHED TO ATTACKING FRANCE'S IMPORTANT RAIL CENTERS IN PREPARATION FOR D-DAY, SMASHING 37 OF THEM WITH 46,000 TONS AND LATER CONCENTRATING 26,000 TONS ON GERMAN-HELD FRENCH PORTS.

THE FIRST BATTLE OF THE RUHR OPENED IN JUNE. BY SEPT. 10 SYNTHETIC OIL PLANTS IN THE AREA WERE REPORTED COMPLETELY OUT OF ACTION AFTER BEING SATURATED WITH 10,000 TONS OF EXPLOSIVES.

BADLY DAMAGED, THE RUHR WAS GIVEN RECONSTRUCTION PRIORITY BY THE GERMANS AND THE RAF LAUNCHED ANOTHER CAMPAIGN TO DESTROY THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL REGION. THE MAIN CITIES WERE HEAVILY BOMBED, COLOGNE GETTING MORE THAN 9,000 TONS IN FOUR DAYS. RAILWAYS AND FACTORIES WERE PRIMARY TARGETS.

THEN CAME THE TURN OF THE WATERWAYS, WHICH WERE DISRUPTED BY THE BREACHING OF THE DORTMUND, EMS AND MITTELAND CANALS, OVER WHICH ENORMOUS TRAFFIC NORMALLY WAS CARRIED.

HISTORY MAY RECORD THAT THE MOST DRAMATIC ACHIEVEMENT BY RAF BOMBERS IN 1944 WAS THE SINKING OF THE GIANT TIRPITZ BY A SMALL FORCE OF LANCASTERS.

AT A TIME WHEN DEMANDS UPON IT WERE GREATEST, THE RAF FACED A TASK OF COMBATTING THE FLYING BOMBS LAUNCHED AGAINST LONDON AND SOUTHERN ENGLAND IN JUNE. WITHOUT SLACKENING THE BOMBING PROGRAM, THE RAF DESTROYED NEARLY 2,000 FLYING BOMBS IN THE AIR IN THREE MONTHS AND WENT AFTER THE LAUNCHING SITES, ALONG WITH AMERICAN SQUADRONS.

LINKED CLOSELY WITH THE STRATEGIC BOMBING WAS THE DRIVE TO KNOCK THE GERMAN AIR FORCE FROM THE SKIES. DURING THE YEAR BRITISH FIGHTERS DESTROYED MORE THAN 700 NAZI PLANES, AT LEAST 500 OF THEM AT NIGHT.

ME1040PEW

Add Gertrude Stein anywhere in the world.

MISS STEIN AND HER SECRETARY HAVE MANAGED TO GET ENOUGH FOOD.

WHAT THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM FROM THE COUNTRY WAS SUPPLEMENTED BY

30.24 — 21641

AMERICAN SUPPLIES. THEIR LIVING ROOM IS LINED WITH THEIR BELOVED PICASSO PAINTINGS. THE HEAT IS SUPPLIED BY AN ELECTRIC HEATER, "A REAL LUXURY AFTER FOUR YEARS IN MOUNTAIN COUNTRY WHERE YOU EXPECTED ALWAYS TO BE COLD." "BASKET," MISS STEIN'S PET POODLE, IS COMFORTABLY INSTALLED.

BUT THE TELEPHONE IS A PROBLEM. THE GERMANS CUT THE SERVICE, AND IN THE FEW DAYS SHE HAS BEE BACK, MISS STEIN HASH

IN THE FEW DAYS SHE HAS BEEN BACK, MISS STEIN HAS BEEN UNABLE QUITE TO CONVINCE THE FRENCH AUTHORITIES SHE NEEDS IT QUICKLY ALTHOUGH, SHE SAID, "THEY HAVE BEEN PROMISING DAILY FROM THE FIRST THAT IT WOULD BE RESTORED."

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B-RW1052AEW

Add Bastogne CB-15 Ex Elsie Neb.

THREE DAYS AFTER FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT LAUNCHED HIS OFFENSIVE DEC. 16 ALONG THE BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG FRONTIER, THE U. S. THIRD ARMY COMMANDER WAS HANDED THE JOB OF STEMMING THE ENEMY DRIVE.

THE RESTLESS, PISTOL PACKIN' GENERAL WENT INTO ACTION AT ONCE. IN RECORD TIME HIS MEN AND ARMOR WERE ROLLING IN A SWELLING TIDE TOWARD THE CRITICAL FRONT.

ONE OF HIS OBJECTIVES WAS TO RELIEVE THE BESIEGED GARRISON HERE IN THIS STRATEGIC ROAD HUB. HE DID. DEC 30 1944

BASTOGNE NOW IS A SHAMBLES, BUT IT STILL IS FIRMLY IN AMERICAN HANDS.

HIS HARD-HITTING MEN AND ARMOR ADVANCED UP TO 16 MILES IN SIX DAYS ALONG AN EAST-TO-WEST FRONT EXTENDING FROM THE LUXEMBOURG-GERMAN BORDER TO WEST OF BASTOGNE.

THEY LIFTED A THREAT TO THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG BY POUNDING THE GERMANS BACK TWO TO 14 MILES AFTER THEY HAD SPEARED WITHIN 13

MILES OF THE DUCHY'S CAPITAL.

THEY REACHED BASTOGNE THROUGH A CORRIDOR THAT NARROWED TO ONLY ONE MILE AS IT ENTERED THE TOWN, BUT WIDENED AT ITS BASE TO THREE MILES.

THE TASK OF COUNTERING VON RUNDSTEDT WAS A READY-MADE ONE FOR PATTON, AN OLD CAVALRY HAND WHO NOW IS CONSIDERED THE WORLD'S FOREMOST TANK EXPERT.

MEETING THE GERMAN CHALLENGE REQUIRED A SPEEDY SHUFFLING OF TROOPS. PATTON ACCOMPLISHED THIS SWIFTLY AND EXPERTLY.

IN BASTOGNE, BULLDOZERS HAD TO CLEAR THE STREETS. LITTER SQUADS LIFTED THE DEAD FROM THE RUINS.

VON RUNDSTEDT THREW ALL HE COULD AGAINST BASTOGNE BUT HE FAILED.

TODAY THERE WERE SOME 200 DESTROYED GERMAN TANKS LYING IN AND ABOUT THE TOWN, HUNDREDS OF DEAD AND MORE HUNDREDS OF GERMAN PRISONERS IN CAGES.

A42

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VON RUNDSTEDT DEFINITELY HAS LOST THE FIRST ROUND OF WHAT MAY WELL BE THE WAR'S DECISIVE BATTLE. HE LOST IT TO AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN WHO DID NOT KNOW WHAT IT WAS TO SURRENDER, MEN WHO FOUGHT ON RATIONED AMMUNITION AND SCANT FOOD UNTIL PATTON'S THIRD ARMY BROKE THE RING ABOUT BASTOGNE WITH SPECTACULAR AID FROM OUR AIR FORCES.

(A BERLIN BROADCAST SAID THE HOLDOUT GARRISON CONSISTED OF THE 101ST AIRBORNE, THE TENTH ARMORED AND THE "LAST REMNANTS" OF THE 28TH INFANTRY DIVISION.)

TO NAME THE HEROES OF BASTOGNE WOULD BE TO CALL THE ENTIRE ROLL OF OFFICERS AND MEN WHO STOOD OFF THE GERMANS. IN FACING AND SQUARING THIS FIRST SERIOUS AMERICAN REVERSE SINCE BATAAN THEY WERE ALL HEROES.

MEN LIKE SGT. RICHARD DEASTER OF OSHKOSH, WIS., WHO KNOCKED OUT SEVEN GERMAN TANKS OF 31 DESTROYED IN ONE BATTLE. DEASTER BAGGED EACH OF HIS VICTIMS WITH ONE SHOT EXCEPT THE LAST. THAT TOOK TWO.

SGT. SABIN LANDRY OF BATON ROUGE, LA., PICKED OFF FOUR GERMAN TANKS IN 15 MINUTES. AT THE TIME HE HIMSELF WAS UNDER THE HEAVIEST KIND OF ENEMY FIRE.

"MOST OF THE TIME WE WERE SURROUNDED, MY OUTFIT LIVED ON K-RATION CRACKERS AND COFFEE," SAID SGT. GILBERT OKEN, OF 627 JEFFERSON ST., WASHINGTON, D.C. "WE WERE THINKING MORE ABOUT AMMUNITION THAN EATING."

CONCERN ON THIS SCORE WAS JUSTIFIED. ON THE AFTERNOON OF DEC. 24--BEFORE SUPPLIES HAD BEEN PARACHUTED TO SOME POCKETS--SEVERAL UNITS HAD ONLY 25 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION FOR EACH OF THEIR ARTILLERY GUNS. THIS IS LESS THAN ENOUGH FOR A SUSTAINED TEN-MINUTE BARRAGE. THE GASOLINE RESERVE HAD FALLEN TO 350 GALLONS BEFORE BEING REPLENISHED.

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FW55AEW

THIRD LEAD WESTERN FRONT

BY JAMES M.LONG

PARIS, DEC. 29-(AP)-AMERICAN ARMORED TROOPS HAVE THROWN THE WESTERN TIP OF GERMAN SPEARHEADS BACK 10 MILES AND ADVANCED TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE PICTURESQUE TOWN OF ROCHEFORT FIELD REPORTS SAID TODAY.

FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT'S TROOPS WERE REPORTED DIGGING IN AT THE WESTERN END OF THEIR SALIENT WHILE HIS ARMOR DREW BACK AND U.S. THIRD ARMY TROOPS ADVANCED UP TO THREE MILES TODAY IN A SQUEEZE FROM THE SOUTH.

LESS THAN 17 MILES SEPARATED THE FIRST AND THIRD ARMIES AT THE BASTOGNE NECK OF THE SALIENT WHERE A JUNCTION WOULD CATCH VON RUNDSTEDT'S ADVANCED ELEMENTS IN A NOOSE.

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CIABBD PRESS C

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RUNDSTEDT'S ADVANCED ELEMENTS IN A NOOSE.

ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT HAL BOYLE SAID AMERICAN ARMORED FORCES, HITTING VON RUNDSTEDT'S OFFENSIVE ON THE NOSE, HAD DRIVEN HIS FORWARD ELEMENTS BACK 10 MILES AND THROWN THEM ACROSS THE LESSE AND HOMME RIVERS.

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ROGER D.GREEN, AP CORRESPONDENT WITH BRITISH FORCES, ADDED THAT THE AMERICANS HAD ENTERED ROCHEFORT'S OUTSKIRTS ON THE EAST BANK OF THE HOMME BY 10 A.M. YESTERDAY.

ROCHEFORT IS A TOURIST CENTER DATING FROM MEDIEVAL TIMES AND IS 3 1/2 MILES NORTH OF THE FAMOUS HAN GROTTOS, WHERE THE LESSE RIVER FLOWS THROUGH A SERIES OF SUBTERRANEAN CHAMBERS.

VON RUNDSTEDT'S X X X 3RD GRAF SECOND LEAD.

RW252PEW

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, DEC. 29-(AP)-THE FRENCH PRESS PUT BANNER HEADLINES TODAY ON A REPORT ATTRIBUTED TO DNB THAT FIELD MARSHAL VON RUNDSTEDT HAD ORDERED WITHDRAWAL OF HIS FORCES FROM THE BELGIAN POCKET.

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SUPREME HEADQUARTERS HAD NO COMMENT ON THE REPORT, BUT SOME EYEBROWS WERE RAISED AT THE IDEA THAT IF VON RUNDSTED HAD ISSUED SUCH AN ORDER IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BROADCAST.

RW1237PEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

HOTTON, BELGIUM, DEC 28-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THERE ARE A FEW ACRES OF PASTURELAND JUST BEHIND THE PEASANT HOUSES IN THE TINY HAMLET A MILE OR SO SOUTH OF HERE WHICH BEAR,STRIKING EVIDENCE OF WHAT AMERICAN GI'S WITH BAZOOKAS AND MINES CAN DO AGAINST SOME OF THE BEST ARMOR THE WEHRMACHT HAS TO OFFER.

SCATTERED OVER THESE ACRES ARE SOME 17 PIECES OF NAZI MOTORIZED FIGHTING EQUIPMENT, FROM MARK IV TANKS TO HALF-TRACKED MOTORCYCLES. THEY REPRESENT ONE CHUNK BITTEN OUT OF A WEHRMACHT PAN ER DIVISION WHICH, WITH NEIGHBORING OUTFITS, WAS CHEWED UP SO BADLY IN THE LAST FEW DAYS THAT ONE OF THEM MAY ALREADY BE IN A CROSS-COUNTRY WITHDRAWAL.

LT.JACK GENESER, WHOSE WIFE LIVES IN GRAPEVINE, TEXAS, TOOK US DOWN TO SHOW US WHAT TWO COMPANIES OF AMERICAN INFANTRY FROM A BATTALION COMMANDED BY LT.COL.WILLIAM BARRETT, TUSACLOOSA, ALA., HAD DONE YESTERDAY MORNING IN HALTING THE ENEMY COUNTERATTACK.

LT.CHARLES WIARD, 837 HUDSON ST., COLUMBUS, OHIO, TOOK US OVER THE SCENE OF SMALLSCALE SLAUGHTER, WHICH NETTED FIVE OFFICERS AND 60 GERMAN PRISONERS.

THE NAZI TANKS AND HALFTRACKS HAD BEEN SENT TO ATTEMPT TO BREAK-THROUGH OUR LINES SOUTH AND SOMEWHAT WEST OF HOTTON--AN IMPORTANT ROAD JUNCTION NOW FIRMLY IN OUR HANDS--BUT BEGAN FOULING UP IN SHORT ORDER WHEN THE LEAD TANK HIT A MINEFIELD ON THE NARROW COUNTRY ROAD THEY WERE USING.

AS THE ENEMY FANNED OUT THE AMERICAN BAZOOKA BOYS PICKED OFF TWO MORE TANKS, WHILE A FOURTH WAS KNOCKED OUT BY MINES. THAT THOROUGHLY BLUNTED THE GERMAN SPEARHEAD, AND AS THE AMERICANS BEGAN GETTING THEIR BEARINGS ON THE HALFTRACKS THE GERMANS PILED OUT.

THOSE WHO WEREN'T CHOPPED DOWN BY MACHINEGUN FIRE AND SMALL ARMS WERE ROUNDED UP AND SENT BACK TO A PRISONER CAGE.

ABOUT THREE COMPANIES OF GERMAN INFANTRY WITH EIGHT PANTHER AND TIGER TANKS WERE SURROUNDED BY OUR FORCES IN A SMALL WOODS WEST OF HERE. THEY WERE SUBJECTED TO A TERRIFIC ARTILLERY BOMBARDMENT WHICH KILLED OR WOUNDED ABOUT 80 OR 90 PER CENT OF THE FORCE.

INFANTRYMEN FROM A BATTALION COMMANDED BY LT.COL.NORMAN CARNES, XENIA, OHIO, CLEANED OUT THE REMAINDER.

KK433AEW

IN THE HOTTON SECTOR, BELGIUM, DEC.28-(11:55 P.M.--6:55PEW)-(AP)-THE GERMANS IN THE SECTOR EAST OF HERE AS WELL AS WESTWARD TOWARD THE MEUSE NOW ARE DEFINITELY ON THE DEFENSIVE AND APPEAR TO BE PULLING BACK THE FORWARD ELEMENTS OF THEIR BREAKTHROUGH FORCES.

IN THIS AREA ALONE YESTERDAY THEY LOST 119 TRUCKS, 10 TANKS AND 12 ARTILLERY PIECES. A SINGLE AMERICAN ARMORED DIVISION ACCOUNTED FOR ALL THE TANKS AND TOOK 500 PRISONERS.

WHILE FROM WEST OF MARCHE THE ENEMY HAS BEEN WITHDRAWING STEADILY, TAKING ONLY WHAT CAN BE CARRIED AFOOT, HIS TROOPS EAST OF THE TOWN HAVE BEEN BUILDING DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WHICH WERE ENCOUNTERED BY OUR PATROLS.

THE GERMAN MANEUVERS APPARENTLY ARE DICTATED BY THE FACT THAT THEY FAILED TO CAPTURE THE KEY ROAD CENTERS OF MARCHE, HOTTON AND GRAND MENIL IN THE FACE OF DETERMINED RESISTANCE BY AMERICAN ARMOR, INFANTRY AND ARTILLERY.

JP418AEW

DEC 30 1944

BY WILLIAM F. BONI

IN THE HOTTEN SECTOR OF BELGIUM, DEC. 28-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THE SITUATION ALONG THE AMERICAN LINES FACING THIS WESTERN END OF THE NORTH FLANK OF GERMAN PENETRATION WAS SO FLUID UNTIL STABILIZED IN THE LAST TWO DAYS THAT ONE AMERICAN DIVISION "LOST" A BATTALION FOR 48 HOURS.

THE OUTFITS RETURN TO THE FOLD, WITH VIRTUALLY NO CASUALTIES, WAS ENGINEERED LARGELY BY LT. BILLY SLOAN OF LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS, RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON LEADER. AFTER LIAISON PARTIES HAD BEEN SENT OUT AND GOT BADLY MIXED UP WITH TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES OF ONE OF THE BEST NAZI PANZER DIVISIONS, HE VOLUNTEERED TO GO ON THE MISSION ALONE.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT SLOANE SHOULD TAKE A STRONG RADIO SET IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH CONTACT WITH THE DIVISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SO HE SETTLED FOR A DETAIL OF TWO MEN WITH A WEAPONS CARRIER AS THEIR VEHICLE.

SETTING OUT AT NIGHT IN FULL AWARENESS HE MIGHT STRIKE A STRONG ENEMY FORCE AT MOST ANY POINT (HIS ARGUMENT FOR TAKING TWO MEN INSTEAD OF 50 WAS THAT IT WOULD SAVE LIVES IF HE DID RUN INTO ANYTHING), SLOAN SWUNG WEST OVER THE BANKS OF THE MEUSE AND THEN CUT BACK IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION AND RAN SMACK INTO THE BATTALION.

THE DOUGHBOYS, COMMANDED BY LT. COL. NORMAN CARNES, XENIA, OHIO, WEREN'T IN BAD SHAPE EXCEPT FOR A SHORTAGE OF GASOLINE AND RATIONS. IN FACT, THEY WERE HOLDING WHAT COULD BE CALLED AN ISLAND OF ISOLATION IN THE MIDST OF FORAGING ENEMY COLUMNS. ALTHOUGH THEY HAD PATROLS FANNING OUT IN ALL DIRECTIONS WHEN SLOAN REACHED THEM, THEY STILL HAD NOT MADE ANY MAJOR CONTACT WITH THE GERMANS.

ONCE SLOAN HAD GOTTEN THROUGH, THE DIVISION WAS ABLE TO USE THE SAME ROUTE AND SEND A CONVOY OF TRUCKS WITH GASOLINE AND FOOD. THE

BATTALION THEN GOT ITSELF TOGETHER AND BY MAKING A LONG END RUN WHICH BACKTRACKED THE ROADS SLOAN HAD TAKEN, WORKED ITS WAY BACK TO THE DIVISION.

THE BATTALION NOW IS IN LINE IN THE SECTOR BETWEEN HOTTON AND MARCHE. SLOAN WAS SOMEWHERE OUT IN THE FIELD AGAIN WHEN I VISITED HIS REGIMENTAL COMMAND POST THIS AFTERNOON. HE WAS DECORATED WITH THE SILVER STAR FOR EXPLOITS IN FIGHTING EARLIER IN THE CAMPAIGN.

JR348AEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

WITH AMERICAN ARMIES IN BELGIUM, DEC. 29-(AP)-FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT APPEARED TO BE REGROUPING HIS FORCES INSIDE HIS SALIENT TODAY FOR A POSSIBLE NEW OFFENSIVE STAB.

ALONG THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE GERMAN NORTH FLANK PROBING PATROLS SAID THE GERMANS WERE DIGGING IN, PERHAPS PREPARING PERMANENT POSITIONS. THE GERMANS IN SOME SECTORS WERE THROWING UP ENTRENCHMENTS AND DIGGING IN THEIR TANKS.

DEC 30 1944

RW204PEW

BY WILLIAM F.BONI

IN THE HOTTON SECTOR, BELGIUM, DEC. 28-(DELAYED)-(AP)-THIS IS WHAT IS MEANT BY "A FLUID FRONT," ON WHICH THE ENEMY USES ALLIED EQUIPMENT AND WEARS ALLIED UNIFORMS IN ATTEMPTS AT DECEPTION:

LT.DAVIS SMITH OF BOSTON, MASS., WAS ON A SCOUTING MISSION WITH TWO JEEPS AND SEVEN MEN, AND FOR AN ENTIRE DAY AND NIGHT WAS IN AND OUT OF ENEMY LINES. HE NEVER COULD BE QUITE SURE WHERE HE WAS.

AT ONE POINT HE RODE INTO A LITTLE CROSSROADS HAMLET AND, SWINGING AROUND A CORNER, SAW A GERMAN TANK AND HALF-TRACK. THE AMERICANS WERE GOING NO MORE THAN 15 MILES AN HOUR. THE DRIVER TURNED TO SMITH AND ASKED: "WHAT'LL I DO NOW, SIR?"

SMITH TOLD HIM TO KEEP GOING AT THE SAME PACE. THE GERMANS IN THE HALF-TRACK, SOME OF WHOM WERE IN AMERICAN UNIFORMS, WAVED AT THE SMALL PARTY AND THE TANK CREW OPENED THE HATCH AND BEGAN CLIMBING OUT, WITHOUT PAYING ANY ATTENTION TO THE AMERICANS.

ON THE FIRST SIDE ROAD THEY CAME TO, SMITH TOLD HIS DRIVER TO TURN OFF. A FEW MOMENTS LATER HE DISCOVERED THAT THE USE OF THE BACK LANES SIMPLY HAD LED HIM BACK INTO THE VILLAGE FROM A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.

THE TWO NAZI VEHICLES WERE STILL THERE, AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL VOLKSWAGEN. FARTHER DOWN THE STREET WERE TWO GERMANS IN AN AMERICAN JEEP.

THE MEN IN THE NAZI HALF-TRACK, TANK AND VOLKSWAGEN AGAIN JUST NODDED CASUALLY. BUT THE TWO IN THE JEEP, PERHAPS KNOWING THAT NO OTHER AMERICAN VEHICLES WERE BEING USED BY THE GERMANS IN THE AREA, JUMPED OUT OF THEIR CAR AND DODGED INTO A HOUSE.

SMITH AND HIS MEN PROMPTLY OPENED UP WITH RIFLES AND CARBINES ON ALL VISIBLE GERMANS. AT THE SAME TIME THE JEEP DRIVER BORE DOWN ON THE THROTTLE. THEY FIGURE THEY MUST HAVE CAUSED SOME CASUALTIES, BUT THEY CAME OUT UNSCRATCHED.

RW155PEW

PRECEDE PARIS DIVISIONS

BY HAL BOYLE

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN BELGIUM, DEC 29-(AP)-A NEW AMERICAN HONOR ROLL WAS UNVEILED TONIGHT, NAMING THREE FIGHTING DIVISIONS WHICH HALTED THE GERMANS' MIGHTY OFFENSIVE IN SOME OF THE BLOODIEST BATTLES OF THE WAR.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE UNITS WHICH BORE THE BRUNT OF SOME OF THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING NAMED THESE DIVISIONS:

THE IMMORTAL FIRST INFANTRY, BROOKLYN AND THE NATION'S PRIDE IN TWO WORLD WARS; THE VETERAN 82ND AIRBORNE WHOSE COCKY LADS GAVE THEIR LIVES HALTING PANTHER TANKS WITH BAZOOKAS, AND THE SEVENTH ARMORED HEROES OF THE HOLLAND CAMPAIGN.

OTHER UNITS WHICH HELPED TO BREAK UP ADOLF HITLER'S "WIN THE WAR" DRIVE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AS SOON AS MILITARY SECURITY PERMITS -- AND THERE ARE OTHERS WHO PERFORMED AS GLORIOUSLY.

LIFTING OF CENSORSHIP ALSO PERMITTED DISCLOSURE THAT TWO OF GERMANY'S CRACK ARMORED DIVISIONS--THE FIRST SS ADOLF HITLER PANZER AND THE TWELFTH SS PANZER--WERE BADLY MAULED IN THE FIRST 12 DAYS OF THE OFFENSIVE.

THE PROUD TWELFTH, BLACK-CLAD AND SPORTING A SKULL AND BONES INSIGNIA, ATTACKED NEAR MONSCHAU ON THE "HOT CORNER" AND EXPECTED TO BREAK THROUGH WHAT WAS REGARDED AS THINLY-HELD LINES ON THE SHORTEST ROAD TO LIEGE AND THE MEUSE.

INSTEAD THEY RAN HEAD ON INTO THE MOST EXPERT TANK FIGHTING DOUGHBOYS IN THE AMERICAN ARMY--THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION.

THESE VETERANS OF VICTORIES OVER THE GERMAN PANZERS IN AFRICA, SICILY AND NORMANDY WERE THROWN INTO LINE FROM A REST AREA AND EASILY HURLED BACK THE ENEMY ARMOR.

AGAIN AND AGAIN THE TWELFTH PANZERS ATTACKED IN STRENGTH. EACH TIME THEY WERE STOPPED COLD IN PROGRESSIVELY BLOODIER FIGHTING.

FINALLY, THEY WITHDREW TO EXPLORE A ROUTE TO LIEGE THE LONG WAY AROUND, WITH NOT A DENT SHOWING IN THE FIRST INFANTRY'S FRONT.

"THE FIRST INFANTRY WITHSTOOD SOME OF THE HEAVIEST FIGHTING OF THE ENTIRE OFFENSIVE," SAID ONE OFFICER. "ANY GROUND THEY LOST THEY IMMEDIATELY RETOOK. THEY DID A NOBLE JOB OF HOLDING DANGEROUS ARMY."

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IN GRINDING BATTLES IN AND AROUND THIS POCKET, THE FUEHRER'S FAVORITE DIVISION--THE FIRST SS ADOLF HITLER PANZERS--WAS CUT TO HALF OF ITS PERSONNEL STRENGTH AND SO BADLY CHEWED UP IT NO LONGER WAS EFFECTIVE AS A FIGHTING UNIT.

OUR PARATROOPERS--VETERANS OF COMBAT JUMPS IN SICILY, ITALY, NORMANDY AND HOLLAND--ARRIVED WITH ONLY THREE DAYS' RATIONS. FIGHTING AS USUAL WITH ONLY NOMINAL ARTILLERY SUPPORT, THEY ATTACKED AT NIGHT, WIPING OUT GERMAN ARMORED SPEARHEADS WITH BAZOOKAS AND HAND GRENADES IN SAVAGE, CLOSE-RANGE BATTLES.

THE FIRST SS PANZERS WERE FOES TO THEIR LIKING--TOUGH, ROUGH AND DIEHARD--AND AND PRISONERS WERE TAKEN. THE PARATROOPERS WERE LED BY 37-YEAR-OLD MAJ.GEN.JAMES "SLIM JIM" GAVIN, OF MOUNT CARMEL, PA., WHO ROVED ALONG FRONT LINES WITH A CARBINE IN HIS HANDS LIKE ANY OF HIS MEN.

AT ST.VITH, THE SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISION MADE ONE OF THE FINEST DEFENSIVE STANDS OF ANY AMERICAN FORMATION--HOLDING THAT VITAL ROAD NET FOR DAYS AGAINST WAVE AFTER WAVE OF ENEMY ARMOR AND INFANTRY WHILE, TO THE WEST, THE MAIN AMERICAN DEFENSE LINE WAS FORMING.

HAD VON RUNDSTEDT BEEN ABLE TO SEIZE ST.VITH IN THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF HIS DRIVE, IT IS A MATTER OF CONJECTURE WHERE HIS PANZERS COULD HAVE BEEN SLOWED. WHEN THE SEVENTH FINALLY WITHDREW UNDER OVERWHELMING PRESSURE, IT TOOK UP NEW POSITIONS WITH THE 82ND PARATROOPS AND FOUGHT ON, INFLICTING HEAVY CASUALTIES ON ENEMY PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT.

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THE SEVENTH ARMORED HAD SPLIT THE GERMAN WEDGE IN TWO BY ITS ST. VITH STAND AND HELPED TO CHEW UP THE PIECES. IT HAD HELD ST.VITH THREE DAYS LONGER THAN ORIGINALLY ORDERED TO AND BEAT BACK FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS AND ELEMENTS OF A SIXTH.

THE SEVENTH WENT INTO COMBAT IN FRANCE LAST AUGUST. IT TOOK CHARTRES, MELUN, CHATEAU THIERRY, REIMS AND VERDUN--THE LAST FOUR TOWNS IN AS MANY DAYS. IT ALSO HELD DOWN THE BRITISH RIGHT FLANK DURING THE CRITICAL BATTLE OF ARNHEM.

FOR THE LAST TWO MONTHS, THE DIVISION HAS BEEN COMMANDED BY AN ARTILLERYMAN, BRIG.GEN.ROBERT W.HASBROUCK, A NEW YORKER AND FORMER DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF OF LT.GEN.OMAR BRADLEY'S TWELFTH ARMY GROUP.

A82

30.24—21645

THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION WAS CREDITED WITH KNOCKING OUT AT LEAST 43 TANKS AROUND BULLINGEN, KILLING 600 TO 700 GERMANS AND CAPTURING 90 PRISONERS. ITS 26TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, WHICH SPEARHEADED THE DEFENSE, DUPLICATED THE HISTORIC STAND IT MADE 27 MONTHS BEFORE AT EL GUETTAR, TUNISIA--WHERE THE GERMANS ALSO HAD FAILED TO BREAK THROUGH ITS LINE.

GAVIN'S SKYTROOPS ALSO KILLED SOME 700 OF THE ENEMY, CAPTURED 200 AND DESTROYED MORE THAN 20 TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES.

SK1OPEW

DEC 30 1944

82ND DIVISION (220)

BY TOM YARBROUGH

WITH U.S. FORCES, DEC 28-(DELAYED BY CENSOR)-PARACHUTE TROOPS OF THE 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION, THROWN INTO LINE AS ELITE INFANTRY, NEEDED ONLY AN HOUR TO CAPTURE MANHAY IN SOUTHEASTERN BELGIUM EARLY WEDNESDAY.

THEY CLEANED OUT THE VILLAGE OF 15 HOUSES FROM 2:30 TO 3:30 A.M.

DESPITE ITS WANT OF SIZE, THE VILLAGE CONTROLLED FIVE ROADS WHICH THE GERMANS NEEDED TO EXPAND THEIR WESTERN BULGE TO THE NORTH.

THE GERMANS RETIRED TO WOODED HILLS EAST OF MANHAY AND THERE SHOWED HOW BADLY THEY WANTED THE TOWN. THEY KEPT THREE TANKS FIRING DOWN THE MAIN STREET WHILE MACHINEGUNS WORKED THE SIDE STREETS.

DOUGHBOYS COMMANDED BY LT.COL. FOREST PAXTON, SAN FRANCISCO, WERE WORKING AMONG THE SHELL-TORN RUINS THIS AFTERNOON. PAXTON DECLARED:

"OUR GENERAL TOLD ME WE HAD TO HAVE THIS TOWN. IN ITS ACTUAL CAPTURE OUR ONLY CASUALTIES FROM GERMAN FIRE WERE TWO MEN WOUNDED BY SNIPERS. BUT YESTERDAY AFTERNOON GERMAN TANKS FIRING STRAIGHT DOWN THIS STREET KILLED TWO OF MY MEN."

HE SAID THERE WERE REPORTS THE GERMANS HAD INTENDED TO LAUNCH A MAJOR ATTACK FROM MANHAY THIS AFTERNOON, BUT HIS TROOPERS BEAT THEM TO THE PUNCH.

EXCELLENT ARTILLERY PREPARATION MADE PAXTON'S JOB A GREAT DEAL EASIER AND LEFT THE TOWN IN DUSTY RUINS.

DENSE FOG LAY OVER THE VILLAGE THIS AFTERNOON AND SOLDIERS STEPPING THROUGH THE FROSTY RUBBLE WERE FORAGING FOR FOOD.

THEY HAD SKINNED A PIG AND HUNG IT ON A LIMB. NOW THEY WERE STALKING CHICKENS. A COW WAS BEING WELL FED AND THEY WERE DECIDING WO SHOULD MILK HER.

ME813PEW

DEC 30 1944

BY LEWIS HAWKINS

WITH U.S. THIRD ARMY IN LUXEMBOURG, DEC. 29-(AP)-FROM A BALCONY SEAT 1,500 FEET ABOVE THE SNOWY LUXEMBOURG HILLS I SAW TODAY ONE REASON WHY AMERICAN FOOTSLOGGERS ARE DIGGING STEADILY INTO THE GERMAN FLANK DESPITE TERRAIN WHICH IS ALMOST IDEAL FOR DEFENSE.

FROM A PIPER CUB I WATCHED FIVE THUNDERBOLTS TEAR ASIDE AN OBSTACLE WHICH HAD BEEN HOLDING AN INFANTRY UNIT AWAY FROM A TOWN FOR HOURS.

WITH A DUG-IN TANK AS A DEFENSIVE CORE A SMALL GROUP OF GERMANS DOMINATED A CROSS ROADS IN LUXEMBOURG EAST OF BASTOGNE. THROUGH THIS CROSS ROADS THE AMERICANS WERE TRYING TO MOVE.

A FEW MINUTES BEFORE I WENT UP FROM A SNOW-COVERED FROZEN PLOWED FIELD IN THE LITTLE PLANE PILOTED BY LT.RAYMOND (RED) JOHNSON OF HILL CITY, S.D., THE AIR FORCE HAD BEEN CALLED IN AND, AS WE WHIPPED ALONG ABOUT 700 YARDS FROM THE CROSS ROADS, ONE OF THE FIRST BOMBS SLAMMED DOWN--AND ROCKED THE CUB BRISKLY WITH ITS CONCUSSION.

FOR THE NEXT 30 MINUTES WE WERE TREATED TO THE TEXTBOOK EXAMPLE OF FIGHTER-BOMBER TECHNIQUE AS THUNDERBOLTS CHASED EACH OTHER AROUND, PLOPPING BOMBS IN FROM SEVERAL ANGLES OUT OF THE BRIGHT AFTERNOON SUN AND LACING THE TANK AND THREE BUILDINGS WITH EIGHT .50 CALIBER MACHINEGUNS ON EACH RUN.

AFTER THE FIRST FEW MINUTES, ONE BUILDING WAS TORN UP AND THE EARTH ALL AROUND THE TANK WAS CHURNED AND SMOKING AND THERE WAS NO FLICKER OF GUNFIRE OR LIFE IN THAT 100-YARD SQUARE SAMPLE OF HELL.

NEAR THE END OF THIS INFERO, ONE BOMB PLOPPED RIGHT ON THE SPOT WHERE JOHNSON HAD POINTED OUT THE TANK TO ME. LONG BEFORE THAT BLAST SHOOK US, WE COULD SEE WHAT APPEARED TO BE A GREAT SLAB OF STEEL FLYING 50 YARDS OR MORE THROUGH THE AIR. TO THIS UNTRAINED EYE, IT APPEARED THAT THE REMAINDER OF THE BOMBS WERENNOT NEEDED AS FAR AS THE TANK WAS CONCERNED.

EJ1217AEW

PARIS, DEC. 29--(AP)-- FOUR ADDITIONAL PORTS HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO FRENCH AUTHORITIES FOR EXCLUSIVE USE IN SUPPLYING CIVILIAN POPULATIONS, THUS EASING THE COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN METROPOLITAN FRANCE AND FRENCH COLONIES AND OTHER OVERSEAS FRENCH SOURCES, THE FRENCH NEWS AGENCY REPORTED TODAY.

DEC 30 1944

THE BRITISH NAVY HAS RELINQUISHED CONTROL OF THE CHANNEL PORT OF DIEPPE AND BOULOGNE, WHICH HAD BEEN USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR MILITARY PURPOSES. THESE WERE EXPECTED TO BECOME THE GATEWAYS FOR LARGER IMPORTS FROM GREAT BRITAIN AS WELL AS BASES FOR FRENCH COASTAL FISHERMEN SUPPLYING CITY MARKETS.

MEANWHILE, WORK WAS RAPIDLY PROCEEDING IN CLEARING MEDITERRANEAN HARBORS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO HANDLE THE TRAFFIC WITH NORTH AFRICA.

DYNANS 00010/KIN/219A

PARIS, DEC. 29-(AP)-THE CABINET APPROVED TODAY A WAR

MI"ISTRY DECREE MOBILIZI"G THE CLASS OF 1943 ALO"G WITH OTHER MEASURES FOR "ATIO"AL DEFE"SE COVERI"G THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1945.

YOUTHS WHO BECAME OF MILITARY AGE LAST YEAR WILL BE CALLED TO COLORS TOWARD THE E"D OF JA"UARY, WAR MI"ISTER DIETHELM SAID, THUS FULFILLI"G O"E OF THE REQUESTS MADE BY THE CO"SULTATIVE ASSEMBLY I" LAST WEEK'S DISCUSSIO" OF "ATIO"AL DEFE"SE.

THE GOVER"ME"T ALSO ADOPTED A PROGRAM FOR ARMAME"T A"D EQUIPME"T OF THE ARMY I" THE FIRST THREE MO"THS OF 1945, BUT DETAILS WERE "OT DISCLOSED. THE TOTAL "UMBER OF YOUTHS LIKELY TO BE I"DUCTED ALSO WAS WITHHELD. DEC 30 1944

THE BIDAULT CABI"ET VOTED A PROVISIO"AL BUDGET FOR THE QUARTER TOTALI"G 50,000,000,000 FRA"CS ($100,000,000) FOR CIVIL SERVICES, A"D 43,000,000,000 FRA"CS ($86,000,000) FOR "ATIO"AL DEFE"SE. THIS ACTIO" IS SUBJECT TO ASSEMBLY APPROVAL.

P/ DY"A"S 01649 JB 1044PEW

PARIS, DEC. 29--(AP)--THE GOVERNMENT SLAPPED ANOTHER COVER CHARGE ON THE COUNTRY'S BARS AND NIGHTCLUBS TODAY BY ENACTING ADDITIONAL TAXES ON ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND AMUSEMENTS.

FINANCE MINISTER RENE PLEVIN ESTIMATED NEW TAXES ON LIQUOR WOULD BRING IN A BILLION AND A HALF FRANCS ($30,000,000) IN 1945. TAXES ON CABARETS, THEATRES AND MOVIEHOUSES ALSO RAISED. DEC 30 1944

AC 1045PEW DEC. 29 PW DYNANS 01825

Add Rome Italian xxx toward Altogane.

LT. GEN. CHARLES FOULKES, COMMANDER OF CANADIAN TROOPS IN ITALY, ESTIMATED IN AN ORDER OF THE DAY THAT CANADIAN CORPS HAD KNOCKED OUT AT LEAST 4,800 ENEMY TROOPS IN THEIR RECENT PO VALLEY DRIVE AND SAID THE CANADIANS HAD CLEARED THE GERMANS FROM MORE THAN 145 SQUARE MILES OF TERRITORY SINCE DEC. 1.

HE ADDED THAT MORE THAN 1,600 PRISONERS HAD BEEN TAKEN AND PROBABLY TWICE THAT NUMBER OF THE ENEMY WERE KILLED OR WOUNDED.

SOUTH OF THE BOLOGNA-RIMINI HIGHWAY THE GERMANS ATTEMPTED TO INFILTRATE ACROSS THE SENIO YESTERDAY, BUT WERE REPULSED.

JR747AEW

ROME, DEC. 29-(AP)-THE ALLIED AIR COMMAND DISCLOSED TODAY THAT THE FIRST AMERICAN-FLOWN MOSQUITO NIGHT FIGHTERS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN THEATER HAVE BEEN OPERATING AGAINST THE ENEMY IN NORTHERN ITALY IN RECENT WEEKS. DEC 30 1944

A NEW MOSQUITO SQUADRON, WHICH FORMERLY FLEW BEAUFIGHTERS, IS COMMANDED BY MAJ. CARL S. MORRISON, JR., 10 BANK ST., LEBANON, N.H.

WR 0171ORC 140P

Add Athens Greek xxxx Athens area

A COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT GREEK RIGHTIST (EDES) FORCES UNDER GEN. NAPOLEON ZERVAS, ATTACKED BY ELAS GROUPS LAST WEEK IN NORTHWEST

GREECE, WERE FIGHTING A HARD REARGUARD ACTION WHILE WITHDRAWING ON THE PORT OF PREVEZA.

DEC 30 1944

IN ALL THE CLEARED AREAS OF THE CAPITAL AND PIRAEUS SOME 350,00 CIVILIANS RECEIVED FREE MEALS FROM BRITISH-AMERICAN RELIEF STOCKS.

JR819AEW

BY STEPHEN BARBER

ATHENS, DEC. 29-(AP)-AMERICAN AND BRITISH CORRESPONDENTS TODAY ADDRESSED APPEALS TO BOTH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND LEFT-WING ELAS FORCES IN WHICH THE NEWSMEN ASKED FOR ACTION IN RELEASING GREEK NEWSPAPERMEN OF BOTH SIDES "IF THEY ARE BEING DETAINED ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR WRITINGS."

"AS MEN WHO BELIEVE IN THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AS ONE OF THE TENETS OF A FREE, JUST WORLD, WE APPEAL TO THE ELAS AND GREEK GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE THESE NEWSPAPERMEN," THE STATEMENT SAID.

ARRESTS OF CIVILIANS ON A LARGE AND OFTEN ARBITRARY SCALE HAVE BEEN COMING TO THE ATTENTION OF CORRESPONDENTS AT AN INCREASING RATE. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ELAS HOLD SEVEN NEWSPAPERMEN AMONG THEIR HOSTAGES. THE NUMBER HELD BY GREEK POLICE WAS NOT INDICATED. THE GREEK POLICE ARE REPORTED TO BE DETAINING AN ESTIMATED 1,000 TO 3,000 CIVILIANS. MANY OF THESE HAVE BEEN HELD SINCE THE BEGINNING OF CIVIL DISTURBANCES DEC. 5.

AN AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT THIS AFTERNOON WITNESSED THE OUT-OF-HAND SHOOTING OF A PRISONER, AN ALLEGED COMMUNIST, BY A GREEK REGULAR OFFICER IN THE CENTER OF ATHENS.

EJ1220AEW

ATHENS, DEC. 29-(AP)-CHRISTOPHER G.JANUS OF CHICAGO, UNRRA WORKER, HAD A REMARKABLE ESCAPE DEC. 23 WHEN THE RED CROSS MARKED TRUCK IN WHICH HE WAS RIDING HIT A ROAD MINE IN ELAS TERRITORY, IT WAS DISCLOSED TONIGHT.

A GREEK UNRRA WORKER WAS KILLED AND JANUS WAS THROWN FROM THE TRUCK. A GREEK GIRL PASSERBY ALSO DIED. THE TRUCK, CARRYING RELIEF AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES, WAS DEMOLISHED.

THIS BROUGHT TO NINE THE NUMBER OF UNRRA WORKERS INJURED SINCE HOSTILITIES BROKE OUT.

RQ323PEW

NYK Moscow-Russian xxxx Soviet artillery

THE LOSS OF LARGE AREAS OF THE SUBURBS CRIPPLED GERMAN EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN AIR CONTACT WITH THE BESIEGED GARRISON. IT WAS DOUBTFUL WHETHER MORE THAN SMALL OBSERVATION PLANES COULD LAND ON EMERGENCY RUNWAYS STILL IN NAZI HANDS.

THE RUSSIANS SAID ENEMY TROOPS WERE TOLD THEY WERE FIGHTING TO SAVE THE REICH FROM IMMEDIATE INVASION AND THAT THE GERMAN COMMANDER AT BUDAPEST HAD DECREED THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SOLDIERS FAILING TO HOLD THEIR POSITIONS UNTIL ORDERED TO RETREAT. THE LATTER EDICT RESULTED FROM THE LARGE NUMBER OF DESERTIONS BY HUNGARIANS.

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 29--(AP)- TWO GERMAN DESTROYERS AND ONE TORPEDO

30.24 — 21647

BOAT WERE SUNK BY MINES OFF THE SOUTHERN FINNISH COAST ON THE NIGHT OF DEC.19, THE NEWSPAPER DAGENS NYHETER SAID TODAY. ABOUT 100 GERMAN CREWMEN WERE PICKED UP BY THE FINNS AND TURNED OVER TO THE RUSSIANS , THE DISPATCH SAID.

DEC 30 1944

APL/STURDS 02345/KIN/ 540A

STOCKHOLM, DEC 29-(AP)-THE GESTAPO FOUND A "BIG STORE" OF WEAPONS SECRETED IN A FOREIGN WORKERS CAMP OUTSIDE BERLIN, A RELIABLE SOURCE JUST RETURNED FROM GERMANY SAID TODAY.

THE SAME INFORMANT TOLD OF DEMONSTRATIONS IN HAMBURG DEC. 26 AGAINST THE NAZIS AFTER THE GESTAPO BEGAN A ROUNDUP OF SUSPECTED FOREIGNERS.

ME1048PEW

NYK Chungking Burma xxxx from India

(INDIAN AND BRITISH TROOPS ADVANCING SOUTHWARD IN CENTRAL BURMA AND DOWN THE WESTERN BURMA COAST MADE STEADY ADVANCES AGAINST MODERATE TO STIFF JAPANESE RESISTANCE, IT WAS REPORTED FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS AT KANDY, CEYLON.

DEC 30 1944

(BRITISH TROOPS, ADVANCING LESS THAN 100 MILES FROM MANDALAY, GAINED NINE MILES SOUTHEAST OF PYINGAING ALONG THE SHWEGYIN-YEU ROAD, WHILE THE 19TH INDIAN CORPS CAPTURED THREE MORE VILLAGES IN THE MAYU RIVER VALLEY SOUTH OF BUTHEDAUNG.)

KA RQ402PEW

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, CEYLON, DEC. 29-(AP)-INDIAN TROOPS CONTINUED THEIR ADVANCE ALONG THE PLAINS EAST OF THE MAYU MOUNTAINS IN NORTHWESTERN BURMA TODAY AFTER CAPTURING THREE VILLAGES FROM THE JAPANESE IN THE MAYU RIVER VALLEY, THE SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND ANNOUNCED.

A COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT MANY ENEMY DEAD WERE FOUND IN BUNKERS THAT HAD BEEN SMASHED BY ALLIED AIRCRAFT IN A VILLAGE NINE MILES SOUTH OF BUTHEDAUNG.

MEANWHILE, BRITISH TROOPS OF THE 14TH ARMY ADVANCED NINE

MILES SOUTHEAST OF PYINGAING ALONG THE SHWEGYIN-YEU ROAD IN THE FACE OF STIFF OPPOSITION.
JR825AEW

-75KX WEST OUT 120
GUAM,DEC.29-(VIA NAVY RADIO)-(AP)-MENDIOLA CAMACHO, 46, HAS BEEN IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY 30 YEARS, FIGHTING IN TWO WARS, BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL TODAY THAT HE RECEIVED HIS U.S. CITIZENSHIP PAPERS.

AS A YOUTH OF 16, CAMACHO JOINED THE INSULAR NAVY AND WAS STATIONED AT GUAM, HIS NATIVE ISLAND. LATER, HE TRANSFERRED TO THE REGULAR NAVY AND HE SAID NO QUESTION WAS RAISED CONCERNING HIS CITIZENSHIP. LAST FALL, DURING THE SOLDIER VOTE CAMPAIGN, HIS OFFICERS DISCOVERED HE COULD NOT CAST A BALLOT BECAUSE HE WAS NOT A CITIZEN AND URGED HIM TO TAKE OUT NATURALIZATION PAPERS.

CAMACHO HAS FIVE CHILDREN LIVING ON GUAM. WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE ISLAND LAST NOVEMBER, HE FOUND HIS WIFE HAD DIED THREE WEEKS PREVIOUSLY. HE HAD NOT SEEN HER SINCE BEFORE THE WAR.
DV837PCW

SOMEWHERE IN THE MARIANAS, DEC. 27-(DELAYED)-(AP)-HURDLING WARTIME RESTRICTIONS AND PEACETIME LAWS, CAPT. JACK A. SALLEY, JR., GULFPORT, MISS., AND SECOND LT. MARTHA ANITA WILSON, 22, JACKSONVILLE, FLA., OF THE ARMY NURSING CORPS WERE MARRIED THREE MILES AT SEA TODAY.

IT WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN SERVICE WEDDING IN THE MARIANAS.

THE COUPLE MET TWO MONTHS AGO IN AN AIR RAID ALARM. THEY RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM THEIR COMMANDING OFFICERS TO WED BUT THE CLOSEST PLACE THEY COULD GET A MARRIAGE LICENSE WAS THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY IN THE GILBERT ISLANDS.

SALLEY AS A LAST RESORT FOUND A MERCHANT MARINE SKIPPER, COMDR. GEORGE H. LEE OF SAN FRANCISCO, WHO WOULD TIE THE KNOT, ALTHOUGH NO WOMAN HAD EVER BEEN ABOARD HIS SHIP BEFORE.

THE WEDDING HAD TO BE PERFORMED THREE MILES OFFSHORE, OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE MARIANAS. THEY WERE MARRIED IN THE WHEELHOUSE AND HAD SUPPER ABOARD, THEN TOOK A PICKET BOAT BACK TO THE ISLAND.

THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS A HONEYMOON. THE BRIDE HAD TO BE BACK AT HER ARMY HOSPITAL QUARTERS BY 10 P.M. AND THE BRIDEGROOM RETURNED TO HIS BACHELOR'S TENT AT HEADQUARTERS.

ANOTHER NURSE, SECOND LT. ALICE LOVVORN OF ANNISTON, ALA., WAS MAID OF HONOR. LT. CURTIS CHENEY OF REIDSVILLE, LA., WAS BEST MAN. CAPT. FRANK CRNIC (CORRECT) OF (600 LACOCK ST., PITTSBURGH, PA., GAVE THE BRIDE AWAY. WITNESSES INCLUDED SECOND LT. PEGGY SKELTON OF MEMPHIS, TENN., AND SECOND LT. WALTER SCHEUPLEIN OF EAST ORANGE, N.J.
XZ1226ACW

SECOND NIGHT LEAD PANAMA
DEC 30 1944
BY LUIS NOLI

BALBOA, PANAMA C.Z., DEC. 29-(AP)-STEEL-HELMETED U.S. MILITARY POLICE AND WHITE-CLAD NAVY SHORE PATROLMEN WERE ON DUTY ALL ALONG THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE CANAL ZONE AND PANAMA CITY TODAY AS POLITICAL AGITATION INCREASED IN PANAMA WITH THE RESIGNATION OF THE CABINET.

FOURTEEN DEPUTIES WHO SUPPORTED A MANIFESTO THURSDAY CALLING IN EFFECT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF PRESIDENT RICARDO ADOLFO DE LA GUARDIA WERE IN THE HOTEL TIVOLI IN ANCON, CANAL ZONE, AWAITING TRANSPORTATION TO THE MEXICAN EMBASSY, WHICH OFFERED ASYLUM.

NO VIOLENCE WAS REPORTED IN THE CAPITAL, BUT SEVERAL ARRESTS WERE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN MADE.

AT THE HEADQUARTERS ETC SECOND GRAF

Add Havana precautions xxx on the roof,

TABERNILLA, ALONG WITH A MAJOR AND THREE CAPTAINS, WAS DISMISSED FROM THE ARMY BECAUSE OF WHAT WAS OFFICIALLY DESCRIBED AS "DISREGARD OF SUPERIOR ORDERS."

MAJ.GEN. MANUEL LOPEZ MIGOYA, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE CUBAN ARMY, SAID THE ACTION SUPPRESSED A REBELLIOUS ATTITUDE, "POSSIBLY SEDITIOUS." THE DISMISSAL FOLLOWED THREE DAYS OF UNREST DURING WHICH SPECIAL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO PROTECT PRESIDENT RAMON SAN MARTIN GRAU, ELECTED LESS THAN THREE MONTHS AGO.

ME1051PEW

COVER THE COUNTRY'S NEEDS. Add Baives fuel xxx count.y's needs,
THE DISTRIBUTION AGENCY WAS DIRECTED IN THE DECREE TO REGULATE THE OUTPUT AND CONSUMPTION OVOVPMMMGOMVXNIVVMVPPK
O
THE OUTPUT AND CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRIC POWER WITH THE AID OF PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES. AMONG THE RESTRICTIONS FORECAST WAS A LIMITATION ON THE NUMBER OF HOURS POWER OR LIGHT MIGHT BE USED BY OFFICES, FACTORIES AND HOTELS, AS WELL AS A LIMITATION ON THE MAXIMUM AND AVERAGE WATTAGE OF LAMPS. STORES PROBABLY WILL BE FORBIDDEN TO LIGHT SHOW WINDOWS AND ALL COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS ORDERED TO CLOSE OFFICES AT 5:30 P.M. AND STORES AT 6:30, EXCEPT FOR GROCERIES, BAKERIES AND BUTCHER SHOPS.

FACTORIES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO CONSUME MORE POWER THAN THEY DID IN 1944, AND THOSE USING REGULARLY OVER 500,000 KILOWATT HOURS A YEAR MUST REDUCE THAT BY 20 PER CENT.

JS308PEW

MEXICO CITY, DEC. 29-(AP)-WILLIAM KREHM, MEXICO CORRESPONDENT FOR TIME MAGAZINE, SAID TONIGHT THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT NOTIFIED HIM TODAY HE MUST LEAVE THE COUNTRY WITHIN THREE DAYS.

NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION WAS GIVEN, KREHM SAID, BUT HE ADDED THAT AN OFFICIAL OF THE DEPARTMENT TOLD HIM PRIVATELY HE HAD SENT AN OBJECTIONABLE DISPATCH CONCERNING A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL. KREHM SAID THE MAGAZINE DID NOT PUBLISH THE ITEM. KREHM IS A CANADIAN, FORMERLY OF TORONTO.
DEC 30 1944
JR138AEW

MEXICO CITY,DEC 29 (AP)-CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE FIRST FEDERAL DISTRICT PENAL COURT AGAINST SEVEN PERSONS IN CONNECTION WITH ALLEGED FORGERY AND SALE OF GOVERNMENT PERMITS AUTHORIZING MEXICAN WORKERS TO GO TO THE UNITED STATES, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE REPORTED TODAY.

ONE OF THOSE CHARGED, ALFREDO JACOBO, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TOLD OF PRINTING 500 PERMITS ON THE LABOR DEPARTMENT PRESSES, WHERE THE LEGAL CARS ALSO WERE ISSUED, SAID VICTOR MANUEL OLAMENDI, CHIEF OF PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN A WRITTEN STATEMENT.

OLAMENDI QUOTED JACOBO AS SAYING HE SOLD THE CARDS AT 40 CENTS EACH TO GILBERTO MONTANO MOLASCO, WHO IS CHARGED WITH TRAFFICKING IN THEM.

MISS MARIA MILLER, IN CHARGE OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT SEAL, IS ACCUSED OF PERMITTING UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS TO USE IT AT $20 A DAY.

TIRSO SUAREZ SANDOVAL, LABOR DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR ASSIGNED TO WATCH AGAINST FRAUD IN THE CONTRACTING OF WORKERS MIGRATING TO THE UNITED STATES, IS ACCUSED OF COLLECTING MONEY FOR PERMITTING IRREGULARITIES. →

30.24—2/649

THREE OTHERS ARE ACCUSED OF SELLING PERMITS TO WORKERS.
THE CHARGES WERE FILED ON ACCUSATIONS BY THE LABOR DEPARTMENT

THE CHARGES WERE FILED ON ACCUSATIONS BY THE LABOR DEPARTMENT, WHICH ALSO NAMED OTHER SUSPECTS STILL BEING INVESTIGATED, SAID OLAMENDI. IN MEXICO THE SPECIFIC OFFENSE FOR WHICH PRISONERS ARE TRIED IS FIXED BY THE TRIAL JUDGE.

GG215PCW NM

MEXICO CITY,DEC 29 (AP)-JORGE TORIELLO, ONE OF THE GOVERNING TRIUMVIRATE IN GUATEMALA UNTIL THE RECENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS THERE, ARRIVED BY PLANE EARLY TODAY EN ROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES, ACCOMPANIED BY DAVID VELA, GUATEMALA CITY NEWSPAPER EDITOR.

THEY WERE REPORTED TRAVELING "INCOGNITO."

TORIELLO LEFT HERE FOR BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS, FROM WHERE HE IS SCHEDULED TO PROCEED TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

GG1143ACW

UNDATED KOREA-FORMOSA

DEC 30 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PREMIER GENERAL KOISO ANNOUNCED TODAY, SAID A TOKYO RADIO BROADCAST, THAT HIS CABINET HAD ADOPTED A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR "REFORMATIONS" IN THE TREATMENT OF KOREANS AND FORMOSANS IN AN EFFORT TO INDUCE THEM TO CONTRIBUTE MORE TO THE JAPANESE WAR EFFORT.

KOISO WAS QUOTED IN A DOMEI NEWS AGENCY DISPATCH, BROADCAST BY TOKYO AND RECORDED BY THE FCC, AS SAYING:

"IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE PROSECUTION OF THE WAR THAT WE FULLY INCORPORATE THE DEEP SINCERITY OF THESE FELLOW COUNTRYMEN X X X INTO THE WARP AND WOOF OF OUR NATIONAL LIFE.

"THE PRINCIPAL AIM MUST BE TO INSPIRE IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF THESE PEOPLE THE CONVICTION THAT THEY, AS PEOPLE OF THE EMPIRE, WILL RECEIVE THE SAME TREATMENT AS THE JAPANESE IN THE HOMELAND, WITHOUT ANY DISTINCTION."

THERE WERE NO PARTICULARS AS TO THE "GENERAL REFORMS" PROMISED IN THE TREATMENT OF THESE TWO PEOPLES.

DV830PCW

UNDATED JAPANESE-NAZI

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER MAMORU SHIGEMITSU AND HEINRICH STAHMER, GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN, HELD A "LONG AND IMPORTANT CONFERENCE" TODAY AT THE MINISTER'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE, TOKYO RADIO REPORTED IN A PORTUGUESE LANGUAGE BROADCAST BEAMED TO BRAZIL AND HEARD BY THE FCC.

DV833PCW

TOKYO BEST OUT

BROADCAST (100)

SAN FRANCISCO,DEC.29--TOKYO RADIO CONTINUED TO REPORT TODAY, WITHOUT ALLIED CONFIRMATION, THAT A HUGE ALLIED CONVOY WAS MOVING THROUGH THE MINDANAO SEA TOWARD THE SULU SEA IN THE PHILIPPINES, SUGGESTING A BIG OPERATION BY GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR.

THE ENEMY BROADCAST, RECORDED BY THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY, CLAIMED THAT NINE TRANSPORTS HAVE BEEN SUNK, FOUR TRANSPORTS, A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER DAMAGED BY JAPANESE PLANES.

THE BROADCAST SAID THE ATTACKS WERE CONTINUING.

PREVIOUS ENEMY BROADCASTS, WHICH CLAIMED SIX TRANSPORTS SUNK, SAID THE CONVOY CONSISTED OF 30 TRANSPORTS AND 20 WARSHIPS.

(EDS: THIS MAY BE INCORPORATED IN UNDATED NIGHT LEAD PACIFIC IF DESIRED).

HW1021PPW NM

DEC 30 1944

UNDATED CHINESE DEVELOPMENT (170)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHINESE INDUSTRIALIZATION PLANS CALL FOR ENCOURAGEMENT OF FREE ENTERPRISE AND THE USE OF FOREIGN CAPITAL SO LONG AS IT DOES NOT PROVE DETRIMENTAL TO CHINA'S SOVEREIGN RIGHTS, ACCORDING TO A CHINESE SUPREME NATIONAL DEFENSE COUNCIL RESOLUTION REPORTED YESTERDAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CHUNGKING RADIO.

THE BROADCAST, RECORDED BY U.S.GOVERNMENT MONITORS, QUOTED THE RESOLUTION AS SAYING "ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE FREE ENTERPRISE, INSOFAR AS THEY ARE NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF CHINA'S REGULATION OF CAPITAL."

THE BROADCAST RESOLUTION ADDED THAT "VARIOUS MEANS SHOULD ALSO BE DEVISED TO ATTRACT FOREIGN CAPITAL, WHICH IS TO BE USED IN CHINA IN THE SPIRIT OF FOSTERING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY."

THESE PLANS FOR THE "FIRST STAGE" OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY ALSO STATE THAT THE KINDS OF GOVERNMENT MONOPOLIES SHOULD "NOT BE TOO NUMEROUS," INCLUDING ONLY POSTAL, COMMUNICATIONS, PRINCIPAL RAILROAD AND LARGE-SCALE HYDRAULIC POWER PLANT SERVICE AND ARSENALS AND MINTS, THE BROADCAST REPORTED.

SK1151PEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT

DEC 30 1944

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (FRIDAY):

CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND ARMIES: NO CHANGE IN FRONT; PATROLS ACTIVE.

U.S.NINTH ARMY: NO CHANGE IN ROER RIVER LINE IN GERMANY.

U.S.FIRST ARMY: WIPED OUT POCKET EAST OF CELLES, CAPTURING 1,000 NAZIS, MUCH ARMOR; HAMMERED NORTHERN AND WESTERN RIMS OF NAZI DRIVE; RECAPTURED MANHAY, GRANDMENIL, HUMAIN; GERMAN SPEARHEADS ISOLATED EAR ST.HUBERT; GERMANS ACKNOWLEDGED WITHDRAWALS VIRTUALLY ALONG ENTIRE PERIMETER.

U.S.THIRD ARMY: WIDENED BATOGNE CORRIDOR, REACHING SIBERT, CAPTURING SALVACOURT AND HOMPRE; GAINED UP TO 20 MILES IN SIX DAYS; HEAVY FIGHTING IN WOODS NORTH OF ASSENOIS, THREE MILES SOUTHWEST OF BASTOGNE; ON EAST, CAPTURED SAINLEX, LIVARCHAMPS, SURRE, BOULAIDE, BASCHLEIDEN, BAVIGNE AND KAUNDORG, 5 1/2 TO 10 MILES SOUTHEAST OF BASTOGNE, AND POURED IN TROOPS TO BUILD UP AREA. FARTHER EAST, REACHED SURE RIVER ON GERMAN BORDER AT THREE MORE POINTS, INCLUDING ROSPORT, THREE MILES EAST OF ECHTERNACH. ECHTERNACH IN AMERICAN HANDS.

U.S.SEVENTH, FRENCH FIRST ARMIES: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

--DASH--

U.S.DIVISIONS

101ST AIRBORNE--DISCLOSED AS HAVING FOUGHT AT BASTOGNE.

4TH AND 5TH INFANTRY ED ARMY): FOUGHT GERMANS NORTHEAST OF CITY OF LUXEMBOURG.

4TH ARMORED (3D ARMY): HELPED SMASH BASTOGNE ENCIRCLEMENT.

9TH AND 10TH ARMORED (3D ARMY): FOUGHT AT BASTOGNE.

26TH AND 80TH INFANTRY (3D ARMY) HELPED CARVE BASTOGNE CORRIDOR.

WE/RP841PEW

--THE ROAD TO BERLIN--

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1--WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2--RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW).
3--HUNGARIAN FRONT: 366 MILES (FROM HRON RIVER).
4--ITALIAN FRONT: 547 MILES (FROM NEAR ALFONSINE).

TA402AEW

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEC. 29, 1940 - PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, IN WORLD WIDE BROADCAST, URGES AMERICAN PEOPLE AND CONGRESS TO STAND BY HIM IN PROPOSAL TO FURNISH BRITAIN WITH WAR MATERIALS; SAYS AXIS WILL ATTACK UNITED STATES IF BRITAIN IS DEFEATED.
ITALY SETS UP FOOD DICTATORSHIP.

DEC 30 1940

NIGHT LEAD JACKSON HOLE

WASHINGTON, DEC. 29-(AP)-PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT REFUSED TODAY TO SIGN A BILL ABOLISHING THE 222,000-ACRE JACKSON HOLE MONUMENT IN WYOMING WHICH HE CREATED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER LAST MARCH.

DISAPPOINTED WYOMING LEGISLATORS PROMPTLY PROMISED TO RENEW WHEN CONGRESS CONVENES THEIR BATTLE AGAINST THE MONUMENT. "THE FIGHT HAS JUST BEGUN," DECLARED REP. BARRETT R-WYO), AUTHOR OF THE BILL WHICH THE PRESIDENT GAVE A POCKET VETO.

SENATOR O'MAHONEY (D-WYO) SAID HE PROBABLY WOULD REINTRODUCE A BILL DESIGNED TO PREVENT THE SETTING ASIDE OF LARGE ACREAGES AS NATIONAL MONUMENTS BY PRESIDENTIAL ORDER.

IN A MEMORANDUM OF DISAPPROVAL EXPLAINING HIS POCKET VETO, MR.ROOSEVELT DISAGREED WITH THE CONTENTION OF MONUMENT OPPONENTS THAT HE LACKED AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH THE SCENIC RESERVE ADJOINING THE 98,000 ACRE GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK.

HOWEVER, HE RECOGNIZED THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY STATE AUTHORITIES WHO CLAIMED THE MONUMENT MEANT LOSS OF LOCAL TAX REVENUES, AND BY PRIVATE LANDOWNERS WITHIN THE RESERVATION WHO FEARED LOSS OF GRAZING AND OTHER PRIVILEGES.

HE SUGGESTED THAT CONGRESS ENACT NEW LEGISLATION TO PERMIT THE USE OF FEDERAL REVENUES FROM THE NATIONAL PARK AND MONUMENT SYSTEM TO OFFSET ANY LOSS OF TAXES DUE TO FEDERAL ACQUISITION OF PRIVATE LANDS WITHIN THE AREA.

HE ALSO FAVORED INCORPORATION INTO LAW OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY STATEMENT ISSUED BY INTERIOR SECRETARY ICKES SOON AFTER THE MONUMENT WAS CREATED WHICH PROVIDES:

1. CONTINUANCE OF ALL FEDERAL PERMITS FOR USE OF LANDS WITHIN THE RESERVE DURING THE LIFETIME OF THE PRESENT HOLDERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILIES.

2. RECOGNITION OF EXISTING GRAZING AND STOCK DRIVEWAY PRIVILEGES PERMITTING CATTLEMEN, AMONG OTHER THINGS, TO DRIVE THEIR STOCK ACROSS MONUMENT LANDS BETWEEN THEIR RANCHES AND SUMMER RANGES.

THE LONG CONTROVERSY OVER JACKSON HOLE FIGURED IN THE RECENT PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN. THE PRESIDENTS OPPONENTS CHARGED THAT HE USURPED AUTHORITY TO SET UP THE MONUMENT AGAINST THE WISHES OF WYOMING AUTHORITIES AND CITIZENS.

TAKING ISSUE WITH THIS TODAY, THE PRESIDENT SAID HE ACTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE ANTIQUITIES ACT OF 1906 AS HAD MANY OF HIS PREDECESSORS, BEGINNING WITH THEODORE ROOSEVELT, IN SETTING UP 82 SUCH MONUMENTS OVER THE COUNTRY.

"IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE JACKSON HOLE MONUMENT," HE SAID, "CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AS A WHOLE IN ORDER THAT THE AREA MIGHT BE PRESERVED AND MADE AVAILABLE TO OUR CITIZENS FOR THE REALIZATION OF ITS HIGHEST VALUES, INCLUDING ITS SCENERY, ITS SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS, ITS WILDLIFE AND ITS HISTORY."

CHAIRMAN PETERSON D-FLA), OF THE HOUSE PUBLIC LANDS COMMITTEE SAID HE WELCOMED THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION BECAUSE IT CLEARED THE WAY FOR HIS BILL WHICH WOULD ATTEMPT TO OVERCOME ALL OBJECTIONS TO THE MONUMENT.

INTRODUCED IN THE 78TH CONGRESS BUT NEVER ACTED UPON, THE PETERSON BILL WOULD REDUCE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE RESERVE, PROVIDE COMPENSATION TO TETON COUNTY FOR TAXES LOST ON THE PRIVATE LANDS INCLUDED, SAFEGUARD THE GRAZING RIGHTS OF THE STOCK GROWERS WITHIN THE PARK AND THE PRIVILEGE OF "DRIFTING" CATTLE FROM ONE SIDE OF THE PARK TO THE OTHER.

THE MONUMENT CONTAINS ABOUT 170,000 ACRES CONTROLLED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, IN FOREST AND GRAZING DISTRICTS; 32,000 ACRES BELONGING TO JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, 4., AND OFFERED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR PARK PURPOSES; LESS THAN 18,000 ACRES OF PRIVATELY OWNED RANCH PROPERTIES AND 1,400 ACRES BELONGING TO THE STATE.

REFERRING TO THE OWNERS OF PRIVATE LAND WITHIN THE MONUMENT AREA, O'MAHONEY SAID IN A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT URGING APPROVAL OF THE BILL: "THESE SETTLERS ENTERED JACKSON HOLE LAWFULLY AND AT THE INVITATION OF THE GOVERNMENT. X X X NOW THEY ARE CONFRONTED BY THE ALLIANCE OF A WEALTHY PHILANTHROPIST AND THEIR OWN GOVERNMENT TO COMPEL THEM IN EFFECT TO LEAVE THEIR OWN HOMES. X X X

"THE FOUR FREEDOMS, THE STANDARD OF WHICH YOU HAVE SO ELOQUENTLY RAISED BEFORE ALL NATIONS AND PEOPLES, ARE HUMAN FREEDOMS. X X X IT IS A CARDINAL PRINCIPLE OF AMERICAN FAITH THAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS RIGHTS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF CANNOT PROPERLY UNDERMINE.

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GERMANS COUNTER-ATTACK BASTOGNE CORRIDOR AS PATTON BITES DEEPER INTO SOUTHERN FLANK; GREEK KING ACCEPTS ARCHBISHOP AS REGENT

JAN 1 1945

PATTON'S TROOPS HAMMER GERMANS ON 50 MILE FRONT

Von Rundstedt Renews Attacks Against Vital American Lifeline.

YANKS ENTER MOIRCY

Hodges' First Army Smashes at Enemy's Westernmost Positions.

PARIS, Sunday, Dec. 31—(AP) Three German divisions have been hurled by Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt at both sides of the Bastogne corridor held by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. Third army, a field dispatch reported last night, as American troops hammered heavily all along the shrinking perimeter of the German bulge.

The hard-won corridor supplying Bastogne was hit by two of Von Rundstedt's divisions from the west and by a third from the east while in Bastogne itself U. S. artillerymen poured withering shellfire into the 16-mile-wide escape gap of the Germans' hour-glass shaped front and blasted areas where the Germans have been gathering for new thrusts.

Nazis Renew Attacks

The renewed attacks—breaking a four-day lull — came as Lt. Gen George S. Patton's hard-driving forces broadened their front along the south of the German bulge to nearly 50 miles, struck west of Bastogne, sheared supply roads and threatened to cut off enemy armor thrust to within 23 miles of Sedan at Libramont.

American counterblows had rewon nearly one-third of the territory overrun in the Germans' surprise counteroffensive, badly narrowing the maneuvering ground for Von Rundstedt's three armies. Progress of the new battle was not at once disclosed, nor was the time at which it broke.

Previously, Supreme headquarters had reported under the 36-hour security blackout that by yesterday morning one third army force drove into Moircy, 11 miles east of Bastogne and but four and a half miles southeast of St. Hubert, where another American garrison has been making a small-scale Bastogne-like stand and holding off far larger forces.

Von Rundstedt's westernmost positions were being assailed by Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' resurgent First army, which fought in the streets of Rochefort, 24 miles northwest of Bastogne, and plastered the German lines with shells.

Battle Rises in Fury

As the battle rose in fury the enemy fought back with mortars and artillery, bent on holding the town to the last.

(Brussels radio, often optimistic, said Rochefort had fallen and a violent tank battle raged near the town. This was without official confirmation.)

Patton's forces had been ripping apart the German positions on both sides of the Bastogne corridor, and Von Rundstedt threw in reinforcements in a strong bid to stop advances in this salient.

Necessity for action was multiplied by the American artillery commanding his east-west routes of supply or retreat.

In the 16 miles between Manhay on the north flank and Longchamps—three miles north of Bastogne—there are but two good highways. There are two railroads but the Germans never succeeded in clearing them.

The northern highway runs three and a half miles south of Manhay, where American gunners lie in wait.

The southern highway runs a mile and a half north of Longchamps, where Patton is steadily building up his firepower.

In between lie numerous secondary roads, and even these are hazardous.

Associated Press Correspondent William F. Boni reported that American batteries commanded all but about a mile of the sector between Manhay and Longchmaps.

The weather today favored the enemy, but limited forces of fighters and fighterbombers struck communications and supply concentrations and heavy bombers from Britain hammered at the same sort of targets.

Pilots along the 3d Army front reported destruction of thirty-two tanks, in incomplete reports, along with 135 motor transport, twelve locomotives and 154 railroad cars.

Boni was able to report that the northern front was relatively quiet today and on some sectors patrols had to press forward nearly three miles before striking even the slightest resistance. The enemy was digging in, and using tanks as impromptu pillboxes.

Yanks Drive in Moircy

The sudden appearance of Patton's far-ranging forces in Moircy spelled trouble for the Germans, who had captured Libramont and dug in there against attacks from the southwest.

Moircy is astride the best retreat route out of Libramont. Three and a half miles west is a second road which leads eight miles north from Libramont to St.Hubert. And unrestricted use of the latter is impossible with the Americans holed up in St. Hubert.

In this onslaught west of Bastogne, the Third army captured at least three villages and drove the Germans into woods a mile north of Sibret and three miles west of Bastogne.

The Americans made new gains in the Bastogne area, reaching Lavaselle and Chenogne, some four miles west of Bastogne and a little to the south. In this sector the Americans captured at least three villages and drove the Germans into woods a mile north of Sibret.

South of Bastogne, the Germans still clung to a mile or so of the important highway to Arlon, and it may have been in this sector that the new blows came from the east.

One Doughboy force had reached the highway about two miles south of Bastogne in a push from the west, and another had driven east to the edge of Lutrebois, a mile east of the highway and less than three miles southeast of Bastogne.

East of Bastogne, Patton's divisions were flushing the Germans from the hills of northern Luxembourg and had pressed to the Reich's border along a six-mile front from Echternach northwest of Bigelbach.

Resistance here, stiff the previous day crumpled by early yesterday. American patrols entered Echternach, 18 miles northeast of the city of Luxembourg, which the Germans have announced they abandoned.

Artillery fire broke up enemy tanks massing for an attack three and a half miles southeast of Echternach.

Close On Wiltz

In new gains of up to a mile, the Third army was closing to within two miles of the key point of Wiltz, 25 miles north of Luxembourg.

In the four days in which the Germans had been stalled, the American counterblows made this progress:

On a 25-mile-wide northern front from Malmedy west of Hotton, advances of two to five miles.

On an 18-mile front from Marche southwest to Beauraing, gains of 12 miles from near Celles to Rochefort, with the steel spearhead pinched off.

On a 23-mile front from Beauraing south to Libramont, gains of one to three miles.

On a 49-mile front from Moircy eastward to Rsport, gains up to 20 miles—as much as seven and a half miles west of Bastogne.

The U. S. Seventh army front remained quiet while the Germans to the south laid down heavy artillery fire in the Colmar-Mulhouse sector.

In eastern Holland, the Germans still fished for information, sending patrols across the Maas four miles southwest of Roermond, where they ran into heavy British fire and fled.

Meanwhile, more pieces of the story of American valor that tripped the well-laid German plans to split the Allied armies were being fitted together.

Lead By Gen. Clarke

It was disclosed that a Seventh armored division combat team, commanded by Brig. Gen. Bruce C. Clarke, Syracuse, N. Y., was the slender band that split the German drive by holding St. Vith, in the center of the breakthrough, for five days.

Against overwhelming odds, Clarke's combat team held out three days more than it was supposed to while waves of enemy tanks swept around and behind it. Then he was ordered to fight back to the American lines with his team and remnants of other divisions which had been overrun.

Whereupon the former University of Tennessee and Cornell university wrestling coach fought his way back with amazingly low casualties.

It also was disclosed that Texas-born Major Hugh S. Gaffey, long one of Patton's right hand staff officers, now was commanding the Fourth Armored division, which helped to lift the siege of Bastogne.

JAN 1 1945

THREE DIVISIONS TRY TO PINCH OFF YANKS

Enemy's Big Bulge Is Cut by One-third—Big U. S. Guns Rake 16-Mile Gap of Main Nazi Wedge.

JAN 1 1945

BULLETIN.

With United States Forces in Belgium, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—The Germans have launched a heavy new attack on the Bastogne corridor, throwing three divisions into an attempt to close that gap in their front.

Two German divisions on the west and one on the east tried to close the relief corridor to Bastogne.

On the rest of the front sporadic fighting was reported, with Field Marshal von Rundstedt not tipping his hand

for the next move. There was considerable patrol activity on the American front from Lindern to Schmidt, south of Duren.

JAN 1 1945

U. S. Gains 13 Miles.

Paris, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—American counter-attacks have narrowed the deep German salient into Belgium down to sixteen miles at one point and won back almost one-third of the area in Belgium and Luxembourg overrun in the Nazi winter offensive.

The blows of the American Third and First armies up to Friday morning had driven back as much as thirteen miles or more from the south and ten miles from the north. The German bulge into Belgium had been narrowed to a width averaging twenty miles.

A front dispatch said this salient had been reduced to thirteen miles wide above Bastogne by Thursday. Later developments at this potential trap thrust into the heart of the enemy salient were not disclosed under the news security screen.

Field reports earlier had reported the German corridor narrowed to thirteen miles above Bastogne, but Supreme headquarters announced this was the result of an erroneous measurement at an Army Group Headquarters, and that the distance actually was sixteen miles—itself hazardous enough to the whole German position.

Guns Rake Gap.

The sixteen-mile neck was between Grandmenil on the north and Longcharaps, nearly four miles above Bastogne. Headquarters added that this did not represent a new drive north from Bastogne by Friday since Longchamps had been held at the north end edge of the original Bastogne pocket.

A front dispatch this evening declared American infantry and armor hitting the waist of the German salient "have narrowed the distance between the north and south flanks to such an extent that our gun batteries now command all but about a mile of the enemy sector between Manhay in the north and Bastogne in the south."

The deepest German plunges westward—reaching within three miles of the Meuse—had been rolled back twelve miles, and American infantrymen had fought into the outskirts of Rochefort.

The corridor to Bastogne had again been widened and strengthened, with armored elements apparently pouring in assault forces to drive northward.

The Germans up to Friday had been held without gains for almost four full days.

Nazi Pocket Below Bastogne.

Supreme headquarters disclosed the Germans yesterday still had a foothold along a mile or two of the highway below Bastogne to Arlon, but that this in no way cut the relief corridor to Bastogne nor represented any comeback gains by the Germans. The Fourth Armored Division, headquarters explained, had driven its wedge to Bastogne slightly from the southwest, up secondary roads parallel to the main highway along the last few miles. The Germans steadily were being cleared from the main road.

Flying weather improved and up to noon the Nineteenth Tactical Air Command alone reported damaging or destroying thirteen tanks, fifty-nine motor transports and thirty-two railway cars.

The positional advantage of American artillery, plus the already proved superiority of that arm in weight and accuracy, was bound to restrict the areas in which Von Rundstedt can build up forces for a new thrust.

The most acute question today was whether the German commander was pulling his armor out.

Admittedly he still had enough armored power poised for another blow and forty-eight hours of concealing haze and mist had given him opportunity to bring up supplies and regroup his forces.

But there was no immediate indication that Von Rundstedt was prepared to risk his armies against the force Gen. Eisenhower had assembled.

[A Berlin broadcast said the Americans had thrown twenty-five divisions against the German drive.]

Von Rundstedt had fallen short of his probable purpose—decisive victory—but had succeeded in knocking the props from under the Allied winter offensive, and in creating a salient seriously threatening Allied plans.

At the same time he had thrust his way into trouble. Either he must continue his offensive threat by smashing back the United States Third Army's flanking counter-attack on a forty-five-mile front, or get his armor out before the gap is pinched shut.

Northern Flank Quiet.

The northern flank continued quiet. In this sector where the Germans earlier had delivered their heaviest blows, Von Rundstedt's attacks dwindled down to two-company size. Americans made limited, position-restoring gains.

Germans were reported digging in along the northern flank of their Belgian bulge. The Twelfth SS Panzer Division and Twenty-fourth Infantry Division were identified among enemy units met in the Stavelot area.

In Holland on the Britsih sector, German night patrols crossed the Maas (Meuse) River four miles southwest of Roermond but were driven off while trying to sneak up the Wessem Canal in boats.

In the Saar Valley, Third Army troops met enemy patrols in Fraulautern east of Saarlautern.

Patrol clashes occurred east of Wissembourg on the Seventh Army front. Germans infiltrating Sigolsheim north of Colmar were mopped up.

Mighty German Offensive Gave Allied High Command Biggest Scare of the War

JAN 1 1945

By WES GALLAGHER

WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN BELGIUM, Sunday, Dec. 31. — (AP) How and why did the Germans break through the Allied positions on the Western Front?

Military students will puzzle over that question for years to come. No one can give all the answers now or perhaps for years, until all the facts are gathered by historians, but here is the picture of the past two weeks as gathered from personal observation daily at the front and from the collective views of several dozen American officers:

The great lunge by Field Marshal Karl Gerd Von Rundstedt has given the Allied High command its biggest scare of the war and, for a few dark hours, came close to delivering a blow which might have delayed the outcome of the war one or two years.

If Von Rundstedt had reached Liege he might have destroyed not only the American First and Ninth armies but the British and Canadian forces as well.

His place of attack was chosen carefully; his troops were gathered secretly on a 50-mile front from the Monschau forest south to Trier.

In this area, which served to cloak his 1940 drive through the Ardennes at the same spot, Von Rundstedt assembled at least 20 divisions, including most of his crack armored units.

Allied intelligence completely failed to detect and evaluate his movements. On the day before his attack, American intelligence maps carried only the names of five worn-out infantry divisions in the area from the Monschau forest to Trier.

This failure was one of the great contributing factors to German success. Another was an attitude which had grown up among Allied officers, from the field to the high command, that the Germans were beaten and were incapable of a great offensive.

This feeling led to carelessness in professional defensive measures such as laying extensive minefields behind their own lines, preparing possible road blocks and planning a complete defensive system.

Yanks Offensive Minded

The armies as a whole were only offensive minded and gave little or no thought to defense. One whole sector of the American front was regarded as a "rest" area, for new or battle-worn divisions.

It is easy to note the change now, where every sector has been prepared feverishly for a defense in depth.

Meanwhile, the American offensive to the north was making little progress in the Aachen area, and Von Rundstedt was able to fend off this attack easily while preparing to snatch the initiative farther south for the first time since the Normandy landings.

That the Germans were fully informed on the American attitude has been revealed by prisoners and captured notices to commanders. One of these German advices to lower commanders read:

"In view of his (American) intentions east of Aachen and heavy losses there the enemy has occupied the Eiffel front only very weakly. These units are only capable of strong resistance if the enemy succeeds in bringing reserves from the north quickly at risks. As learned from experience, it is assumed that the enemy will not quickly recover from his unexpected reverses."

While the first part of this report cannot be denied, it turned out that Gen. Eisenhower was not as slow as expected.

On the morning of Dec. 16 the Germans struck. They sent out two spearheads, one led by the first SS Adolf Hitler Panzer division south of St. Vith, the other by the 12th SS Hitler Jugen Panzer division north of St. Vith. These were what the Germans called "reconnaissance in force." They were heavily armored combat teams designed to hit a terrific punch on a narrow front and go as far as they could.

At the same time the Germans ordered local attacks all the way from Monschau to Trier to divert attention from the main blow.

Speed Through U. S. Defenses

These two combat teams of two Panzer divisions met with unexpected success. They burst through the thin American defenses and in the first 24 hours the spearhead to the north had made a salient ten miles wide and six miles deep. The one to the south of St. Vith, executing a pincers move to the north, had gone almost as well, penetrating five miles on a five-mile front.

Local attacks north of Trier also found a soft spot in the American lines in the direction of Bastogne.

Through these three gaps Von Rundstedt put on the pressure. The next day the north and south spearheads joined just east of St. Vith, making one salient 12 miles deep and 20 miles wide.

The road junction of St. Vith was vital to the Germans, who made a determined effort to take it, but the combat command of the Seventh Armored division under Brig. Gen. Bruce Clarke of Syracuse, N. Y., had reached that Belgian town in an all-night race, and put up fierce resistance with the aid of regiments which had been overrun by the Nazi thrust.

This was the first of the famous stands of sheer courage that delayed the Nazi rush and, in the long run, saved the situation.

The First and 12th Nazi SS divisions had other and bigger fish in the fire, however, and bypassed St. Vith to the north in their rush towards Liege.

The 12th headed northwest to drive through Bullingen to Butenbach and then, on secondary roads, towards Spa and Liege. The First headed west toward Malmedy, Stavelot and St. Oumont in a three-forked drive with the same objective.

Nazis Hit Bastogne

At the same time in the south, through a weak spot north of Trier, another German force drove seven miles toward Bastogne through an ever-larger hole in the American lines.

The third day, Dec. 18, was the first of the critical days.

The 12th plunging northwest on the shortest route to Liege ran head-on with the veteran American First infantry rushing south. The meeting came just south of Butenbach, and the First with another American division, as yet unrevealed, on its left flank, halted the 12th SS, at least for the moment.

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Von Rundstedt knew he had to race west and then turn north faster than American divisions could be sent into the line running due west from Butenbach to the Meuse river. It was like rushing along opposite sides of a fence, trying to get to a gate at the end and through first.

The American strategy was clear, it was right out of the rule book. It was the job of the Allied High command to keep the American armies' Liege flank from being turned and to channelize the German effort due west.

Exactly the same sort of race was in progress on a smaller scale in the south, where the U. S. Third army was throwing up a fence.

Once the German offensive was channelized to the west efforts could be made to halt it or let it run, then try to cut it off with a flank attack.

Fortunately, the Ardennes area did not contain any key cities nor any great quantities of supplies, and Von Rundstedt's advances gained little of military value. Every mile to the north toward Liege was worth ten miles to the west.

The first SS. division on Dec. 18 began a real race, tearing 18 miles west over mountain roads, then trying to turn north at Malmedy, Stavelot and Stoumont, in the Liege direction. Here they met another American veteran division which had raced south, and another fierce struggle ensued.

Eisenhower Throws in Troops

The next day Eisenhower threw in more troops, and so did Von Rundstedt, but the German marshal was greatly handicapped by the failure to take St. Vith, where the U. S. Seventh armored division still held out, although virtually surrounded. The division was an island in heart of the Nazi drive, splitting it. The same day, Dec. 19, another "island" of American cour-age appeared. It was the 101st Airborne division and other units which were rushed to the front in trucks and met the Germans at Bastogne for an epic defense.

Another crack American airborne division, the 82nd, raced into line just west of St. Oument to make the first effort to blunt the first SS Panzer division's drive westward.

In the south, from Luxembourg, General Patton threw up a flank defense composed of elements of the Fourth, Ninth and Tenth armored divisions and the Fourth, Fifth, 26th and 80th infantry division.

In the center of the Ardennes break through there was nothing to halt the Germans, and in the next few days armored combat teams drove 50 miles into Belgium, almost reaching the Meuse river between Namur and Dinant. These were the only armored prongs, however, and gained little of military value.

Rundstedt Turns North

Von Rundstedt had to turn north to get at the American and British supply bases and deal an all-out crippling blow.

Time was precious. Every hour gave the Allies time to push in men.

Dec. 20 was the most critical day of the offensive. Von Rundstedt had poured in new panzer and infantry divisions and made a do-or-die effort to move north.

The struggle ceased to become a matter of high strategy. It became a knock-down, drag-out brawl. Only American Doughboy courage stood between the German panzers and a great military victory. And the Doughboys held the gates to Liege against Hitler's prized war machine at Butenback, Malmedy, Stavelot and St. Qumont. At nightfall the German dead were piled in heaps and German war machine wreckage burned brightly in the snow.

The next day Von Rundstedt's attacks slackened and the turning point came. The Germans had carefully planned the attack for a spell of bad weather to keep the Allied airmen aground. The weather broke, and Von Rundstedt called on an all-out air effort by the German air force to keep thousands of Allied bombers and fighters from beating his lifelines to a pulp.

The German air force made its best effort since 1940, but it was not good enough. In the next five days the Germans lost more than 600 planes, while thousands of American fighters, fighter-bombers, light, medium and heavy bombers sucked at Von Rundstedt's strength.

On Dec. 22 General Patton started a drive from the south to relieve the surrounded 101st division and around St. Oumont American attacks started to hammer back the Germans into a round salient.

At the same time the Seventh

armored fought out from St. Vith and with other elements pushed back the exhausted western elements of Von Rundstedt's men.

Von Rundstedt's first quick grab at the rich prize of Liege had been beaten back with some broken fingers. The Nazi Field Marshal needed time to regroup for a new effort and went on to the defensive. He threw up an armored ring around the Belgium bulge and a rugged defense to Patton's drive from the south.

Within this ring he now is planning his next move and juggling his forces. Adverse weather again has come to his aid, cloaking his movements.

That is how the battle now stands.

Nazis Still Strong

Even though the first attempt failed, the Germans still have a powerful punch left. They have many more uncommitted divisions in addition to two panzer armies already in the deep salient in the Western front.

The Nazi Field Marshal has two choices of action. He can launch a new all-out assault to grab Liege, committing his reserves in a final attack north probably along with another attack in another sector of the front to divert Allied strength.

Or he can withdraw into Germany, satisfied that his offensive has achieved a great slowing effect on Allied military plans for the winter.

This would give him the advantage of conserving his strength for future battles and retiring from the battlefield with victory.

Allied Front Scrambled

If Von Rundstedt goes back. It now is on the record that he dealt Allied military might a severe blow and scrambled the Western front with a giant spoiling attack. The Germans did the same thing in the winter of 1943, upsetting the Russians who were readying their offensive. It was estimated then that the Germans had gained as much as three months' valuable time.

If Von Rundstedt goes on he risks defeat from Allied counter-blows which may cripple Germany,s war effort. At the same time he may have decided that it is now or never and throw everything into a final lunge, gambling Germany,s fate.

This latter course appears more possible as the German people have been "sold" by Nazi propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels that this blow would crush the Allies, and they would be satisfied with nothing less.

M'AULIFFE RETORT TYPICAL, SAY GI'S

General Had Promised Wounded Man Earlier That He Would Not Give Up Bastogne

BASTOGNE, Belgium, Dec. 30 (AP)—"That's the 'Old Crock' for you," was the GI reaction to the "Nuts" reply handed the Germans by Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe of the 101st Airborne Division to their demand for the surrender of Bastogne before the siege was broken.

To the tough fighting men of the 101st, the general is known as "Old Crock," or "General Mac." To fellow officers he is "Tony."

General McAuliffe is 46, stands 5 feet 5, is ruddy faced with sharp blue eyes and carries himself like the West Pointer he is.

"During business hours he's all business," said a fellow officer today, "but when the flag is down—after retreat sounds—he relaxes. Like the rest of us, he enjoys an occasional snort."

Offhand, you would not think of this slight man, who weighs 135 pounds, as second in command of one of the world's toughest fighting outfits. He parts his slightly graying hair in the middle, and takes on something of a professional appearance when he uses shell-rimmed glasses while poring over maps.

Variety of Transport

He parachuted into Normandy on D-day and landed by glider in the Netherlands. Here he just jumped out of the back of a truck.

"Parachuting and gliding in combat is something for a general, but that's what he did," a private who came down near him in both operations said.

As deputy commander of the 101st, General McAuliffe took charge of the situation here. With Brig. Gen. Gerald J. Higgins of Utah, a Regular Army man and an assistant division commander, he ran the show until Maj. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, the division commander, returned from Washington when the German encirclement was being smashed.

All during the encirclement, General McAuliffe was out in the front line, sizing up the situation, or back at the command post, outguessing the Germans. On one of his frequent visits to a crowded hospital, a wounded GI raised up from his litter and said: "Don't give up on account of us, General Mac." The general assured him there would be no giving up.

It was on the same day that a German major and captain, holding aloft a white sheet, came over to the American lines with the surrender ultimatum. The Germans were met and blindfolded. They were led as far as a battalion command post and their ultimatum was sent on back by messenger to General McAuliffe while the Germans cooled their heels.

Scrawled Reply Laughing

"Old Crock laughed and scrawled his one-word reply," said Lieut. Frederick D. Starrett, a paratrooper from Maine, serving as the general's aide, "and with that he became the briefest and best-known note writer in these parts."

When the tanks of Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Gaffey's Fourth Armored Division made their appearance, General McAuliffe was on the outskirts to meet them. With a hearty handshake and a "Welcome, stranger," he greeted Capt. William A. Dwight of Grand Rapids, Mich., who was at the head of the tank procession.

The tanks did a spectacular job in the final plunge through the German lines with the aid of the Eightieth Infantry Division. Coming up from the south they overran the villages of Clochimont and Assenois, going through the latter just as American artillery was cutting loose with a heavy barrage. Later 400 of the enemy were cleaned out of Assenois.

At the time Captain Dwight's tanks swept through, the Germans were too busy ducking shells to do anything about it. When the barrage lifted the Germans came out and scattered mines along the road.

Under mortar, machine-gun and bazooka fire, some of Captain Dwight's following tank crews dismounted, cleared the mines, tossing them right and left, while another tank column led by Lieut. Charles P. Boggess Jr. of Greenville, Ill., went to work on the Germans.

The audacity of the tankmen won high praise from General McAuliffe, whose son, Jack, is a private in a tank destroyer training base at Camp Bowie, Tex. The rest of the general's family, his wife and daughter Pat, live at 4919 Yuma St., NW, Washington, D. C.

Patton Sends His Praise To 4th Infantry Division

By The Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN THIRD ARMY on the Western Front, Dec. 30—High praise for the Fourth Infantry Division for saving Luxembourg was expressed by Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. in a letter today to the division's commander, Maj. Gen. Raymond O. Barton of Ada, Okla.

General Patton's letter said in part:

"Your fight in the Huertgen Forest was an epic of stark infantry combat, but in my opinion your most recent fight—from Dec. 16 to Dec. 26—when with a tired division you halted the left shoulder of the German thrust into the American lines and saved the city of Luxembourg * * * is the most outstanding accomplishment of yourself and your division."

The Twelfth Corps commander, Maj. Gen. Manton S. Eddy, also sent a letter of commendation to General Barton, noting the division's proud record from D-day onward.

36-Hour News Delay Continued by Army

Fresher Reports in Belgium Would Aid Enemy

PARIS, Dec. 30 (AP).—Supreme headquarters announced today that the present news time lag from the Belgian front, roughly thirty-six hours, would be continued a while longer because spot news disclosures would aid the German command in evaluating the weight and location of Allied counter-measures.

Correspondents were told that the supreme headquarters communique and front-line accounts would be brought back to the normal time lag, something under twelve hours behind actual battle-front developments, when possible.

Supreme headquarters acknowledged concern in both America and Britain over the curtailment of news by an artificial time lag, but said that right now front-line pinpointing by the Allied press and radio would be more helpful to the German command than to Allied people at home.

7th Held Off Panzers at Key Point to Prevent Split in Lines.

On the Belgian Front, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—They're all singing praise today for soldiers of the Seventh Armored Division—those oft-orphaned waifs of the Western Front who have been bounced from army to army and had their noses bloodied at almost every turn.

For it was the scrapping Seventh, slung swiftly into the breach when Field Marshal von Rundstedt's spearhead was stabbing deeply into Belgium's side ten days ago, which put the brakes on the Panzer plunge and finally split the German penetration, forcing the enemy to fight a two-way battle.

More than that the boys sat grimly there alone in the St. Vith sector taking a terrific mauling from half a dozen German divisions—denying them the use of that vital road junction, keeping them partly cut off from supplies and never letting them relax a moment to fight elsewhere.

Often their own supplies were cut off. Sometimes they were sliced into separate segments by attacking armor. But they plowed through the enemy lines to reach supply dumps or travelled backroads at night. And when individual units were isolated they formed into deadly bands and wrought havoc until able to rejoin the main body.

Now commanded by Major-Gen. Robert W. Hasbrouck, Kingston, N. Y., and boasting as its most famous guy, young Lieut. Will Rogers Jr., who is a popular platoon leader, the Seventh has fought under four armies, British and American, during its four months in combat.

It fought through Chateau Thierry and the Argonne Forest, encircled Reims and captured Verdun.

Somehow the Seventh always got hurt. The last big wound was late October when it was forced to hold a thin twenty-five-mile line in the Weert sector of Holland and had to face the brunt of an overpowering German attack which pounded it plenty.

On Sunday, December 17, it got word to come quickly. Swiftly it split into two combat teams—one headed by Brig.-Gen. Bruce C. Clark, Syracuse, N. Y., and another by Col. Dwight A. Rosebaum, St. Joseph, Mo., Clark's crew struck into St. Vith, Rosebaum's covered the rear and north flank — both of which promptly became fronts.

Ordered to St. Vith.

Officially the Seventh was ordered to hold the St. Vith sector for two days. It held for five despite all six surrounding Nazi divisions could do.

Although officially they scrapped almost alone without outside help, the Seventh's troops actually accumulated one of the most savage little armies of soldiers ever seen on any front—straggling survivors of two semi-slaughtered units who had fought viciously back to that sector.

They formed a semi-circle front, fanning eastward around St. Vith, which forms the hub of a road network. Slowly the German power crushed all around the Seventh.

Even back where the division's supply center was set up the Germans came by the thousands.

From almost every command post—normally far behind the combat line—combat command leaders literally could look at the battle a few hundred yards away at any time.

Finally after the fifth day the Seventh was relieved and ordered into a "rest period."

That lasted only a few hours. The boys went back into battle elsewhere.

First Stopped German Spearhead in 8-Day Battle—Not an Inch of Ground Lost—Tore Heart Out of SS Force.

Near Monschau, Germany, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Worn and weakened by months of steady fighting, the Americans of the Fighting First Infantry Division were thrown against Field Marshal von Rundstedt's offensive and tore the heart out of one of Germany's crack divisions.

The enemy force was Heinrich Himmler's Twelfth SS (Elite Guard), a Hitler youth division.

As the veil of security secrecy was partly rolled away from this section of the Western Front, it was disclosed that the battle trained shock troops of the First Division had done their share and more to blacken the enemy's hopes.

On the slopes before the Belgian town of Butgenbach, east of Malmedy, is a ghostly graveyard of wrecked tanks, armored vehicles and the frozen bodies of Germans.

That was the work of First Division veterans who already had engraved their division's name in history of the fighting in Africa and Sicily.

It had been Von Rundstedt's plan to have the Twelfth SS Division spearhead the drive on the First's flank, going through Butgenbach toward Spa and Liege.

The Twelfth cracked through north of St. Vith and headed for Butgenbach.

At that moment the United States First Infantry Division had had months of hard fighting across France and Belgium into Germany. Heavy losses in the drive toward the Roer River had drained its strength. But a call came and the First rushed into positions around Butgenbach and its small ice-covered reservoir The German attack came at once

The First did not give up one inch of ground in eight days of assault.

On one occasion six German tanks burst through the American lines. The doughboys held firm and continued to mop up the Nazi infantry. Anti-tank gunners, engineers, clerks and cooks went on a tank hunt behind their own lines and wiped out the tanks.

Two days later an all-out assault carried German patrols into Butgenbach and the First Divisional Regimental Headquarters fought hand to hand with them. The Germans were wiped out.

It was savage fighting throughout. It was just south of this area that SS troops massacred about 140 American doughboys who had been taken prisoner.

Clarke Led Seventh.

With United States Forces in Belgium, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—A former American wrestling coach put a headlock on the vital road junction of St. Vith and held it against overwhelming odds three days longer than he was supposed to in the face of the German winter offensive, it was disclosed last night.

He is Brig.-Gen. Bruce C. Clarke of Syracuse, N. Y., commander of a combat team of the Seventh Armored Division which virtually single-handed split the Nazi offensive in two by holding the key town in the center of the breakthrough for five days while German tanks and armor flowed all around and behind it.

Gen. Clarke, who coached wrestling at the Universities of Tennessee and Cornell, had to fight his way into the city and then fight his way out. That was nothing new for the western front's newest armored force general. As colonel and commander of a combat team of the Fourth Armored Division coming across France he spent more time behind German lines than in front of them.

As a matter of fact, that is

where he likes to fight best. He explained his theory of tank warfare as "warfare is mental not physical. Tanks are weapons of terror and when they get behind the German lines they create chaos and the Germans take to the woods."

In the case of St. Vith he had no choice. The Germans, finding his defenses too tough, flowed around him and cut him off.

Gen. Clarke held on, delaying the German advance the three days longer than ordered and then fought his way back to American lines with remnants of other divisions overrun in the fighting.

The youthful tank expert, who is looked upon by no less an authority than Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr., as one of the most outstanding combat team commanders in Europe, won his promotion to general by an end run through France on the flank of the United States Third Army.

His combat team raced across Brittany to contain the U-boat base of Lorient. Then he turned north and fought to the Moselle River. Gen. Clarke's crossing of the Moselle with his combat team under fire to sweep around Nancy and cause its fall is considered a classic of armored warfare.

In a shake-up of the Seventh Armored Division's command last month Gen. Clarke was promoted from colonel and received his present command under the new division commander, Major-Gen. Robert W. Hasbrouck, of Kingston, N. Y., with orders to revitalize the unit.

ALLIES REPORTED REVISING COMMAND

London Press Says Changes Are Imminent—No Official Confirmation Available

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—Reports that a reorganization of the Allies' command on the western front was imminent were prominently displayed today by the London press.

One military commentator declared that an official statement covering some aspects of the regrouping of the Allies' commands and armies was expected shortly. The reports, the publication of which coincided with a definite improvement of the Allies' position on the western front, were without any official confirmation.

The London Evening News declared that "important changes in the organization of the Allied Supreme Command on the western front are imminent." It listed the present commanders without speculating what the changes might be.

The Evening Standard reported that "the big regroup is on." It quoted a Reuter military correspondent as saying that "the second phase of Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive has reached the poker stage."

The report of changes in the command appeared on the front page of The Star under the headline: "Allied Command: Statement Soon." The London press also carried reports from Washington that an American major general had been recalled from France and demoted, but not because of the German counter-offensive.

Despite the setback suffered by the Allies in Belgium, there appeared to be no disposition here to question Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's ability to control the situation. The Supreme Commander retains the prestige that he won in North Africa, Italy and the smashing success of the Normandy invasion.

G. Ward Price, Sunday Dispatch war correspondent just returned from the western front, declared that the setback "should bring about changes which, before it occurred, were already known to be necessary by those on the inside of Allied stategy. Eisenhower is genuinely popular with all his subordinate commanders, but his responsibilities are too depressed and widespread for him to direct operations of seven armies under his orders with the necessary detailed knowledge of the situation of each."

Mr. Price recalled that during the Normandy campaign, when things went well, Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery had been strategic Commander in Chief in the field, exercising powers conferred upon him by General Eisenhower, whose headquarters were then in England. Since September, when General Eisenhower went to France, Marshal Montgomery "has been but one of the army group commanders under Eisenhower," Mr. Price said.

Those inside, Mr. Price added, have been disturbed by the Allied armies' dispersing their strength instead of concentrating it. He said that one authority had told him: "If Montgomery's advance into Nijmegen had been backed by ten United States divisions, we should have been in the Ruhr by now."

The Sunday Chronicle also published an article declaring that "Eisenhower's burden should be eased. The old combination of Eisenhower [Field Marshal Sir Harold R. L. G.] Alexander and Montgomery had a non-stop run of success, Brig. J. G. Smyth said in a prominently displayed article. "Might it not be repeated? Or must Alexander really stand by to quell riots in Greece?"

REPORTS SHAKE-UP IS NEAR AT SHAEF

DEC 31 1944

London, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—The London Evening News declared tonight that "important changes in the organization of the Allied Supreme Command on the western front are imminent."

The newspaper did not amplify its statement, other than listing the present line-up on the western front.

The Evening Standard also printed a front page report that "the big regroup is on," and Reuters News Agency's military correspondent added that an official statement covering some aspect of the regrouping of Allied commands and armies is expected shortly.

These reports followed the comment of Sir Douglas Brownrigg, a retired lieutenant-general, this week that Gen. Eisenhower had too many duties and should delegate some of his tasks.

Gen. Brownrigg pointed out that until last September Gen. Eisenhower had deputies for air, land and sea operations, but had assumed personal direction of the land forces, placing Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, his former chief of land operations, on a par with the other Allied army group commanders in Europe.

U. S. Saves 12,000 Belgians

WITH AMERICAN FORCES on the Western Front, Dec. 28 (Delayed) (AP).—In three days, 12,000 civilians of fifty small Belgian towns were removed to safety by American forces under Lieutenant Colonel Harry P. Cain, Mayor-on-leave of Tacoma, Wash. In some areas the civilian population was forced to remain, while the Americans kept the roads open for military traffic.

NAZIS SAY ALLIED OFFENSIVE FAILED

LONDON, Dec. 30—(AP) Berlin broadcasts today ranged from veiled threats of a new offensive by Marshal Karl Gerd Von Rundstedt to a somewhat negative claim that "we have at least foiled the enemy's plan for a Winter offensive."

A Transocean agency broadcast asserted that Von Rundstedt's operations now were in "an interim phase."

But in the voluminous reports of the German radio there were no claims of new military successes.

"The advance of our spearheads has changed into a battle of movement," one propaganda agency broadcast said.

"American counteroperations already have developed into a bid for a decision and aim at striking at the root of the German wedge," another commentator said.

The official German communique claimed that the Allies had "gone over to the defensive on both sides of Stavelot," and added that "southwest of Bastogne the enemy is trying in heavy but fruitless attacks to break down this bastion of our front."

The claim that General Eisenhower had been forced to regroup Allied forces on the entire Western front was made at least twice.

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius asserted in a Transocean broadcast that Eisenhower had thrown "26 of his 44 American divisions in the west" against Von Rundstedt's wedge into Belgium and said that despite his desire to "make good American set-backs with American divisions," the Allied commander "will be forced to make greater use of British divisions if he wishes to increase further his counter pressure."

Transocean's commentator, Guenther Weber, said:

"It can be regarded as sensational that more than half of all the American divisions are stationed on a front sector of about 50 kilometers, along a front of 700 kilometers. The 15 American divisions reported by the German command as severely mauled since the Winter offensive began are about one-third of the American strength in the west."

Belgians Reported at Front

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Luxembourg radio said tonight that the first battalions of the newly formed Belgian Army had joined the Allied armies on the western front. The broadcast was recorded by The Associated Press.

KING APPOINTS GREEK REGENCY

DEC 31 1944

Archbishop Damaskinos Named Regent by Monarch in London.

LONDON, Dec. 30—(AP) King George II of Greece tonight announced appointment of Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens as regent of his strife-torn country, taking a step generally regarded here as tantamount to relinquishment of his throne.

The 54-year-old monarch's road has been rocky for years, and most observers in London's diplomatic quarters believe the Greek people, who are swinging to the left, would vote against a monarchy in a plebiscite which is expected to be held.

To Assume Duties Today

Appointment of the regent was announced in a royal proclamation issued after a statement in Athens that the Archbishop probably would assume his duties as regent tomorrow.

The proclamation, stating that the King had "deeply considered the terrible situation" into which Greece had fallen, said he had resolved not to return to the country "unless summoned by a free and fair expression of national will" and authorized Damaskinos to "take all steps necessary to restore order and tranquility."

The King, reported to have opposed the regency, was believed to have been convinced of the necessity of the measure by Prime Minister Churchill, who had just returned from Athens. Reliable sources said Churchill told the Greek King that a regency would be established by the government in Athens regardless of his consent.

Establishment of a regency had been unanimously agreed upon by the all-party conference convened by Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden last Tuesday in an effort to restore peace in Greece.

Damaskinos, an open opponent of dictatorship who was exiled for two years during the Mextaxas regime in Greece, was considered one of the main organizers of the resistance movement by the Germans during their occupation of Greece. He is 62 years old and has been an official of the Greek church since 1923 when he was named bishop of Corinth.

The archbishop's first task will be to form a new government.

Indications that 85-year-old Themostikles Sophoulis, dean of the Greek liberal party, would be asked to head a new administration followed reports that Premier George Papandreou had submitted a tentative resignation to the King before the latter's conference with Churchill.

There were reliable reports in Athens today that the left-wing ELAS forces which have been battling British and Greek government troops through the streets of the capital for more than three weeks had sent a message to Churchill proposing an immediate truce and suggesting British arbi-

Fierce Fighting Continues

There was no slackening in the fighting today, however, as the British and Greek regulars continued their drive against the ELAS in the eastern suburbs. The ELAS were reported continuing strong pressure against the Rightist Edes forces of Gen. Napoleon Zervas in northwestern Greece. The Rightists apparently were evacuating to the island of Corfu, held by the British and forces friendly to Zervas.

Hopes for an early cessation of hostilities rose, however, when the archbishop's secretary said today in Athens:

"His grace, in all probability, will take the oath before the government and the holy synod tomorrow in accordance with the Greek constitution. Immediately after his installation, he will assume his official duties and, complying with a telegram from the King expressing 'hope you will try to restore order and peace in Greece,' will start his efforts to solve the major problems —firstly, the formation of a new government and, secondly, the cessation of the civil war."

Athens newspapers reported today that the EAM (National Liberation Front party which controls the ELAS) cabled Mr. Churchill last night giving complete acceptance of the terms of Lieut.-Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, including cessation of hostilities. Gen. Scobie denied knowledge of this message, but said it might have been sent directly to London.

More than half of Athens now si under British control and the ELAS also have been cleared from the city's port, Piraeus.

Gen. Scobie today declared that the ELAS were not observing the Geneva conventions in their treatment of prisoners. He said the prisoners, most of whom have been removed to the island of Thebes, had been mistreated and that Red Cross parcels had been denied to them. The ELAS countered with a charge that their captured men had been mistreated by Greek police.

Greece's Regent Known as Sage In State Affairs

DEC 31 1944

Metaxas Exiled Him; Nazis Arrested Him for Aiding Victims of Occupation

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP).—Archbishop Damaskinos, who becomes the principal figure on the Greek political scene with his appointment to the regency, long has been considered an expert in matters of the state. He is sixty-two years old and has been an official of the Greek Church since 1923, when he was made Bishop of Corinth.

Eleutherios Venizelos once said of him: "Damaskinos must devote himself to politics, because I believe him a far-sighted politician."

Born into a family of clergymen at Dovitsa near Lapanto, the tall bespectacled and stoutish clergyman won a reputation in the United States when he went there in the '20s and mediated a quarrel, largely political, between factions of the Greek Orthodox Church.

He was elected Archbishop of the Holy Synod of the Greek Church on his return from America, but Premier General John Metaxas later found technical grounds to cancel the election and exile him.

When pro-Nazi Premier George Tsolakoglou took office, during the German occupation, Damaskinos displayed great energy in alleviating the distress of the civilian population.

He made repeated representations to German and Italian military authorities when executions or arrests were about to be made. At last the Germans put him under house arrest at Psychico.

During the devastation of Greece, he organized soup kitchens and distributed clothing and supplies to the poor and, in circulars read in churches, criticized the wealthy and urged them to show a spirit of solidarity for the salvation of their country.

RED ARMY BEGINS ANNIHILATION OF BESIEGED ENEMY

DEC 31 1944

Soviet Forces Smash Into Eastern Side of Doomed Capital.

2 EMISSARIES KILLED

New Hungarian Government Under Miklos Declares War on Germans.

LONDON, Sunday, Dec. 31—(AP) The hopelessly outnumbered and surrounded German garrison in Budapest's battle-torn streets had refused a Russian surrender ultimatum, killing two Red army emissaries carrying a white flag, and the annihilation of a group originally estimated at nearly 100,000 men now is in its final stage, Moscow announced last night.

The German refusal occurred Friday and Moscow announced that Soviet troops yesterday had smashed into the eastern side of the city for the first time. Soviet dispatches said they had linked up with the western invasion wing on Danube islands in the heart of the burning Hungarian capital.

Hungarians Declare War

Moscow also announced that the new Soviet-sponsored Hungarian government headed by Premier-General Bela Miklos had declared war on Germany. The declaration, issued by a regime set up in Debrechen in eastern Hungary and dated Thursday, said that Germany forced Hungary into the war against Russia, and "attacked and occupied" Hungary March 19, 1944, imposing a Nazi regime on the country.

Russia's ultimatum demanded immediate cease-fire orders on the part of the German commander in Budapest, and the surrender of all arms and equipment. It offered all who quit security—"Hungarians, after interrogation, to be allowed to disperse to their homes and Germans, after the war, to return to Germany or any other country they desire." Food and medical aid were promised to all enemy troops.

"Your answer," it said, "is awaited on the right (west) bank of the Danube at noon, December 30, in writing brought by your representatives who must ride in automobiles bearing a white flag."

"If you reject . . ." it concluded, "the troops of the Red army and air force will begin operations for the annihilation of your encircled troops and all responsibility for their annihilation and also for the destruction of Budapest and the ruin of its inhabitants will rest on you."

Emissaries Killed

One Soviet officer, Moscow said, "in spite of his clearly visible white flag," was riddled by German rifle and machinegun fire as he drove through the suburb of Kispest Friday.

Simultaneously, another Russian officer with an interpreter set off toward the German lines from the west bank of the Danube, also bearing a white flag. This officer was taken to German headquarters, told that his ultimatum was rejected and that there would be no negotiations.

"While this officer was on his way back the Germans opened fire on him and he was shot dead in the back," Moscow said, charging the enemy with "premeditated murder and violation of the rules of war." The interpreter got back to Soviet positions "through sheer luck," the announcement said.

In offering the Germans a choice other than death the ultimatum pointed out that the German army was nailed down or retreating everywhere on the Eastern front and that "in the west the German offensive so widely acclaimed by the Hitlerites is fizzling out and can change nothing in the course of the war."

Now inside the heart of the ravaged city, once one of Europe's most beautiful capitals, the savage war of attrition had resumed with the Germans battling hand-to-hand against the Russians in an effort to delay the steady westward movement of two Red armies toward Austria.

Soviet front dispatches said the fighting was extremely fierce in the Royal Park, in northeastern Budapest less than two miles from the Danube and the city's center.

One German commentator, Lt. Col. Alfred Von Olberg, admitted that Budapest, as a battle, was lost and that the Germans' only hope "in this hell" was to take the biggest possible toll of Russians and delay the sweep westward toward the southern part of the Reich.

Soviet troops, the Moscow communique disclosed, already had completed the liquidation of a smaller German-Hungarian force, trapped in the Danube loop north and northwest of Budapest, thus releasing powerful formations for the swelling offensive which has rolled to within 92 miles of Vienna, Austrian capital.

Both marshals Feodor I. Tolbukhin and Rodion Y. Malinovsky, commanders of the Third and Second Ukraine armies, signed the surrender ultimatum to the Germans.

DEC 31 1944

Reds Spurt For Vienna

Reach Bratislava's Plains by Crossing the Hron

LONDON (AP) — Austrian-bound Russian troops plunged forward today in new gains after forcing strong Nazi defenses above the Danube and crossing the Hrone River. To the south fighting in the streets of Budapest raged with increased fury.

In the Buda section of the tottering Hungarian capital Russian shock battalions were slaughtering the trapped Nazi garrison in hand-to-hand fighting. In Pest, on the east bank of the Danube, Nazi and Hungarian defenders fought desperately to stave off powerful Russian armor that already had penetrated the first of three inner defense rings.

Still other Russian units tightened the death trap on German and Hungarian troops caught in the Pilis Hills north of the city.

The Russians crossed the Hron River, one of the last water hurdles before the Bratislava Plains leading to Vienna, sped two miles beyond and captured Nana and Parkany near the Hron's confluence with the Danube.

Drive for Komaron

Units of Marshal Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian Army already have outflanked the point of confluence of the two rivers west of the big Danube bend and were driving along the approaches to Komaron, situated 53 miles southeast of Bratislava and 81 miles from Vienna.

The crossing of the Hron put the Russians within 76 miles of Bratislava. Other sections of the same army arrayed along the east bank of the Hron to the north were only 64 miles from Bratislava.

(United Press quoted a German spokesman who said another Red Army bridgehead was established 29 miles north around Kalinca, 97 miles east of Vienna.)

In another important gain Red Army units drove within nine miles southeast of Losonc (Lucenec), Hungarian annexed defense point in Southern Slovakia 60 miles north east of Budapest.

DEC 31 1944

REDS ADVANCE YARD BY YARD INTO BUDAPEST

Drive Toward Heart of City Clears Several Main Streets of Foe.

GERMAN FORCE IN DEATH TRAP

Russians Cross Last Big Barrier Before Bratislava Plains Leading to Vienna.

Moscow, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Fighting their way yard by yard into the heart of Budapest, the Russian forces have cleared the defenders from several main streets after all-night bayonet battles and grenade throwing at close range. Numerous buildings fell into Russian hands during the night, and it is believed that a major part of Buda—the part of Budapest that stands high on the west bank of the Danube—is now held by the Russians.

In Pest, across the Danube from Buda, the Red Army troops have made steady progress, especially in the southern sector where most of the Hungarian capital's docks and quays are situated.

The German resistance has stiffened both in Buda and Pest, but the Russian advances along the Danube River have given Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's forces an opportunity for denying virtually all future river traffic to the Germans and Hungarians.

[The Russians are fighting in the park of the Royal Palace of Budapest, on the west bank of the Danube and thousands of dead Germans are lying in the streets of the city, the British radio declared in a broadcast picked up in New York this afternoon by NBC.]

Foe Has No Airfields.

Striking out from the docks in Pest, the Russians have advanced toward the heart of the town. None of Budapest's airfields is in German hands, and every enemy soldier in the encircled capital apparently faces death or capture.

Light tanks and armored cars found the going especially tough because of numerous mines and light anti-tank weapons which fired down the streets and at intersections. Dozens of enemy tommy-gunners and machine-gunners are hidden in hundreds of the city's buildings.

The Russian Army newspaper, the Red Star, claimed that the position of the enemy's Budapest group is hopeless, and that the Russians advancing westward and eastward through the city have joined up on islands of the beleaguered city. This probably means Margaret Island, which lies in the center of the Danube separating Buda from Pest, and Csepel Island, south of the city, where the Russian forces have been holding positions for weeks.

2,000 RAIDERS STRIKE IN FOG

DEC 31 1944

American Planes From Britain Pound Nazi Supply Lines

With U.S. 7th Army, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Germans bombed eight towns on the 7th Army front today, using eleven captured American Thunderbolt fighter-bombers in one of the attacks.

London, Dec. 30 (AP)—More than 2,000 British-based American bombers and fighting planes pierced through fog today and pounded German supply lines to the Western front for the eighth consecutive day.

Eight bombers and three fighters were reported missing from these operations.

While the German air force stuck to its bases for a third day, more than 1,300 Flying Fortresses and Liberators of the United States 8th Air Force, escorted by approximately 700 Thunderbolts and Mustangs, struck unmolested at railroad bridges on lines leading directly from Berlin and at freight yards at Mannheim, Kaiserlautern and Kassel.

Nazi Ack-Ack Only Moderate

The points attacked on the roads from Berlin were not specified.

The Americans encountered only moderate fire from German anti-aircraft guns, headquarters of the United States Strategic Air Forces in Europe said.

A heavy toll of German supplies already has been taken by Allied air attacks, the 8th Air Force reported. It said reconnaissance photographs of yesterday's raid on Frankfurt's railyard showed at least 1,500 freight cars, most of them carrying ammunition and oil, were destroyed, and that a bridge, barracks, roundhouses, warehouses and industrial targets had been damaged.

Bingen Freight Lines Cut

All rail lines from Bingen's freightyard were "cut," it was announced officially, and five direct hits were scored on the main railway station in that city.

Heavy damage also was reported at Schaffenburg and on tracks northwest of Coblenz.

Bad weather apparently grounded the 15th United States Air Force in Italy today and dispatches from the front lines on the Western front indicated that the weather was not favorable to large-scale operations by fighter-bomber units based on the Continent.

30.24 — 2655

1300 U. S. BOMBERS BLAST NAZI RAILS

London, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Thirteen hundred heavy bombers of the United States Eighth Air Force bombed railroad yards and bridges today for the eighth successive day under a cloud cover which grounded Nazi fighter planes. The big bombers were escorted by less than 700 Thunderbolts and Mustangs and headquarters of the United States Strategic Air Forces said early reports indicated no fighter opposition to the bombers and only moderate flak.

The American assault fallowed twin raids last night by R. A. F. four-engined bombers on railroad yards at Troisdorf and the synthetic oil plant at Schloven-Buer in the Ruhr.

Principal targets today were Mannheim, Kaiserlautern and Kassel. The location of the bridges were not given. It was the third straight day that the supposedly rejuvenated German Air Force has failed to offer any serious opposition as the big bombers ripped apart the rail network supplying German western armies.

VICTORY IN '45 HOPE IS AIRED

Churchill Says Allies 'Should' Win In The Coming Year

London, Dec. 30 [Reuter]—Prime Minister Winston Churchill tonight, replying to rumors current in the United States that he had died, said: "In the words of Mark Twain, the reports are highly exaggerated."

London, Dec. 30 (AP)—At the end of a year which had brought the United Nations far along the road to their goal, Prime Minister Churchill expressed hope today that at least half their task would be completed in the new year—that victory in Europe would be achieved in 1945.

Observing that the Allies were entering upon a year "that should bring us victory in Europe," he said in a New Year's message to the Primrose League, a Conservative organization of which he is Grand Master:

"Before (many months have passed the evil gang that has long dominated that unhappy continent will be wiped out.

Then—Normal Habits

"Until that end has been achieved, there can be no return to our normal habits.

"It would be tragic folly to prolong by any slackening in the last phase the agony that megalomaniac ambition has loosed on the world."

Already that agony had been relieved to some extent. All over Europe the lights were going on again. Paris, Rome, Brussels and Athens had been freed from their oppressor.

The year had brought a nightmare of bombardments, devastation, sudden death and eternal fear to Berlin and a dozen other German cities.

It was the year in which Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin set the stage for final victory.

At The Count Of Nine

It was the year in which the battered German Army, hurled back to its own frontier, rose like a prize fighter at the count of nine to lash out with frenzied strength in an effort to prolong the war or win a lenient peace.

It was another year of what Churchill has called "blood, sweat and tears."

The Germans were driven from France, Romania and Greece, from most of Italy and Belgium and from parts of Holland, Poland, Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Yugoslavia and Norway.

In America, the names of 628,441 casualties appeared in newspapers from Maine to Florida and New York to California, a symbol of the nation's sacrifice.

Joe, Tommy, Ivan

It was the year in which the Russians broke from the Ukraine, cleared the Germans from the Soviet soil and swept to the borders of the Reich.

It was the year in which Adolf Hitler barely escaped assassination and a group of German generals failed in their attempt to overthrow the Nazi regime.

Also, it was the year in which the Germans introduced their V-2 rocket bomb, faster than sound, and revolutionized warfare with it and their other V-weapons.

It was a year in which Europe swung to the left politically in every liberated nation and the chances of Royalty returning in many countries were diminished.

But principally it was the year which saw America's GI Joe, Britain's Tommy Atkins and Russia's Ivan bearing the hope of humanity and passing a milestone on the road to freedom.

DEC 31 1944

'45 DEFEAT OF NAZIS SEEN BY CHURCHILL

London, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Prime Minister Churchill expressed the cautious hope today that Germany will be vanquished in 1945.

In a New Year's message to members of the conservative Primrose League he observed that the Allies were entering a year "that should bring us victory in Europe."

"Before many months have passed," he said, "the evil gang that has long dominated that unhappy continent will be wiped out.

"Until that end has been achieved there can be no return to our normal habits.

"It will be tragic folly to prolong by any slackening in the last phase the agony that megalomaniac ambition has loosed upon the world."

'Open Season' Declared On Quislings In Norway

London, Dec. 30 (AP)—An official Norwegian source said today that 30 quislings had been assassinated in Norway in the past six weeks.

He said patriots in the country had declared "an open season" on traitors and "hardly a day passes without some quisling creature who has worked for the Germans being shot or liquidated."

The Norwegian Government charged today that the Germans were staging commando raids against defenseless villages which they had already evacuated along the coasts of northern Norway.

"Not content with evacuating the greater part of the population of north Norway and destroying most of their homes and means of existence," a Government spokesman said, "the Germans are sending back raiding parties to finish off the work."

BRITISH M. P. IS KILLED

Macnamara Dies in Italy—He Led 'Invasion' of Yugoslavia

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—Col. John Robert Jermain Macnamara, 39, who led an "invasion" of Yugoslavia with fifteen men to prepare the way for British land and air assistance to Marshal Tito, has been killed in action in Italy, it was announced today.

At the time of the "invasion" he was chief of staff of the Adriatic Command. He had been a Conservative Member of Parliament since 1935.

Germans Active in Atlantic

LONDON, Dec. 30 (AP)—A Berlin broadcast asserted today that German submarines "and other small but dangerous weapons" had been thrown into action in the Atlantic to cut Allied supply lines to the Western Front.

Great Britain's Income Increases During 1944

London, Dec. 30 (AP)—Treasury returns for the first nine months of the financial year published today show that Great Britain's total ordinary revenues were £1,990,520,238 (about $7,962,080,952), a net increase of £153,156,102 over the same period last year. The fiscal period ends March 31.

Britain's total ordinary expenditures reached £4,447,276,710, compared with £4,226,175,254 at the end of last year.

The deficit, or difference, between revenues and expenditures amounted to £2,456,756,472, which was raised by treasury borrowing.

Among revenue items showing increases the largest was income taxes, which altogether brought in £595,512,000 to date.

French Navy Bombards Foe On Italian Frontier

Paris, Dec. 30 (AP)—The "forgotten front" along the French-Italian frontier popped into the news today with the announcement of a series of bombardments by the French Navy.

The Ministry of Marine announced that the desetroyers Le Fortune, Trombe and L'Alcyon had shelled effectively German concentrations and barracks at Ventimiglia several times between December 21 and 28.

For the last three months Nazi guns have been lobbing occasional shells into Menton across the French border.

Nazi Spies Rounded Up In Paris Area by Allies

By The Associated Press.

PARIS, Dec. 30—Many Nazi spies and saboteurs, some in American uniforms, have been trapped within and around Paris by American military authorities and French police, it was disclosed tonight. In one of a number of raids on spy hangouts thirty persons were arrested.

The extensive spy hunt began recently when it was learned that Germans were attempting to infiltrate the Allied lines in Allied uniforms to kill high-ranking officers and sabotage communications.

One German wearing an American officer's uniform was recognized by the FFI and arrested in a night club, Stars and Stripes reported, while two others were found in a house where a French girl had given them refuge.

Edouard Pisani, Prefect of Police, said several of the Germans had been hiding out in Paris since the liberation and had timed their emergence to coincide with the counter-offensive.

Catroux Named French Ambassador To Russia

Paris, Dec. 30 (AP)—Gen. Georges Catroux has been named French Ambassador to Russia, the Cabinet announced today. He is expected to leave for Moscow shortly.

The designation of Catroux, former Governor General in Algeria and French leader in the Middle East, completes the renovation of France's major diplomatic posts by the Provisional Government.

FRENCH PLANE FIRMS BUSY

Now Employ 50% More Workers Than Before Liberation

PARIS, Dec. 30 (AP)—French aircraft factories have swung back into war production with 55,000 more employes at work than the 100,000 who were employed by the industry before France's liberation, Air Minister Charles Tillon announced today.

He said that all the factories, which during the occupation turned out aircraft for the Germans, were shifting to the manufacture of the Allies' plane types as quickly as possible.

French Editor Talks; Wins Execution Stay

Marseille, France, Dec. 30 (AP)—Albert Lejeune, former manager of the newspaper *Petit Nicois*, won postponement of his execution today by promising "sensational revelations" as he was being led before a firing squad.

Lejeune was under sentence of death for collusion with the enemy in the operation of a newspaper at Nice.

As he was led out he told his guards he wished to make a statement. Summoned before a regional commissioner, he talked steadily for nine hours, the French press agency reported.

The Socialist daily *Populaire* said the reported statements concerned relations of high Vichyites ith the Nazi embassy in a case scheduled before the Paris purge court.

At Montpellier an enraged throng followed up yesterday's lynching of four Vichyites awaiting execution by seizing and shooting former Mayor Marcel Farge of the town of Ales. An order commuting Farge's sentence to twenty years precipitated the incident.

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Tragedy: In a Garden a Garden

One Act, For and By Children—You've Guessed It—Gertrude Stein Is Busy Again.

Paris, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—There is a hint of "A Rose Is a Rose" in Gertrude Stein's newest play—a one-act tragedy to be played by and for children.

Miss Stein calls it "In a Garden." It is one of the things she tossed off while living in the heart of the Maquis country where she and her companion-biographer, Alice B. Toklas, were caught at the outbreak of the war.

In the new play the characters are one girl named Lucy Willow and two boys—Philip Hall and Kid Roccoon.

The scene opens with Lucy Willow talking:

"I am thinking how to be a queen. I am not thinking about how to be a princess. I am thinking about how to be a queen. I am thinking not about being Lucy Willow but how to be a queen."

Philip Hall answers:

"Be a queen. Be a queen."

The action develops with both boys offering her crowns and then battling to death with her looking on.

In the concluding dialogue Lucy Willow places both crowns on her head and says:

"It is lovely to be a queen. I must be a queen. I am a queen. I can tell by feeling I am a queen and it is lovely to be a queen."

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Germans Increase Movements of Troops And Materials in Western Sector of Italy

ROME, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Germans have speeded the movement of troops and material in the western coastal sector of the Italian front, and the situation in this area, where the enemy has pressed a counter-attack all week, remains "fluid," the Allies' command announced today.

The enemy "has not renewed his attack on the previous large scale" in the Serchio River Valley fifteen miles inland, official reports said. They added that "our troops occupy commanding positions on high ground in this area." However, the exact situation in this region, where American Ninety-second Infantry Division units were shoved earlier from their forward positions, remained obscure. An announcement from the Fifteenth Army Group, besides reporting increased German movements, said that "the enemy has become more sensitive and his patrolling more aggressive than previously."

The possibility that the Germans were moving a substantial force down the west coast, however, was seen in an air force announcement that hundreds of the Allies' medium bombers and fighter-bombers had spent yesterday blasting bridges and other targets along the coastal road below La Spezia.

Activity on the British Eighth Army's front in the southeastern part of the Po Valley was highlighted by sharp patral engagements on both sides of the Senio River. On the west bank the Germans were digging in for a determined stand.

Particularly vigorous small-scale actions were reported along the upper stretches of the Senio south of Highway 9 near the Apennine foothills. There one enemy force crossed the stream and knocked Eighth Army troops out of one position after an artillery preparation.

Northeast of Faenza the British continued clearing out the last positions of the enemy salient in the direction of Bagnacavallo despite strong opposition by German tanks, infantry and artillery.

Great masses of guns brought nto action along the Eighth Army's front in recent weeks were extremely active. Particularly heavy shelling was laid down on Eighth Army positions near the Senio west of Bagnacavallo.

FOE SHIFTS TROOPS ON ITALIAN FRONT

Rome, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—The Allied command reported increased movement of enemy troops and materials today in the Tyrrhenian coastal sector of the Italian front and said the situation in the Serchio Valley, fifteen miles inland, remains fluid.

Five days ago the Germans launched a counter-offensive on a six-mile front down the Serchio Valley which the Germans claimed has carried as far as Fornaci, a mile and a half south of Barga, and representing a gain of about three and one-half miles.

American Fifth Army troops were forced out of Barga and Gallicano before the Nazi drive appeared to have died down.

The exact situation in the coastal sector remained obscure. The possibility that the Germans were moving substantial forces down the west coast was seen in an air force announcement that hundreds of Allied medium and fighter bombers spent yesterday blasting bridges and other targets along the coastal road below La Spezia.

Activity on the Eighth Army Po Valley front was highlighted yesterday by sharp patrol engagements on both sides of the Senio River.

ALTAR SCREEN FOUND SAFE

Masterpiece Stolen by Germans Recovered Near Colmar

PARIS, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Isenheim altar screen painted by Mathias Grunewald, one of the world's great art treasures believed to have been looted by the Germans, has been found safe and in excellent condition in the castle of Haut-Koenigsbourg near Colmar.

The masterpiece was discovered by Capt. Marvin C. Ross of Baltimore, who learned indirectly of its whereabouts through captured German records and hurried to the castle with M. Haug, director of Strasbourg's municipal museum. Many other famous paintings were recovered.

MANCHURIAN UNITS ON LEYTE

Japs Drew On Asiatic Forces, MacArthur Says

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General MacArthur's Philippine Headquarters, *Sunday*, Dec. 31 (AP). Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed today, while a new Mindoro-bound convoy pressed on under Japanese attack to reinforce his conquering forces, that the enemy had drawn troops from Manchuria in an effort to stop him on Leyte Island.

The American commander's communique said Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita had lost in the futile defense of Leyte four army divisions and the elements of two more, besides a naval brigade and other special forces.

Total Japanese losses, including 301 more killed in recent mopping-up operations, reached 116,770, the communiqué said.

16th Was At Bataan

In a "historical resume" of the Japanese forces of Yamashita's 35th Army, destroyed on Leyte, MacArthur said one division, the 16th, had participated in the battle of Bataan against him early in the war.

The opposing forces on Leyte were declared about eyual in number.

MacArthur declared the campaign ended Christmas Day when his troops captured Palompon, the last enemy port of escape.

Since then mopping-up operations have continued against remnants of the Japanese force.

Tokyo's Claim

The communiqué said Japanese planes atacked a Mindoro-bound American convoy off Panay Island the night of December 28-29.

[Tokyo radio yesterday broadcast a claim that Japanese planes in three days of attacks on a 50-ship convoy headed for Mindoro had sunk ten transports and a PT boat, and had damaged two transports, a cruiser and one destroyer.]

MacArthur's communiqué said that eight of the attacking planes had been shot down. No mention was made of convoy losses.

Patrol planes from newly established American fields in the central Philippines continued harassing raids on enemy fields on Luzon Island, the communiqué said.

It added that a Japanese air raid on Mindoro was ineffective.

Jap Aids to Be Interned.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Gen. Douglas MacArthur today ordered military internment of Filipinos who "have given aid, comfort and sustenance to the enemy." Hutcheson

A proclamation issued by his headquarters said: "Military necessity requires that such persons be removed from any opportunity to threaten the security of our military forces or success of our military operations."

As commander of the Southwest Pacific area, the general declared his intent to "remove such persons when apprehended from any position of political and economic influence in the Philippines

and hold them in restraint for the duration of the war, whereafter I shall release them to the Philippine Government for its judgment."

Sergio Osmena, President of the Philippine Commonwealth, said after the American troop landing on Leyte that every suspected person would get a prompt and open hearing. In explaining today's modification he said that it establishes a procedure for cases which involve, the Army feels, military security. He emphasized that suspected persons would be held as internees and not as prisoners.

Gen. MacArthur's proclamation was issued, apparently, to plug a loophole. Several dozen persons have been held since shortly after the liberation of Leyte. One hearing has been completed but no action has been taken.

MANY JAPS KILLED BY CHINESE UNITS IN HUNAN DRIVE

CHUNGKING, Dec. 30 — (AP) Chinese units in Hunan province have killed scores of Japanese soldiers in an attack by mobile columns near Hengyang as Allied warplanes ranged over the whole China theater to carry out successful raids on enemy road, rail and shipping installations, Chinese dispatches said tonight.

About 100 Japanese were killed and five machineguns were seized when Chinese infantrymen stormed enemy positions outside the north gate of Hengyang at the junction of the Hunan-Kwongsi and Canton-Hankow railroads, the reports said. Hengyang is 190 miles northeast of the former American air base at Kweilin.

An American communique announced that U. S. 14th Air force bombers and fighters had lashed at Japanese communication lines and transportation centers in three countries, and one Chinese dispatch said Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault's airmen had crippled enemy river transport along the Yangtze river, main supply line to central China.

As a direct result of the American attacks, the dispatch said, Japanese supply troops now are forced to move most of their troops and supplies overland along the riverbank instead of by boat. There are indications that the enemy is bolstering anti-aircraft defenses at many points along the Yangtze in an effort to ward off the American blows, the Chinese report added.

On the south China front 14th Air force Liberators hit and probably sank a Japanese freighter in the Yangtze Dec. 28, and fighter-bombers raided an enemy ammunition dump at Leiyang where the Japanese have built a new airfield 35 miles southeast of Hengyang.

In a fighter sweep the same day Chennault's pilots bombed a railroad bridge and tunnel at Tsingsing 30 miles west of the Shihchiachuang rail junction which is 150 miles south of Peiping. The east end of the tunnel was blocked and the bridge approaches were damaged, the U. S. communique said, adding that other fighters bombed Hsishihkuan bridge 30 miles east of Loyang.

P-51s sank a freighter and set a river tug afire yesterday at Unking. A second freighter was left smoking and two other vessels were damaged. P-40s of the Chinese-American wing hammered Japanese supply lines and ground installations in the Hengyang-Leiyang area destroying one locomotive and damaging six others, the communique said.

During the past two days American fighter pilots attacked key enemy strongpoints in the French Indo-China border region blasting airfields at Nanning, Haiphong and Gialam, and strafing river and rail convoys. Japanese cavalry units also were strafed in the Nanning area, the communique said, adding that one formation of Liberators had bombed the Donghoi railroad bridge 225 miles south of Hanoi on the Saigon-Hanoi railway.

CHINESE CAPTURE 2 YUNNAN TOWNS

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Chungking, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—Chinese troops in Yunnan province have captured two Japanese-held towns where the enemy has been holding up the Chinese drive toward the Burma border town of Wanting, the Chinese High Command announced today. The towns, Toulungchai, seven and one-half miles northeast of Mengmao and Tuka, eleven miles northwest of Wanting, were taken in brisk fighting with the Chinese ground troops closely supported by American planes.

FOE STILL FLEEING TOWARD MANDALAY

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Only Suicide Rearguards Are in Path of British in Push Southward in Burma

CALCUTTA, India, Dec. 30 (AP) —The abandonment of important sectors of northern Burma by the Japanese continued today with mounting evidence that the enemy does not plan to make a major stand north of Mandalay.

In the past forty-eight hours British troops have advanced nine miles east toward the town of Ye-u, seventy miles northwest of Mandalay, and only suicide Japanese rearguards are contesting the drive, dispatches to headquarters of Allied Land Forces, southeast Asia, here said today.

The enemy is beginning to destroy the railroad from Ye-u south to Monywa, evidence of an intention to continue the southward retreat. This railway is the backbone of the enemy's supply line north and west of Mandalay.

Tawhyin, thirty-four miles northwest of Ye-u, has been reached by British troops advancing along the Ye-u road, the Kandy communiqué said.

Front-line reports emphasize that the Japanese withdrawal is orderly, but the precision of the retreat does not obscure the fact that Japanese military leaders are abandoning northwestern Burma.

One Enemy Force Fighting

Allied troops, moving south in three parallel columns between the Mandalay railroad and the Irrawaddy River, report that one fairly large enemy force is offering opposition east of Kanbalu, on the Myitkyina - Mandalay railway, about ninety-five miles from Mandalay.

An advance of ten miles has been made by West African units of the Fourteenth Army which crashed through Japanese lines on the east bank of the Kalapanzin River in the Arakan area. In this region the enemy's position is worsening hourly. The west coast of the Mayu Peninsula now is firmly held by British and West African units which are closing in on Rathedaung, key enemy base twenty-four miles north of Akyab.

In the northern combat area Chinese forces under the command of Lieut. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan probed Japanese jungle positions south of Namhkam following the occupation of Loiwing and Paghkam, a communiqué from Southeast Asia Command Headquarters in Kandy, Ceylon, said.

Loiwing is on the Chinese side of the China-Burma border. Paghkam is four miles from Namhkam on the Bhamo-Namhkam road.

Eastern Air Command pilots kept up their attacks on enemy river and road traffic yesterday, the communiqué said. Monywa, vital Japanese base in the lower Chindwin region, was bombed, and other Allied aircraft sank ten river boats in the Akyab area. Thirty-seven other river craft were damaged, the communiqué added.

Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 29 (A. P.).—Chinese forces attacking through the North Burma jungles under American air support are probing Japanese positions south of Namhkam following the capture of Loiwing and Paghkam, a headquarters communique said today. Loiwing, site of a Chinese-American airplane factory before the fall of Burma in 1942, fell to troops under the command of Lieut.-Gen. Daniel I. Sultan.

LITTLE IWO JIMA BLASTED AGAIN

Island Bombed for 21st Straight Day.

United States Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—American heavy bombers blasted little Iwo Jima for the twenty-first straight day Wednesday in one of the most intensive neutralization campaigns of the Pacific war.

Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands only 750 miles from Tokyo, is only eight miles square, but is important as a take-off point for Japanese planes attacking the Superfortress base at Saipan, less than 700 miles to the south.

Intense anti-aircraft fire greeted Wednesday's raiding flight of Liberators of the Strategic Air Force, but not a plane was lost, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz said in a communique. Explosives raked the field and installations.

The fact Iwo Jima is still operating after so many previous raids gave emphasis to the remarks Thursday of Major-Gen. Robert W. Douglass, deputy commander of the Strategic Air Force, who said "It would take thousands of planes, dropping bombs every hour, to keep Iwo Jima knocked out all the time."

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Nimitz Warns Japanese War Will Reach Nippon's Heart

By MORRIE LANDSBERG

DEC 31 1944

Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 30 (AP)—Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, inaugurating a new phase of psychological warfare against Japan, told the people of that country by radio that the United States Navy was "determined to carry the fighting to the very vitals of Nippon."

Nimitz's transcribed statement was made in the opening broadcast on December 26 on Office of War Information's new short-wave station on Saipan, one of two erected primarily in the Pacific area to intensify psychological activity against the Japanese. It was beamed directly to Japan.

Calls Defeat Inevitable

"As the blockade of Japan tightens, as the bombing of Japan is stepped up, as United States productive capacity is enlarged—it is inevitable that Japan will be defeated," Nimitz said.

The Fleet Admiral listed the great gains made by the Allies across the Pacific in the last year, enumerated the islands captured, neutralized or isolated and told of United States task force attacks throughout the Japanese empire.

Even with the United States Fleet already the strongest in the world Nimitz said, still larger and faster ships and planes are being built in quantities.

Cannot Be Matched

"Japan's," he added, "cannot hope to match these with its present industrial limitations."

He told the Japanese people that fleets of Superfortresses were bombing industrial targets in Tokyo and other sections of Japan and Manchuria "just as Allied aerial warfare is reducing the productive capacity of Germany."

He reported important Japanese supply lines were being severed; that intensified United States submarine operations were continuing to sink more Japanese merchant ships loaded with supplies desperately needed at the front or at home.

"Our progress in the Pacific campaigns," he said, "has been so successful and uninterrupted that even high Japanese have indicated their concern.

"The preponderance of United States ships, war materials and manpower portends increased casualties and hardships for Japan's military, and increased casualties and hardships for Japan's military and increased destruction and suffering for her industrial sectors."

'Satan's Angels' Destroy 500th Japanese Plane

Is Second 5th Air Force Group to Pass Mark

FIFTH AIR FORCE BASE, Philippines, Dec. 30 (AP).—"Satan's Angels" have become the second 5th Air Force group to pass the 500 mark in bagged Japanese planes. The "Angels"—the 475th Group—reached the 500 mark on Christmas Day and now are raising that total rapidly.

The outfit's top ace is Major Thomas McGuire jr., of San Antonio, Tex., who has shot down thirty-eight planes, only two planes less than the Pacific record held by Major Richard I. Bong, of Poplar, Wis.

[Lieutenant Colonel John C. Meyer, of Forest Hills, Queens, has shot down thirty-four planes in the European theater, which gives him the highest American ranking there for planes destroyed in air combat.]

PANAMA PRESIDENT REFUSES TO RESIGN

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De la Guardia Tells Junta He Plans to Stick to June 15—Opposition Seems Divided

BALBOA, C. Z., Dec. 30 (AP)—President Ricardo Adolfo de la Guardia of Panama declined tonight to resign, as demanded by a group of political leaders, lawyers and business men known as the Junta de Notables.

Earlier, the President's brother-in-law, Augusto Boyd, had said that Señor de la Guardia was ready to resign if that were the only means of returning the country to normalcy.

However, President de la Guardia told the Junta de Notables that unless all political parties backing his administration demanded that he quit, he intended to remain in office until June 15.

The leaders of the move to force the President out began work immediately to convoke a meeting of representatives of the seven administration parties, but for the moment a unanimous agreement appeared unlikely.

The President's term was due to expire Jan. 2, but he and his Cabinet issued a decree yesterday suspending the republic's Constitution, thereby dissolving the Assembly—which was scheduled to meet Tuesday—and providing for elections May 6 to choose delegates to meet June 15 to draft a new Constitution.

The situation throughout Panama was tense, but no disorders were reported. Because of week-end closings the effect of the general strike appeal by the National Youth Congres was difficult to determine. The Government broadcast a warning to police to be ready to prevent any forced closings.

PANAMA SUSPENDS 1941 CONSTITUTION

Balboa, Panama, Canal Zone, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—A decree suspending Panama's 1941 Constitution has opened the way for President Adolfo de la Guardia to retain office. Under normal conditions, he would yield the presidency soon to a successor elected by the National Assembly.

President de la Guardia and his Cabinet issued the decree yesterday, while intense political agitation swept the little republic. Subsequently it was officially announced that the Cabinet had resigned and a high placed spokesman said that the next step might be the formation of a Government Junta. There was an unconfirmed report that such a junta had already been formed, including the President and two political leaders, Francisco Arias andDomingo Diaz.

There were repercussions in the Canal Zone. American military policemen and white-clad Navy shore patrolmen were on duty along the boundary between the Canal Zone and Panama City to keep American servicemen within the Zone limits.

CANADA TO SEND MORE

Defense Chief Pledges Greater Forces Overseas

OWEN SOUND, Ont., Dec. 30 (AP)—The Defense Minister, Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton, said today that Canadian overseas reinforcements "to an even greater scale than that demanded and promised are well assured."

He did not elaborate on the statement, which was made in a New Year's radio address. The statement might mean that a remustering process and volunteers from the ranks of home-defense, draftees had given him a number of infantrymen in addition to the 16,000 conscripted for overseas service by the new Government reinforcement policy..

Troops to Get Floating Clubs

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 30 (Canadian Press)—Two 8,000-ton former passenger liners of the Blue Funnel Line, converted into minelayers at the outbreak of war, are at near-by Esquimalt, B. C., to be reconverted into floating night clubs to entertain troops in the South Pacific. The British Admiralty has ordered the work.

Japs Minimize Raids.

While it is not impossible to burn Tokyo out of existence through bombing alone, said Radio Tokyo today, it would be extremely costly and would take the enemy from fifteen to twenty years to do it.

The broadcast, intercepted by the Federal Communications Commission and reported by the Associated Press, said: "Even in daylight raiding the enemy's practice of sending over B-29 bombers without fighter escorts is not particularly effective because of the effective Japanese air opposition."

"Counter-attacking efficiency of the Japanese air force," added the broadcast, is "rapidly rising."

WLB STEEL WAGE AWARD IS APPROVED

OPA Sees No Resultant Rise In Prices, Says

Vinson Decision

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—Steel workers received an okay from Fred Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilizatio.n tonight for wage increases approved by the War Labor Board and estimated to average 5 to 7 cents an hour.

Announcing his decision, Vinson said the Office of Price Administration had advised that this boost for the more than 400,000 workers in the iron and steel industry would not necessitate general increases in prices of steel products.

The OPA did advise, Vinson said, that an increase in price of some steel products was overdue and would have to be made.

OPA As To Efefct On Prices

In a letter to William H. Davis, WLB chairman, Vinson said the OPA's conclusion was this:

"These increases will be made irrespective of the wage decision. It is the judgment of the price administrator that after these price adjustments are made the proposed wage increases will not require any further net rise in the general level of iron and steel prices.

"Accordingly, the wage increases required by your directive order may become effective."

In talking of required price increases Vinson referred to the requirement of the Price Stabilization Act that price increases be authorized in "hardship" cases determined on the basis of present earnings records compared with pre-war earnings.

WLB Decision November 25

The WLB decided the steel wage case on November 25, but said the pay changes it approved should not become effective unless the OPA found they would not necessitate an increase in steel prices or Vinson ordered them into effect.

Although 400,000 workers in 86 companies are the only ones affected directly, the decision may finally affect some 500,000 other workers in 600 companies where the CIO-United Steel Workers have collective-bargaining agreements.

The OPA, after cost studies, wound up with an estimate that the boost would cost between $75,000,000 and $80,000,000 a year. Steel company figures ranged up to $150,000,000.

Difficulty In Figuring Cost

A difficulty in figuring the cost is the fact that the increases approved are not in the basic wage. The steel workers asked 17 cents an hour increase in basic wage, but the WLB turned this down on the grounds it would violate the Government's wage-stabilization policy.

The main increase approved was a premium of 4 cents an hour for the second or early night shift and 6 cents for the third or late night shift. This will affect the majority of workers since in most steel plants it is a practice for workers to rotate through the shifts at intervals.

Increases Retroactive

These increases are retroactive to the expiration of old contracts. The expiration date varies from plant to plant but most contracts expired around December 26, 1943.

In addition, the WLB directed adjustments to correct "inequities" within plants, but ordered that increases under this directive should not average more than 5 cents an hour for all of a plant's employés. Also approved were vacations with pay.

The WLB directed, too, that the companies and the union negotiate on a plan for severance pay. If they could not agree, the board said, it would undertake to settle the issues.

For Study Of Annual Wage

To another union demand—for a guaranteed annual wage—the board replied that it would recommend to President Roosevelt that the whole question be studied on a national scale.

Davis contended at the time the WLB reached its conclusions that increases approved would "not even bend"—much less break—the wage-stabilization policy. This policy is based on allowing no general wage increases greater than fifteen per cent above the level of January, 1941.

LATIN AMERICAS ASK POST-WAR ROLE

State Department Gets Views From Nine for Dumbarton Oaks Organization

DEC 31 1944

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Latin-American nations want wider, and even direct, representation in the top policy-making body of the proposed international security organization.

This is the most outstanding general conclusion drawn from the suggestions of nine Latin-American countries that have forwarded their ideas to the State Department.

The nine replies are summarized in a report which was distributed to the Latin-American diplomatic envoys at their meeting yesterday with Secretary Stettinius.

Two other countries made oral suggestions with the approval of their Governments yesterday, but the State Department would not identify them, locating them vaguely "in Central America."

Summary of Proposals

From a synthesis of the replies received so far these general conclusions can be made:

1. The Latin-American countries want the right to vote directly on matters affecting the putting down of aggression. They argue that since they share in the responsibility for maintaining the peace they should have the right to vote in decisions on the use of force.

2. They want more representation on the eleven-member security council. Brazil and Costa Rica both have suggested that one Latin-American country get a permanent seat on the policy-making security council.

3. They would like to change the name "United Nations," feeling that this title has a war connotation that might have an adverse psychological effect on an organization devoted to maintaining peace.

The Latin-American countries, however, agree on the principle of the organization, and their suggestions are explained as directed toward building the most workable organization.

Assembly Plan Under Fire

The criticisms of the nine countries are principally directed at the Assembly, since this is the general body in which all participating nations would be represented.

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The Assembly under the Dumbarton Oaks proposals limits the powers of this body to a consultative role in the decisions on applying sanctions to a potential aggressor and declaring war on an active aggressor.

These powers would be lodged in the eleven-man Security Council where the Latin American nations might be represented by one of their own group on a nonpermanent basis.

The desire of the American republics is to give the Assembly concomitant power with the Security Council in voting privileges. Chile, for instance, has suggested that the decisions of the Council should be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Assembly.

Most of the discussion on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals has revolved around that point, since it will determine in large measure how large a part the Latin-American countries will have in assuming their role of guardians of the peace.

The ten American republics which have not yet sent in their suggestions were urged to do so at the earliest possible moment at yesterday's meeting.

The group wants to have a complete file of the ideas of each country before going to the projected inter-American meeting of "those nations that have cooperated in the war effort." This would exclude Argentina.

'CRY ABOUT BLUNDERS' BY ALLIES ASSAILED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Army and Navy Journal, in an editorial today on the German counter-offensive in the west, asserted that "this is no time to cry about blunders and errors, to denounce the failure of American intelligence, as did General March, Chief of Staff in World War I."

Gen. Peyton C. March said in an interview on his eightieth birthday Wednesday that a complete breakdown in Allied military intelligence preceded the Nazi drive in Belgium and Luxembourg.

The Army and Navy Journal, an unofficial service publication, referring to the criticism by General March and from other sources, said:

"Rather than doubting General Eisenhower or his staff and the leaders of our armies in the field, we should, we must, recall their past performance, their sensational breach of Hitler's European fortress, and their series of victories which brought them into the German homeland. They are meeting the desperate gamble of a desperate Nazi leader, and it is our business to show that we are supremely confident of their ability to bring it to utter failure.

"The time for inquiry as to the alleged failure of intelligence, why we did not do this or that, will come after the battle is over, and we may be sure that the sharpest critic of any blunder or error will be General Eisenhower and General Marshall and the Army commanders."

HeroGivenHighestMedal For Saving His Company

Killed 2 Days After Cleaning Up Machine-Gun Nest in Italy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP).—An infantryman, whose "grim wrath and determination" saved his company when disaster threatened, has received the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously.

The War Department announced today that the nation's highest military honor had been conferred on Private Patrick J. Kessler, of Middletown, Ohio. He was a member of Company K, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3d Division. The action occurred at Ponpe Rotto on May 23, just after the Allied breakout from the Anzio beachhead in Italy.

"In the furious trend of battle,' the department said, "the company had progressed more than 800 yards in front of its division and enemy machine gunners and riflemen to the flanks and rear supported by concentrated mortar and artillery fire, were doing their utmost to destroy the partly isolated unit.

"In one whirlwind action Private Kessler dealt alone with an enemy machine-gun nest, a strong point with its machine gunners and riflemen, and individual snipers. His furious attacks enabling his company to continue its advance to its objective."

Private Kessler escaped death by inches a score of times when small-arms fire and artillery struck close to him in the action. He captured seventeen Germans and killed a number of others.

The infantryman's anger was aroused when he saw twenty-one of his comrades killed and fifty-four wounded by the close-range fire of the enemy.

Two days after this engagement, "while still fighting his way forward to the glory of the regiment and division, he met a hero's death in battle," the War Department related.

EISENHOWER'S FAITH IN MEN CITED BY WIFE

FORT BENNING, Ga., Dec. 30 (AP)—Mrs. Dwight David Eisenhower, wife of the Allied Supreme Commander in western Europe, said today her husband "has always felt that a leader is only as good as the men he leads." Mrs. Eisenhower is here for a visit with her son John.

"This is everybody's war," she remarked. "Alone, no one man can win it.

"Ike has always felt that way, and I know he feels that way now. I am sure that is why he said, 'I call upon every man of all the Allies to rise now to new heights of courage.'

"His statement of 'unshakable faith in the cause for which we fight' came from the very bottom of Ike's heart.

"When he said, 'We will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory,' you may be sure it was said with the reverence of prayer. I know Ike. He is calm and sincere—he keeps calm command of the most complicated and difficult situations."

U.S. Tanker's Personnel Cited By Admiral Nimitz

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—Officers and crew of the American tanker La Placentia have been cited by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz for "excellent service and outstanding cooperation" in the conquest of the Marshall Islands.

"Officers and crew of the S.S. La Placetia stood by to give prompt and efficient action to all vessels requiring their service regardless of the time of day or long hours at station," said the citation from the commander in chief of the Pacific fleet and Pacific Ocean areas.

Master of the tanker is 32-year-old Capt. Maurice V. Ring, of Dillon, Mont.

The ship, built at San Pedro, Cal., in 1921, is operated for the War Shipping Administration by the Union Oil Company, of California.

EAST ABSORBS SOUTH IN DEFENSE COMMAND

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP)—The Army's Southern Defense Command will be absorbed by the Eastern Command, effective Monday, the War Department announced today.

The consolidation is to effect "an economy in personnel, as well as to simplify procedures in operation," the department said.

Lieut. Gen. George Grunert, chief of the Eastern Defense Command, will head the consolidated organization with headquarters in New York City.

The Southern Command was headed by Maj. Gen. Henry C. Pratt, who recently left that assignment to become chief of the Western Defense Command. Brig. Gen. Raymond H. McQuillan has been acting as General Pratt's successor. His new assignment has not been announced.

The United States now will have only two defense commands, the Central Command having been consolidated previously with the Eastern Command.

States to be absorbed in the consolidated command include Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and a strip of Florida west of the Apalachicola River.

The Eastern Defense Command will embrace the entire country with the exception of the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona.

Com. Conley Name Navy Press Chief

Washington, Dec. 30 [Special]—Lieut. Com. John E. Conley, of Baltimore, has been appointed officer in charge of the press section of the Navy Department's bureau of public relations, it was announced today.

Announcement was also made of the designation of Lieut. W. Joynes MacFarlan, of Arlington, Va., as executive officer of the Navy press

section.

Commander Conley, formerly a member of the editorial staff of the Baltimore *Evening Sun*, joined the Navy in August, 1941, with the rank of lieutenant (j.g.).

His previous Navy assignments include public relations posts in the Ninth Naval District at Chicago, the Fifth Naval District at Norfolk and at the Fifth Naval District branch office in Baltimore.

Commander Conley, who is 31 years old, is married and has two children.

Army To Pay Veterans For Part-Time Studies

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—Veterans taking part-time studies under the GI Bill of Right will be put on the payroll "immediately," Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, said today.

All veterans taking part-time courses are eligible for payments unless they are gainfully employed in full-time jobs not related to the course of training. In this case no payment will be made.

General Hines announced payments to both veterans and educational institutions will be in proportion to the time a veteran devotes to the educational or training program.

Thus, if a veteran is going to school half time, he will be paid at half the full-time rate, but he may continue the course twice as long, until his full allotment is used up.

Envoy Urges Speedy Liberation Of Norway

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—Norway's Ambassador, Wilhelm Morgenstierne, added his voice today to a swelling chorus from his countrymen calling for speedy liberation of Norway.

He expressed keen disappointment that the Nazis were not ejected in 1944. Morgenstierne spoke after his Government in London had issued a similar appeal.

"While we all realize that we must accept the supreme strategy of the military leaders," the Ambassador said in a New Year's message, "it is our ardent hope that means may be found to expedite the full liberation of Norway."

Germany's Imports Of Metals Cut Heavily

New York, Dec. 30 (AP)—Germany's imports of metal have been cut to a point which ultimately will result in equipment deterioration, the magazine *Iron Age* says in its annual review of non-ferrous metals.

Loss of Nikopol, the Balkans and Hungary has cut deeply into the Germans' supply of contained manganese and chrome. They have lost important lead, molybdenum and cobalt supplies from Finland, and loss of mines in the Karelian peninsula and Yugoslavia has cut off about 60 per cent of their copper supply.

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3 Kaiser Yards Claim Record With 200 Ships

Portland, Ore., Dec. 30 (AP)—The three Kaiser shipyards in this area claimed a new record today, with 200 vessels—an estimated 2,000,000 deadweight tons—delivered in 1944.

The pay roll also hit a new high, with $290,000,000 paid out to the nearly 92,000 workers.

In addition to 200 ships built—tankers, attack transports, aircraft carriers, Victory and Liberty freighters—nine military ships were outfitted.

Since the birth of the yards in 1941, workers have turned out 614 vessels—more than 6,000,000 deadweight tons, and have collected pay checks totaling more than $711,000,000.

The six major shipyards in this area—both Kaiser and Independent—delivered 420 vessels in 1944. Many of these were small craft.

Increased Helium Sales Laid To Use In Welding

Washington, Dec. 30 (AP)—Helium, the lightweight non-inflammable gas, now is widely used in the aircraft industry in welding magnesium and its alloys.

This, the Bureau of Mines said today, accounts for a sharp increase in sales of the gas to commercial distributors in 1944. The bureau, sole producer of helium, reported sales averaged about 250,000 cubic feet monthly throughout the year.

In addition, the bureau said, "considerable helium" is being sent to private industries working on Army and Navy contracts.

Sales to commercial distributors increased from about 88,000 cubic feet in 1942 to the present rate, the bureau reported.

ARMY EXPANDS HOLD ON WARDS

Desks and Clerical Help Are Moved Into Office.

Chicago, Dec. 30 (A. P.).—The Army consolidated its position today in its occupation of Montgomery Ward & Co.'s main offices here and facilities in six other cities. Overnight forty desks, with typewriters and telephones, were installed for Army officers and their clerical help in the company auditorium on the eighth floor near the executive offices. Mimeograph machines and files were placed there by the Army.

A complete switchboard was set up, supervised by a Wac, Tech. Sergt. Marie E. Kuzma of Pittsburgh, attached to Sixth Service Command Headquarters in Chicago. She was the telephone operator in charge at the Roosevelt-Churchill conference in Quebec.

Avery Busy in Office.

Sewell L. Avery, chairman of the board of Ward's arrived at his own office and busied himself in conferences with Stuart S. Ball, company secretary and chief counsel, and John A. Barr, Ward's labor relations attorney. Major-Gen. Joseph W. Byron, the military manager, is using an office near Mr. Avery's.

Mr. Avery contends the Army seizure Thursday and the presidential order under which it was made are unconstitutional and could not be accepted or obeyed by Ward's.

When H. L. Pearson, Ward's treasurer, declined to turn over certain books and records to the Army yesterday, at least without Mr. Avery's approval, it appeared that the Government might ask for immediate Federal Court action to prevent company interference.

Army Studies Records.

Today, however, Hugh C. Cox, assistant solicitor-general, said he did not contemplate immediate legal action and that he understood the Army was satisfactorily going over some records without company assistance.

A hearing is set for January 8 on the Government's petition for an injunction to prevent interference and for a declaratory judgment to establish legality of the seizure and executive order.

The auditorium into which the Army moved ordinarily is used for stockholders' meetings and company festivities. It seats several hundred. The Army piled company chairs, tables, blackboards and a piano on the platform to make room for its office facilities.

A score of reporters and photographers have used the auditorium for a press room since Thursday.

Wheeler Urges, S...

Senate to State Its Peace Aims

Files Resolution Seeking a European Federation; Cites Roosevelt Silence

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 (AP).—Senator Burton K. Wheeler, Democrat, of Montana, proposed today that the Senate formally proclaim its own peace aims, "in the absence of the President's taking a stand."

He filed with the Senate secretary, for introduction when the new Congress meets Wednesday, a resolution which would place the Senate on record for creation of a "federation of European nations" and for:

A United Nations political council to settle European territorial issues.

Plebiscites under international supervision to let liberated countries pick their own forms of government and leadership.

A United Nations economic and social council to promote economic advancement, social security and labor standards.

Adoption of a universal bill of rights.

Extension of democratic principles and "preservation here of our American way of life."

Often a critic of Administration foreign policy, Senator Wheeler told reporters he had prepared his resolution for this reason:

"With the Administration apparently doing nothing with reference to activities of Russia in taking over the Baltics, Balkans and a big slice of Poland contrary to the Atlantic Charter and everything the United States has stood for with England seeking to grab off spheres of influence and control over Greece, Italy, Belgium and Holland, it is high time that in the absence of the President's taking a stand, the Senate of the United States ought to declare itself and state the peace aims of the United States of America."

The Montana Senator beat another group of legislators to the punch. Senators Carl A. Hatch, Democrat, of New Mexico, and Joseph H. Ball, Republican, of Minnesota, have been wrestling for days with the idea of some declaration of Congressional views on current international issues and peace problems.

The suggestion for a United States of Europe, or a Federation of European Nations, is nothing new to Senator Wheeler.

"It is the only thing," he told reporters, "that is going to prevent a future war between Great Britain and Russia."

Russia has announced her peace terms for Germany and said repeatedly she so does not want to destroy the German people or nations, Senator Wheeler said.

"But we have sat back and all we've said is 'unconditional surrender,'" he added. "That is meaningless without any explanation. We ought to state our terms to Germany. We ought to say to them: 'Get rid of Hitler, Goebbels, Himmler and that whole gang and set up a democratic country.'"

The Senator said adoption of his resolution would "affirm our faith in the uncompromised principles" of the Atlantic Charter.

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Add London SHAEF Shake Up Axis in Europe

BROWNRIGG ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AIR CHIEF MARSHAL TRAFFORD LE MALLORY, AIR CHIEF, HAD BEEN KILLED WITHOUT ANYONE SUCCEEDING TO OVER-ALL AIR COMMAND.

RUMORS HAVE BEEN CURRENT HERE THAT EISENHOWER WOULD RETURN TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATION BUT THESE HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY WITHOUT CONFIRMATIONN

DESPITE THE SETBACK SUFFERED BY THE ALLIES ON THE WESTERN FRON THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE DISPOSITION HERE TO QUESTION THE ABILITY OF EISENHOWER.

THE BROUNRIGG STATEMENT HAS BEEN THE CHIEF CRITICISM OF THE WESTERN FRONT SETUP PUBLISHED HERE.

THE BRITISH PRESS DID NOT SPECULATE ON WHAT CHANGES IN T E ALLIED COMMAND MIGHT TAKE PLACE.

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DURING THE DAY THE RUSSIANS KILLED 3,600 AXIS TROOPS AND CAPTURED TEN FACTORIES IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE CITY AS THEY DUG THE ENEMY OUT OF CELLARS AND BUILDINGS, A MIDNIGHT SOVIET BULLETIN SAID. THEY CAPTURED 20 GERMAN TANKS AND SELF-PROPELLED GUNS AND DESTROYED SIX A ALSO CAPTURED SIX LOCOMOTIVES AND MUCH OTHER BOOTY, IT SAID.

THE FEROCITY X X X 8TH GRAPH 2ND N-L.

THE MIDNIGHT SUPPLEMENT TO THE SOVIET COMMUNIQUE SAID RUSSIAN SOLDIERS, IN OVERCOMING LINES OF TRENCHES, ENCOUNTERED ELECTRIFIED BARBED WIRE ENTANGLEMENTS IN THE STREETS OF THE BURNING CAPITAL. THIS GERMAN DEVICE FAILED

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TO HALT THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE.

THE SOVIET ULTIMATUM WAS ADDRESSED TO THE COMMANDERS OF FIVE GERMAN DIVISIONS AND FOUR HUNGARIAN DIVISIONS WHICH IT NAMED AS PENNED IN THE CITY, AS WELL AS TO THE COMMANDERS OF SEVERAL SMALLER UNITS.

THE FEROCITY OF THE GERMAN STAND IN BUDAPEST'S GUTTED STREETS AND SQUARES WAS INDICATED BY A SPECIAL SOVIET ANNOUNCEMENT THAT NAZI TROOPS HAD "MURDERED RUSSIAN TROOPS WHO WERE CARRYING A WHITE FLAG DURING AN ATTEMPT TO NEGOTIATE A TEMPORARY TRUCE IN THE CITY."

FIGHTING OVER STREETS CHOKED WITH GERMAN DEAD AND SMASHED TANKS AND GUNS THE RUSSIANS WERE BAYONETTING THEIR WAY THROUGH WALLS OF GERMANS ORDERED TO HOLD OUT AS LONG AS POSSIBLE IN AN EFFORT TO DELAY POWERFUL RUSSIAN THRUSTS THROUGH WESTERN HUNGARY AND SOUTHERN SLOVAKIA TOWARD BRATISLAVA AND VIENNA.

THE RUSSIAN NEWSPAPER RED STAR SAID THAT THE TRAPPED ENEMY'S POSITION WAS HOPELESS AND THAT SOVIET UNITS HAD JOINED UP FROM EAST AND WEST "ON ISLANDS OF THE BESIEGED CITY," APPARENTLY U REFERENCE TO ST.MARGARET'S IS

AND WEST "ON ISLANDS OF THE BESIEGED CITY," APPARENTLY A REFERENCE TO ST.MARGARET'S ISLAND, FASHIONABLE SPA WITHIN SIGHT OF PARLIAMENT ON THE EASTERN PEST SIDE OF THE DANUBE.

IN THE SOUTHERN QUARTER OF THE CITY THE RUSSIANS OVERRAN BUDAPEST'S VITAL DOCK SECTORS ON AND NEAR CSEPEL ISLAND AND THE GERMANS NOW DID NOT EVEN HAVE A SINGLE AIRFIELD WITH WHICH TO SUPPLY THEIR DYING FORCES, SOVIET FRONT DISPATCHES SAID.

ON THE PEST SIDE OF BUDAPEST, EAST OF THE DANUBE, THE RUSSIANS WERE FIGHTING THROUGH THE FLAT, MOST POPULOUS SECTIONS OF ONE OF EUROPE'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CAPITALS, BUT IN THE BUDA SECTION ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER THE GOING APPEARED TO BE MORE DIFFICULT.

THERE THE ENTRENCHED ENEMY HAD THE ADVANTAGE OF 770-FOOT BLUFFS, AND NATURAL DEFENSIVE TERRAIN, AND APPARENTLY THE FIGHTING FLOWED AROUND THE ROYAL PALACE WHERE GERMAN GUNS COULD FIRE DOWN ON THE RUSSIANS IN THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE CITY.

LIGHT TANKS AND ARMORED CARS WERE PENETRATING INTO THE CITY, GREATEST PRIZE YET WITHIN THE GRASP OF THE RUSSIANS, BUT THE GERMANS HAD SOWN THOUSANDS OF MINES WHICH HAD TO BE REMOVED BY SOVIET ENGINEERS.

PICKED SOVIET TEAMS OF TOMMY-GUNNERS AND SAPPERS CLEARED THE WAY FOR THE BULK OF THE RUSSIAN FORCES. THEY CREPT AROUND STREET BARRICADES AND MINED AREAS, FLASHING BACK RADIOED MESSAGES TO SOVIET ARTILLERY WHICH BATTERED DOWN ENEMY STRONGPOINTS.

THE SIZE OF THE TRAPPED BUDAPEST GARRISON AND THE OTHER POCKET WHICH HAS BEEN WIPED OUT IN THE PILIS HILLS BETWEEN BUDAPEST AND THE BIG DANUBE BEND TO THE NORTH ORIGINALLY WAS ESTIMATED AT 100,000.

THESE GERMAN AND HUNGARIAN TROOPS, MANY OF THEM ELITE FORCES ESPECIALLY CHOSEN FOR THE SACRIFICIAL STAND IN THE STALINGRAD MANNER, HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO DIE FIGHTING THE RUSSIANS OR BE SHOT IN THE BACK BY THEIR OWN LEADERS, MOSCOW SAID.

THE NEWSPAPER RED STAR CONCEDED THAT THE GERMANS WERE "FIGHTING WITH THE COURAGE OF THE DOOMED," BUT SAID "SOVIET INFANTRY IS RELENTLESSLY BREAKING DOWN RESISTANCE AND ROUTING THE ENEMY PIECEMEAL."

JUST BEFORE WIPING OUT THE ENEMY FORCE IN THE PILIS HILLS THE RUSSIANS CAPTURED 1,258 GERMANS AND HUNGARIANS ON FRIDAY, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

BUT ONE OF THE BIGGEST HAULS YET ANNOUNCED WAS ACHIEVED IN SOUTHERN SLOVAKIA, IN A 35-MILE SECTOR NORTH OF THE DANUBE-PILIS HILLS AREA.

IN THIS AREA THE RUSSIANS HAVE FORCED THE HRON RIVER TRIBUTARY OF THE DANUBE AND ARE WITHIN 64 MILES OF BRATISLAVA AND 98 FROM VIENNA. IN RECENT FIGHTING BETWEEN THE HRON AND IPOLY RIVERS IN THAT CLEARED AREA LEADING TO THE BRATISLAVA PLAIN THE RUSSIANS SAID THEY CAPTURED 7,550 GERMANS AND KILLED 7,600.

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LONDON--2ND ADD SECOND LEAD AERIAL X X X WESTERN ARMIES.

TODAY'S ATTACK WAS ON THE HEELS OF A 4,000-TON RAID YESTERDAY BY 1,200 FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS WHICH AN AMERICAN COMMUNIQUE SAID DID THE FOLLOWING DAMAGE:

DAMAGED 1,500 FREIGHT CARS AND STARTED NUMEROUS FIRES AMONG AMMUNITION AND OIL TRAINS IN THE FRANKFURT YARDS.

CUT ALL RAIL LINES IN THE BINGEN FREIGHT YARD WITH 250 HIGH EXPLOSIVE AND INCENDIARY HITS.

REGISTERED FIVE HITS ON THE MAIN BINGEN RAILWAY STATION.

REGISTERED HITS ON THE MAIN STATION AND YARDS AT SCHAFFENBURG.

CUT A RAIL LINE AND BRIDGE APPROACHES NORTHWEST OF COBLENZ.

THE U.S. STRATEGIC AIR FORCES ANNOUNCED AT 1 P.M. THAT "UNITED STATES BOMBERS ARE AGAIN OVER GERMANY." GERMAN RADIO WARNINGS REPORTED A FLEET OF HEAVY CRAFT OVER THE RUHR AND ANOTHER HEADING FOR SOUTHWESTERN GERMANY.

APPROXIMATELY 10,000 (CORRECT) TONS OF BOMBS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DROPPED ON GERMAN TARGETS YESTERDAY BY ALLIED PLANES BASED IN BRITAIN, WESTERN EUROPE AND ITALY.

A TOTAL OF 14 HEAVY BOMBERS AND 26 FIGHTERS WERE LOST BY THE U.S. EIGHTH AND NINTH AIR FORCES, THE RAF BOMBER COMMAND AND THE SECOND TACTICAL AIR FORCE, WHICH SENT UP 3,300 PLANES.

THIRTY-TWO GERMAN PLANES WERE SHOT OUT OF THE AIR. IN ADDITION TO THE MAJOR STRATEGICAL WORK RAIDERS SUPPORTING ALLIED GROUND FORCES DESTROYED OR DAMAGED 66 LOCOMOTIVES, 319 FREIGHT CARS, 63 TANKS AND 121 MOTOR VEHICLES.

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THE U. S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE AGAIN SPEARHEADED THE ATTACKS, SENDING 800 FORTRESSES AND LIBERATORS WITH AN ESCORT OF 700 FIGHTERS AGAINST BEHIND-THE-LINES GERMAN COMMUNICATIONS. TEN BOMBERS AND THREE FIGHTERS WERE REPORTED MISSING.

HALIFAXES AND LANCASTERS HIT THE CONGESTED RAIL YARDS AT COBLENZ ON THE RHINE, AND OTHER LANCASTERS DROPPED SIX-TON EARTHQUAKE BOMBS ON THE U-BOAT PENS STILL HELD BY THE NAZIS AT ST. NAZAIRE.

MEANWHILE, A BRITISH YEAR-END ROUNDUP OF RAF OPERATIONS FOR 1944 ESTIMATED THAT THE INCESSANT BOMBING OF BERLIN COST THE GERMAN CAPITAL'S 980,000 INDUSTRIAL WORKERS A TOTAL OF 19,600,000 WORKING DAYS.

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NIGHT LEAD GOEBBELS-GOERING (240)
BY ROMNEY WHEELER
LONDON, DEC. 30-(AP)-NAZI BIG-WIGS FILLED GERMAN AIR WAVES TODAY WITH PROMISES OF VICTORY IN NEW YEAR'S PROCLAMATIONS.
ROTUND, LONG-SILENT HERMANN GOERING REMAINED SILENT, BUT A PROCLAMATION PURPORTING TO COME FROM HIM DECLARED THAT "IT IS OUR DUTY AND OUR TASK IN THE COMING YEAR TO CARRY WAR AGAIN INTO THE ENEMY'S COUNTRY."
RECHSMINISTER PAUL GOEBBELS, THE NO. 1 NAZI PROPAGANDIST, HAD A BRAND NEW STORY TO TELL IN EXPLANATION OF WHY THE EQUALLY GARRULOUS ADOLF HITLER HAS NOT BEEN HEARD FROM LATELY.
GOEBBELS ON THE GERMAN RADIO SAID HE PURPOSELY PLANTED RUMORS THAT HITLER WAS ILL AS PART OF A DEEP AND FAR-FLUNG SCHEME TO LULL THE ALLIES INTO COMPLACENCY AND SET THEM UP FOR FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S WINTER OFFENSIVE.
GOERING'S PROCLAMATION PROMISED THE GERMAN PEOPLE "THAT WE WILL ACHIEVE VICTORY AND WITH IT PEACE UNDER LEADERSHIP OF ADOLF HITLER."
THE NAZI AGENCY DNB CARRIED A PROCLAMATION FROM DR. ROBERT LEY, THE LABOR FRONT LEADER, SAYING: "THE PARTY IS THE SOUL OF GERMAN RESISTANCE. THE PARTY IS GERMANY. ADOLF HITLER IS THE PARTY AND GERMANY IS ADOLF HITLER. THAT IS THE GREAT ACHIEVEMENT OF 1944."
ALBERT SPEER, REICHSMINISTER FOR ARMAMENT, SPOKE AS FOLLOWS TO THE LABORERS IN THE WAR PLANTS:
"YOU, GERMAN WORKERS, HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE THAT THE ENEMY WAS HALTED AT THE REICH BORDERS. YOU HAVE WORTHILY TAKEN YOUR PLACE AT THE SIDE OF OUR SOLDIERS...OUR TASK IS VICTORY."
AND THIS FROM REICH LABOR LEADER KONSTANTIN HIERL: "STUBBORNLY WE ENTER THE NEW YEAR. WE HAVE FAITH IN OUR NATION, IN THE FUEHRER AND IN OUR FINAL VICTORY."
FIELD MARSHAL KARL GERD VON RUNDSTEDT IN A NEW YEAR'S ORDER OF THE DAY TO HIS WEST FRONT ARMIES DECLARED, "ONE OF OUR HARDEST YEARS IS OVER X X X WE SHALL INCREASE OUR EFFORTS, NEVER GIVE IN UNTIL THE ENEMY IS BEATEN."
CLAIMING THE NAZIS HAD SURPASSED THE "CRISIS AND DANGERS" OF THE PAST YEAR, VON RUNDSTEDT SAID: "THE NEW YEAR WILL FIND US--AS UP TO NOW--LOYAL AND PROVED SOLDIERS OF THE FUEHRER. BOLD IN ATTACK, STEADFAST IN DEFENSE, INVINCIBLE IN THE GREAT BATTLE OF DECISION WE SHALL BE."
HE PLEDGED LOYALTY TO HITLER.
WD627PEW

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"LONDON, DEC. 30-(AP)--FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT, GERMAN COMMANDER IN THE WEST, IN A NEW YEARS ORDER OF THE DAY TO HIS TROOPS DECLARED "ONE OF OUR HARDEST YEARS IS OVER" AND "WE SHALL INCREASE OUR EFFORTS AND NEVER GIVE IN UNTIL THE ENEMY IS BEATEN."

"SOLDIERS OF THE WEST," HIS PROCLAMATION SAID, AS BROADCAST BY DNB FROM BERLIN, "ONE OF THE HARDEST YEARS OF THE WAR IS OVER. WE HAVE SURPASSED ITS CRISIS AND DANGERS. THE LEGACY OF OUR DEAD COMRADES WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN INSPIRATION AND OBLIGATION TO US.

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"THE NEW YEAR WILL FIND US--AS UP TO NOW--LOYAL AND PROVED SOLDIERS OF THE FUEHRER. BOLD IN ATTACK, STEADFAST IN DEFENSE, INVINCIBLE IN THE GREAT BATTLE OF DECISION WE SHALL BE.

"CONFIDENT AND DETERMINED TO DO OUR UTMOST WE PASS THE THRESHOLD OF 1945. OUR FAITH IN THE FUEHRER AND THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF OUR NATION IS UNSHAKEABLE. WE SHALL INCREASE OUR EFFORTS, NEVER GROW WEAK, NEVER GIVE IN UNTIL THE ENEMY IS BEATEN.

LONG LIVE THE FUEHRER." APL KASISCHKES 19 2 CCC 218P

LONDON, DEC. 30-(AP)-SOME 50,000 GI JOES AND JANES ARE EXPECTED TO PACK MAMMOTH WHITE CITY STADIUM TOMORROW (SUNDA) WHEN THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE RAIDERS AND THE AIR SERVICE COMMAND WARRIORS, BOTH UNBEATEN, CLASH IN THE TEA BOWL FOOTBALL GAME.
UNSTOPPED IN TWO YEARS THE RAIDERS THIS YEAR HAVE CHALKED UP 10 WINS SCORING 210 POINTS AGAINST SEVEN. THE WARRIORS ALSO WON 10 STRAIGHT WITH 256 POINTS AGAINST SIX.
THE RAIDERS ARE SPEARHEADED BY BACKS PRIVATE EARL DOSEY OF PURDUE; PVT.
NM SNOW OF THE UN

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THE RAIDERS ARE SPEARHEADED BY BACKS PRIVATE EARL DOSEY OF PURDUE; PVT.ED. SNOW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AND CORPORAL ASHLEY ANDERSON OF WISCONSIN.
THE WARRIORS ARE POWERED BY SGT.DICK WOODRING OF THE TEXAS AGGIES; PVT.LEROY SCHUETTE, KANSAS STATE TEACHERS; PVT.HAROLD STEVENSON, DUKE; AND SGT.JOHN MCKENZIE, MICHIGAN.
RQ1049PEW

LONDON, DEC 30-(AP)-THE GERMAN TRANSOCEAN AGENCY BROADCAST TODAY THAT THE AMERICANS NOW HAVE THROWN 25 DIVISIONS AGAINST FIELD MARSHAL VON RUN[illegible]'S OFFENSIVE SALIENT INTO BELGIUM.
ALL BERLIN [illegible]TS AGAIN WITHHELD ANY CLAIMS OF FURTHER

GERMAN ADVANCES.

ONE REPORT DECLARED THAT "WHATEVER COURSE FUTURE EVENTS MAY TAKE WE HAVE AT LEAST FOILED THE ENEMY'S PLANS FOR A WINTER OFFENSIVE WHICH WERE WELL BEYOND THE BLUEPRINT STAGE. AT THE SAME TIME EISENHOWER HAS BEEN FORCED TO REGROUP ALL HIS FRONT."

BERLIN DECLARED VAGUELY THAT "THE ADVANCE OF OUR SPEARHEADS HAS CHANGED INTO A BATTLE OF MOVEMENT."

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LONDON, DEC. 30-(AP)-A BLIZZARD OF "PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE" LEAFLETS FLUTTERED DOWN FROM ALLIED BOMBERS TO ENEMY-OCCUPIED EUROPE DURING 1944 IN A TRUTH CAMPAIGN WHICH BRITISH INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS SAID TODAY IS HAVING A "TERMITE" EFFECT ON GERMAN MORALE.

GROWTH OF THIS PAPER OFFENSIVE FROM A FEW THOUSAND IN EARLY WAR DAYS WAS INDICATED BY AN AIR MINISTRY DISCLOSURE THAT MORE THAN 250,000,000 LEAFLETS WERE SCATTERED OVER 12 EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THIS YEAR BY ITALY-BASED R.A.F. NIGHT BOMBERS ALONE.

ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL PROPAGANDA EFFORTS OF THE WAR, IT NOW CAN BE REVEALED, HAS BEEN A MESSAGE FOR GERMAN FRONT-LINE TROOPS TELLING THEM "THE WAY HOME TO GERMANY LIES THROUGH CANADA."

UNDER THIS HEADING, THE LEAFLET CONTAINS A CRISPLY-WRITTEN ACCOUNT OF THE LATEST ALLIED SUCCESSES WITH THE IMPLICATION THAT WISE USE OF A SAFE-CONDUCT PASS LEADS TO COMFORTABLE INTERNMENT IN CANADA AND EVENTUALLY BACK TO THE FATHERLAND.

WHILE ALL OCCUPIED COUNTRIES RECEIVE A REGULAR PAMPHLET SERVICE OF STRAIGHT NEWS, OTHERS ARE SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR SPECIFIC AREAS. FOR FRANCE, BEFORE THE INVASION, THERE WERE MESSAGES OF ENCOURAGEMENT. THE BALKANS GENERALLY WERE EXHORTED TO OVERTHROW QUISLING LEADERS.

ALLIED LEAFLETS HAVE BECOME THE ONLY SOURCE OF ACCURATE NEWS FOR THE GERMAN SOLDIER AND THERE IS INCONTROVERTIBLE EVIDENCE IN ALLIED INTELLIGENCE FILES THAT HE LOOKS FOR THEM.

JR236AEW

(EDITOR'S NOTE: THE G-2 SUIT, A SENSATIONAL FORWARD STEP FOR FIGHTER PLANE PILOTS, HAS BEEN USED BY AMERICAN AIRMEN SINCE SHORTLY BEFORE THE INVASION OF FRANCE. A CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET, THE ARMY DID NOT PERMIT DISCLOSURE OF IT UNTIL TODAY. ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT FRANKLIN BANKER OBSERVED ITS USE DURING THE INVASION, STUDIED ITS FUNCTIONS AND WROTE THE FOLLOWING DISPATCH WHICH HAS JUST BEEN CLEARED BY ARMY CENSORS.)

BY FRANKLIN BANKER

AN AMERICAN FIGHTER BASE, JULY 22-(DELAYED)-(AP)-AN ANTI-GRAVITY SUIT WHICH RESEMBLES SOMETHING WHICH CAME OUT OF THE BLOOMER GIRL ERA HAS HELPED AMERICAN FIGHTER PILOTS BEAT DOWN THE GERMAN AIR FORCE.

IT IS KNOWN OFFICIALLY AS THE BERGER G-2 SUIT, BUT THE POPULAR NAME FOR IT AMONG PILOTS AND GROUNDS CREWS IS "ZOOT SUIT." THIS ANTI-GRAVITY GARMENT PREVENTS PILOTS FROM "BLACKING OUT" IN STEEP CLIMBS OR SHARP TURNS BY FORCING BACK UP TO THE BRAIN BLOOD WHICH HAS BEEN PULLED DOWN INTO THE ABDOMEN AND LEGS BY THE FORCE OF GRAVITY.

THE SUIT LOOKS LIKE A COMBINATION CORSET AND OVERALLS WITH TIGHTLY LACED LEGS. BUT ITS LOOKS ARE DECEIVING. THIS QUEER GARMENT GREATLY INCREASED THE MANEUVERABILITY OF THUNDERBOLT PILOTS AND ENABLED THEM TO RUN RINGS AROUND THE SWIFT ME-109'S AND FW-190'S. CAUGHT NAPPING BY THE NEW TACTICS OF THE P-47'S MANY GERMAN PILOTS WERE SHOT DOWN WITH EASE.

THE SUIT ALSO GAVE THE PILOTS OF THE MORE MANEUVERABLE MUSTANGS AND LIGHTNINGS, A BIG ADVANTAGE IN LESSENING FATIGUE ON LONG MISSIONS. IT DID THIS BY PUSHING THE BLOOD BACK UP TO THE HEART AND LUNGS WHICH FILL IT FULL OF LIFE-GIVING OSYGEN. FATIGUE LIKEWISE IS DECREASED IN THE CASE OF THUNDERBOLT PILOTS.

NINTH AIR FORCE PILOTS WERE EQUIPPED WITH THE OLIVE DRAB SUITS IN TIME FOR THE NORMANDY INVASION AND THEIR HEAVY PROGRAM OF PATROL, DIVEBOMBING AND STRAFING MISSIONS IN CLOSE SUPPORT OF GROUND TROOPS. AS ADDITIONAL SUITS ARRIVED FROM AMERICA THEY WERE ISSUED TO PILOTS OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE WHOSE MAIN JOB WAS ESCORTING BOMBERS ON LONG-RANGE MISSIONS.

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THE NEW DEVICE, HOWEVER, IS NOT NEEDED BY BOMBER CREWS WHO NORMALLY FLY IN FORMATION WITH GRADUAL CHANGES OF ALTITUDE AS COMPARED WITH THE SUDDEN HIGH-SPEED DIVES, CLIMBS AND TURNS OF THE FIGHTERS.

THE SECRET OF THE "ZOOT SUIT" IS FIVE RUBBER BLADDERS WHICH FIT TIGHTLY AGAINST AREAS OF THE BODY WHERE BIG VEINS DILATE WITH BLOOD WHICH IS PULLED DOWN BY GRAVITY. ONE BLADDER RESTS AGAINST THE FRONT OF THE LOWER ABDOMEN AND IS HELD IN PLACE BY TWO FLAPS WHICH ARE FASTENED TOGETHER WITH A ZIPPER IN CORSET FASHION.

OTHER BLADDERS, ONE RESTING ON EACH THIGH AND ONE ON THE CALF OF EACH LEG, ARE KEPT SNUG BY LACES ON THE BACK OF THE "OVERALL" LEGS.

AS HE CLIMBS INTO HIS COCKPIT THE PILOT PLUGS IN A RUBBER HOSE FROM THE BLADDERS TO AN AIR PRESSURE APPARATUS, AND WHEN HIS PLANE ZOOMS SUDDENLY UPWARD IN FLIGHT AIR AUTOMATICALLY IS FORCED INTO THE BLADDERS. THIS INFLATES THEM AND FORCES BLOOD BACK UP TO THE HEAD.

THE AIR PRESSURE IS MADE AUTOMATIC BY REGULATING VALVES. THESE VALVES AND A LENGTH OF ALUMINUM TUBING WERE THE ONLY EQUIPMENT WHICH HAD TO BE INSTALLED IN THE PLANES TO OPERATE THE SUITS. THEY WERE HOOKED UP WITH A PUMP ALREADY IN THE PLANE TO PRESSUREIZE THE GASOLINE OF THE WING TANKS.

"I'M SOLD ON IT," SAID MAJ. JOSEPH THURY OF 618 EDMUND AVE., ST.PAUL, MINN., A MUSTANG PILOT, AFTER HE HAD WORN ONE OF THE SUITS FOR TWO WEEKS. "WE DON'T FEEL AS TIRED NOW AS WE USED TO AFTER OUR LONG MISSIONS. THE BLADDERS MAKE YOU FEEL JUST LIKE SOMEONE IS GIVING YOU A GOOD MASSAGE THE WAY THEY PUSH THE BLOOD AROUND.

"NOW WE ARE ABLE TO LOOK AROUND AND TURN OUR HEADS IN A CLIMB. THAT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT IF AN ENEMY FIGHTLUCMLSURGEON FROM WILLIAMSTOWN, TOLD ME THAT PILOTS START BLACKING OUT AT 4 1/2 G'S--OR WHEN THE FORCE OF GRAVITY IS 4 1/2 TIMES NORMAL. THE BODY THEN WEIGHS 4 1/2 TIMES ITS NORMAL WEIGHT.

ANYONE WHO HAS RIDDEN A ROLLER COASTER CAN EASILY VISUALIZE THE GRAVITY PULL. ON A STEEP COASTER RIDE A FORCE OF TWO OR 2 1/2 G'S IS FELT WHEN YOU START A SHARP CLIMB.

UX&WD1052AEW

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LONDON, DEC.30-(AP)-DESPITE FOG AND CLOUDS OVER THE CONTINENT TODAY, U.S.EIGHTH AIRFORCE FLIERS WHO ATTACKED GERMAN RAIL CENTERS DESCRIBED THEIR MISSION GENERALLY AS AN EASY RUN.

MAJ.ROBERT W.MCHENRY OF JOHNSTOWN, PA., REPORTED A SOLID ROOF OF CLOUDS FORCED THE BOMBERS TO DROP THEIR LOADS BY INSTRUMENT.

"WE WEREN'T EVEN BOTHERED BY FLAK OVER TERRITORY THAT IS USUALLY VERY DANGEROUS," SAID LT.ROBERT E.PITTS, 25, OF 563 22ND STREET, SAN DIEGO, CALIF. "ALL I COULD SEE WAS CLOUDS AND SCORES OF OUR OWN ESCORT FIGHTERS."

TWO CREWMEN SAW ROCKETS. "ONE EXPLODED CLOSE TO OUR TAIL BUT DID NO DAMAGE," SAID SGT.RALPH HOLMES OF HAZEN, ARK.

SGT.PHIL A.CIANGIARULO OF HALEM AVENUE, MCKEESS ROCKS, PA., SAID "THEY THREW UP A FREW GROUND ROCKETS AS WE ENTERED ENEMY TERRITORY AND THEY KEPT COMING FROM TIME TO TIME AL THE WAY IN, BUT NO DAMAGE WAS INFLICTED ON OUR PLANES. WE DIDN'T SEE ANY ENEMY FIGHTERS."

SQUADRON LEADER CAPT.PAUL L.SPUREGON OF 1208 NORTHWEST 44TH STREET,

OKLAHOMA CITY, SAID, "WEATHER CONDITIONS WERE VERY POOR, WITH A HEAVY LOW UNDERCAST OVER THE TARGET SO WE WERE FORCED TO DROP OUR BOMBS BY INSTRUMENTS."

PS718PEW

LONDON, DEC 30-(AP)-ASKED ABOUT RUMORS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN IN THE UNITED STATES THAT HE HAD DIED, PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL TONIGHT SENT WORD TO NEWSMEN THAT, "IN THE WORDS OF MARK TWAIN, THE REPORT IS GREATLY EXAGGERATED."

CHURCHILL SAID HE WAS FEELING FINE DESPITE HIS ARDUOUS WORK ON THE GREEK CRISIS.

DY1121PEW

Nr Near Monschau, Germany (Gallagher) xx taken prisoner

AFTER THE EIGHTH DAY THE BATTERED 12TH PANZER DIVISION GAVE UP THE TASK AND ITS REMNANTS MOVED BACK FOR REFITTING.

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THE FIRST, WITH THE FLANKING ASSISTANCE OF TWO OTHER DIVISIONS NOT YET IDENTIFIED, HAD HELD A VITAL HINGE ON THE NORTHERN FLANK OF THE BREAKTHROUGH. IF THAT LINE HAD BROKEN THE WHOLE FRONT MIGHT WELL HAVE COLLAPSED.

MK&FW423AEW

Alt with U.S. 9th Army German Front (Wilson) xx attacks.

THE THUNDERBOLTS WITH GERMAN MARKINGS BOMBED AND STRAFED FIVE TOWNS IN THE BITCHE AREA, WHILE OTHER GERMAN PLANES HIT STOULTZ AND SURBOURG, IN THE REAR OF AMERICAN TROOPS SOUTH OF WIESEMBOURG, AND ITTENHEIM ON THE STRASBOURG-SAVERNE HIGHWAY.

B-26 MARAUDERS OF THE FIRST TACTICAL AIRFORCE SMASHED BACK WITH A BLOW AT THE GERMAN SUPPLY AND FUEL DUMPS AT OOS, FOUR MILES SOUTH OF RASTATT JUST ACROSS THE RHINE, AND THUNDERBOLTS DESTROYED FIVE MESSERSCHMITTS IN THE AIR.

SEVENTY-FIVE MEDIUM BOMBERS HIT THE OOS DUMPS. "THE WHOLE TOWN WAS A MASS OF DUST AND EXPLODING BOMBS," SGT.JAMES LEE OF TELLICO PLAINS, TENN., A TAILGUNNER, SAID. "I SAW TEN OR MORE EXPLOSIONS IN THE TARGET AREA," SGT.GERALD WEYENBERF OF RIVER FALLS, WIS., SAID.

THUNDERBOLTS ALSO SMASHED RAIL LINES IN AND NEAR KAISERSLAUTERN, HOMBURG, KARLSRUHE, LANDAU AND COLMAR, DESTROYING OR DAMAGING 78 LOCOMOTIVES AND 664 RAIL CARS.

30.24 — 21663

IN A TANGLE WITH 12 ME-109'S, VICTORIES WERE SCORED BY LTS. ERNEST GIVEN OF GLENDINEN, W.VA., DONALD SCHERER OF SYDNEY, OHIO; STANLEY STEPANEK OF OMAHA, NEB., ROBERT RICE OF JONESBORO, N.C., AND SCOTT ALLARD OF 1200 KILDARE AVENUE, LOS ANGELES.

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PS741PEW

~~OF ROCHEFORT.~~ Alt Paris Wfront xxxx moved up

(THE BRUSSELS RADIO SAID TODAY THAT THE AMERICANS HAD RECAPTURED ROCHEFORT AND A VIOLENT TANK BATTLE WAS RAGING NEAR THE TOWN).

OBSERVERS REPORTED ENEMY TROOPS WERE THROWING UP FORTIFICATIONS AND PLANTING MINES FOR A DEFENSIVE STAND.

FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT STILL HAS POWERFUL FORCES IN THE CENTER OF THE BULGE AND MIGHT ORDER ONE MORE BIG ATTACK BEFORE GIVING UP. THERE WAS NO SIGN HOWEVER, THAT SUCH AN ASSAULT WAS IMMINENT. FOR 50 HOURS UP TO THURSDAY MORNING THE THREE GERMAN ARMIES COMMITTED IN THIS CAMPAIGN HAD FAILED TO ATTACK.

(REUTERS CORRESPONDENT WILLIAM STEEN SAID LAST NIGHT THAT THE GERMAN WITHDRAWAL FROM THE SALIENT "HAS DEVELOPED INTO A ROUT AT SOME POINTS.")

THE NARROWING OF THE ENEMY SALIENT TO 13 MILES WAS ACCOMPLISHED WHEN LT. GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON'S THIRD ARMY CEMENTED POSITIONS FOUR MILES NORTH OF BASTOGNE WHILE FIRST ARMY TROOPS WERE FIGHTING DOWN FROM THE NORTH.

OTHER THIRD ARMY UNITS HAD POUNDED TO THE GERMAN BORDER AT THREE POINTS IN NORTHEASTERN LUXEMBOURG AND PLACED A NUMBER OF ESCAPE ROUTES BACK INTO THE REICH UNDER SHELLFIRE.

IN A DISPATCH COVERING DEVELOPMENTS UP TO THURSDAY MORNING, ASSOCIATED PRESS CORRESPONDENT LEWIS HAWKINS SAID THE THIRD ARMY'S CORRIDOR TO BASTOGNE WAS STRENGTHENED AGAINST STOUT RESISTANCE FROM THE WEST, BUT LESSER OPPOSITION FROM THE EAST. THIS CORRIDOR HAS BEEN BROADENED TO AS MUCH AS SIX MILES AND IS DEVELOPING INTO AN ACUTE THREAT TO THE WHOLE GERMAN POSITION.

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A43

BY THURSDAY MORNING AT LEAST 15 MORE TOWNS HAD BEEN OVERRUN BY THE TWO AMERICAN ARMIES. AMONG THESE WERE JODENVILLE AND VILLEROUX, FIVE AND THREE MILES SOUTHWEST OF BASTOGNE, AND SAINLEX AND LIVAR-CHAMPS, BOTH FIVE MILES TO THE SOUTH.

EAST OF BASTOGNE PATTON'S MEN WERE ACROSS THE SURE RIVER AT NUMEROUS POINTS AND HAD SENT VANGUARDS TO WITHIN THREE MILES OF THE CITY OF WILTZ, 25 MILES NORTH OF THE CAPITAL OF LUXEMBOURG.

IN A BREAK ACROSS THE SURE, WHICH TURNING WESTWARD FROM THE GERMAN BORDER FORMS A RIVER BARRIER IN NORTHERN LUXEMBOURG, THIRD ARMY TROOPS OVERRAN BOULAIDE, BASCHLEIDEN, BAVIGNE, MECHER-DUNKRODT AND KAUNDORF, ALL 19 TO 22 MILES NORTH OF THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG. KAUNDORF IS BUT THREE MILES SOUTH OF WILTZ.

OPERATING 15 MILES NORTH AND NORTHEAST OF THE CITY OF LUXEMBOURG MOP-UP FORCES SEIZED ETTLEBRUCK, THREE MILES SOUTHWEST OF DIEKIRCH, AND EPPELDORF, FOUR MILES SOUTHEAST OF DIEKIRCH.

AMERICAN FIRST ARMY TROOPS FOUGHT INTO THE OUTSKIRTS OF ROCHEFORT AFTER DRIVING THE GERMANS FROM VERRE, JAMBLINNE AND HUMAIN, SEVEN, FOUR AND THREE MILES FROM THE PICTURESQUE RESORT TOWN. MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS EXTENDED ALL THE WAY TO CELLES, NEAR THE HIGH WATER MARK

OF THE GERMAN DRIVE.

ON THE NORTHERN FLANK THE GERMANS SENT TWO BATTALIONS AGAINST AMERICAN POSITIONS IN THE "HOT CORNER" NEAR MONSCHAU UNDER COVER OF A HEAVY ARTILLERY BARRAGE, BUT THEY WERE THROWN BACK WITHOUT GAINING GROUND.

TO THE WEST 100 GERMANS SLIPPED PAST FIRST ARMY LINES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE CROSSROADS TOWN OF GRANDMENIL, BUT WERE SURROUNDED AND AT LAST REPORTS WERE BEING WIPED OUT.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ANNOUNCED THAT THE FIRST INFANTRY, THE SEVENTH ARMORED AND 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISIONS HAD FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN STEMMING THE GERMAN RUSH. THE FIRST INFANTRY DIVISION STOPPED THE 12TH SS (ELITE GUARD) PANZER DIVISION IN BITTER FIGHTING NEAR MONSCHAU, THUS BLOCKING THE SHORTEST ROAD TO LIEGE AND THE MEUSE.

IN BITTER FIGHTING IN AND AROUND THE "STAVELOT POCKET" SOUTHWEST OF MALMEDY THE 82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION FOUGHT THE FIRST SS ADOLF HITLER PANZERS -- THE FUEHRER'S FAVORITE DIVISION. THE GERMAN DIVISION LOST HALF OF ITS PERSONNEL STRENGTH.

AT ST.VITH THE SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISION MADE ONE OF THE FINEST DEFENSIVE STANDS OF ANY AMERICAN FORMATION, HOLDING THAT VITAL ROAD NET FOR FIVE DAYS WHILE THE MAIN AMERICAN DEFENSE LINE TO THE WEST WAS FORMING.

JR514AEW

Add with Am Forces on W Front - Civilians as military traffic.

"GERMANS IN AMERICAN UNIFORMS HAVE TRIED TO ALARM CIVILIANS BY TELLING THEM FALSELY THAT THE 'GERMANS ARE IN THE NEXT TOWN, GET GOING,'" RELATED LT.COL.WILLIAM E.DAHL OF CRESTWOOD APTS., FORT WORTH, TEXAS. "BUT NOWHERE HAVE THE ROADS BEEN CLOGGED AS THEY WERE WHEN THE GERMANS ROLLED WEST IN 1940."

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UX943AEW

BASTOGNE--2ND ADD MCAULIFFE (TOP AYE) XXX WASHINGTON, D.C.
PVT.DON SPILLMAN, FORMER TAMPA, FLA., PHOTOGRAPHER, SCORNFULLY CALLED THE BASTOGNE SIEGE A "NICE LITTLE CAMPAIGN."

"THEY'RE ALL THE SAME ONLY THERE WAS NO JUMPING TO DO HERE," ADDED CORP.RUSSELL ENGEL, OF BURLINGAME, CALIF., FORMER REPORTER FOR PENINSULA NEWSPAPERS IN CALIFORNIA.

WHILE GERMAN SHELLS STILL WERE PLUNKING AROUND TODAY SGT.DAN BAXLEY, OF BRUNSWICK, MO., COMMENTED "THIS IS SOP ARMY CONTRACTION FOR STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE) WHEREVER THE 101ST GOES."

RQ930PEW

PARIS, DEC. 30--(AP)---THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE COMPLETED RATIFICATIONS OF THE FIVE-YEAR-OLD RECIPROCAL TAXATION CONVENTION TONIGHT A FEW HOURS AFTER GEN. CHARLES DE GAULLE ACCEPTED THE CREDENTIALS OF JEFFERSON CAFFREY AS U. S. AMBASSADOR IN A BRIEF CEREMONY.

THE TAXATION AGREEMENT--INTENDED TO PREVENT DOUBLE TAXATION OF NATIONALS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF EACH COUNTRY ESTABLISHED IN THE OTHER--WAS NEGOTIATED LATE IN 1939. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT RATIFIED IT IN 1940 BUT APPROVAL BY THE U. S. SENATE DID NOT COME UNTIL DEC. 12 OF THIS YEAR.

DE GAULLE AND FOREIGN MINISTER GEORGES BIDAULT SIGNED THE RATIFICATION INSTRUMENT FOR FRANCE TONIGHT AND RECEIVED A SIMILAR DOCUMENT FROM CAFFREY ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES. THE AGREEMENT WILL TAKE EFFECT JAN. 1.

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PW DVNNS 01930 EJD 425PEW

PARIS, Dec. 30--(AP)--French purge courts sitting in judgment on Frenchmen accused of helping the Germans during the occupation pronounced 102 death sentences and acquitted 88 defendants, it was disclosed tonight.

Prison sentences ranging from several months to life with hard labor attached have been meted out to 732.

The purge courts still have 35,000 accusations to consider in some 60 courts scattered throughout France.

Goldbergs pw ejd 9pew

PARIS, DEC. 30--(AP)--PFC. WALTER MACHALE OF PHILADELPHIA CAN'T WRITE HOME ABOUT THE FICTIONAL TYPE OF HAPPY ENDING, NOR BECAUSE HE DID NOT WIN THE MOST IMPORTANT CHESS TOURNA-

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MENT IN PARIS IN THE PAST DECADE, BUT HE DID LAND NEAR HALFWAY UP THE STANDINGS IN A 30-MAN CONTEST.

THE QUIET SIGNAL CORPSMAN WON ONE, LOST TWO AND HAD FOUR DRAWS. ONE DRAW WAS WITH CESAR BOUTTEVILLE, 1944 PARIS CHAMPION. MACHALE WAS BEATEN BY JEAN ZMOSKA BOROVSKY, RUSSIAN MASTER WHO WON THE TOURNAMENT.

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PKL GOLDBERGS 02315 925P

BY HAL BOYLE
NEAR ST. VITH, BELGIUM, DEC.23-(DELAYED BY CENSOR)-(AP)-FROM THE TIRED LIPS OF SURVIVORS TODAY CAME THE FIRST FULL STORY OF HOW THE GERMANS LAUNCHED THEIR GRAND OFFENSIVE AND HOW TWO "LOS" AMERICAN

GERMANS LAUNCHED THEIR GRAND OFFENSIVE AND HOW TWO LOST AMERICAN FORMATIONS STALLED IT FOR TWO CRUCIAL DAYS BY FIGHTING GAMELY UNTIL ENGULFED.

ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF THESE WEARY SOLDIERS HAVE MANAGED TO STRAGGLE THROUGH THE TIDE OF NAZI ARMOR THAT EVENTUALLY OVERRAN THEM, BUT THEY BROUGHT WITH THEM THE TALE OF AN AMERICAN THERMOPYLAE IN THE FROZEN FASTNESSES OF THE BELGIAN ARDENNES.

ISOLATED BY THE FIRST CRUSHING SURGE OF NAZI TANKS IN THE EIFEL MOUNTAINS NEAR THE GERMAN BORDER, THESE TWO AMERICAN FORMATIONS FOUGHT BACK IN THE WAY OLD COVERED WAGON TRAINS DEFENDED THEMSELVES AGAINST ENCIRCLING INDIANS.

DURING THE STRUGGLE THEY RELAYED BY RADIO TO AMERICAN DEFENSE FORCES ASSEMBLING BEHIND THEM VITAL NZYARMCT OOVVM

UQWBBMMMMVVOUMKUKJQVAWZ

DURING THE STRUGGLE THEY RELAYED BY RADIO TO AMERICAN DEFENSE FORCES ASSEMBLING BEHI
N
D
THEM VITAL INFORMATION ON THE ENEMY'S STRENGTH AND MOVEMENTS.

THE SPOKE MAN FOR THE HEROES OF THE BLOODY STAND WAS LT.COL. ROBERT P.STOUT, 711 MANHEIM ROAD, KANSAS CITY, MO.

"THESE FORMATIONS TOOK THE FIRST BIG NICK OUT OF THE EDGE OF THE GERMAN AXLE AND BLUNTED THE F

GERMAN AXE AND BLUNTED THE FORCE OF THEIR ATTACK," HE SAID. WE CAPTURED ONE NAZI CAPTAIN WHO PAID THEM THIS COMPLIMENT, 'WE WERE TOLD THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO GO RIGHT THROGH YOU TO S

THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO GO RIGHT THROUGH YOU TO ST. VITH. BUT I WAS THE ONLY COMMANDER ABLE TO REACH OUR FIRST DAY'S OBJECTIVE ON SCHEDULE--AND NOW LOOK AT ME.'"

DESCRIBING THE START OF THE MIGHTY GERMAN BLOW, STOUT SAID, "OUR OUTFIT HAD BEEN IN POSITION ONLQ A FEW DAYS AND HELD A LONG SECTION OF THE BATTLEFRONT--27 MILES. IT WAS IN THE SCHNEE EIFEL SECTION, A LONG RIDGE LINE ALMOST 2,500 FEET HIGH AND HEAVILY WOODED. IT IS VERY RUGGED COUNTRY AND FOR THE MOST PART UNSUITABLE FOR TANKS.

"ON THE NIGHT OF DEC. 15 WE LEARNED THAT THE ENEMY WAS GROUPING FOR SOME KIND OF ATTACK AND WE INFORMED THE FRONTLINE UNITS.

"AT 7 O'CLOCK THE NEXT MORNING THE GERMANS HIT US. ONE OF THEIR FIRST OBJECTIVES WAS TO THROW US OUT OF THE SLIGHT PENETRATION WE HAD MADE INTO THE SIEGFRIED LINE--ABOUT 4,000 YARDS LONG AND A SIMILAR DISTANCE DEEP.

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B67

"THEY STRUCK DOWN FROM THE NORTH OF THE SCHNEE EIFEL. THAT WAS THE SITE OF THE FIRST BREAKTHROUGH, AND IT WAS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE THEY COULD GET TANKS THROUGH IN STRENGTH.

"ANOTHER COLUMN ATTACKED FROM THE SOUTH OX THE SCHNEE EIFEL. BOTH COLUMNS WERE HEAVILY ARMORED AND WE LOST CONSIDERABLE CAVALRY WHO WERE TOO LIGHTLY GUNNED TO WITHSTAND THE ONSLAUGHT--BUT THE MEN DIED IN THEIR VEHICLES TRYING TO HALT THE ENEMY.

"OUR TWO INFANTRY FORMATIONS THAT WERE CUT OFF WERE ON THE SCHNEE EIFEL AND FOUND THEMSELVES SURROUNDED WHEN THE TWO NA I COLUMNS LINKED UP WEST OF THIS RIDGE."

ALTHOUGH THEY HAD ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF GUNS TO OPPOSE THE ENEMY PANZER AND INFANTRY DIVISIONS, THE DOUGHBOYS ON THE RIDGE LINE REFUSED TO GIVE UP.

"THEY ORGANIZED A LAST STAND," STOUT SAID, "AND SENT WORD FOR US TO TRY TO SUPPLY THEM WITH FOOD AND AMMUNITION BY AIR. BUT THE FOG WAS SO HEAVY THE PLANES WERE UNABLE TO CARRY OUT DELIVERIES.

"ONE OF OUR OTHER INFANTRY UNITS TRIED TO SPEARHEAD THROUGH TO THEM AND CREATE A CHANNEL IN WHICH THEY COULD FALL BACK, BUT FAILED.

"AS A RESULT OF THE FIGHTING BY TWO LARGER FORMATIONS, HOWEVER, THE BULK OF THE GERMAN ATTACK IN THAT SECTOR WAS TIED UP IN DEALING WITH THEM, AND THE ENEMY FOR SOME TIME WAS ABLE TO SEND ONLY RELATIVELY SMALL COLUMNS AHEAD TO THE ST.VITH AREA--THUS UPSETTING HIS ADVANTAGE OF SURPRISE.

"OUR TWO FORMATIONS REGROUPED AND FOUGHT BACK TO BACK--ONE HOLDING OFF THE GERMANS FROM THE EAST AND THE OTHER ATTACKING TOWARD THE WEST TRYING TO BATTLE THROUGH TO OUR MAIN FORCES. ALTHOUGH THEY WERE GREATLY OUTNUMBERED, I THINK THEX WOULD HAVE MADE IT IF THE WEATHER HAD ENABLED US TO GET TO THEM THE FOOD AND AMMUNITION THEY NEEDED."

"YES," SAID LT.-COL. EARLE WILLIAMS, DIVISION SIGNAL OFFICER, AND FORMER LOUISVILLE, KY., TELEPHONE COMPANY EXECUTIVE, "WE KEPT IN RADIO CONTACT WITH THEM UNTIL THE LATE AFTERNOON OF DEC. 18--TWO DAYS AFTER THE OFFENSIVE STARTED. OUR LAST MESSAGE TO THEM WHICH THEY FAILED TO ANSWER WAS TO ASK THEM IF SUPPLIES THEY HAD ASKED FOR HAD REACHED THEM BY AIR.

"BUT WE KNOW THEY KEPT ON FIGHTING EVEN AFTER COMMUNICATIONS FAILED. EVERY FIVE MINUTESNFOR THREE DAYS WE SENT MESSAGES TO THEM TRYING TO REESTABLISH CONTACT."

RESUMING HIS ACCOUNT, LIEUT.-COL.STOUT SAID:

"BECAUSE OF THE FIGHT THEY MADE, THE REST OF OUR OUTFIT WAS ABLE TO PULL BACK ONTHE NIGHTNOF DEC. 17, LINK UP WITH ARMORED AMERICAN UNITS, AND AGAIN PRESENT A CLOSED LINE TO THE ENEMY, FURTHER DELAYING HIM. HE NO LONGER HAD THE GREAT GAP HE HAD COUNTED ON THROUGH

...UGH WHICH TO POUR HIS ARMOR AND INFANTRY IN WAVES.
CAPTURED WITH THE CRESTFALLEN NAZI CAPTAIN WHO SOUGHT TO WIN FAVOR IN HIS COMMANDER'S EYES BY BEING THE FIRST MAN INTO THE FIRST DAY'S OBJECTIVES WERE 107 OF HIS MEN PINCHED OFF BY THE QUICK DEVELOPMENT.
STOUT AND EVERY OTHER MAN IN HIS DIVISION TREASURE THIS COMMENDATCON FROM THEIR CORPS COMMANDER:
"YOU ARE DOING A HELL OF A SWELL JOB."
LOOKING ABOUT THE COLD LITTLE BELGIAN FARMHOUSE WHERE OFFICERS STILL ARE DIRECTING THE BATTLE STOUT SAID IRONICALLY:
"YOU KNOW WHAT THE OUTFIT WE RELIEVED TOLD US WHEN WE MOVED INTO THE SCHNEE-EIFEL SECTOR? THEY SAID THIS IS A QUIET SECTOR--YOU WONT HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THIS ONE."
MJ246PEW

WITH THE U.S. THIRD ARMY, DEC. 30-(AP)-TEXAS-BORN MAJ.-GEN. HUGH S. GAFFEY, LONG ONE OF LT.-GEN. GEORGE S. PATTON'S RIGHT-HAND STAFF OFFICERS, NOW IS COMMANDING THE U.S. FOURTH ARMORED DIVISION, WHICH PUNCHED THROUGH TO THE RELIEF OF THE BASTOGNE GARRISON, IT WAS DISCLOSED TODAY.
UX854AEW

W..H THE U.S. THIRD ARMY, DEC. 30-(AP)-WITH THEIR BOMBS DUMPED ON C..ER TARGETS, 11 THUNDERBOLTS LED BY MAJOR LOREN W. HERWAY OF INDI..NOLA, IOWA, REPORTED DESTRUCTION TODAY OF EIGHT ENEMY TANKS IN AN ARMORED COLUMN NEAR BASTOGNE BY STRAFING ALONE.
JR140AEW

WITH U.S. FORCES IN BELGIUM, DEC. 30-(AP)-GERMAN MEDICAL OFFICERS BROUGHT THEIR WOUNDED INTO THE AMERICAN LINES NEAR LINDERN TODAY FOR TREATMENT.
IT WAS NOT LEARNED WHETHER THE MEDICS SURRENDERED BECAUSE THEY WERE UNABLE TO CARE FOR THE WOUNDED IN THE NARROW GERMAN BRIDGEHEAD WEST OF THE ROER.
WD628PEW

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PARIS, DEC. 30-(AP)-THE AMERICAN SUCCESS IN TURNING BACK THE GERMAN COUNTERBLOW IN BELGIUM HAS SENT THE POPULARITY OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS.
THE NEWSPAPER COMBAT TOLD THE FRENCH TO REMEMBER THAT THE AMERICANS HAD GIVEN FRANCE THEIR LIVES AS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN WARDING OFF THE GERMAN PUSH.
IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE PARIS PRESSE, PHILIPPE BARRES SAID:
"THE SACRIFICES UNDERGONE BY OUR ALLIES HAVE NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE FORTHCOMING VICTORY; THEY HAVE ALSO GIVEN NEW MEANING AND A SUPPLEMENTARY RICHNESS TO THAT LONG STANDING SENTIMENT WHICH MAKES US SHOUT TODAY: VIVE L'AMERIQUE!"
FW607AEW

FOLO LONDON (150)
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, PARIS, DEC. 30 -(AP)-SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS WAS SILENT TONIGHT ON PUBLISHED REPORTS THAT THE WINTER SETBACK AT THE FRONT WOULD RESULT IN A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN COMMAND AND ORGANIZATION.
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO QUESTION BUT THAT MARSHAL KARL GERD VON RUNDSTEDT TOOK THE ALLIED HIGH COMMAND BY SURPRISE AS HE THREW IN HIS GREAT ATTACK, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS TO ITS SIZE AND SCOPE. HE WAS AIDED BY A PERIOD OF HEAVY FOGS WHICH PERMITTED HIM TO CONCEAL BIG-SCALE MOVEMENTS FROM AERIAL OBSERVATION---AND PERHAPS WAS AIDED ALSO BY ALLIED COMPLACENCY.
SO FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO INFORMATION ISSUED BY THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMAND FIXING THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SETBACK, NOR HAS SUPREME HEADQUARTERS PERMITTED PUBLICATION OF ANY DEFINITE INFORMATION AS TO THE EXTENT OF ALLIED LOSSES. THIS SILENCE HAS BEEN EXPLAINED BY OFFICIALS AS NECESSARY FOR SECURITY REASONS WHILE THE BATTLE IS STILL ON.
MQ9PEW

ON THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY FRONT, DEC.30-(AP)-TWO GERMAN PLANES WERE DESTROYED OVER THE SEVENTH ARMY FRONT LAST NIGHT BY A BEAUFIGHTER MANNED BY LTS.EDWARD SCHLUTER OF OSHKOSH, WIS., AND DONALD MEIERS, 3536 WEST BRYN MAWR, CHICAGO.
THEIR NIGHTFIGHTER KNOCKED DOWN A MESSERSCHMITT OVER ST. DIE AND A JU-88 NEAR LUNEVILLE.
PSPS941PEW

PARIS, DEC. 30-(AP)-LT. COL. JOHN C. MEYER OF FOREST HILLS, N.Y., WHO HAS SHOT DOWN 34 ENEMY PLANES, RANKS AS THE AMERICAN PILOT WITH THE GREATEST NUMBER OF AIR VICTORIES IN THE EUROPEAN THEATER, THE U.S. NINTH AIR FORCE ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY.
MEYER, ALL OF WHOSE VICTORIES HAVE BEEN SCORED IN AIR COMBAT, BAGGED FOUR PLANES IN THE PAST WEEK.
(LAST SATURDAY THE U.S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE, BASED IN BRITAIN, ANNOUNCED THAT COL. DAVE SCHILLING OF TRAVERSE CITY, MICH., HAD BEEN CREDITED WITH 34 1/2 VICTORIES, INCLUDING 10 PLANES DESTROYED ON THE GROUND).
JR809AEW

DEC 31 1944

PARIS, DEC. 30-(AP)-THE AMERICAN SUCCESS IN TURNING BACK THE GERMAN COUNTERBLOW IN BELGIUM HAS SENT THE POPULARITY OF AMERICAN TROOPS IN FRANCE SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS.
THE NEWSPAPER COMBAT TOLD THE FRENCH TO REMEMBER THAT THE AMERICANS HAD GIVEN FRANCE THEIR LIVES AS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT IN WARDING OFF THE GERMAN PUSH.
IN AN EDITORIAL IN THE PARIS PRESSE, PHILIPPE BARRES SAID:
"THE SACRIFICES UNDECGONE BY OUR ALLIES HAVE NOT ONLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE FORTHCOMING VICTORY; THEY HAVE ALSO GIVEN NEW MEANING AND A SUPPLEMENTARY RICHNESS TO THAT LONG STANDING SENTIMENT WHICH MAKES US SHOUT TODAY: VIVE L'AMERIQUE!"
FW607AEW

BY GEORGE TUCKER
PARIS, DEC 30-(AP)-SIXTEEN AMERICAN COMBAT OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN GOT THE GREATEST NEW YEAR'S THRILL OF THEIR LIVES BY BEING FREED IN AN EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR IN THE LORIENT SECTOR.
THE EXCHANGE WAS THE FOURTH NEGOTIATED BETWEEN THE AMERICANS AND THE COMMANDERS OF GERMAN-HELD POCKETS IN FRANCE WITHIN THE LAST SIX WEEKS AND TOOK PLACE THURSDAY AT LE MAGOUER, A DRAB LITTLE FISHING VILLAGE ON THE ETEL RIVER WITHIN THE GERMAN LINES.
SEVEN OF THE ENLISTED MEN WERE INFANTRYMEN, ONE OF WHOM WAS WOUNDED, BUT NOT CRITICALLY. THE REMAINING NINE WERE AIR FORCE PERSONNEL AND INCLUDED THREE OFFICERS.
THE EXCHANGE WAS MADE ON AN AGE-FOR-AGE AND RANK-FOR-RANK BASIS. THE AMERICAN DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY MAJ.JAMES GYNN, PROVOST MARSHAL AND FORMER JUDGE IN TALLAHASSEE, FLA.; CAPT.JAMES MUNN, TOLEDO, OHIO, AND MAJ.FRANCIS J.KALAMAN, OF THE GEORGETOWN MEDICAL SCHOOL, A SURGEON.
THE GERMAN DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY COL.BORST AND LT.SCHMITT, WHO REPRESENTED THE GERMAN COMMANDER IN THE LORIENT SECTOR IN AN EXCHANGE SIX WEEKS AGO IN WHICH 71 AMERICANS WERE RELEASED.
(EDS: NAMES OF THOSE RELEASED NOT AVAILABLE).
DY1118PEW

PARIS, DEC. 30-(AP)-U.S.AMBASSADOR JEFFERSON CAFFERY PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO GEN. DE GAULLE IN A BRIEF, CORDIAL MEETING AT THE WAR MINISTRY TODAY. CAFFERY WAS ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSELORS SELDEN CHAPIN AND HUGH S. FULLERTON.
UX1058AEW

30.24—2667

PARIS, DEC 30-(AP)-THE VATICAN'S NEWLY DESIGNATED PAPAL ENVOY, THE MONSIGNOR ANGELO RONCALLI, HAS ARRIVED JUST IN TIME TO ASSUE THE TRADITIONAL LEADERSHIP OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AT THE NEW YEAR'S DAY RECEPTION. RONCALLI WILL PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS TO GEN. DE GAULLE EARLY JAN. 1.
DY1125PEW

BY THOBURN WIANT (170)
WITH THE U.S. 36TH DIVISION, DEC 30-(AP)-DOUGHBOYS OF THE VETERAN 36TH DIVISION PROTESTED TODAY AGAINST A STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO REP. JOHN E.SHERIDAN (D-PA.) IN THE ARMY NEWSPAPER STARS AND STRIPES, CONCERNING HOME LEAVE FOR COMBAT TROOPS.
THE ARMY PUBLICATION, QUOTED THE LEGISLATOR AS SAYING "OUT OF A MILLION AND A HALF TROOPS I DON'T BELIEVE THERE ARE ONE HUNDRED WHO WANT TO COME HOME BEFORE THE JOB IS FINISHED."
AS THE DOUGHBOYS LINED UP AROUND CORRESPONDENTS TO VOICE THEIR OBJECTIONS, CAPT.HOLLIS M.HUGHES OF STAMFORD, TEX., WHO SPENT 14 MONTHS IN NORTH AFRICA AND ITALY THEN WENT HOME FOR FIVE MONTHS ONLY TO RETURN TO COMBAT HERE, SAID "I'LL BET YOU CAN'T FIND ONE HUNDRED GUYS WHO EVER LAID EYES ON THAT SHERIDAN."
ANOTHER CAPTAIN, ELBERT G.KUDZIA OF KALAMAZOO, MICH., SAID "HE'S ALL WET! HE MUST HAVE TALKED TO GUYS AT THE REAR--THE REAR ECHELONS. YOU COULD FIND MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED IN MY COMPANY ALONE."
THE 36TH DIVISION HOLDS A RECORD FOR CONTINUOUS COMBAT--132 DAYS. MANY OF ITS MEMBERS HAVE SPENT 21 MONTHS FIGHTING IN SALERNO, ANZIO, CASSINO AND SOUTHERN FRANCE.
DY1111PEW

DEC 31 1944

WAR OUTLOOK
BY JAMES M. LONG
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, DEC. 30 -(AP)-HOPEFUL 1944, A YEAR WHEN THE ALLIES MIGHT HAVE WON THE WAR BY COLLAPSE WITHIN THE REICH, HAS GIVEN WAY TO A REALISTIC 1945, WHEN THE ALLIES EXPECT TO WIN BY HARD AND COSTLY BATTLES.
FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S FIERCE COUNTEROFFENSIVE, WHICH ALL BUT SPLIT THE WESTERN FRONT IN ONE ANXIOUS AND CRITICAL WEEK, HELPED TO USHER IN THAT REALISM.
IT WAS FINAL PROOF THAT THE LAST-STAND STRENGTH OF THE GERMAN ARMY HAD BEEN UNDERESTIMATED, JUST AS THE ALLIES OVERESTIMATED THE EXTENT OF THE CRACK IN THE GERMAN HOMEFRONT MORALE IN THE VICTORY-SPANGLED FALL DAYS OF THE WIDE OPEN SWEEP THROUGH FRANCE.
9'5TBAD SONSRUNDS NEZ,

FALL DAYS OF THE WIDE OPEN SWEEP THROUGH FRANCE.
THAT VON RUNDSTEDT WAS STOPPED SO SOON FAR SHY OF HIS BREAKTHROUGH TO BRUSSELS, ANTWERP AND SEDAN--IF THOSE WERE HIS OBJECTIVES--PROVIDE THE HOPE FOR VICTORY NEXT YEAR.
ALTHOUGH GEN.EISENHOWER'S WINTER OFFENSIVE FROM HOLLAND TO SWITZERLAND WAS SLAPPED TO A STANDSTILL, THE SPEED AND FORCE WITH WHICH VON RUNDSTEDT WAS CONTAINED SHOWED THE WEIGHT OF MANPOWER AND BATTLE EQUIPMENT--THE ODDS WHICH WILL FORGE VICTORY IN 1945.
PERHAPS MOST SHARPLY AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, IT SHOWED THE FIGHTING STUFF OF WHICH THE DOUGHBOY HAS BEEN MADE IN TWO YEARS OF BATTLES IN EUROPE. THE STAND HE MADE OF INFANTRY AGAINST ARMOR ANSWERED ANY QUESTION OF HIS MORALE.
VICTORY WILL NOT BE CHEAP. THE BATTLES OF THE AACHEN GAP AND THE COLOGNE PLAIN PROVED THAT.
PROBABLY NEVER BEFORE WAS THE SOIL OF EUROPE PURCHASED AT A HEAVIER PRICE IN HUMAN LIFE. IT SEEMED BITTERLY PLAIN THAT MORE AMERICAN BOYS WOULD REST IN GRAVES IN GERMANY THAN HAD BEEN BURIED IN FRANCE.
THERE WAS NO WAY OF TELLING HOW SOON IN THE NEW YEAR THE ALLIES WOULD RETURN TO AN ALL-OUT OFFENSIVE TO BURST OPEN THE WAY INTO THE HEART OF THE REICH, CRUSH THE GERMAN ARMY AND TEACH THE LESSON OF MILITARY DEFEAT TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE.
PURELY ON THE BASIS OF NEWS UP TO NOW, THE DISPOSITION HAS BEEN TO DEAL WITH VON RUNDSTEDT'S ASSAULT AS THE QUICKEST WAY OF GETTING TO THE HEART OF THE GERMAN ARMY--ITS ARMOR AND MOBILE FORCE.
THERE NO LONGER IS ANY CAUSE TO DOUBT THAT THE ALLIED TOP COMMAND HAS SHELVED ANY IDEA OF COUNTING UPON A BREAK-UP WITHIN THE REICH THAT IS NOT ADMINISTERED BY FIRE AND STEEL.
A172

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THERE WAS A TIME IN THE LATE SUMMER AND EARLY FALL WHEN THE HOPE OF INTERNAL CRACKUP DID GIVE THE ILLUSORY PROMISE OF QUICK VICTORY.
GEN.EISENHOWER HIMSELF SUMMED IT UP. HE TOLD CORRESPONDENTS AT HIS PRESS HEADQUARTERS THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME REASON TO BELIEVE THE TERRIFIC GERMAN BEATING AND THE ALLIED RACE THROUGH FRANCE MIGHT HAVE BROUGHT THE EXPLOSION FROM WITHIN.
BUT, HE DECLARED, ADOLF HITLER AND HIS STRONG ARM GANG CAME THROUGH THE CRISIS STILL IN HARD CONTROL AND GERMANY WAS FIGHTING IT OUT TO THE FINISH.
ONCE EISENHOWER PREDICTED THAT IF EVERYONE DID HIS PART, THERE WAS REASON TO HOPE THE WAR MIGHT END IN 1944.
NOW HE IS MAKING NO PREDICTIONS. AT HIS LAST PRESS CONFERENCE HE TOLD CORRESPONDENTS "NEVER AGAIN" AND THEN LAID ON THE LINE HIS FORMULA OF INCESSANTLY INCREASING THE PRESSURE WHICH, HE DECLARED, WOULD WIN VICTORY.
THERE IS NO WAY OF TELLING NOW JUST HOW MUCH THE UNFULFILLED HOPE OF VICTORY BY INTERNAL GERMAN COLLAPSE HURT THE ALLIED EFFORT.
THIS MUCH IS CERTAIN. SOME TIME IN THE SWEEPING SMASH TOWARD THE RHINE, THE ALLIED OFFENSIVE RAN SHORT OF SUPPLIES.
HAD LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON JR., NOT RUN OUT OF GASOLINE JUST SHORT OF METZ HE MIGHT HAVE KEPT ON GOING ALL THE WAY TO BERLIN.
IN THAT PHASE IT PROBABLY WAS NOT THE MATTER OF PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENT TO FRANCE, BUT THE ACTUAL PHYSICAL IMPOSSIBILITY OF KEEPING SUPPLIES APACE WITH THE TREMENDOUS SPEED OF HIS ADVANCE.
IN LATER SHORTAGES THAT DID NOT SEEM TO BE THE CASE. IT WAS NOTEWORTHY THAT EVEN AFTER THE START OF HIS WINTER OFFENSIVE, THE SUPREME COMMANDER FELT IT NECESSARY TO CALL UPON THE HOME FRONT FOR RENEWED AND INCREASED PRODUCTION.
THERE WAS A FEELING IN MANY QUARTERS AT THAT TIME THAT THE SLACK-OFF IN SOME FIELDS OF MILITARY OUTPUT MIGHT BE TRACED TO THE HOPE OF A FEW MONTHS EARLIER THAT GERMANY MIGHT CRACK UP WITHOUT BEING BEATEN UP.
MT244PEW

ROME, DEC. 30-(AP)-A 150-FOOT LENGTH OF TELEPHONE WIRE TRAILED FROM THE WINGS OF THE THUNDERBOLT OF LT.NORMAN HUBBARD, 1221 CONSTANTINOPLE ST., NEW ORLEANS, LA., WHEN HE CAME HOME FROM A BUSY STRAFING MISSION FOR THE 12TH AIR FORCE.
BEFORE HE PICKED UP THE TELEPHONE LINE IN A LOW-LEVEL ATTACK [redacted] HUBBARD AND MAJOR HUGH D.DOW, 3545 WEST CLIFFROAD, SOUTH FORT WORTH, TEX., PUNCHED SEVEN LOCOMOTIVES FULL OF HOLES, STRAFED 30 CARS AND THREE BARGES AND SET FIRE TO A NATURAL GAS TANK.
JJ848AEW

FOOTBALL (AMS)
BY SID FEDER (300)
SPAGHETTI BOWL HEADQUARTERS, DEC.30-(AP)-WHERE SUNNY ITALY IS ABOUT

AS SUNNY AS A CABANA AT THE NORTH POLE THERES GOING TO BE A FOOTBALL BOWL GAME OF, BY, AND FOR THE G.I.S MONDAY.

IT ALL STARTED OUT WITH THE CHALLENGE THE 12TH AIRFORCE TOSSED AT THE FIFTH ARMY. NATURALLY, NOBODY IS TELLING UNTIL AFTER THE GAME JUST WHERE THIS GAME IS GOING TO BE BECAUSE JERRY HAS A NASTY HABIT OF PUTTING IN HIS NOSE WHERE HE'S NOT WANTED.

THERE'S A HANDMADE STADIUM HERE WHICH WASNT BUILT FOR FOOTBALL BUT WHICH IS GOING TO HAVE TO LEARN TO TAKE IT THE HARD WAY BECAUSE THE 12TH AIR FORCE BRIDGEBUSTERS AND THE FIFTH ARMY KRAUT CLUNTERS ARE SENDING OUT A COUPLE OF 200-POUND LINEUPS TO MAUL THE TURF. THERE'LL BE SOME 35,000 OF UNCLE SAM'S FINEST WITH SEATS GOING ON THE FIRST SERVED BASIS. THERE'LL ALSO BE G.I. CHEERLEADERS AND A COUPLE OF G.I. BOWL QUEENS AND THE STARTING LINEUPS, MADE UP VIRTUALLY EXCLUSIVELY OF EX-COLLEGE GRIDDERS, SHOWS ONLY FIVE OFFICERS.

TWO OF THE "BRASS" QUINTET WILL BE PLAYING FOR THE KRAUT CLOUTERS. THEY ARE, LIEUT. ART LEMKE OUT OF IRVINGTON,N.J. BY THE WAY OF GEORGETOWN'S 1942 ORANGE BOWL TEAM AND LIEUT. CHARLIE HENKE, LATE OF THE TEXAS AGGIES. LEMKE WILL BE AT ONE OF THE ENDS AND HENKE AT GUARD.

WEARING THE BRIDGEBUSTERS BRASS WILL BE FULLBACK LIEUT.ED SHANKS OF INGLEWOOD,CALIF., AND TEXAS TECH; HALFBACK CAPT.BILLY MADDEN OF BUCKEY, WASH., AND THE COLLEGE OF PUGET SOUND AND GUARD LIEUT. RAY SONGAYLO.

THE REMAINDER OF EACH OUTFIT IS STRICTLY G.I. THE FIFTH ARMY BLUE BOOKS INCLUDES SUCH BETTER THAN BAD MOLESKINNERS AS SGT.CECIL STURGEON FROM DES MOINES, NORTH DAKOTA STATE AND THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLE' TACKLE SQUAD AND A MYSTERY BALL TOTER, PVT. WILLIE STEELE FROM SAN JOSE STATE. WILLIE ONLY SHOWED UP A FEW DAYS AGO BUT QUICKLY LANDED A STARTING BERTH.

OVER ON THE OTHER SIDE, THE BRIDGEBUSTERS BOAST FELLOWS IN THEIR STARTING LINEUP LIKE, SGT.JOHN D.RAMSEY, WITH SAM HOUSTON TEACHERS IN 1940 AND SGT.JOE MCSHANE, A TACKLE FROM BELLEROSE, N.Y. AND DAYTON UNIVERSITY WHO HAD A DETROIT LION CONTRACT. ON THE BENCH ARE SUCH BETTER THAN GREEN HANDS AS PFC BERNIE BUCKIEWICZ, A FULLBACK FROM MARQUETTE AND GREEN BAY PACKERS AND SGT.DON BRADEN, A BACK OUT OF GREEN RIVER, WYOMING, WHO HAS FLOWN 92 MISSIONS AS A BOMBARDIER.

MJ5PEW

VATICAN CITY, DEC 30-(AP)-THE ABBEY OF MONTE CAS[illegible]BLOTT OUT LAST MARCH DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE BATTLE FOR CASSINO, WIL BE REBUILT AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE JUST AS IT WAS.

TENTATIVE PLANS FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THIS ANCIENT HOME OF THE BENEDICTINE ORDER HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BY ITALIAN ARCHITECTS AND HAVE BEEN PARTLY APPROVED BY THE BENEDICTINES.

BENEDICTINES IN THE UNITED STATES ARE REPORTED TO HAVE TAKEN THE INITIATIVE IN COLLECTING A FUND TO FINANCE THE PROJECT.

DEC 31 1944

DY1120PEW

ON THE FIFTH ARMY FRONT, ITALY, DEC 30-(AP)-STOCKY, 28-YEAR-OLD LT.ERNEST DERVISHIAN OF RICHMOND, VA., WHO LAST MAY WON AN ALMOST SINGLE-HANDED PITCHED BATTLE WITH 21 GERMANS NEAR CISTERNA, WILL RECEIVE THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR SOON, EITHER IN A SPECIAL CEREMONY HERE OR WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE UNITED STATES.

HIS BIG BATTLE OCCURRED ONE DAY WHEN HIS PLATOON WAS WELL AHEAD OF THE MAIN ADVANCING FORCES AND FLUSHED A GROUP OF NINE GERMANS. THEY WOUNDED THREE AND SIX SURRENDERED.

DERVISHIAN, INSTRUCTING HIS THREE COMPANIONS TO COVER HIM, WENT AHEAD TO CUT OFF OTHER GERMANS IN A VINEYARD. HE DISCOVERED THEY WERE IN SECRET EMPLACEMENTS WITH AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP HIM.

WHEN THE SHOOTING WAS OVER AND A TANK HAD COME TO DERVISION'S AID, 21 OF THE ENEMY SURRENDERED AND THE AMERICANS HAD CAP

WHEN THE SHOOTING WAS OVER AND A TANK HAD COME TO DERVISHIAN'S AID, 21 OF THE ENEMY SURRENDERED AND THE AMERICANS HAD CAPTURED ALL THEIR AUTOMATIC WEAPONS.

DERVISHIAN AT THAT TIME WAS A TECHNICAL SERGEANT IN THE 13TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 34TH DIVISION.

BEFORE HE ENTERED THE ARMY, HE WAS AN ATTORNEY IN RICHMOND. HIS MOTHER'S HOME IS IN RICHMOND.

DY1106PEW

SECOND LEAD GREEK

BY STEPHEN BARBER

DEC 31 1944

ATHENS, DEC. 30-(AP)-PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL'S EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE GREEK CRISIS BORE FRUIT TODAY WITH AN AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT THAT ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS PROBABLY WOULD BE SWORN IN AS REGENT TOMORROW AS THE RESULT OF THE ASSENT OF KING GEORGE II.

THE ARCHBISHOP'S SECRETARY SAID DAMASKINOAS "IN ALL PROBABILITY" WOULD TAKE THE OATH TOMORROW AND IMMEDIATELY ASSUME HIS NEW DUTIES.

EARLIER AUTHORITATIVE REPORTS SAID KING GEORGE II HAD CONSENTED TO THE FORMATION OF A REGENCY AFTER A LONG TALK WITH CHURCHILL WHO HAS JUST RETURNED TO LONDON FROM ATHENS.

"HIS GRACE IN ALL PROBABILITY WILL TAKE THE OATH BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT AND HOLY SYNOD TOMORROW IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GREEK CONSTITUTION," THE SECRETARY SAID. "IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS INSTALLATION HE WILL ASSUME HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES AND, COMPLYING WITH A TELEGRAM FROM THE KING EXPRESSING 'HOPE YOU WILL TRY TO RESTORE ORDER AND PEACE IN GREECE', WILL START HIS EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE MAJOR PROBLEMS--FIRSTLY THE FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT AND SECONDLY THE CESSATION OF THE CIVIL WAR."

[illegible]

RELIABLE REPORTS SAID THAT ELAS LEADERS HAD SENT PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL A MESSAGE OFFERING TO PLACE THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL SQUABBLES IN HIS HANDS FOR ARBITRATION AND HAD PROPOSED AN IMMEDIATE TRUCE TO THE BRITISH. CHURCHILL HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY, HOWEVER, BEFORE THE LETTER REACHED BRITISH HEADQUARTERS AND GEN. RONALD SCOBIE, THE BRITISH COMMANDER IN GREECE, FORWARDED THE LETTER TO LONDON. ITS CONTENTS WERE NOT REVEALED HERE.

THERE WERE INDICATIONS HERE THAT PREMIER GEORGE PAPANDREOU HAD SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION AND THAT THE RIGHT WING LIBERAL LEADER. THEMISTOKLES SOPHOULIS, HAD BEEN ASKED TO FORM A NEW CABINET.

IN NORTHWESTERN GREECE, MEANWHILE, THE FORCES OF GEN. NAPOLEON ZERVAS, HARD-PRESSED BY THE ELAS, WERE REPORTED EVACUATING TO THE ISLAND OF CORFU WHICH IS HELD BY BRITISH TROOPS AND FORCES FRIENDLY TO ZERVAS' FACTION.

SOURCES IN ATHENS ESTIMATED THE FORCES OF GEN. ZERVAS HAD DIMINISHED FROM 12,000 TO BETWEEN 2,000 AND 3,000 THROUGH CASUALTIES AND DESERTIONS.

THE BRITISH SAID LARGE NUMBERS OF PRISONERS CAPTURED BY THE ELAS HAD BEEN STRIPPED OF THEIR CLOTHING AND HAD BEEN FORCED TO ENDURE THE BITTER WINTER WEATHER IN ONLY THEIR UNDERCLOTHING. THE ELAS ALSO HAVE REFUSED TO ALLOW RED CROSS PARCELS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE PRISONERS REPORTED TO NUMBER 17,000 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN. MOST, THE BRITISH STATEMENT SAID, HAD BEEN TAKEN TO THE ISLAND OF THEBES.

THE ELAS ON THE OTHER HAND CHARGED GREEK POLICE WITH MISTREATING CAPTURED ELAS MEN.

A98

THE BRITISH-GREEK DRIVE ON THE EASTERN SUBURBS OF ATHENS WHICH BEGAN AT DAWN YESTERDAY WAS DESCRIBED BY BRITISH HEADQUARTERS AS "HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL."

THE LEFT-WING ELAS LOST 300 DEAD AND 700 PRISONERS. AN ADDITIONAL 100 PRISONERS WERE TAKEN BY PARACHUTE TROOPS CLEARING THE IROON

30.24 — 2/669

DISTRICT WEST OF OMONIA SQUARE AT THE OTHER END OF THE CITY.
MORE THAN HALF OF ATHENS NOW IS UNDER BRITISH CONTROL WITH THE ELAS CLEARED FROM THE EASTERN SUBURBS AND THE SOUTHERN SECTION.
PIREAUS, THE PORT OF ATHENS, ALSO WAS UNDER BRITISH DOMINATION.
GEN. SCOBIE CHARGED THAT ELAS FORCES IN THEIR MISTREATEMENT OF PRISONERS WERE NOT ABIDING BY THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS.
UX917AEW

ATHENS, DEC. 30-(AP)-ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS, NEW REGENT OF GREECE, COMES FROM A FAMILY OF CLERGYMEN.
IN 1923 HE BECAME BISHOP OF CORCNTH AND LATER WAS SENT TO THE UNITED STATES TO PACIFY DISSENTING FACTIONS IN THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH. HE PROVED A SUCCESSFUL MEDIATOR.
UPON HIS RETURC HE WAS ELECTED ARCHBISHOP OF THE HOLY SYNOD OF THE GREEK CHURCH, BUT SUBSEQUENTLY THE DICTATOR METAXAS FOUND GROUNDS TO CANCEL HIS ELECTION, AND EXILED HIM FOR TWO YEARS.
WHEN THE FIRST PRO-NAZI PREMIER, GEN.GEORGE TSOLAKOGLU, TOOK OFFICE DURING THE OCCUPATION, DAMASKINOS SHOWED GREAT ENERGY TOWARD ALLEVIATING CIVILIAN DISTRESS. HE MADE REPEATED REPRESENTATIONS TO GERMAN AND ITALIAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES WHEN EXECUTIONS OR ARRESTS WERE ABOUT TO BE MADE.
THE GERMANS CONSIDERED HIM ONE OF THE MAIN ORGANIZERS OF THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT, ANDNPUT HIM UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS OF THE OCCUPATION.
MJ312PEW

STOCKHOLM, DEC. 30-(AP)-CARLAAKE MALMAEUS, SWEDISH

VICE CONSUL AT SAN FRANCISCO, HAS BEEN APPOINTED SWEDISH COMMERCIAL

ATTACHE FOR THE WEST COAST OF NORTH AMERICA, IT WAS ANNOUNCED TONIGHT.

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PKL SHANKES 02220 916P

BERN, DEC 30-(AP)-A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ITALIAN ROYAL FAMILY TODAY DENIED A REPORT THAT AN ATTEMPT HAD BEEN MADE RECENTLY TO KIDNAP VITTORIO EMANUELE, SEVEN-YEAR-OLD PRINCE OF NAPLES.
THE YOUNG PRINCE IS SAFE WITH HIS MOTHER, THE PRINCESS OF PIEDMONT, AND HIS TWO SISTERS AT A WINTER RESORT NEAR MONTREUX, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.
ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM LUGANO THE KIDNAP ATTEMPT, SAID TO HAVE BEEN MADE BY GERMANS, WAS FOILED AT BASEL THROUGH INTERVENTION OF THE SWISS POLICE.
DY1102PEW

BERN, DEC.30-(AP)-A GROUP OF UNITED STATES ARMY OFFICERS HAS VISITED SWITZERLAND RECENTLY TO NEGOTIATE THE PURCHASE OF WATCHES, TYPEWRITERS AND OTHER SWISS MANUFACTURES FOR THE FORCES IN FRANCE, IT IS LEARNED ON GOOD AUTHORITY.
A FIRST DELEGATION ARRIVED ABOUT DEC.10, PRESUMABLY FROM SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS. AT LEAST ONE OFFICER STILL IS HERE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS WITH SWISS INDUSTRIALISTS AND THE SWISS GOVERNMENT. A HIGH SWISS OFFICIAL SAID AS MANY AS 50 HAVE VISITED SWITZERLAND. THIS GAVE RISE TO REPORTS RECENTLY THAT AN AMERICAN BUSINESS MISSION WAS HERE. INVESTIGATION SHOWED THE VISITORS WERE MILITARY, NOT CIVILIAN. MOST OF THEM HAVE RETURNED TO FRANCE.
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES GIVE THIS ACCOUNT:
LARGE TENTATIVE ORDERS HAVE BEEN PLACED AND OTHERS ARE IN PROSPECT. HOWEVER, NO SATISFACTORY METHOD HAS BEEN FOUND TO PAY IN FRANCS. THE SWISS NO LONGER WANT TO ACCEPT FROZEN AMERICAN DOLLARS, WHICH THEY CAN NOT USE AT PRESENT FOR PURCHASES TO BE SHIPPED TO SWITZERLAND BECAUSE OF A MILITARY BAN ON TRANSPORT ACROSS FRANCE.
THE SWISS ALSO WANT ASSURANCES THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO RENEW THEIR SUPPLIES OF RAW MATERIALS.
THE GOODS THE AMERICANS WANT ARE AVAILABLE, AT LEAST ON APPROXIMATELY THE SAME BASIS AS PRIOR TO 1940 WHEN THE GERMANS CLOSED TRANSPORT ROUTES BETWEEN SWITZERLAND AND THE ALLIED NATIONS.
THE ALLIES HALTED TRUCK TRANSPORT ACROSS FRANCE OCT.14. THE SWISS ARGUE THAT IF THEY ARE TO SUPPLY GOODS THEY SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO TRUCK OTHER GOODS TO AND FROM OTHER NEUTRAL COUNTRIES--SPAIN AND PORTUGAL-- IN RETURN.
A NUMBER OF SWISS INDUSTRIALISTS FEAR THAT THEY WILL LOSE OUT IN COMPETITION FOR POST-WAR ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES BECAUSE OF ALLIED RESTRICTIONS ON TRADE AND FINANCE.
ONE GREAT CONCERN IS THE IMPORT OF FOOD. WHILE THERE IS PLENTY TO EAT, THE MILITARY CHANGES SINCE D-DAY ALSO HAVE GREATLY CHANGED SWITZERLAND'S FOOD PICTURE. ORANGES AND LEMONS ARE NO LONGER AVAILABLE. MEAT AND COFFEE RATIONS HAVE BEEN REDUCED FOR JANUARY.
ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL FIGURES 300,000 TONS OF FOODSTUFFS INTENDED FOR SWITZERLAND ARE LYING NOW IN SPANISH OR PORTUGUESE PORTS. THE SWISS WANT THE RIGHT TO BRING THEM IN WITH THEIR OWN TRUCKS AND GASOLINE.
AT THE OUTSET AN EFFORT WAS MADE TO KEEP THE AMERICAN NEGOTIATIONS SECRET BUT LATER SOME OF THE VISITORS TALKED OPENLY ABOUT THEM IN BERN AND GENEVA RESTAURANTS. SO FAR AS IS KNOWN THE SWISS GOVERNMENT DID NOT SPONSOR THE VISITS BUT DID ACT QUICKLY TO ADMIT THE AMERICANS DESPITE THEIR [illegible] AND RECEIVED THEM CORDIALLY.
B317PEW

DEC 31 1944

MOSCOW, DEC 30-(AP)-THE WOLNA POLSKA, ORGAN OF THE POLISH PATRIOTS IN RUSSIA CHARGED TODAY THAT A COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF EAST PRUSSIA HAD BEEN ORGANIZED IN THE UNITED STATES BY GERMAN EMIGRES "WHO INTEND TO RESUME THEIR ROLE OF SAVIORS OF GERMAN IMPERIALISM."
"POLAND CANNOT ENJOY PEACE UNTIL EAST PRUSSIA IS SEPARATED FROM GERMANY," THE EDITORIAL SAID. "POLAND IS SUPPORTED IN THIS QUESTION BY THE POWERS OF THE ANTI-HITLERITE COALITIAN."
DY1121PEW

Add Chungking Chinese ~~xxxx~~ American planes

THE ATTACKS WERE LAUNCHED LAST TUESDAY AND THE SAME EVENING THE CHINESE SILENCED JAPANESE GUNS WHICH HAD BEEN SHELLING CHINESE POSITIONS IN THE VICINITY OF MANPENG, 12 MILES NORTHEAST OF WANTING.

(THE NEW DELHI RADIO, HEARD IN LONDON, SAID OTHER CHINESE FORCES STABBING WEST FROM BHAMO THROUGH NORTHERN BURMA HAD CROSSED INTO CHINA AT ONE POINT.)

MEANWHILE, DISPATCHES WERE REPORTED THAT CONSTANT ALLIED AIR

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BLOWS HAVE CRIPPLED THE JAPANESE MAIN SUPPLY LINE UP THE YANGTZE RIVER INTO CENTRAL CHINA.

MK617AEW

~~DANIEL I. SULTAN.~~ THE VILLAGE IS ON THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE BURMA-CHINA BORDER. PAGHKAM IS FOUR MILES FROM NAMHKAM ON THE BHAMO-NAMHKAM ROAD AND 24 MILES NORTHEAST OF THE BURMA ROAD.

BRITISH 14TH ARMY TROOPS ADVANCING WEST DOWN THE YEU ROAD HAVE REACHED TAWHYIN, 34 MILES NORTHWEST OF YEU, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

TROOPS OF THE 4TH CORPS HAVE OCCUPIED KANBALU ON THE MYITKYINA-MANDALAY RAILROAD, 54 MILES SOUTH OF WUNTHO AND 95 MILES FROM MANDALAY.

ON THE 15TH INDIAN CORPS COASTAL FRONT FORWARD UNITS CONTINUED TO ADVANCE DOWN THE MAYU RIVER TOWARD AKYAB, HEADQUARTERS SAID.

MONYWA, MAIN JAPANESE BASE IN THE LOWER CHINDWIN REGION, WAS BOMBED.

ALLIED PLANES SANK 10 RIVERCRAFT AND DAMAGED 37 OTHERS IN THE AKYAB AREA, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID.

UX940AEW

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CHUNGKING, SUNDAY, DEC. 31--(AP)--Maj. Gen. Robert B. McClure, Chief of Staff to Maj. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, has been appointed deputy director of the Chinese Wartime Transport Bureau, Chinese authorities announced today.

In this capacity, McClure, who is also deputy chief of staff to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, will assist Chinese attempts to improve wartime transportation.

The new bureau, consisting of eight sections, will be activated tomorrow. Two of the sections--transport and machine parts--will be headed by American experts.

prewi moosas 00300 ejo 943pew

CHUNGKING, DEC 30-(AP)-THE CHINESE WAR PRODUCTION BOARD IS ACHIEVING RESULTS THAT WILL BE BAD NEWS TO TOKYO, HOWARD COONLEY, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE DONALD M.NELSON MISSION ASSERTED TODAY.
CHINESE MADE TRENCH MORTAR SHELLS, LAND MINES, BAYONETS AND EVEN PICK AXES, ANVILS AND SHOVELS WILL BE READY FOR EARLY USE IN THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN. ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE RESULTS OBTAINED FROM EXCHANGING TECHNICAL INFORMATION WITH THE UNITED STATES CHINA ALREADY HAS CONSTRUCTED ONE BEEHIVE COKE OVEN FRO1 BLUE PRINTS BROUGHT FROM AMERICA.
MK619AEW

CHUNGKING, DEC 29-(DELAYED)-(AP)-RUSSIA WANTS TO SEE A STRONG UNIFIED BUT DEMOCRATIC CHINA, AND WOULD FEAR A STRONG, UNIFIED ANTI-DEMOCRATIC OR FASCIST CHINA FROM WHOM SHE WOULD HAVE TO PROTECT HERSELF AGAINST FUTURE CONFLICT, SUN FO, PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN, SAID TODAY.
SUN FO DECLARED THAT THOSE PEOPLE WHO SUSPECTED RUSSIA OF SUPPORTING THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS AGAINST THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AND AIMING TO TURN CHINA INTO A COMMUNIST STATE HAD AN INCORRECT VIEW OF THE SITUATION.
"I BELIEVE THE SOVIETS DO NOT WANT TO SEE INTERNAL DISSENSION IN CHINA," SUN FO SAID, ADDING, "THEY DON'T WANT TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNISTS OR DIVIDE THIS COUNTRY OR DISRUPT ITS UNITY."
DY1123PEW

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MAC'S HQ, PIPS--SECOND ADD PIPS (ORIGINAL) X X X WAS INEFFECTIVE.
AMERICAN UNITS WHICH HANDED THE JAPANESE THE DEFEAT ON LEYTE--WHICH MAC ARTHUR HAS DECLARED ONE OF THE WORST IN THE JAPANESE ARMY'S HISTORY--WE
E THE NIRST CAVALRY DIVISION, ELEVENTH AIRBORNE DIVISION, AND THE SEVENTH, 24TH, 32ND, 77TH AND 96TH INFANTRY DIVISIONS.
THEY WERE OPPOSED, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID, BY THE ENEMY'S FIRST, 16TH, 26TH AND 102ND DIVISIONS AND MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE EIGHTH AND 30TH DIVISIONS, MOST OF WHICH HAD SEEN SERVICE IN CHINA AND EARLIER IN THE PHILIPPINES.
THE FIRST DIVISION WAS DRAWN DIRECT FROM MANCHURIA, THE COMMUNIQUE SAID, AND WAS DECIMATED IN THE NORTHERN ORMOC CORRIDOR.
MACARTHUR SAID HIS FORMER BATAAN FOE, THE 16TH DIVISION, WAS "ANNIHILATED IN THE EARLY PHASES OF THE LEYTE FIGHTING."
IN THE CONTINUED AMERICAN RAIDS ON LUZON ISLAND, PATROL CRAFT HIT CLARK FIELD NEAR MANILA AND BULAN ON THE SOUTHERN BICOL PENINSULA.
FIGHTERS STRAFED THE JAPANESE POSITIONS ON NEGROS ISLAND AND HEAVY BOMBERS HIT THE SASSA AIRDROME AT DAVAO, MINDANAO.
ALLIED MEDIUM AND HEAVY BOMBERS RAIDED POSITIONS ON BORNEO, CELEBES, TIMOR, NEW IRELAND, NEW BRITAIN, BOUGAINVILLE, AND WEWAK, NEW GUINEA.
NIGHT NAVAL PATROLS SHELLED A BARGE DEPOT IN THE MOLUCCAS. BOMBERS SET AFIRE A SMALL FREIGHTER OFF THE NORTH COAST OF FLORES IN THE LESSER SUNDAS.
PM457PPW

GENERAL DOUGLASS, STRESSING THAT BOMBERS ALONE CANNOT DEFEAT JAPAN, SAID THE ENEMY CAN REPAIR ITS CORAL AIRFIELDS IN A HALF HOUR WITH A COUP

A OF BULLDOZERS.

(IN THE PHILIPPINES, GEN.DOUGLAS MACARTHUR SAID 23 JAPANESE PLANES ATTACKED AMERICAN INSTALLATIONS AND SHIPPING AT MINDORO ON THURSDAY, CAUSING "SOME DAMAGE." EIGHT WERE SHOT DOWN.

(MITCHELL BOMBERS SEVERELY DAMAGED A 7,000-TON FREIGHTER IN LINGAYEN GULF, OFF THE WEST COAST OF LUZON, WITH DIRECT HITS

30.24 — 2/671

AND HARASSED OTHER SHIPPING IN THE AREA. LIBERATORS DROPPED 72 TONS OF BOMBS ON SAN JOSE AIRDROME AT PANAY ISLAND AND KNOCKED OUT SIX PLANES ON THE GROUND.

(SIX SMALL ENEMY FREIGHTERS WERE LEFT SINKING OFF BORNEO IN A BOMBING AND STRAFING ATTACK BY PATROL PLANES.)

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PM1142PPW NM

IN BAGGED JAPANESE PLANES. Add 5th Air Force Base-Hutcheson xx combat.

THE ANGELS -- THE 475TH GROUP -- HAVE BEEN LABELED BY TOKYO ROSE AS "THE BUTCHERS OF RABAUL."

THE 500TH PLANE WAS BAGGED BY COL.CHARLES H.MACDONALD, (15465 GULF BLVD.) ST.PETERSBURG, FLA., THE GROUP'S COMMANDER WHO WAS ON AN ESCORT MISSION IN THE MANILA AREA. HE GOT THREE THAT DAY RUNNING HIS TOTAL TO 24.

THE GROUP'S TOTAL WAS STRETCHED TO 507 AS FOUR PLANES WERE ADDED BY MCGUIRE AND ONE EACH BY LT.JOHN BALLARD, CHISHOLM, MINN., AND LT.HAROLD OWEN, KENNEDALE, TEX.

THE GROUP SCORED ITS OUTSTANDING TOTAL IN LESS THAN A YEAR AND A HA

LT.HAROLD OWEN, KENNEDALE, TEX.

THE GROUP SCORED ITS OUTSTANDING TOTAL IN LESS THAN A YEAR AND A HALF OF FIGHTING. ITS FIRST PLANE WAS DOWNED AUG.16, 1943, BY CAPT.HARRY W.BROWN, AMARILLO, TEX. SINCE ARRIVING IN THE PHILIPPINES, THE ANGELS HAVE INCREASED THEIR SCORE BY MORE THAN 160 IN AERIAL COMBAT. THEY DOWNED 28 ON DECEMBER 7TH.

THE GROUP'S FIRST COMMANDER WAS MAJ.GEORGE W.PRENTICE, CLEVELAND, OHIO, WHO WAS SUCCEEDED A YEAR AGO BY MACDONALD.

"WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD NOW TO STARTING THE MILRUN OVER TOKYO," SAID MACDONALD. "I'M AFRAID WE MAY BE RUNNING OUT OF JAVS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

THE GROUP'S OTHER ACES ARE MAJ.JOHN S.LOISEL, (212 MONITOR ST.) WEST POINT, NEBR., 10 PLANES; LT.COL.MERYL M.SMITH, NORTH EAST, (CORRECT) PENN., 9; CAPT.FREDERICK CHAPLIN, (68 FAIRFIELD AVE.) BUFFALO, N.Y., 8; CAPT.FRANKLIN H.MONK, (612 EAST FORREST HILLS) PEORIA, ILL., 5; LT.JOHN PIET JR., VALLEY STREAM, NEW YORK, 5; LT.JOSEPH M.FORSTER, GAINESVILLE, FLA., 9; CAPT.PAUL W.LUCAS, BOONE, IOWA, 5; CAPT.ELLIOTT SUMMER, (197 MORRIS AVE.) PROVIDENCE, R.I., 10; CAPT.JACK FISK, IPAVA, (CORRECT) ILL., 6 AND LT.JOHN E.PURDY, (2416 18TH ST.) WYANDOTTE, MICH., 7.

GG1144ACW

BY VERN HAUGLAND (420)

SAIPAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS, DEC. 29-(DELAYED)-(AP)-(VIA NVY RADIO)-THE JAPANESE "FLEET WILL CONTINUE TO ATTACK WHEN CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE, BUT WE WILL BE READY," FLEET ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ SAID HERE TODAY AS HE SPOKE OF WINNING AIR BASES CLOSER TO JAPAN PREPARATORY TO EVENTUAL INVASION OF THE HOME ISLANDS.

"JAPANESE NAVAL STRENGTH IS GRADUALLY BEING REDUCED," THE FIVE STAR ADMI "I THIN

"JAPANESE NAVAL STRENGTH IS GRADUALLY BEING REDUCED," THE FIVE STAR ADMIRAL SAID. "I THINK THE JAPANESE WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE REMAINDER OF THEIR FLEET WHEN THE OPPORTUNITY OFFERS SUCH AS THE RECENT MINDORO RAID (IN THE PHILIPPINES) IN WHICH THEY SUFFERED LOSSES AND DI[illegible] VERY LITTLE DAMAGE.

"WE ARE JUST COMMENCING A PHASE NOW WHERE WE ARE POURING IT ON JAPAN. WE ARE STILL SOME CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE AWAY BUT WITH PASSING TIME WE WILL HIT FROM BASES MUCH CLOSER TO JAPAN WITH A RATE OF DELIVERY OF BOMBS TO JAPAN INCREASING.

"I STILL BELIEVE THAT WE HAVE TO HAVE BASES CLOSE ENOUGH TO JAPAN TO BOMB AT A RATE COMPARABLE TO THAT AT WHICH GERMANY IS BOMBED.

"DEFINITELY JAPAN WILL HAVE TO BE OCCUPIED TO WIN THE PEACE. JUST HOW MUCH WE WILL HAVE TO DO TO OCCUPY IT I DON'T KNOW BUT WE MUST PREPARE TO INVADE JAPAN BY ASSAULT."

NIMITZ MADE HIS REMARKS IN A TEN MINUTE INTERVIEW WITH CORRESPONDENTS AT A SAIPAN TOUR WHILE ON A FLYING TOUR OF THE MARIANAS. HE REITERATED THAT HE PLANNED TO ADVANCE HIS HEADQUARTERS TO THE WESTERN PACIFIC TO BE CLOSER TO THE FIGHTING, BUT DECLINED TO SAY WHEN OR WHERE HE WOULD SET UP HIS NEW BASE. DEC 31 1944

THE ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET EXPRESSED THE SAME SURPRISE AT THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT OF SAIPAN AS HE DID DURING A SURPRISE VISIT TO GUAM LAST SUNDAY.

"I CONSIDER SAIPAN, TINIAN AND GUAM NAVAL BASES THAT WITH EACH PASSING WEEK WILL BECOME MORE VALUABLE AND USEFUL TO US, NOT ONLY FOR AIRPLANE FACILITIES BUT FOR FLEET FACILITIES," NIMITZ SAID. Hansell

HE CONGRATULATED BRIG. GEN. HAYWOOD HANELL, 21ST BOMBER COMMAND CHIEF, AND HIS DEPUTY, BRIG. GEN. ~~EMETT~~ Emmett O'DONNELL, ON THE PROGRESS OF SUPPORT ASSAULTS AGAINST JAPAN.

"THE MORE WE CAN INTENSIFY" BOMBARDMENTS OF JAPANESE AIRPLANE PLANTS, NIMITZ SAID, "THE BETTER IT WILL PLEASE ME." HE LAUDED MAJ.GEN. SANDERFORD JARMAN FOR HIS DEVELOPMENT OF SAIPAN; THE HIGH COOPERATION BETWEEN VARIOUS SERVICES, AND A SEABEE STEVEDORE BATTALION WHICH HE REVIEWED. HE TOLD THE STEVEDORES:

"THE WORK YOU ARE DOING IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS ANY WORK IN THIS WAR. "SHIPPING IS A BOTTLENECK WHICH WILL CONTINUE BECAUSE WE NEVER WILL HAVE ALL THE SHIPS WE NEED."

WW128APW NM

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SPORTS (1-0)

GUADALCANAL, BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS, VIA NAVY RADIO, DEC. 30-(AP)-SAILOR LEVI BRYANT, LAKE CHARLES, LA., FLEET HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, WON A DECISION OVER MARINE WALT HAFER OF DAYTON, OHIO, TODAY.

IN A LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT, SOLDIER GENE STAFFORD, ATLANTA, GA., TOOK THE NOD FROM SAILOR HENRY WRIGHT, NEW YORK CITY. LIGHTWEIGHT SAILOR ARON (CORRECT) POLLARD, KANSAS CITY, MO., WON A DECISION OVER SOLDIER OSCES (CORRECT) MUNO , SAN FRANCISCO.

OTHER RESULTS, ALSO BY DECISION:

SAILOR LOUIS FILLIPPO, LOS ANGELES, DEFEATED SOLDIER SAL SCORNAVACA, NEWARK, N.J.; SOLDIER BABE SERNA, SAN ANTONIO, TEX., DEFEATED SAILOR NICK DOUGLAS, FON DU LAC, WISC.

(EDITORS: CLASSIFICATION NOT GIVEN IN CABLE)

XZ1221ACW

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, DEC. 30-(AP)-ACTING PRIME MINISTER FRANCIS FORDE IN A NEW YEARS STATEMENT TODAY SAID AUSTRALIAN FIGHTING FORCES IN 1945 WOULD "PLAY A VITAL PART IN PHILIPPINES OPERATIONS."

AUSTRALIA MUST PLAN FOR AT "LEAST TWO MORE YEARS OF ARDUOUS WARFARE AGAINST JAPAN," HE SAID.

WD631PEW

PANAMA, PANAMA--FIRST ADD SECOND NIGHT LEAD PANAMA X X X ~~CONSTI-~~
~~TUTION.~~ covered closings.
THE PRESIDENT TOLD THE JUNTA THAT A COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVEN ADMINISTRATION PARTIES HAD ASKED HIM TO NAME A NATIONAL CABINET WHICH WOULD TAKE OVER THE ACTUAL GOVERNMENT OF THE COUNTRY LEAVING HIM AS A FIGUREHEAD. DE LA GUARDIA SAID HE ACCEPTED THE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL AND PLEDGED HE WOULD RESIGN ON JUNE 15.

Add Balboa-Panama xxx the zone limits.

THE DECREE SUSPENDED ALL CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES EXCEPT PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO JUDICIAL POWERS AND EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THEREBY DISSOLVED THE PRESENT 32-MEMBER ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED TO MEET JAN. 2.

AS PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ORGAN, LA NACION, THE DOCUMENT PROVIDED FOR ELECTIONS MAY 6, 1945, TO CHOOSE DELEGATES FOR A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO MEET JUNE 15 AND FRAME A NEW CONSTITUTION.

THIS WOULD REPLACE THE 1941 CONSTITUTION, ADOPTED IN A PLEBISCITE DURING THE ARNULFO ARIAS REGIME AND NEVER CONSIDERED A TRUE EXPRESSION OF THE POPULAR WILL. THERE HAD BEEN A MOVEMENT FOR SOME TIME IN FAVOR OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ACTION, BUT THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION PREVIOUSLY HAD OPPOSED IT.

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A136

THE SWITCH IN THE GOVERNMENT POSITION WAS PRECEDED THIS WEEK BY A DEMAND FROM THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS, REPRESENTING 51 ORGANIZATIONS, FOR THE RESIGNATION OF DE LA GUARDIA FROM THE OFFICE WHICH IT SAID HE NOW "ARBITRARILY HOLDS" AND A MINORITY REVOLT AMONG ASSEMBLYMEN AGAINST CONTINUANCE OF HIS RULE.

THE ASSEMBLY ISSUE WAS THIS:

1--THE 1941 CONSTITUTION ORDERED THAT THE ASSEMBLY ELECT THREE VICE-PRESIDENTS WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER CONVENING, THE FIRST OF THESE BEING DESIGNATED AS PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSOR.

2--TWO YEARS AGO THE ASSEMBLY ABSTAINED FROM ELECTING THE VICE-PRESIDENTS. HOLDING IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO CHANGE EXECUTIVES AT THAT TIME DUE TO THE WAR.

3--THE GOVERNMENT RECENTLY SAID IT WAS ASSURED THAT THE SAME ARRANGEMENT WOULD APPLY NEXT JANUARY, WHICH WOULD PERMIT DE LA GUARDIA TO HOLD OFFICE UNTIL FEBRUARY, 1947. BUT 15 OF THE 32 DEPUTIES WERE LINED UP THURSDAY AGAINST THIS, AND DE LA GUARDIA'S POSITION APPEARED INSECURE.

A GENERAL STRIKE IN OPPOSITION TO CALLING OF THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WAS URGED BY THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS.

(NO PICKUP)

UX1211PEW

DEC 31 1944

MEXICO CITY, DEC. 30-(AP)-AUTHORIZATION TO SEND MEXICAN TROOPS TO ANY BATTLEFRONT TO AID IN FINAL VICTORY OF THE ALLIED NATIONS HAS BEEN GIVEN TO PRESIDENT AVILA CAMACHO BY THE SENATE.

THE AURHOTIZATION, GRANTED YESTERDAY, APPLIES PARTICULARLY TO THE 201ST AVIATION SQUADRON OF 300 MEMBERS, NOW IN ITS FINAL STAGES OF TRAINING AT GREENVILLE, TEXAS.

EARLY IN JANUARY, GEN. FRANCISCO L. URQUIZO, SUB-SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, WILL GO TO GREENVILLE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF PRESIDENT CAMACHO TO PRESENT A MEXICAN FLAG TO THE SQUADRON. THE GROUP, IT IS BELIEVED, SOON WILL GO INTO ACTIVE SERVICE ON ONE OF THE WAR FRONTS.

FW606AEW

HAVANA, DEC. 30-(AP)-THE GREATEST MASS PROSECUTION IN CUBA'S HISTORY HAS BEEN STARTED AGAINST 86,462 REGISTERED VOTERS IN HAVANA PROVINCE WHO FAILED TO CAST THEIR BAL

OTS IN THE

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ELECTIONS LAST JUNE 1.

DESPITE THE VOLUME OF CHARGES, IT IS UNLIKELY ANYONE EVER WILL BE PUNISHED. FOR ONE THING, THE MACHINERY FOR ARRESTS AND TRIAL IS NOT AVAILABLE. FOR ANOTHER, CONGRESS ALREADY IS CONSIDERING A NON-VOTERS' AMNESTY LAW.

CUBA'S CONSTITUTION MAKES THE VOTE OBLIGATORY. THE PROVISION WAS EFFECTIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR AND BROUGHT THE TOTAL VOTE TO 80 PER CENT OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS.

THOSE WHO DON'T VOTE MAY BE FINED FROM 50 CENTS TO $600 AND

30.24—2673

ARE AUTOMATICALLY BARRED FROM PUBLIC SERVICE FOR TWO YEARS.

KA324PES

BUENOS AIRES, DEC. 30-(AP)-THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF LA PLATA, THE CAPITAL OF BUENOS AIRES PROVINCE, ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT ALL PERSONS WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED FOR POLITICAL AND SOCIAL REASONS HAD BEEN FREED.

HE DID NOT SPECIFY THE NUMBER AND WOULD NOT PERMIT ANY IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE FREED, BUT SAID THE MEASURE WAS TAKEN ON ORDER OF MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR ALBERTO TEISAIRE.

WD433PEW

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UNDATED TOKYO NEW GUINEA
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO RADIO IN AN UNCONFIRMED BROADCAST RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION SAID THAT ON THE NIGHT OF DEC. 28, JAPANESE TIME, JAPANESE PLANES ATTACKED ENEMY AIRFIELDS AT FUTAGOJI.. MAR, NEW GUINEA, CAUSING TWO EXPLOSIONS.

MM306APW

UNDATED JAPANESE-HACHIYA
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TERUO HACHIYA, FORMER JAPANESE MINISTER TO ROMANIA, HAS BEEN APPOINTED SPECIAL MINISTER TO THE PUPPET "FREE INDIA" AND BURMA GOVERNMENTS, TOKYO RADIO REPORTED TODAY.

DOMEI NEWS AGENCY IN AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE DISPATCH SAID THAT HACHIYA, RECENTLY CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT GENERAL OF FORMOSA, HAD BEEN MADE SPECIAL MINISTER TO THE "FREE INDIA" GOVERNMENT HEADED BY SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, WHO MAINTAINS HIS HEADQUARTERS IN BURMA.

IN A DOMESTIC JAPANESE LANGUAGE BROADCAST, WHICH LIKE DOMEI'S DISPATCH WAS HEARD BY THE FCC, THE TOKYO RADIO SAID HACHIYA'S MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENT TONBURMA, WHERE PREMIER MAUNG BA MAW HEADS THE PUPPET GOVERNMENT, WAS TO AID "COMPLETION OF THE GREATER EAST ASIA WAR AND ALSO A MORE INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN URMA AND JAPAN, AS WELL AS BRINGING PROGRESS TO THE INDIAN INDEPENDENCE PROBLEM."

GG1210PCW

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FIRST LEAD TRANSPORTS
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS TODAY CLAIMED THAT ALL BUT EIGHT OR TEN OF SOME 30 U.S.TRANSPORTS WERE SUNK BY JAPANESE PLANES AS THE BIG CONVOY PASSED THROUGH PHILIPPINES WATERS TO MINDORO ISLAND.

AN EARLIER JAPANESE IMPERIAL COMMUNIQUE CLAIMED THAT FOUR MORE BIG TRANSPORTS WERE SUNK--MAKING A TOTAL OF TEN--AS THE CONVOY "STEAMED TOWARD MINDORO ISLAND BY WAY OF THE SULU SEA."

BOTH REPORTS WERE RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION. NEITHER HAD THE SLIGHTEST CONFIRMATION FROM AMERICAN SOURCES.

FIFTEEN DAYS AGO TOKYO REPORTED A BIG CONVOY OFF MINDORO, SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE ACTUAL INVASION OF THE COASTLINE 150 MILES SOUTH OF MANILA. SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTING OTHER CONVOYS IN THE AREA ENEMY PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS PREDICTED NEW INVASIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

IN REPORTING THIS SATURDAY'S COMMUNIQUE, THE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY ANNOUNCED THE JAPANESE HIGH COMMAND NOW CLAIMS THAT ATTACKING PLANES HAVE SUNK TEN TRANSPORTS AND A PT BOAT, AND DAMAGED FOUR TRANSPORTS, A CRUISER AND A DESTROYER.

QUOTING IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS YESTERDAY, DOMEI SAID THAT SIX TRANSPORTS HAD BEEN SUNK TOGETHER WITH THE DAMAGING OF FOUR TRANSPORTS, ONE CRUISER AND ONE DESTROYER IN TWO ATTACKS ON THE CONVOY, DEC. 28, THURSDAY, JAPANESE TIME. (WEDNESDAY U.S. TIME).

THE U.S. CONVOY, SAID DOMEI, CONSISTED OF "30 TRANSPORTS ESCORTED BY 20-ODD CRUISERS AND DESTROYERS."

TOKYO RADIO IN A BROADCAST DIRECTED TO EUROPE IN ITALIAN SAID THE CONVOY HAD REACHED MINDORO.

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THIS BROADCAST, ALSO RECORDED BY FCC, CLAIMED THAT ONLY "8 OR 10" TRANSPORTS OUT OF THE ORIGINAL "SOME 30" REMAINED IN THE CONVOY WHEN IT REACHED THE MINDORO COAST.

"THUS WE CAN SAY," IT DECLARED, "THAT 70 PER CENT OF THE CONVOY HAS BEEN SUNK BY OUR HEROIC ACTIVITY."

IN ANOTHER UNCONFIRMED RADIOED DISPATCH, DOMEI CLAIMED THAT JAPANESE PLANES RAIDED THE "NORTH" AIRFIELD ON MINDORO ISLAND AT DAWN TODAY (JAPANESE TIME) "DESTROYING TWO GROUNDED ENEMY PLANES."

THE TRANSPORT CONVOY, SAID DOMEI, STEAMED TO MINDORO ISLAND THROUGH THE MINDANAO SEA AND THEN TURNED NORTH THROUGH THE SULU SEA.

(JAPANESE REPORTS SUGGESTED THE CONVOY HAD ORIGINATED AT LEYTE.

WW731APW

UNDATED FORMOSA GOVERNOR
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GEN. RIKICHI ANDO, COMMANDER OF THE JAPANESE ARMED FORCES IN FORMOSA, ALSO TOOK OVER AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL, DOMEI NEWS AGENCY SAID TODAY IN A BROADCAST INTERCEPTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

HE REPLACES ADM. KIYOSHI HASEGAWA, RELIEVED AT HIS OWN REQUEST AFTER LESS THAN THREE MONTHS SERVICE DOMEI SAID.

HASEGAWA, DOMEI ADDED, HAS BEEN APPOINTED A SUPREME WAR COUNCILLOR.

WW735APW NM

UNDATED CELEBES
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JAPANESE DOMEI NEWS AGENCY SAID TODAY ANTIAIRCRAFT BATTERIES "BROUGHT DOWN OR SERIOUSLY DAMAGED" EIGHT OUT OF 16 "ENEMY AIRCRAFT WHICH RAIDED OUR AIR FIELD WEST OF MANADO, CELEBES ISLAND, DEC. 29" (JAPANESE TIME). MANADO IS 300 MILES SOUTH OF THE PHILIPPINES. THE BROADCAST WAS INTERCEPTED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

ANOTHER DOMEI DISPATCH REPOTED "46 ENEMY FIGHTERS AND BOMBERS MADE A DAYLIGHT ATTACK ON AMBOINA", SOUTH OF CELEBES, THE PRECEDING DAY. IT ALSO REPORTED TEN LIBERATORS RAIDED DAVAO AND TEN MITCHELLS HIT ZAMBOANGA, BOTH ON MINDANAO IN THE PHILIPPINES.

WW436APW NM

MVUNDATED JAPANESE NEW YEAR (150)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PREMIER KUNIAKI KOISO ISSUED A NEW YEUR'S WARNING TO THE JAPANESE PEOPLE TODAY THAT 1945 WOULD BRING INCREASED AIR RAIDS, GREATER

"DIFFICULTIES OF LIVELIHOOD" AND HEAVIER WAR PRODUCTION BURDENS.
THE MESSAGE, TRANSMITTED BY DOMEI AGENCY AND RECORDED BY THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATION COMMISSION, SAID THE "TREND OF THE WAR" WOULD BE DECIDED IN THE PHILIPPINES.
THE PREMIER APPEALED TO THE PEOPLE TO "STRENGTHEN THE AIR DEFENSE STRUCTURE", TO INCREASE WAR PRODUCTION AND "TO OVERCOME THE NATIONAL CRISIS AND BRING PEACE TO THE MIND OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY."
"PARTICULARLY ON THE PHILIPPINE FRONTS, WHICH WILL DECIDE THE TREND OF THE WAR," KOISO DECLARED, "OUR ARMY AND NAVY SPECIAL ATTACK UNITS, IN CARRYING OUT THEIR ASSAULTS DAY AND NIGHT AND GIVING THEIR PRECIOUS LIVES FOR THIS FATHERLAND, ARE SMASHING THE ENEMY'S PLANS OF ADVANCE.
"WITH THIS HEROISM AS A MIRROR, THE 100,000,000 ON THE HOME FRONT, APPLYING THIS SUBLIME SPIRIT TO THEIR DAILY LIVING, MUST GIVE OF THEIR BEST IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DUTIES TO INCREASE OUR FIGHTING POWER TO CRUSH THE ENEMY."
HW/PM754PPW NM

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UNDATED KING GEORGE OF GREECE
BY MARC PURDUE
OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FOREIGN DESK
GEORGE 11 OF GREECE, WHO CONSENTED TO ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGENCY REPLACING HIM AS THE ACTUAL HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT YET LEAVING HIM WITH THE TITLE, HAS HAD A CAREER AS FULL OF UPS AND DOWNS AS ANY ROYAL FIGURE IN RECENT EUROPEAN HISTORY.
EVEN BEFORE HE ASCENDED THE THRONE, HE WAS FOCCED TO FLEE THE COUNTRY WITH HIS FATHER, KING CONSTANTINE. THEN, WHEN HE FINALLY SUCCEEDED HIS FATHER, WHO MEANWHILE HAD BEEN REINSTATED AS MONARCH, GEORGE HIMSELF WAS FORCED TO ABDICATE AND SPEND LONG YEARS IN EXILE.
ARCHBISHOP DAMASKINOS WILL BE THE SECOND REGENT TO RULE IN GEORGE'S ABSENCE. THE FIRST WAS GEORGE KONDYLIS, A VIRTUAL DICTATOR, WHO LATER BROUGHT GEORGE BACK TO GREECE AND THE ROYAL PALACE IN 1935 FOR HIS SECOND TERM AS KING.
GEORGE WAS FORCED TO LEAVE AGAIN WHEN THE NAZIS INVADED GREECE IN 1941.
THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER HE HAS BEEN OPPOSED BY A SI ABLE PORTION OF THE POPULATION OF GREECE, REPUBLICANS WHO BITTERLY HAVE RESISTED HIS GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES. WHEN RETURNED BACK TO THE THRONE IN 1935 THE REPUBLICANS ADDRESSED A MANIFESTO TO HIM STATING, YOU ARE ONLY THE LEADER AND TOOL OF A GANG OF TERRORISTS."
GEORGE IS THE SON OF CONSTANTINE AND PRINCESS SOPHIA OF PRUSSIA, SISTER OF THE LATE KAISER WILHELM. HE IS RELATED TO THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY, BEING A GREAT-GRANDSON OF QUEEN VICTORIA ON HIS MOTHER'S SIDE, BUT IS OF MIXED DANISH, GERMAN AND RUSSIAN BLOOD WITHOUT ANY GREEK BLOOD IN HIS VEINS.
THE DYNASTY WAS FOUNDED IN 1863 WHEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ELECTED AS KING GEORGE 1, A DANISH PRINCE OF THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN-SONDERBURG-GLUCKSBURG FAMILY, WHO HAD BEEN DESIGNATED BY BRITAIN AFTER A REVOLT AGAINST THE OLD KING OTHO.
GEORGE 1 STILL WAS ON THE THRONE WHEN GEORGE 11 WAS BORN, BUT HE WAS ASSASSINATED IN 1913 AT SALONIKA AND CONSTANTINE BECAME KING. IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR, CONSTANTINE AND HIS SON WERE ACCUSED OF BEING PRO-GERMAN. IN 1917 CONSTANTINE WAS DEPOSED BY A PRO-ALLIED GOVERNMENT LED BY ELEUTHERIOS VENIZELOS AND FLED FROM GREECE WITH THE QUEEN AND GEORGE. HIS SECOND SON, ALEXANDER, BECAME THE PRO-ALLIED KING.
ALEXANDER DIED IN 1920 FROM AN INFECTION CAUSED BY A MONKEY BITE AND THE GREEKS OVERTHREW THE VENIZELOS GOVERNMENT. A PLEBISCITE RETURNED CONSTANTINE TO THE THRONE.
HE DID NOT REMAIN FOR LONG, HOWEVER, SINCE IN 1922, A REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE, LED BY GEN.NICHOLAS PLASTERAS WHO STILL IS A FIGURE IN GREEK POLITICS, INSISTED ON HIS ABDICATION AND GEORGE BECAME KING, HURRIEDLY TAKING THE OATH FROM THE PRIEST OF THE CHURCH NEXT DOOR TO HIS HOME. CONSTANTINE DIED IN 1923.
ABOUT A YEAR LATER, THE PARTY OF VENIZELOS, WHO WAS STILL IN EXILE, SCORED A GREAT VICTORY AT THE POLLS AND GEORGE AND HIS QUEEN, DAUGHTER OF KING FERDINAND AND QUEEN MARIE OF ROMANIA, WERE ADVISED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THEY WENT TO BUCHAREST, BUT THE KING REFUSED TO ABDICATE.

B48
IN 1924 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROCLAIMED A REPUBLIC IN GREECE AND DEPOSED THE DYNASTY, FORBIDDING ITS MEMBERS TO RESIDE IN THE COUNTRY. THAT BEGAN GEORGE'S FIRST LONG EXILE.
HE LIVED IN COPENHAGEN, PARIS AND LONDON. HE WAS A WELCOME GUEST OF BRITISH NOBILITY AND AT ONE TIME WAS REPORTED CONSIDERING OFFERS TO APPEAR ON THE STAGE IN NEW YORK. HE AND THE QUEEN WERE DIVORCED.
THEN WAR MINISTER KONDYLIS ORGANIZED AN ARMY COUP IN 1935 AND PROCLAIMED GREECE ONCE MORE A MONARCHY WITH HIMSELF AS REGENT. IN NOVEMBER OF THAT YEAR A PLEBISCITE VOTE WAS HELD ON GEORGE'S RETURN.
AFTER SOME 800 REPUBLICAN AND COMMUNIST LEADERS HAD BEEN SENT TO CONCENTRATION CAMPS, THEIR FOLLOWERS BOYCOTTED THE POLLS. THE ROYALISTS COUNTED THE VOTES AND ANNOUNCED THAT 98 PER CENT WERE FOR GEORGE'S RETURN.
GEORGE CAME BACK PROMISING AMNESTY FOR HIS POLITICAL FOES WHO HAD FALLEN AFOUL OF KONDYLIS AND, WHEN THE LATTER OPPOSED SUCH A MOVE, DISMISSED HIM AS CHIEF OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE WON THE SUPPORT OF THE VENIZELISTS WITH HIS PROMISES OF AMNESTY AND HIS AVOWED PRO-BRITISH FOREIGN POLICY. IN THE ELECTIONS WHICH FOLLOWED, THE VENIZELISTS, OR LIBERALS, BECAME THE ASSEMBLY'S STRONGEST PARTY.
THE RIGHTIST KONDYLIS FORCES STILL COMMANDED CONSIDERABLE STRENGTH, HOWEVER, AND NO GOVERNMENT COULD BE FORMED. GEORGE SENT FOR THE MONARCHIST FRIEND OF HIS FATHER, JOHN METAXAS, AND HAD HIM FORM A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.
THAT AS THE EGINNIN

DEC 31 1944

THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE METAXAS DICTATORSHIP.
THERE WAS OPPOSITION, BUT THE POWER OF THE ARMY WAS BEHIND METAXAS AND GEORGE.
EVEN AFTER THE ITALIANS INVADED THE COUNTRY IN 1940, THE METAXAS GOVERNMENT MAINTAINED RELATIONS WITH GERMANY.
THE ITALIANS PROVED UNABLE TO DEAL WITH THE GREEK ARMY, AND THE NAZIS TOOK OVER IN 1941. GEORGE FLED THE COUNTRY AGAIN AND HAS BEEN WITH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IN EXILE AT CAIRO OR IN LONDON MOST OF THE TIME SINCE.
THROUGHOUT THE OCCUPATION OF GREECE BY THE GERMANS, THERE WERE REPEATED REPORTS FROM THE UNDERGROUND THAT THE GREEKS WOULD NOT WELCOME THE RETURN OF THEIR KING, EVEN THOUGH HE PROMISED THAT A PLEBISCITE ON THE CROWN SHOULD BE HELD WITHIN SIX MONTHS AFTER THE LIBERATION OF GREECE AND THAT FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS WOULD BE HELD IN THE FUTURE.
PS814PEW

NIGHT LEAD UNDATED WESTERN FRONT (150)
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
THE WESTERN FRONT LAST NIGHT (SAT):
CANADIAN FIRST, BRITISH SECOND AND U.S.NINTH ARMIES: NO CHANGE.
U.S.FIRST ARMY: FOUGHT TO ROCHEFORT, 15 MILES FROM THE MEUSE, AND THE BELGIAN RADIO SAID IT WAS RECAPTURED; WITH THIRD ARMY CONSTRICTED WIDTH OF BELGIAN BULGE THURSDAY TO 16 MILES.
U.S.THIRD ARMY: WIDENED BASTOGNE RELIEF CORRIDOR AND WON POSITIONS

FOUR MILES NORTH OF BASTOGNE; POUNDED BACK TO GERMAN BORDER AT THREE POINTS IN NORTHEASTERN LUXEMBOURG; PLACED NAZI SUPPLY ROUTES UNDER ARTILLERY FIRE.

U.S.SEVENTH AND FRENCH FIRST ARMIES: NO CHANGE.

--DASH--

U.S.DIVISIONS:

FIRST INFANTRY: DISCLOSED TO HAVE STOPPED THE 12TH SS ARMORED DIVISION NEAR MONSCHAU, THUS BLOCKING SHORTEST ROAD TO LIEGE AND MEUSE.

82ND AIRBORNE: HALVED PERSONNEL OF THE FIRST SS ADOLF HITLER PANZER DIVISION IN STAVELOT POCKET FIGHTING.

SEVENTH ARMORED: HELT ST.VITH ROAD NET FIVE DAYS AGAINST HALF DOZEN GERMAN DIVISIONS WHILE DEFENSE LINES FORMED TO THE WEST.

PS714PEW

UNDATED NEW YEAR'S PREDICTIONS (700)

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

(NY) THE GREAT, THE NEAR-GREAT AND THE MAN IN THE STREET EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM TODAY IN PREDICTING EVENTS TO COME IN 1945--A YEAR SURE TO SEE BLOODY FIGHTING, BUTMKK

DEC 31 1944

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EXPRESSED CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM TODAY IN PREDICTING EVENTS TO COME IN 1945--A YEAR SURE TO SEE BLOODY FIGHTING, BUT ONE WHICH MIGHT BRING VICTORY AND PEACE.

IN LONDON, PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL SAID THE NEW YEAR "SHOULD BRING US VICTORY IN EUROPE," AND ADDED: "BEFORE MANY MONTHS HAVE PASSED THE EVIL GANG THAT HAS LONG DOMINATED THAT UNHAPPY CONTINENT WILL BE WIPED OUT."

RUSSIA'S TOP-FLIGHT FOREIGN COMMENTATOR, ILYA EHRENBURG, SAID IN A BROADCAST: "WE WILL FINISH OFF THE GERMANS THIS YEAR XXX WE HAVE SUFFERED TOO MUCH TO STOP SHORT OF BERLIN."

CONCERNING THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC, ROBERT P.PATTERSON, UNDER-SECRETARY OF WAR, DECLARED: "I HAVE FOUND NOTHING TO SUPPORT THE NOTION THAT WE CAN DISPOSE OF JAPAN IN SHORT ORDER ONCE GERMANY IS FINALLY BEATEN. WE WILL HAVE TO DEFEAT THEM THE HARD WAY."

HOWEVER, VICE ADMIRAL MARC A.MITSCHER, WHO TELPED WHIP THE JAPA

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HOWEVER, VICE ADMIRAL MARC A.MITSCHER, WHO HELPED WHIP THE JAPANESE IN TWO BATTLES OF THE PHILIPPINES SEA, PREDICTED FROM O PEARL

HOWEVER, VICE ADMIRAL MARC A.MITSCHER, WHO HELPED WHIP THE JAPANESE IN TWO BATTLES OF THE PHILIPPINES SEA, PREDICTED FROM PEARL HARBOR THAT "IN ANOT" R YEAR WE SHOULD HAVE THEIR NAVY PRETTY WELL CLEANED UP; XXX BY NE T SUMMER, THEY WILL BE SITTING ON A DECIDEDLY UNEASY SEAT IN THE EMPIRE."

A REPRESENTATIVE "MAN IN THE STREET", JIM GOODMAN, 70-YEAR-OLD CIGAR COUNTERMAN, DECLARED: "ONCE GERMANY IS THROUGH, RUSSIA IK GOING TO HELP US GO AFTER JAPAN...THERE'LL BE MORE CIGARETTES SOLD THAN EVER BEFORE."

A PROFESSIONAL PREDICTER, NICHOLAS DEVORE (SMALL D), PRESIDENT OF THE ASTROLOGICAL RESEARCH SOCIETY, SAID: "THE WAR WILL WEAR ITSELF OUT AND DISSOLVE GRADUALLY INTO A PERIOD OF OCCUPATION WHEREIN RUSSIA WILL BE THE GUARDIAN OF THE PEACE IN EUROPE AND ASIA."

OTHER PREDICTIONS AND YEAR-END STATEMENTS:

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REV.RALPH W.SOCKMAN, PASTOR OF PARK AVENUE'S CHRIST CHURCH (METHODIST) IN NEW YORK: "THE CHURCH MUST SUSTAIN THE COURAGE OF THE PEOPLE AND HEIR FAITH. WE FAILED OUR SOLDIERS AFTER THE LAST WAR BY BELIEVING TOO MUCH. LET US BEWARE LEST WE FAIL THIS TIME BY BELIEVING TOO LITTLE."

J.A.KRUG, CHAIRMAN, WAR PRODUCTION BOARD: "THE BLUNT TRUTH IS THAT WE ARE NOT PRODUCING WAR GOODS FAST ENOUGH TO MEET THE ACTUAL URGENT DEMANDS OF OUR FORCES."

SHERMAN BILLINGSLEY, OWNER OF NEW YORK'S STORK CLUB: "1945 WILL BE THE BIGGEST BOOM IN AMERICAN NIGHT CLUB HISTORY BECAUSE INDUSTRY IS GOING FULL BLAST AND SO WILL PLEASURE."

DARRYL F.ZANUCK, HEAD OF TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX PICTURES: "AMERICAN FILMS WILL PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN REEDUCATION OF THE WORLD FOR PEACE THROUGH RETURN OF AMERICAN PICTURES TO THE LIBERATED COUNTRIES."

HENRY P.RUSK, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS: "WHEN THE WAR IN EUROPE ENDS, PRICES MAY SAG, BUT PATRIOTISM COUNTS HEAVIER THAN PROFITS AND FARMERS WILL CONTINUE TO DO THEIR PART."

SANDY ACKLAND, NEW YORK ELEVATOR OPERATOR: "THE WAR IN EUROPE WON'T BE OVER. THE BLACK MARKET WILL BE BIGGER THAN EVER."

BILL MIGATZ, NEW YORK DRUGSTORE COUNTERMAN: "BECAUSE OF RATIONING IN 1945 RESTAURANTS AND SODA FOUNTAINS MAY HAVE TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS THEY SERVE."

GEORGE ABBOTT, THEATRICAL PRODUCER: "1945 WILL, BY ALL WARTIME PRECEDENT, BE PROSPEROUS FOR THE THEATRE, AND IN MY OPINION, MANY PLAYS WHICH APPEAL TO GOOD TASTE AND INTELLIGENCE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL."

PAUL V.MCNUTT, CHAIRMAN, WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION: "A MANPOWER SITUATION OF THE UTMOST SERIOUSNESS CONFRONTS THE COUNTRY."

WILLIAM H. DAVIS, CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL WAR LABOR BOARD: "HUMAN LIMITATIONS SHOULD PREPARE US TO ACCEPT SOMETHING SHORT OF PERFECTION IN WAR PRODUCTION."

GENE SARAZEN, GOLFER: "GOLFERS WILL BE RENTING GOLF BALLS IN 1945."

CHARLES E. WILSON, PRESIDENT, GENERAL ELECTRIC CO., FORMER WPB OFFICIAL: "INDUSTRY AND THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MUST COOPERATE TO CHANNEL MANPOWER. EVEN ESSENTIAL WAR INDUSTRY SHOULD BE CALLED UPON TO RELEASE MEN IF IT IS NOT OPERATING ON A 48-HOUR WEEK."

CHESTER BOWLES, OPA ADMINISTRATOR: "THE MOST CRITICAL PART OF THIS FIGHT (AGAINST RISING LIVING COSTS) STILL LIES AHEAD."

A165

MAYOR F.H.LA GUARDIA OF NEW YORK CITY: "THE NEW YEAR X X X IS GOING TO BE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA, A NEW LIFE, AND WE WILL HAVE TO CLEAR THE SHRUBBERY, BRIDGE THE WATERS, REMOVE THE DEBRIS OF THE UNHAPPY PAST AND BUILD, BUILD, BUILD."

EMIL SCHRAM, PRESIDENT, NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE: "BOTH OUR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS WILL BE ON TRIAL IN 1945 AS THEY HAVE NEVER BEEN BEFORE."

DAVID DUBINSKY, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION: "OUR GOAL FOR AMERICA AND FOR THE WORLD WILL CONTINUE TO BE MAINTENANCE OF THE HIGHEST OBTAINABLE WORK STANDARDS FOR ALL TOILERS."

ROBERT U. BROWN, EDITOR OF "EDITOR AND PUBLISHER": "1945 WILL OFFER EVEN GREATER PROBLEMS OF NEWS COVERAGE X X X X OUR NEWSPAPERS WILL MEET THE CHALLENGE OF EVENTS."

BRIG. GEN. DAVID SARNOFF, PRESIDENT, RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA: "IN 1945, A NEW ERA IN COMMUNICATIONS WILL OPEN--THE ERA OF CONTROL AT A DISTANCE."
UX208PEW

THE ROAD TO BERLIN
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
1. WESTERN FRONT: 301 MILES (FROM NEAR DUREN).
2. RUSSIAN FRONT: 304 MILES (FROM NORTH OF WARSAW)
3. HUNGARIAN FRONT: 364 MILES (FROM NEAR HRON RIVER).
4. ITALIAN FRONT: 547 MILES (FROM NEAR ALFONSINE).
JR350AEW

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
DEC. 30, 1940-GERMAN PLANES WRECK MANY HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN LONDON, INCLUDING THE GUILDHALL. THE BUILDING HOUSING THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN TUDOR STREET WAS BURNED OUT BY INCENDIARY BOMBS.
JR348AEW

DEC 31 1944

PATTON GAINS IN GERMAN BULGE

JAN 1 1945

Hitler Asserts Reich Will Never Capitulate

JAN 1 1945

Full-Scale Offensive Launched

Hammer Out Gains Of As Much As One Mile.

ADVANCE DESPITE COUNTER DRIVE

Yank Armies Strike From Two Directions In Furious Drive To Regain Remaining Area.

By James M. Long

PARIS, Monday, Jan. 1 (AP)—The U. S. Third Army has launched a full-scale offensive west and northeast of the Belgian town of Bastogne and hammered out gains of as much as a mile, it was disclosed today, despite a desperation-born German counter-assault with elements of seven divisions struggling to cut off the American Bastogne salient.

As 1944, a year in which many persons had thought the European war would end—wound into history, the American armies were striking from two directions in a furious effort to regain the remaining two-thirds of the area which the German counter-offensive had taken since Dec. 16.

Patton Takes Initiative

A front-line dispatch from Associated Press correspondent Edward D. Ball said the Third Army of hard-charging Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., had wrested the initiative from wily Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt in an offensive begun Saturday at noon, and that the German commander might abandon his dearly-won gains in Belgium in favor of assaults elsewhere.

Von Rundstedt, however, apparently regarded Bastogne as the key to his entire counteroffensive and threw in forces estimated to include elements of seven divisions, according to Wes Gallagher, Associated Press correspondent also on that front.

Third Army, Gains

The Third Army nevertheless gained against the dug-in German positions between the Bastogne corridor and the southern flank of the German bulge in Belgium, and as the new year arrived it was announced that Patton's forces were making progress to the northeast.

The dispatch, from Associated Press correspondent Edward D. Ball, located the drive northeast of Bastogne, but reports here stressed an assault by Patton's tanks and troops midway between Bastogne St. Hubert, 15 miles west, along strongly-fortified enemy line.

Little else was disclosed of this blow from the south except that it had made "some progress" in a northeasterly direction, was believed to be in considerable strength and was on a fairly wide front.

Just west of Bastogne, the Germans aimed three more counter-attacks at the Third Army lines stretching north of epic Bastogne, but they were beaten off, just as the bold bid by three enemy divisions to sever the Bastogne corridor had been smashed previously.

First Army Progresses

The U. S. First Army, hammering away to the west, recaptured Saturday the highway center of Rochefort at the tip of the German wedge in Belgium 25 miles west of Bastogne. The doughboys outflanked the fiercely-defended town by crossing the Homme River to the north.

Today von Rundstedt's supply lines were under heavy assault from more than 3,000 Allied planes while swarming British and American fighterbombers ripped at the heart of his Belgian and Luxembourg positions ahead of the charging Third Army.

An Associated Press correspondent with American forces in Belgium said it was estimated that the neck of the German salient above Bastogne had been squeezed to 12 or 14 miles by a noose-like squeeze from north and south.

Von Rundstedt May Try Elsewhere

Field dispatches said some quarters believed the Nazi commander, defeated in his attempt at a quick breakthrough to the Meuse or Liege, would be forced to withdraw and try an attack elsewhere.

The enemy was thrown back on the defense all along the bulge.

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reports up to Saturday morning disclosed, but the rising tempo of enemy feeler thrusts from Holland and Alsace suggested the Germans may strike elsewhere to take advantage of the diversion of Allied forces.

The German communique declared that half of all the forces on the western front now were engaged in the winter battle between the Maas and the Moselle and said the focal points of fighting were around Bastogne and Rochefort.

Graveyard of German Hopes

Rochefort, graveyard of German hopes for a break-through to the Meuse, fell at mid-day yesterday after sanguinary fighting in which both sides poured artillery and mortar fire into each other's battle lines. The Germans suddenly pulled out of the town under American pressure.

Turned back three miles from the Meuse the Germans had fallen back 12 miles east to this once-famous spa resort and dug in.

The three-division German attack on the Bastogne corridor, which has bee ndriven into the heart of their salient fro mthe south, cost the Germans 57 tanks, 25 of the mknocked out by doughboys who held firm as the Germans hammered at them from both the east and west.

Bastogne Corridor Bolstered

Now the Bastogne corridor is being rapidl ybolstered by the drive of the Third Army against the center of the Belgian-Luxembourg bulge.

Clear weather today sent packs of Allied warplanes hunting for skulking German troops and armor in the center of the bulge more than 800 British planes hammered at enemy troops and armor at the big concentration point of Houffalize, nine miles north of Bastogne in the center of the bulge.

British and American fighters and fighterbombers were blazing away with the same sore of close support which yesterday knocked out 32 enemy tanks, mainly around Bastogne and undoubtedly took much of the sting out of the German counterattack.

Through the fifth day without a German gain, the Americans kept up the blows yesterday which now have brought them up against the dug-in enemy defense line at points where a week ago Von Rundstedt's divisions were rampaging through Belgium and Luxembourg.

As the battle shaped up into a slugging match, the Germans stabbed speculatively across the Roer river north of Aachen and into the U. S. Seventh army lines in the northeast corner of France.

Another Attack Not Unlikely

It was no secret here that some new German attack in relative forces is likely any place from the Maas in Holland to the Rhine. Such assaults would be logical "holding attacks" to keep Allied forces tied down or to exploit any shifts in strength which were made to meet the German offensive in Belgium.

Considerable German movement was noticed yesterday along the Maas river.

One German feeler attack was in two-company strength at dawn Saturday against Tripsrath, two miles north of Geilenkirchen on the Cologne plain.

The enemy in an almost suicidal attack captured the village, but British tommies rallied, drove the Germans out, then repelled a second counterblow. In the twin assaults two enemy companies were captured and more than 50 prisoners taken.

Only Enemy Patrlos Out

A late dispatch said the Germans stayed in their own lines today but some of their patrols were out along the sector farther south.

Nearly 150 miles to the south in northern France, the enemy plowed into American lines near the Maginot fortress town of Bitche and was thrown back with severe losses.

A smaller attack was repulsed in the German Palatinate east of Bitche above Wissembourg. German planes bombed and strafed all the way from Wissembourg 30 miles south to Strasbourg.

The positions up to Saturday morning on the Belgian-Luxembourg front found the initiative still definitely in Allied hands.

The Germans, in addition to the losses in the futile battering at the Eastogne corridor, suffered a severe setback when Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's troops swept them from their last positions on the Arlon highway leading south out of Bastogne.

The Germans fought hard for their last highway toehold at Remofosse, two and a half miles south of Bastogne.

Dhen that position was overrun, they pulled back quickly and the doughboys pushed on a mile and a half northeast, seizing Marvie, a mile east of the highway and a mile and a half southeast of Bastogne.

Hack Deeper Into Germans

Hacking deeper into the German line running 15 miles westward from Bastogne to St. Hubert, the doughboys neared Senonchamps, two and a half miles west of Bastogne.

x x x Southeast of Bastogne

Around Moircy, four and a half miles southeast of St. Hubert, the American ran into strong German fixed positions supported by tanks and guns.

East of Bastogne, the Third Army was stedily pushing the enemy from the northern party of the Duchy of Luxembourg.

One force driving east of the Bastognie corridor edged into the southeast outskirts of Harlance, five and a half miles southeast of Bastogne.

Whether the Americans already had reached the key German-held town of Wiltz, 10 miles east of Bastongne and 25 miles north of the Luxembourg capital, was not known.

Associated Press Correspondent Lewis Hawkins, in a censor-delayed disptach dated Dec. 29, said troops of the 26th infantry division had pressed to within a mile of the town, which was overwhelmed early in Von Rundstedt's Winter offensive.

Germans Dispersed By Artillery

The Supreme Headquarters communique covering progress up to Saturday morning, reported only the capture of the hamlet of Nothum, two and a half miles southwest of Wiltz.

Southwest of Wiltz, the Germans counter-attacked with infantry and three tanks, but were dispersed by artillery fire.

Farther east, the Third Army had seized a 12-mile stretch of the right bank of the Sure river between Diekirch and Echternach, 18 miles northeast of Luxembourg's capital, except for one small pocket. This was about midway between the towns northwest of Bigelbach.

The north flank of the Belgian front was described as relatively stable and increasingly quiet, with the Americans doing the only attacking.

Almost one-third of the original German gains had been wrested back by the start of the third week of battle in which the German Army came out into the open and stopped the Allied winter offensive with a single, terrific breakthrough bid.

The Elite Grossdeutschland troops, reported previously only on the Russian front, have been identified in von Rundstedt's salient. A unit of Grossdeutschland was credited with foiling the alleged bombing plot against Hitler.

FROZEN ROADSAVED OUR ST. VITH UNITS

7th Armored Division's Battle That Kept Nazis Split for Week an Epic of War

Vanbrugh

WITH THE UNITED STATES SEVENTH ARMORED DIVISION, Dec. 30 (AP) (Delayed)—The Battle of St. Vith—the Belgians call it "San Veet" but Americans when they tell their grandchildren about it will call it "Saint Vith"—would never have had so happy an outcome if a road had not frozen up at just the right time.

As it turned out the seven-day-long battle, fought from hour to hour in the utmost confusion, goes down as one of the most remarkable feats of American arms.

Contrary to reports given out at the height of the conflict St. Vith never was encircled by the Germans. The American positions were maintained in the shape of a horseshoe that opened to the west.

At St. Vith the German drive was split, its continuity was broken and the great bulk of our men and machines were withdrawn and saved to fight another day.

Other U. S. Units Were in Fight

This mainly is the story of what was accomplished by the Seventh Armored Division, which was thrown into the battle just when the Germans were crashing down upon St. Vith itself. Other American forces were involved and they performed noble deeds. But of the several units involved only the Seventh Armored has been identified at this time. It was the only unit there in full strength and it did by far the biggest part of the job.

The Seventh Armored is commanded by Brig. Gen. Robert W. Hasbrouck, 48, West Pointer from Kingston, N. Y., and a tall, courtly specialist in field artillery.

No. 2 in command, but No. 1 as the man on the spot with direct responsibility for a quick decision where communications were uncertain or non-existent, was Brig. Gen. Bruce Cooper Clarke, another West Pointer of Syracuse, N. Y.

The Germans launched their attack on Saturday, Dec. 16. General Clarke arrived at St. Vith on Sunday, Dec. 17 when the situation already had become critical, and from then on for the seven days he was the man who directed the defense, making little bits go a long way.

When the crisis came up the Seventh Armored was in Germany preparing to leave the next day for a rest area. Two days after withdrawing from St. Vith with nearly all of its vehicles intact, it was in action again on another sector of the front far away.

The Seventh Armored could never have been withdrawn if the certain five-mile stretch of forest road had not frozen just in time. The road ran from Commanster in the center of the horseshoe to Vielsalm on the upper or northern heel.

Another factor was the supply train commanded by Col. Andrew J. Adams of Auburn, Ala., which performed the almost impossible task of sending up ammunition by roundabout routes. At times farranging Germans were battled off by supply clerks, cooks, truck drivers and mechanics. One sergeant made three trips through the German lines for truckloads of shells that saved the day for more than one artillery battalion.

Sgt. John N. F. Jones who was about to be broken to a private for a minor infraction, turned up at the height of the battle with 100 men under his command and asked for and got a position from which to make a counter-attack.

Most of the battle was fought, not in St. Vith, but on the perimeter of the horeshoe, which extended about ten miles east to west and was about eight miles across at the center from north to south.

When the Seventh Armored arrived at St. Vith German infantry was closing in on the town and the only defenders were two courageous companies of engineers of another division.

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the Germans subjected the sector immediately east of St. Vith to a heavy artillery bombardment and followed it with a strong infantry attack, which was stopped. That night the enemy attacked in strength on the northeast and southeast, and as Gen. Clarke said, "things got tough."

Thursday evening the Nazi's broke through on the west side of St. Vith. At 8 o'clock they attacked heavily along the entire line. At 10 P. M. General Clarke ordered the line withdrawn slightly west of St. Vith. The Germans came into the town immediately and American artillery plastered it. The night was extremely dark and it was snowing.

Friday the German drive slowed, but General Clarke decided his new line was untenable and he pulled back again.

Since Tuesday he had been sending back all unessential vehicles and he had them out of the way when the crucial time for the dash came Saturday morning, Dec. 23. Roads had been repaired to the rear to aid the withdrawal.

"The books said it couldn't be done—a daylight withdrawal like this," said Lieut. Col. John P. Wemple of Shreveport, La. "But we did it."

The Seventh Armored had taken over an enormous American supply dump that had been abandoned by another unit at St. Vith and left burning. But the fire had done little damage and scores of the division's vehicles even came out of the battle loaded with these supplies.

5 Months Of Silence Is Broken

Does Not See End Of War Before 1946 Except By Nazi Victory.

ADDRESS "FROM HEADQUARTERS"

Says People Are Resolute To Fight The War To Victory Despite All.

By Richard Kasischke

LONDON, Monday, Jan. 1 (AP)—Adolf Hitler, breaking a silence of more than five months early today, told the German people that "the end of the war will not come before 1946 unless by a German victory, because Germany will never capitulate."

In a radio address which the German radio said was delivered "from his headquarters," the Fuehrer without his usual shouting declared that "our people are resolute to fight the war to victory under any and all circumstances," and threatened death to those who faltered.

Hitler's Voice

Most veteran London monitors agreed that it indeed was Hitler's voice, but some speculated it might have been a recording.

It was delivered faster than usual and without rhetorical pauses, lasted but a half-hour in contrast to his wonted long harangues, and seemed to some listeners to come from a large empty room.

A ghost voice broke frequently into the broadcast.

It was the first time the world had heard Hitler's voice since the night of July 20 when he hurried to the microphone and told the people of a bombing attempt on his life.

Early in his address he mentioned that hectic night and said events since "have compelled me to dedicate my whole attention to the single work for which I have been living — the struggle for the fate of my people."

Capping Germany's most disastrous year with a heavy-voiced speech, Hitler threatened dissenters within his besieged and invaded country by asserting:

"We are going to destroy everybody who does not take part in the common effort for the country or who makes himself a tool of the enemy."

Fight for Life or Death

In a New Year's order of the day to the German army Hitler also declared that the Germans were waging a "fight for life and death," said the war had passed its climax, and asserted that in the coming year Germany would break the Allies with counter-strokes.

He referred to the suggested Allied plan of giving Poland parts of eastern Germany by saying:

"He (Prime Minister Churchill) banished population problems by expressing the hope that he may succeed by killing through bomb terror yet another six or more million German men, women and children.

"His protege, de Gaulle, on the other hand demands that western Germany is to come under French sovereignty and that the rest of Germany is to be dissolved.

"This corresponds exactly to the programmatical declarations made by Stalin's Jewish companion, (Ilya) Ehrenburg, who goes a step further and announces that the German people has to be smashed and destroyed.

Morgenthau Attacked

"Here we have the aim, which we find an American minister, the Jew Morgenthau, has made his postwar plan."

Hitler said the war was "a mer-

ciless struggle for existence," and told the army that "both Bolshevism in the east and Jewish capitalism in the west are one and the same in their lust to annihilate."

He admitted in his talk to the people that 1944 had been "the year of heaviest tribulations in this gigantic struggle."

Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering issued an order of the day to the battered German air force which said:

"On the threshold of the New Year we look to the future full of hope and confidence. Already the first fruits of the dogged endeavors of the German air force are maturing.

"We have new squadrons in the air, our parachutist troops are exemplary, our flak gunners eager for battle.

"With the help of the German labor service and male and female auxiliaries and the Air Signal Corps our air arm will show in the future that it can fight with its customary force and determination."

Hitler in his lengthy order of the day blamed his military reverses on the desertion of Germany by her allies, and said "I have lived onl yfor the preparation, sooner or later, to be able to reverse our purely defensive warfare and go over to the offensive."

He referred again to the July 20 assassination attempt against him, said that those responsible were "knocked down in a couple of hours," and declared that that would be the last attempt on his life.

He admitted, however, that this series of events, including the assassination attempt, had shaken in the camps of "both friend and foe' 'a belief in Germany's ability to carry on.

The German leader appealed to his troops to never relax for a moment and to make the Allies pay dearly in lives for ever mile's advance against the Reich.

Hitler, who last spoke publicly in a radio address immediately after the unsuccessful July 20 bombing attempt on his life, declared, "a people has to defend its dignity with its last drop of blood."

Preceded By March Music

The German leader's speech, just after midnight, was preceded by a quarter-hour of march music.

Hitler said he was issuing a New Year appeal to the German people, asserting, "only the change of the year prompted me to speak. The time demanded more from me than speeches. The months after July 20 demanded from me a dedication of myself to a single task—the fate of my people."

Hitler, still speaking in a restrained voice, belabored democracies and the Jews.

"Public opinion in the democratic countries is directed by the Jews," he said. "Our enemies are purposely misinforming public opinion. The peoples on the other side don't know the National Socialist regime.

Would Bring Germany To Slavery

"We know the democratic statesmen, the Bolshevists and Jews want to bring Germany to slavery, despoil our youth and let millions starve.

"Because we know the aims of our enemies and we know the fate that awaits us if we lose this war, we are fighting for our fatherland, for survival of the German people, for our culture and for our posterity."

Hitler, still speaking quietly, promised the German people that the Nazis would rebuild all the war's destruction in the Reich.

He sneered at democracy, declaring, "in all countries, so-called democracy has proved barren," and "to all countries of Europe democracies have brought catastrophe."

Hitler noted that "Finland, Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary collapsed in the year 1944," and asserted:

"It was the corrupt democratic civilization which brought treachery to these countries."

Millions by Magic

Hitler boasted that Germany had produced "millions of new soldiers and artillery corps as if by magic" and added that "this will be recognized as a miracle of the twentieth century."

He said such people who could produce this "miracle" would "never perish but will come stronger out of it."

"At the end of this year," Hitler told the German people, "I want to beg you to continue to trust German leadership.

"I speak to you less now, not because I cannot speak," the mysteriously secluded and long-silent Fuehrer continued, "but because my work is taking every hour of my time.

"Unshakably, we shall fulfill our task also in the new year," he concluded, in a resolute tone which he maintained throughout the broadcast.

Goebbels Asks a Question

German Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels in a broadcast preceding Hitler's address asked the German people: "If the past year could not shake us, what in the world can shake us?"

Goebbels claimed the Allies "expected to sign a Christmas armistice in London" but were foiled by "a German miracle which at tihs hour has sent us over to the offensive on the western front and pushed us deep into Allied lines."

The propaganda minister then launched into praise of Hitler, declaring that Germany "has a man worthy of the time who, in the end, will also master it—Adolf Hitler."

He indicated that Germany hoped to win the war by attrition when he said "our enemies will pay the price in the blood and lives of many men until they understand that we cannot be beaten and that we therefore are destined for victory."

"We will not for a moment be shaken in the New Year," Goebbels said. "The German people will only lay down their arms when victory has been won. We have become active again in all fields of warfare. Our latest efforts have shown what we can do if we remain unshaken by the boasts of our enemies."

Louis Lochner Doubts Voice Was Hitler's

By LOUIS P. LOCHNER
Chief of the Former Associated Press Bureau in Berlin

LONDON, Monday, Jan. 1 (AP)—To anyone who has heard Adolf Hitler's voice for years, as I have, his early morning performance awakened grave doubts whether it really was the Fuehrer.

If he was, Hitler is a totally changed man. The delivery, while imitating the Hitler of olden days, was apathetic and completely lacking in the old Hitler passion.

Reached No Peaks of Fire

At no point did the speaker reach the peaks of oratorical fire. The speech itself seemed to be a blending of earlier Hitler utterances with pet phrases of Propaganda Minister Goebbels.

The speech was most likely not delivered at the time the world heard the voice. At one point, he spoke of the closing hour of the year when he in fact was supposedly speaking at the beginning of a new year. This would indicate the speech was recorded before midnight.

Bears Out One Theory

This would seem to bear out a theory of those who hold that since the attempt on his life last July Hitler has been able to concentrate only for certain periods.

In one such lucid period the speech may have been recorded by Hitler, but even in that case the effort appeared to be that of a feeble man who was rather inarticulate, and indifferent.

Lublin Poles Set Up Rival Government

Break Finally With Exiles in London, Who Open Fight on New Regime

To Ask Recognition By U. S. and Britain

Quick Russian Approval Seen; Peasant Party Meeting Cheers News

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP). — The Soviet-sponsored Polish Committee of National Liberation at Lublin proclaimed itself today the provisional government of liberated Poland after deciding "to break forever with the Polish government now in exile" at London.

The step, widely expected after repeated failures to bring the London Poles and the Soviet government together again, was announced by the Lublin radio.

The action was challenged immediately by the London Polish government, which charged that "the Polish nation will never recognize any authority or any totalitarian forms imposed on Polish national territory, and will not cease to stand for the genuine independence of Poland." It said: "The Polish government protests emphatically this attempt against the sovereign rights of the Polish nation."

Decision to form the provisional regime was taken by the National Council. Its president, Boleslaw Berut, appointed Edward Osubka-Morawski to be Premier and Foreign Secretary. Osubka-Morawski is president of the Committee of National Liberation and leader of the Polish Socialist party. (The Polish National Council and the Committee of National Liberation are organizational units of the Lublin group.)

Russian Action Seen

Wladislaw Gomolka, hitherto secretary-general of the Communist Polish Workers' party, was named First Deputy Premier and Stanislaw Janusz, vice-chairman of the Polish Peasant party, as Second Deputy.

Early Soviet recognition of the provisional government is expected. What action will be taken by Great Britain and the United States, which recognize the Polish government in London, remained to be seen.

Other ministers included National Defense, General Mihail Rola-Zymierski, who also is commander in chief; Home Affairs, Joseph Maslanka, Peasant party leader; Public Security, Stanislaw Radzkiewicz, of the Polish Workers party; Finance, Konstantin Dombrowski, Socialist party member; Justice, Edmund Zalewski; Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Edward Beriold of the Peasant Party; public works, Viktor, Trojanowski, Socialist Party; information, Stefan Matuszewski, Socialist Party secretary-general.

Other Portfolios

Other portfolios were left unchanged as in the National Committee of Liberation, the Lublin radio said.

The government consists of five members from the Polish Socialist and Peasant Parties, four of the Polish Workers Party, two Democratic Party members, and one non-party, Gen. Rola Zymierski.

News of the government's formation was taken to the Polish Peasant Congress meeting in Lublin municipal theatre, the broadcast added, and some 1,500 deelgates cheered.

Proposals were made that the new government—whose announced aim is "leading liberated Poland into a new and better future based on the principles of true democracy"—should seek an immediate alliance with the Soviet Union.

The National Council of Poland was formed a year ago in German-occupied Warsaw, while the Liberation Committee was set up in July 1944, to be in charge of liberated areas of Poland.

Friendly Relations

Berut told the session he hoped the new government soon would establish close, friendly relations with the United States and Britain. Soviet and French representatives attended the meeting.

The London Polish government's statement violently attacked the Liberation Committee, declaring:

"In the part of Poland cleared of German occupation, there exists neither freedom of speech, association, nor assembly. The press, radio and all officially recognized political and social organizations are only instruments of the Committee of National Liberation in Lublin x x x

"Polish peasants, workers and intellectuals are carrying on the struggle against the German invader at home and abroad. Direction of the struggle rest in the hands of the Polish government. After the clearing of the whole territory from German occupation and after the evacuation of all foreign armed forces from Poland, the Polish people will be able in a free democratic election to choose the political system for their country, and elect a government in accordance with their own will."

Red Troops Occupy Two-thirds Of Buda

Last Enemy In Pilis Hills Crushed—Germans Swept Out Of Northeastern Hungary—Four-fifths Of Nation Conquered By Soviets.

By W. W. Hercher

LONDON, Monday, Jan. 1 (AP)—Russian shock troops, battling amid scenes of slaughter unrivalled since Stalingrad, yesterday hurled the Germans out of 300 blocks of houses and buildings in Buda, the western half of Budapest, occupying approximately two-thirds of that rubble-strewn section of the burning Hungarian capital.

Last Enemy Remnants

Simultaneously other Russian troops to the north crushed the last enemy remnants trapped in the Pilis hills in the Danube loop and threw the last Germans out of northeastern Hungary into Slovakia on a 200-mile front between the mouth of the Ipoly river and the frontier town of Satoraljaujhely. The Russians now have conquered about four-fifths of Hungary.

Soviet field dispatches said the enemy's main fortified line in Buda had been smashed as the Russians steadily pressed the surrounded enemy back against the Danube in the heart of the city.

A midnight Soviet bulletin also announced the killing of 3,700 Axis troops during the New Year's Eve battle, making a 48 hour toll of 7,300—or more than two Germans killed every minute of the vicious struggle. Twenty-two guns and 30 tanks and self-propelled guns were captured.

The Russians were blowing up fortified buildings in the hills of Buda, burying the fanatical German defenders. "Fierce struggles are taking place for every building," the communique said.

5,390 Captured

Moscow said that a total of 5,390 Germans and Hungarians were captured in eliminating the pocket in the Danube loop along with great quantities of equipment. The number of enemy slain was not given.

The Russians also plunged to within six miles southeast of the Slovak rail junction of Losonc (Lucenec), 55 miles northeast of Budapest, with the capture of Bozita, and penetrated further into central Slovakia southwest of Losonc.

While the great struggle raged inside Budapest a Berlin report said that other Soviet units had made a new crossing of the Hron

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river at two points west of Leva (Levice), in Hungarian-annexed Slovakia, 55 miles northwest of Budapest. In this sector the Russians were only 64 miles from Bratislava, Slovak capital, and 93 east of Vienna.

German military commentators also told of Russian preparations for a big Winter offensive. They said the Red army was massing men and material on the approaches to Krakow, southern Polish stronghold which is the gateway to German Silesia, and were probing German lines in East Prussia.

Overrun Buda

Soviet front dispatches disclosed that the Russians had overrun nearly two-thirds of Buda, and said that Soviet spearheads also had thrust as deep as three miles inside Pest, the part of the city on the east bank of the Danube.

Both sides were suffering staggering losses, Berlin said, and the Russians reported a 24-hour toll of 3,600 Germans killed.

The Germans, making a suicidal stand to delay the Red army's strides toward Vienna, were being worn down by Russian shock battalions which Berlin said outnumbered them five to one.

Fierce combat, often hand-to-hand, raged in the streets, squares and parks of the once beautiful city and also on Csepel Island as the Russians sent in waves of flame-throwing tanks against German street barricades and fortified buildings.

A Pravda war map published in Moscow disclosed that a four and one-half mile stretch of riverside in southern Buda was in Russian hands, and that two mile-deep Soviet penetrations had been made in western and northern Buda.

Still Holding

The enemy still clung, however, to a two and one-half mile northern tip of Csepel Island in the Danube. This portion includes the industrial district of Csepel, a radio station, and many wharves.

The map showed that the enemy line in Buda had been narrowed to less than two miles in width and five and one-half miles in length, extending from a point opposite the northern end of upstream Margaret Island down to a point near Csepel Island.

The Pest district still was largely under enemy control. Enemy forces were scattered thickly through the area, more than 12 miles in length on the east bank of the river, and extending inland as much as nine miles. Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Second Ukraine Army units fighting in Pest were encountering thousands of mines and electrically-charged barbed wire.

Russian mortar crews moved within range of the Royal Palace on 770-ft. Buda Hill, overlooking the Danube. Time-fused shells burst blackly over German trenches in the park flanking the massive Parliament building on the Pest side of the river.

On nearby St. Margaret's island, a mile and half-long wooded spa with fashionable hotels and sport grounds, German artillery concentrations were shelled heavily by self-propelled Red Army guns.

It appeared likely that one of Marshal Feodor I. Tolbukhin's wedges might quickly reach the Buda side of the wrecked Margaret bridge at the south end of the little island. His Third Ukraine Army men literally were dynamiting their way forward, blowing up buildings where cellar-entrenched machine-guns had street intersections under a withering cross-fire.

Enemy Positions

Enemy positions on the Buda side ran roughly from old Fortress hill behind the famous tourist hotel, St. Gellert, on the Danube, northward to Roszadom, fashionable knoll clustered with modernistic apartment houses of glass and steel.

Some Russian infantry was reported fighting around the little Buda park, Vermezo, "field of blood," where the Turks and Magyars battled in the 16th century. Buda, at the high tide of the Ottoman empire's conquests, was a Turkish stronghold dominating the surrounding region. Even in the days of modern warfare, where tankists have replaced swordsmen, its high ground is needed by the Russians in order to gain strategic control over the Pest lowlands across the river.

Whether any of the big Danube bridges linking Pest and Buda still are intact has not been disclosed by late front dispatches which told of further demolitions by the enemy.

Most of Budapest's Jews, estimated to number 400,000 before the war, lived in the tightly packed inner district of Pest near the Royal Opera House. This district is where the enemy, under present circumstances, might fight the longest.

Public Utilities

With public utilities destroyed and food stocks unreplenished Budapest's remaining civilian population crouched in terror in basement sehlters while the gunfire thundered incessantly and the fighting surged through the streets.

Saturday's disclosure that on Friday the enemy shot two Russian emissaries carrying a white truce flag in order to deliver a Soviet surrender ultimatum spurred the Russian shock teams in Budapest's wrecked streets.

The rejected Russian terms closely resembled those finally accepted by Marshal Von Paulus' Nazi Sixth army at Stalingrad with the exception that Hungarian soldiers were promised freedom to return home after questioning.

This Russian leniency toward the Hungarians was influenced by the energetic action of Premier-Col. Bela Miklos' provisional Hungarian government at Debrecen which now has officially declared war on Germany and asked the Allies for an armistice.

The Soviet-sponsored Hungarian regime has promised to mobilize Hungarian forces against the Germans, and a Brussels radio report staid that the Red Army also had been reinforced with two more Romanian divisions, making a total of 14 Romanian divisions fighting the Germans.

The Rusisans were moving up more guns and men west of Jelgava, Berlin said of this sector about which Moscow has remained silent.

BERLIN BLASTED BY BIGGEST RAF MOSQUITO FLEET

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3000 British and U. S. Planes Hammer Other Targets in Reich

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP)—The RAF bombed Berlin tonight with the strongest force of Mosquito planes ever to strike the German capital. The raid followed up heavy British and American daylight air blows at the Reich and the German front lines in closing out history's greatest year of aerial warfare.

Big RAF Lancasters during the night also attacked the railway yards at Osterfeld, in the Rhineland near Duisburg.

During the day more than 3000 British and American heavy bombers and fighters were hurled against widespread German targets.

The American Flying Fortresses and British Halifaxes and Lancasters, with their escorts of Mustangs, Spitfires and Thunderbolts, hit German oil refineries, communications in support of the Allied ground armies.

Just before midday a squadron of RAF Mosquitoes bombed Gestapo headquarters in Oslo, Norway, the Air Ministry announced. A Stockholm dispatch, quoting reports from the Norwegian capital, said a great many persons were killed.

RAF Spitfire bombers in another operation attacked V-2 installations in the center of a Dutch town diving through storms of flak to pinpoint the targets. They also attacked V-2 storage and maintenance sites in the same area.

Eighth Air Force

With yesterday's operations the U. S. Eighth Eighth Air Force alone dropped 42,000 tons of bombs on enemy targets. Last year in December their bomb total was 11,000 tons.

The American raids on strategic targets were followed up during the afternoon by an RAF assault with some 1,000 heavy bombers and escorting Mustangs and Spitfires on a railyard at Vohwinkel, almost due north of Solingen.

Although snow and fog hampered air activity in the battle zone, Allied strategic and tactical air forces flew well over 4,000 sorties against scores of targets on the enemy's front and rear sectors during the day. At least 23 tanks were reported knocked out.

Allied bombers attacked Oslo at noon today dropping several bombs in the center of the Norwegian capital, news agencies in Stockholm reported from Oslo through Quisling censorship.

The reports quoted an authority as saying a great many persons were killed and that many still are buried in the debris. Windows were smashed throughout the center of Oslo. One bomb hit a tram and two others landed on the castle grounds.)

The U. S. Eighth Air Force sent more than 1,300 Flying Fortresses and Liberators escorted by upwards to 700 fighters over the Reich for the ninth consecutive day of operations.

4,000 Tons Dropped

More than 4,000 tons of bombs were dropped on these targets.

Oil refineries at Hamburg, Harburg and Misburg near Hannover; u-boat yards at Hamburg; a Messerschmidt airplane factory and airfields at Wenzendorf, near Hamburg; two railway yards in the southwest Ruhr; six railway bridges over the Rhine, Moselle and other rivers opposite the battle area and four detraining points and communications centers handling traffic for German forces.

The heavy daylight attack by the American planes followed a powerful assault during the night by RAF Halifaxes on railroad marshaling yards at Cologne. Hanover also was attacked and in the early morning darkness Lancasters of the RAF bomber command blasted German troops and armor concentrated in and around a road junction at Houffalize 10 miles northeast of Bastogne in the Ardennes pocket.

RAF night fighters and intruder aircraft supported the big British bombers. Some 800 planes were involved in the various British attacks and the air ministry reported the loss of two planes.

One flying fortress formation was hopped on by 100 Nazi planes attacking one at a time, over Coblenz Liberators reported a dozen German fighters took out after them.

Hamburg Area

Anti-aircraft fire was reported intense over the Hamburg area. Elsewhere pilots said it was meager to moderate. The bombing was visual at Hamburg, Harburg and Misburg.

Photographs showed good bombing results at Misburg, Hamburg and Harburg as well as on the Messerschmitt factory and air fields. This plant where jet planes are built and tested was hit last Oct. 6.

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The Rhenania Ol Refinery at Harburg was subjected to its 10th assault. Three small oil refineries and the Blohm & Voss U-boat work which turn out about 200 40-foot subs a year were the targets at Hamburg.

Fortresses striking in the battle area dropped their bombs within 10 miles of the Siegfried Line. Liberators blasted railroad bridges in the Coblenz area near the Rhine and Moselle. Saturday American planes in about the same number attacked bridges and railyards in western Germany with the loss of eight bombers and three fighters. The Luftwaffe failed to show up.

Statistics for the year's operations by British and American air forces have not been completed, but 1944 saw Berlin struck with devastating blows; aerial support of the invasion of France; and the systematic destruction of German war plants.

One of the biggest accomplishments of the Eighth in the point of show of strength, was putting 2,000 bombers in the air on a single mission a week ago.

8TH AIR FORCE CLAIMS 7,000 PLANES IN 1944

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP) — More than 7,000 German planes were destroyed in 1944 by the United States Eighth Air Force, headquarters of that force reported today.

Eighth Air Force fighter pilots shot down 3,895½ craft and destroyed 1,044 on the ground. Bomber gunners bagged 2,234.

The Eighth's losses for the year were announced at 2,632 bombers and 1,446 fighters.

The announcement said that the total planes claimed destroyed did not include those that may have been wrecked by bombs on airfields.

The Eighth flew 357,272 combat sorties, 196,314 by heavy bombers and 160,958 by fighters. Nearly 2,000,000,000 pounds of high explosives and incendiary bombs were dumped on enemy targets.

In addition to blows at the German air force, Eighth fighter pilots took this toll of the enemy's war potential:

Locomotives, 3,300 disabled, 2,295 damaged; railroad cars, 6,675 destroyed, 21,143 damaged; motor vehicles, 4,014 destroyed, 3,037 damaged; armored vehicles, 128 destroyed, 138 damaged; tanks, 41 destroyed, 107 damaged; gun positions and flak towers, 245 silenced, 473 damaged; ammunition and fuel dumps, 67 destroyed, 79 damaged.

Call For Fight

LONDON, Monday, Jan. 1. (AP)—Declaring that the new year probably will be a decisive one in the history of the Polish nation, President Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz tonight called on all Poles "to rally round the rightful government" of Poland and "spare no effort in supporting it."

Diplomatic observers interpreted Raczkiewicz's statement, which was broadcast to Poland in a New Year's message, as a call for an all-out fight with the Lublin committee for home support.

Raczkiewicz said men who recently arrived in London from Poland had been given the "highest offices in service for Poland," and added that "to us democracy means the possibility of free organization of the nation in accordance with the will of the majority, of will freely expressed without compulsion and pressure."

J. Masaryk Urges Neighbors To Play Ball With U.S.S.R.

LONDON, Dec. 31, (AP)—Jan Masaryk, Czechoslovak foreign minister, today advised his country's neighbors—Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Austria and Romania—to play ball with Russia.

Outlining his country's foreign policy in a New Year's message broadcast to his homeland, Masaryk said this policy would be based "on the solid, unalterable and massive foundation of our agreement and neighborhood with the Soviet Union."

"We want a democratic and strong Poland but only a Poland who will collaborate with the Soviet Union," he said.

"We want a decent and Democratic Hungary who will let us live in peace, and again only a Hungary which will collaborate with the Soviet Union.

The same goes for Yugoslavia, Austria and Romania."

NAZIS SAY SUBS SANK 6 ALLIED TRANSPORTS

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP)—The Berlin radio claimed today that Nazi U-boats sank six Allied transports, aggregating 25,600 tons, off the British coast in the last few days.

Steel Mesh Protects Airmen

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP).—Manganese steel mesh curtains are replacing heavy plating in American bombers these days and are affording better individual protection for crewmen. They also lessen the weight of the aircraft.

Hitler Announces Death Of Marshal Kesselring

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LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP)—The Brussels radio today quoted what it said was an order of the day from Adolf Hitler, dated November 27, announcing the death of Field Marshal Gen. Albert Kesselring, commander of German troops in Italy.

A report from Bern, Switzerland, on November 2, said Kesselring was wounded in Italy when an Allied plane machine-gunned his automobile near Bologna.

The order announced the death of a large number of Nazi party members and state personalities and Army commanders who have been killed or wounded, the Brussels radio said.

It quoted Hitler as saying in part: "I announce the deaths of Stormtroop Leader Littel, Maj.

Gen. Kiehl and Marshal Kesselring."

There was no further explanation.

British Brides of GI's Learn How to Get Along in America

By BARBARA WACE

LONDON, Dec. 31 (AP)—From 12,000 to 15,000 British girls married to American soldiers applied for visas to the United States in 1944.

There will be thousands of English brides setting up house in America in the next few years, aided by a digest of "Bride's Guide to the U. S. A.," published in Good Housekeeping magazine. The guide was compiled by the magazine in conjunction with the Office of War Information.

Squarely facing national differences in eating habits, manners and ideas, the booklet points out how to avoid the most likely pitfalls.

Don't Change Accent

On the American language the booklet says, "Change your pronunciation if it causes misunderstanding—otherwise don't."

To take care of any British snobbiness the digest says frankly: "Most British brides will arrive in America entirely unknown. No one knows who you were at home and in most cases no one cares very much to dig into your past. Practically no American is able to 'place' you by your accent. It is what you are that is important. If they like you, they like you, and if they don't like you a good address in London is of no help."

"Listen, look around and take your time," the article advises. It goes on to explain that American humor is different and must be taken calmly.

"The kidding perhaps is harder to get used to, but you have to learn to take it. It may consist of mimicking to see if you can take it," is the advice.

Dress Your Smartest

The earnest little English miss anxious to impress her "in-laws" was advised to "dress your smartest for your first interview, and remember that, except in the smallest villages, lipstick is expected."

One section tells what to read to learn about America. Another how to make friends and entertain in a small town or a big city.

Above all, the British girl was warned that in America practically every housewife does her own work. She was told how to budget her income.

The English bride was warned not to put on airs.

"No matter what your income is it never pays to show off or live beyond your means. You and your husband will be judged not so much by what you spend as by whether you are pleasant company and seem to be on the way up."

HENDERSON ARRIVES IN PARIS FOR SURVEY

PARIS, Dec. 31 (AP)—Leon Henderson arrived here today, reportedly to make a survey of the condition and possible dispositions of German industry in the postwar period. He also will study the present state of French industry and its possible contribution to the Allied war effort.

2 German Officials Stay In a Freed French Town

By The Associated Press.

FRENCH FIRST ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Dec. 31—A rare case of collaboration in reverse came to light with the recent capture of a Vosges mountain town by French troops.

The soldiers found that they had liberated not only the native French population but also two German civilian officials of the Nazi occupation forces. The two men had been ordered to retreat with the Wehrmacht, but had remained. The local leader of the resistance movement asked special treatment for them.

It turned out that the two Germans had been quietly collaborating with the French during the whole occupation. They had helped French workers evade Nazi attempts to round them up for shipment to German war factories and had aided the townspeople in circumventing all kinds of Nazi restrictions.

Both men have offered to assist the Allied Military Government in Germany.

YANKS RETAr TOWN IN ITALY

Germans Claim Allied Coastal Landing Repulsed With Heavy Losses

ROME, Dec. 31 (AP)—U. S. 5th Army troops have reoccupied Barga, captured by the Nazis in their abortive push down the Searchio Valley near the Italian west Coast, Allied headquarters announced today.

The Germans knocked American troops from Barga, 19 miles inland, last week. Headquarters did not mention any fighting in reoccupation of the town, and the Germans may have withdrawn without a battle.

Substantial enemy troop movements had been reported earlier along the coastal area, but headquarters made no mention of them today. Snow was falling in the Apennines, limiting visibility.

(The German communique declared an Allied attempt to land with small forces below Massa, at the coast 17 miles west of Barga, had been repulsed with many Allied casualties in dead and captured. There was no Allied confirmation.)

At the other end of the 5th Army front, Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott's British troops sent patrols across the upper stretches of the Senio River near Rivola, seven miles below Imola on the highway to Bologna. The crossing drew heavy German fire and later attempts to send other units over were unsuccessful.

The Senio was crossed four miles west of Cuffia where patrols on the British Army's left flank also probe enemy lines behind the stream.

Tank Gunners

Tank gunners joined in a heavy artillery duel west of Bagnacavallo, near the east coast 14 miles northeast of Imola. Big German guns laid down steady fire. Tank gunners shot up an enemy strongpoint in a sugar factory along the east bank of the Naviglio Canal.

Weather curtailed air activity, but Allied fighter-bombers pounded enemy rearline communications, mediums hit bridges on the Brenner Pass railline, and an ammunition dump near Bologna. A Brazilian Thunderbolt Squadron participated with U. S. 12th Air Force Thunderbolts and RAF South African fighters in wrecking or damaging 52 motor vehicles, six locomotives, 90 railway cars and 42 buildings.

A naval communique disclosed the U. S. Destroyer Woolsey had shot down a bridge during frequent bombardments of the Italian Riviera by Allied ships. Other vessels in these bombardments were the U. S. destroyers Gleaves and Benson, and the French destroyers L'Alcyon, Le Fortune, and Trombe.

Honored as Assault Boat Hero

ROME, Dec. 31 (AP)—The Navy Cross has been presented to Lieut. Henry Francis Murphy of 140 Prospect Street, Bristol, Conn., for heroism when, an assault boat, which was taking part in the first wave of landings in southern France last August, hit a mine and was demolished. Lieutenant Murphy was dazed by the explosion, which killed and injured most of the boat's occupants, but swam to another boat and directed the rescue of the survivors. Then he directed other landing craft away from the mines. He is a graduate of Catholic University in Washington.

Greek Govt. Quits Office; Regent App.

Settlement Of Conflict Appears In Sight—Fighting Continues.

ATHENS, Monday, Jan. 1—(AP)—Archbishop Damaskinos of Athens took the oath of office as regent of Greece last night following the resignation of Premier George Papandreou and the entire Greek cabinet.

The regent said, "I swear in the name of the Holy and Indivisible Trinity to be loyal to the king, protect the religion of the Greek nation, maintain the constitution and preserve national independence," adding that he would remain vigilant to guard the historic rights of the nation.

Meanwhile, fighting continued in Athens and the port of Piraeus although the visit of an Elas delegation to British Commander Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie to discuss a truce and surrender terms was reported reliably last night.

Svolos Returns

Alexander Svolos, former Eam finance minister, returned from Elas territory and said he the left-wing group was conciliatory concerning the formation of a new cabinet, insisting that the ministries of war and the interior be given to persons of common confidence. The Eam, Svolos, reported, also named George Kafandaris as a candidate for the premiership.

(A long delay in dispatches from Greece was caused when warring left-wing Elas cut the cables and knocked out the Pelini transmitter 15 miles outside Athens. Press dispatches were relayed through the British war office in London.)

Although a settlement of the Greek internal conflict appeared in sight as a result of these political moves developing from the visit of Prime Minister Churchill to Athens last week, fighting continued in Athens and the port of Piraeus.

Accept "In Principle"

This was despite the fact that the Elas were reported to have accepted "in principle" the peace terms of British Commanded Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie.

(A note to the Elas by Gen. Scobie, made public by the British foreign office in London Sunday, said the Elas had accepted the "basic points" of Gen. Scobie's memorandum of Dec. 12 and Dec. 18 but demanded formal assurances on two specific points.

("If the central committee of Eam/Elas will confirm their acceptance of these two conditions and will send an officer or officers with full power to this headquarters arrangements can be made forthwith for the execution of these conditions and the cessation of hostilities," the note added.

(The conditions previously laid down by Scobie were that the Elas, armed militia of the left-wing Eam political movement, obey his orders and evacuate Attica, and that the Elas in Athens and Piraeus surrender their arms and cease resistance.

Elas Accept

("There is nothing to justify continuance of the fight inasmuch as the left had accepted the basic points of General Scobie's memoranda," the note said, but, it continued, "it had not been made clear by the Elas central committee, either in previous correspondence with Gen. Scobie or at recent conferences, that the Elas had accepted the two conditions which the general had made public in his memoranda of Dec. 12 and Dec. 18.")

Papandreou's action gave Damaskinos freedom call someone else to form a new government. There was no immediate indication of his choice but speculation centered on former EAM Finance Minister Alexander Svolos.

British troops continued to clean out Elas forces in the Athens-Pireaus area and reported Elas forces had landed on Meganisi island and were concentrating on the mainland opposite the island of Levkas. Gen. Napoleon Zerves, leader of the Rightist forces, continued to evacuate his remaining troops to Corfu from Prevesa, which is just north of Levkas.

Quits Army

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 31, (AP)—President Carl Gustaf Mannerheim formally resigned command of Finland's armed forces in a New Year's order of the day today in Helsinki and appealed to the nation for "unity and calmness" in order to weather the country's difficulties. The 77-year-old Finnish president and field marshal declared the people of the world were impatiently waiting the day when all nations could be united in harmony on a foundation of peaceful work and mutual understanding.

Heart of Oslo Reported Hit by Allied Bombers

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 31 (AP).—Allied bombers attacked Oslo at noon today dropping several bombs in the center of the Norwegian capital, news agencies reported from Oslo through Quisling censorship.

The reports quoted an authority as saying a great many persons were killed and that many still are buried in the debris. Windows were smashed throughout the center of Oslo. One bomb hit a tram and two others landed on the castle grounds.

GERMANS SEIZE BARON AS ANTI-NAZI LEADER

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 31 (AP)—German secret police recently arrested Baron Von Wilmowsky, a representative of the Krupp steel works, on charges of organizing anti-Nazi party cells, a traveler from Germany said today. He said Von Wilmowsky and several others were seized in Hamburg because their group was regarded as a center of defeatism.

Swedish Coastal Ship Sunk

Goes Down Under Mysterious Circumstances With 19 of Crew

STOCKHOLM, Dec. 31 (AP).—The Swedish steamship Venersborg, engaged in coastal traffic, was sunk mysteriously near Karlskrona, an official announcement today said. Missing since Dec. 29, the 1,550 t Venersborg went down with all but one of its crew of twenty while en route to Denmark.

The circumstances recalled the sinking of the Swedish steamship Hansa in October, with loss of nearly 100 lives, soon after the Germans had declared parts of the Baltic Sea a combat area in which ships were liable to be sunk without warning. The Germans denied responsibility for the sinking of the Hansa.

Allies Begin Lifting Trade Restrictions In Middle-East Area

CAIRO, Dec. 31. (AP)—The first step toward freeing trade from wartime restrictions by lifting import controls from a wide range of goods was announced today jointly by British and American authorities.

Improvement in the supply situation was given as the reason.

The announcement said the Middle East Supply Command will continue to control imports on commodities such as cereals and fertilizers, which require large amounts of shipping space, and over such articles as tires, trucks and textiles, of which there still is a world shortage. Import licenses for all other articles no longer will be required.

Middle East governments will be kept constantly informed of the amount of shipping space available. Individual countries henceforth may make their arrangements directly with exporters for those commodities on which controls were removed. The statement said control progressively will be withdrawn from all categories of goods as supply and shipping conditions improve.

30.24 — 2681

Pravda Attacks Pope's Message As an Apologia for Nazi Crimes

MOSCOW, Dec. 31 (AP)—Charging that Pope Pius XII is against recognition of the people's will, the Communist party newspaper Pravda today declared the Pontiff's Christmas message "was characterized by a policy aimed at the protection of Hitlerite Germany and its delivery from responsibility for crimes."

"As for the problems of an international organization for peace and security, the Pope adopted an attitude of equality toward both vanquishers and vanquished," the newspaper said. "That means an attitude of equality toward both peace-loving countries and Fascist aggressors."

"If the Hitlerite barbarians found no word of blame in the Pope's message," Pravda continued, "then there is something else—the Pope's main attack was directed against the broad masses of people and their demands for real democracy."

Asserting that the moral and political uprooting of fascism in Europe is a "much longer task than mere expulsion of Germans," the Communist paper said, "Pope Pius XII is against recognition of the people's will and attempts to prove that 'in countries ruled by the will of the masses,' freedom becomes tyranny.

"This conception is alien to the experience of peoples who have passed through the sufferings and atrocities of Hitlerite prison camps, and it violates the vital interests of people and real democracy," Pravda said.

The newspaper declared that the most important results of 1944, when the Red army, together with the armies of the Allies, inflicted decisive, crushing blows at the fascist "new order" in Europe, would be written in golden letters in the history of mankind.

Pravda said "two dominant trends emerge from the liberation of peoples from Hitlerite enslavement. First, a growth of national conscience and the deep patriotism of the masses; second, a stubborn, insistent desire by the broad masses of the liberated population to reconstruct their internal life and prevent any rebirth of a fascist or semi-fascist barbarian order."

Chiang Offers China Constitutional Govt.

Promises "As Soon As Military Situation Stabilized" People's Congress Should Be Convened To Transfer Power To People.

By Spencer Moosa

CHUNGKING, Dec. 31 (AP) — Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek in a momentous New Year's message to the Chinese people today promised them a constitutional government before the end of the war instead of within one year after the end of hostilities.

"We must prepare for the convening of a peoples' congress within this year (1945) to adopt and promulgate a constitution," the Chinese leader said, adding:

"I am ready immediately to propose to the central executive committee of the Kuomintang that as soon as the military situation has become so stabilized as to enable us to launch a counteroffensive with greater assurance of victory, we should convene a peoples' congress to adopt a constitution which would enable the Kuomintang to transfer the power of government to the people."

"Therefore," the generalissimo added. "We must in this year, 1945, employ our entire strength to beat back the enemy and also to introduce a constitutional government with the entire nation solidly bound together."

Expressing "deepest regrets" that this had not been possible earlier, Chiang said, "I feel a revolutionist should lay emphasis on working, not on talk. Therefore, I do not usually vainly talk much about democracy. But I have not for one single day forgotten the need for a realization of constitutional democracy."

Not Necessary to Wait

Declaring that the first Mukden incident in 1931, and then the outbreak of full-fledged war in July, 1937, had prevented the introduction of constitutional government, the generalissimo said, "through nearly eight years of armed resistance the three peoples' principles have sunk into the hearts of the people generally, and their sense of civil responsibility has been much heightened. Therefore, I do not feel it is necessary to wait until the end of the war to call a peoples' congress."

(Convening of a people's congress by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek apparently would be a step toward ironing out friction which has existed throughout the war between an estimated 80,000,000 Chinese in the North China Communist areas and the Kuomintang, or central government. Such a congress would seem to entail Communist representation.

Considerable Concern

(There has been considerable concern in some circles in America and Britain over the failure of the Communists to be given a voice in Chungking affairs, and criticism has been raised that part of the Chinese army has been deployed to "watch" the Communist forces in the north — forces which Communist spokesmen claim are eager to fight against the Japanese.)

Stating that the first emphasis in Chinese efforts in 1945 must be placed on military affairs "for redemption of past failures and for the speeding up of victory," the generalissimo said, "we must adapt all our political and economic programs to military needs."

He urged the Chinese to work harder and give more to the war, and asked landowners and other wealthy families not to miss their last chance for national service.

Great Trial and Danger

Describing the year 1944 as a great trial and danger for the Chinese nation, Chiang said not since the battle of Hankow in 1938 had so much territory been lost, nor had the people suffered such hardship and misery as during the past eight months.

"The enemy knows full well he cannot escape final doom," the Chinese leader said. "His only hope is to prevent China from achieving a clear-cut victory, thereby making the triumph of the United Nations incomplete and indecisive and winning for himself a chance to resume aggressive warfare.

"With this object in mind the enemy took full advantage of the all-out Allied offensive and preoccupation in Europe to drive boldly into interior China in hope of knocking out our striking power and bringing about our collapse.

"But today we are still secure on our own feet and the entire nation remains solidly behind the policy of fighting to the end. The foundation of our war effort has in no way been shaken."

Asserting that the enemy would continue the struggle in 1945, Chiang told his people "we should be prepared for even more violent attacks. We should strengthen our forces, realize the initiative and fight back in co-ordination with our Allies."

Japanese Raid Mindoro

ADVANCED HEADQUARTERS, on Leyte, Monday, Jan. 1 (AP)—The Japanese pressed their air attacks on shipping and installations at Mindoro Island Saturday but lost fourteen of thirty-two raiding planes, General MacArthur reported today.

Eight Japanese planes were shot down the previous night in an attack on an American convoy in the same area, bringing the two-day total to twenty-two.

Today's communiqué made no mention of American casualties, shipping or other losses.

[Japan's Domei news agency claimed in a broadcast that thirteen more transports and three additional cruisers had been sunk or damaged, bringing the total to thirty-three American ships sunk or damaged on their way to Mindoro. The broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said "only fourteen" battered American ships were now "observed in the Mindoro sector."]

Air attacks from newly-won fields on Mindoro and Leyte Island against Japanese-held Luzon continued. Patroling Liberators sank a freighter-transport in Lingayen Gulf, north of Manila. Medium bombers raided Tuguegarao airdrome in northeastern Luzon and Legaspi on the Bicol Peninsula.

The total enemy dead in the campaign for Leyte, where organized Japanese resistance was declared ended Christmas Day, reached 117,997. This included 1,191 more Japanese killed in the 24 hours ended Dec. 29.

Fighting to mop up the remaining Japanese in northwestern Leyte has developed into American Indian style warfare. General MacArthur's troops were moving rapidly by night and striking hard at dawn against groups of 200 or 300 Japanese marooned on the peninsula north of Palompon and west of Carigara.

Enemy Bands Roam Hills

No longer able to put up an organized stand against the Americans, who now control the Ormoc Valley and all main roads, small bands of Japanese are roaming the hill country, foraging and destroying what they cannot use.

Medium bombers destroyed five enemy planes and a fuel dump on Negros Island, in the central Philippines, while light naval units sank four luggers off the north coast.

Medium bombers raided installations and shipping at Davao, Mindanao.

Patrol planes bombed airdrome hangars, oil refineries and shipping on and around Borneo. They sank a small freighter and three coastal vessels.

Airdromes, supply depots and small shipping were struck with fifty-eight tons of bombs near Manado, Celebes.

Fighter and medium bombers dropped sixty-nine tons of bombs on airdromes, bivouacs and small shipping in the Moluccas and Lesser Sundas.

Heavy bombers hit anti-aircraft positions at Wewak, New Guinea, with thirty-six tons of bombs.

Medium and fighter bombers raided Rabaul, New Britain; Kavieng, New Ireland; and southeastern Bougainville.

Iwo Is Attacked Again

PEARL HARBOR, Dec. 31 (AP)—Airstrips on Iwo Island in the Volcano Islands were hammered by Liberator bombers Thursday and Friday. This made the twenty-second and twenty-third bombings of the tiny island during December alone.

The raids were announced today by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz.

Mitchell bombers hit targets in the northern Kurile Islands Friday and Marine Corsairs bombed and strafed supply dumps and other objectives at Babelthuap in the Palu group the same day.

Rocket-firing Mitchells attacked shipping between the Volcano and Bonin Island groups Wednesday and Thursday in assaults on the enemy's supply lines to western Pacific islands.

In the Carolines, Marine and Army fighter planes strafed barges at Woleai. Wake Island was hit along with remaining Japanese bases in the Marshalls to the south.

Britain's Role In Pacific War Pleases Nimitz

Admiral Says British Fleet Will Team With U. S. in '45 to Squeeze the Foe

ABOARD ADMIRAL HALSEY'S 3D FLEET FLAGSHIP, in the Western Pacific, Dec. 25 (Delayed) (AP).—A picture of joint American-British operations against Japan in 1945, with fighting growing more violent as the enemy is squeezed tighter and tighter, was drawn by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz today.

"The war to come will consist of obtaining bases closer and closer to the Japanese empire from which we can reach the enemy with all the weapons we have," Nimitz said at a press conference. "But the war will be far from won even when we cross the Pacific—at that time the war enters its toughest phase for us."

He spoke with obvious pleasure of recent conferences with Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander of the British Pacific Fleet.

"The British Fleet is not coming over here for any pacific purpose," said Nimitz. "They will carry their share of the load and they will be plenty aggressive.

"The British Fleet will operate in the Pacific under the control of the theater commander to which they have been assigned.

"I look forward to seeing the British working in close co-ordination with the United States Pacific Fleet."

Admiral Nimitz, whose strategy in 1944 cost Japan a Pacific Ocean empire in area as large as the United States, received correspondents aboard Admiral William F. Halsey's flagship. He said he had come to the western Pacific to express to Halsey and the fleet's officers his pride in their accomplishments.

"They have continued to press westward in the Pacific, defeating and knocking out the Japanese, and they have done a fine job," Nimitz added.

"I stopped at Guam en route and I was tremendously impressed with the development there since I was last there in August. Then the fighting was still going on and the place was a shambles.

But Guam now is taking the place it should have had always, and it will be of great value to the United States for all time to come. Whatever may have been its shortcomings before the war, those of us in responsible positions will leave no stone unturned to develop Guam to the ultimate."

New Cabinet in Bolivia

National Revolutionary Movement Wins Three Portfolios

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Dec. 31 (AP).—It was announced tonight that the Cabinet of Lieutenant General Gualberto Villarroel, President of Bolivia, had resigned and had been replaced by a new ministry in which the Nationalist Revolutionary movement (M. N. R.) has three portfolios.

Villarroel's new Cabinet includes: Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gustavo Chacon, Independent, former Minister of Economy; Defense, Lieutenant Colonel Jose Pinto, Confirmado group; Interior, Major Edmundo Nogales, former Minister of Agriculture; Finance, Victor Paz Estensoro, M. N. R.; Labor, Jorge Zarco Kramer, Independent, former Minister of Finance; Education, Major Jorge Galero, Confirmado, and Public Works, Major Antonio Ponce, Confirmado.

Order Prevails in Panama

Washington Embassy Says New Government Wins Sympathy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP).—Order prevails throughout the Republic of Panama and that nation has received "with sympathy" the new government which President Ricardo Adolfo de la Guardia formed early today, the Panamanian Embassy has declared tonight.

In a statement signed by Ambassador Don Enrique A. Jimenez, the Embassy denied by implication the report from Panama that President de la Guardia had faced a crisis yesterday with political leaders demanding his resignation.

B-29'S HERALD 1945 TO JAPANESE CITIES

Tokyo Reports Millions Alerted in Yokohama and Capital —Nagoya Fired

The first New Year's sleep of tens of millions of Japanese was interrupted by the drone of high-flying United States Superfortresses, The Associated Press reported.

Tokyo radio raid warnings, intercepted by the Federal Communications Commission Sunday (United States time) kept a wide belt across heavily populated Honshu, main Japanese home island, on the alert intermittently from 4:30 P. M. Sunday (Japanese time) to dawn, New Year's Day.

Incendiary bombs started two fires in Nagoya, said the Tokyo radio. The more dangerous, it said, "was put under control before it developed into a large conflagration."

The air-raid warnings aroused sleepers and fire-fighters in densely populated Tokyo; near-by industrial Yokohama; the busy Tokyo naval station at Yokosuka, and both the east and west coasts of Honshu.

As the old year drew to a close Radio Tokyo alerted first the west region of Honshu Island, warning: "A lone plane is coming from the west to the Tokyo-Yokohama region."

This was followed by the alarm: "Several planes are arriving from the southeast" heading for Tokyo.

Bombing of Tokyo Reported

In all, the radio reported through the night the course of four Superfortresses—two over the Tokyo area, one over Nagoya and one over "central Japan."

In a German-language broadcast beamed to Europe, Tokyo said that the two Superforts flying over Tokyo dropped incendiary bombs "over the capital of Japan and environs" before dawn but made no mention of results.

This broadcast said that a Japanese interceptor plane had "scored a direct hit" on one of the raiders.

There was no Allied confirmation of any of the enemy broadcasts.

To cope with future B-29 raids the Japanese Government specifically ordered managers of "concrete and steel buildings not to refuse the utilization of the buildings" as emergency air-raid shelters, according to a domestic radio broadcast intercepted by FCC.

In addition, air-defense authorities have drawn up new "regulations for air defense and lookout personnel" on "conditions of falling bombs and how to judge the direction of approaching enemy planes and their altitude," the broadcast said.

The service regulations, added the broadcast, were "an attempt to correct the direction of the air defense."

U. S. Working For Unity Among Allies

First Half Of 1945 Regarded As Most Critical Period Of War In Diplomatic Field—Pattern For International Affairs To Be Determined.

JAN 1 1945

By John M. Hightower

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP) — Strenuous efforts to achieve Allied diplomatic unity in the closing months of the war are being charted at the White House and State Department.

Critical Period

The first half of the new year is regarded as probably the most critical period of the war in this respect. It is expected to be a time of great decision fixing the pattern of international affairs—for peaceful cooperation or strife and conflict—for generations to come.

President Roosevelt will have opportunity to outline the course of action he and Secretary of State Stettinius are developing in his message to the new Congress probably late this week. Officials look to the message for the most comprehensive statement of American foreign policy in almost a year.

It is considered certain to reflect any modifications made to meet developments in Soviet-Anglo-American relations since former Secretary Hull's foreign policy speech last April. It may also give some clues as to the President's hopes for an early meeting with Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill.

Important Gathering

That meeting, now tentatively expected in February soon after Mr. Roosevelt's fourth term inauguration January 20, is easily the most important of various international gatherings projected for the first half of the new year.

Others include a conference of American foreign ministers, probably at Mexico City in February or early March, and a United Nations meeting also in early spring, to consider establishing the Dumbarton Oaks organization for world security.

President Roosevelt's leadership toward a peaceful and secure postwar world, which rose to a high peak both at home and abroad when he was reelected for a fourth term two months ago, will be put to the test in all these international gatherings as well as in the new Congress.

His greatest task, according to diplomatic authorities here, will be to gain broad compromises between the ideals and interests of the United States and those of Britain and Russia, which will be acceptable in this country. In accomplishing this task, it is said, lies his best hope of winning Senate approval of full United States participation in the projected world organization.

Problems Increase

The nearer Allied armies close in on Germany and the more European countries are liberated the more numerous will become the problems requiring settlement.

Even in those countries liberated during 1944 there remain explosive conidtions. For instance, France, according to information in official quarters here, will soon need huge quantities of raw materials to keep her factories going and employment high.

Allied shipping is so tight as to furnish little prospect of meeting the need there and in other freed countries, although if it is not met unrest is almost certain to follow.

Announced United States policy for liberated Europe is to let the people work out their own political destinies, even though in some instances it may mean at the outset control by leftist or communists minorities. Announced British policy is to intervene in the interest of maintaining British-recognized authorities where necessary.

The Russians have not disguised their intention of bordering their frontiers with friendly governments and of compelling whatever territorial changes they considered justified historically or for their own security.

New Congress Begins Heavy Program Soon

Legislative Issues Include Peacetime Draft.

Social Security Expansion, Taxes, Wartime Financing, Price Control, Congressional Reorganization, Treaties.

JAN 1 1945

By Douglas B. Cornell

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP)—Courting world peace but squaring off for some heavy home front slugging, legislators will ring the gong Wednesday for a new Congress.

Dozen Problems

Stacked in front of them are a dozen or so problems, many touching the lives of all Americans, all of them capable of exploding into blazing legislative issues. They carry such labels as:

Universal military training, social security expansion, taxes, wartime financing, price control, congressional reorganization, international treaties.

It may be months before the Senate is asked to ratify a treaty for peace machinery growing out of the Dumbarton Oaks conference. But vehement debate on the subject, and on international issues in general, is ready to boil up any moment.

And right at the start of the new session, Congress will take a couple of Saturdays off to clean up some political chores left over from the 1944 election. Senate and House will count electoral votes jointly next Saturday to nobody's surprise, announce Presdient Roosevelt's election to a fourth term, 432 to 99.

For Inauguration

Then, two weeks later, they are invited down to the White House lawn with a few hundred other folk to watch the inauguration.

And while the Democrats picked up some strength in the November voting that offers no guarantee of smooth sailing for all the administration's legislative program in the 79th Congress.

Even on extending social security coverage to additional millions, there may be some trouble. Although both major political parties endorsed expansion during the campaign, there are divergent ideas on financing and on what classes of people should be brought into the system.

Mr. Roosevelt has promised to give his own views to Congress shortly.

In the more immediate picture, however, are his annual message to Congress and the budget for the next fiscal year. Probably he will deliver neither in person.

Their timing will be decided when the President meets Tuesday with Democratic leaders of the Senate and House.

Military Training

Compulsory military training for American youth in peacetime may be one of the earliest and toughest issues.

The chief executive has let it be known he wants some type of universal service. He said he would leave it to Congress to decide how much of the training should be military. On that, legislators have thought up hot arguments.

While studies looking toward erection of a sound postwar tax structure have been under way for months, it may be many additional months before any tax cuts are approved even for the future. Tied in with the question is the whole problem of financing a war that costs upwards of a hundred billion dollars a year.

The next budget, tentatively, was cut below this year's but indefinite prolnogation of Germany's lease on life could upset all the government's financial hopes.

Peacetime Jobs

Congressmen naturally will be wondering how the administration can assure the 60,000,000 peacetime jobs announced as the presidential goal. Already, however, they have authorized some stand-by highway and flood control projects. They may work up a housing program and probably they will try to get together on some river and harbor improvements.

To put their own house in order and modernize it for handling issues of peace and war, they have told a committee on congressional reorganization to report back by April 1 with some recommendations.

And along about that time they will have to begin thinking about the price control act — always a touchy subject — which expires at the end of June.

Yet all these issues, important as they may be, will assume sideshow status once the international compacts on which the world pins its hopes for lasting security are ready for action. Probably there will be fighting over methods of attaining peace. For senators who have to ratify treaties have no unanimity of opinion, and House members who can do not more than watch from the sidelines want to be dealt in, too.

MORGENTHAU FINISHES 11 YEARS IN TREASURY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP)—Henry Morgenthau, Jr., completes 11 years tomorrow as Secretary of the Treasury.

After serving a month and a half as undersecretary, he was appointed to the post January 1, 1934, and confirmed by the Senate a week later.

He has been Secretary longer than any other man except Albert Gallatin, who served nearly 12 years early in the 19th century.

F. D. R. APPROVES ELK HILL OIL SALE

JAN 1 1945

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP)—The Navy announced today that President Roosevelt had approved contracts for sale of approximately 8,000,000 barrels of crude oil from the Navy's Elk Hills (Calif.) reserve.

The oil will be refined for naval and military needs.

The contracts, executed by Acting Secretary of the Navy Ralph A. Bard, are with the Union Oil Company of California, the Texas Company, Richfield Oil Corporation, the Mohawk Petroleum Corporation, Shell Oil Company, and General Petroleum Corporation of California.

The 8,000,000 barrels will be the estimated total production for the Navy's account from the Elk Hills reserve for the six months ending June 30, 1945, the Navy said.

Today's announced sale is the second sale of crude oil from the reserve under the contract signed between the Navy and the Standard Oil Company of California on June 19, 1944.

Production from the Elk Hills field was authorized by joint resolution of Congress, and approved by the President June 17, 1944, to supply military needs.

REP. CLARE LUCE BACK FROM TOUR OF FRONTS

NEW YORK, Dec. 31 (AP)—Rep. Clare Booth Luce (R., Conn.) arrived at LaGuardia Field today aboard a transatlantic Air Transport Command plane terminating a tour of European battlefronts as a member of the House Military Affairs Committee.

The plane, which ATC officers said had been delayed by weather, landed at 4 A. M. Mrs. Luce left the airport for her Greenwich (Conn.) home. She said she would go to Washington on January 3. The Congresswoman's return trip took her from Rome to North Africa and then across the Atlantic, the ATC said.

COL. HOBBY, WAC HEAD, GIVEN ARMY MEDAL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31 (AP)—Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, director of the Women's Army Corps, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, third highest Army decoration, the War Department announced today.

She is the first woman in the Army to receive this recognition, although six civilians were so decorated after World War I for outstanding service in the war effort.

JAN 1 1945

Add London 8th Airforce Roundup xxx 79 damaged.

APPROXIMATELY 32 PER CENT OF THE YEAR'S TOTAL TONNAGE OF BOMBS WAS N DIRECT SUPPO

JAN 1 1945

WAS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF THE GROUND FORCES. TWENTY-NINE PERCENT WAS AIMED AT GERMAN AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION AND 13 PERCENT AT THE OIL INDUSTRY.

MORE THAN 5,500 TONS OF SUPPLIES AND WEAPONS WERE DELIVERED BY BOMBERS TO FRENCH PATRIOTS, POLES BESIEGED IN WARSAW AND ALLIED AIRBORNE TROOPS IN HOLLAND. ABOUT 9,800 TONS OF MILITARY CIVILIAN SUPPLIES WERE FREIGHTED BY HEAVY BOMBERS INTO FRANCE AFTER D-DAY.

RP945PEW

Add London Japanese armor to x the aircraft.

DESIGNED BY BRIG. GEN. MALCOLM C. GROW, USAAF CHIEF SURGEON AND INVENTOR OF THE FLAK SUIT, THE MESHES ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO STOP A 20-MILIMETER SHELL EXPLODING TWO FFET AWAY.

THE AIR SERVICE COMMAND HAS ANNOUNCED THAT HUNDREDS OF TONS OF STEEL ARE BEING REMOVED FROM FLYING FORTRESSES, LIBERATORS, MARAUDERS AND HAVOCS TO MAKE WAY FOR THE CURTAINS. GLIDERS NOW ARE OUTFITTED WITH MESH FLOORS, AND THE ONLY ARMOR BEING RETAINED ON BOMBERS WILL BE AROUND THE ENGINES AND TAIL ASSEMBLY.

JAN 1 1945

RP940PEW

after 3rd Graf.

LONDON--~~FIRST ADD SECOND~~ LEAD AERIAL X X X GERMAN TARGETS.

THE BOMBERS WERE ESCORTED BY MORE THAN 700 MUSTANGS AND THUNDERBOLTS OF THE U.S. EIGHTH AIR FORCE. ONCE AGAIN THE LUFTWAFFE ROSE TO CHALLENGE THE ALLIED AIR FLEETS AND, IN GREAT AIR BATTLES OVER NORTHWESTERN GERMANY, PILOTS OF THE U.S. EIGHTH SHOT DOWN

30.24 — 2/6 83

78 GERMAN PLANES. THE AMERICAN FIGHTERS GOT 52 AND THE BOMBERS KNOCKED DOWN 26. ONE FIGHTER GROUP ALONE ACCOUNTED FOR 26 NAZI PLANES.

THIRTY-FIVE AMERICAN BOMBERS AND 12 FIGHTERS WERE MISSING FROM THE OPERATIONS.

JAN 1 1945

4th

THE AMERICAN X X X ~~THIRD~~ GRAPH FIRST LEAD

RP810PEW

Add London GI's Brides xxx way up.

THE BREAKFAST MENU, WHICH WILL MAKE THE WAR-RATION BRITISH GIRL'S MOUTH WATER, CLEARLY DEMANDS CEREALS WITH CREAM, EGGS AND BACON, WHICH IS CRISPLY FRIED AMERICAN STYLE, AND TOAST (HOT AND BUTTERED).

THE BRITISH BRIDES WERE TOLD THAT "IN AMERICA IT IS GOOD MANNERS TO PRAISE EVERYTHING YOU LIKE WHETHER IT IS FOOD, FURNITURE OR THE VIEW FROM THE WINDOW."

THE DIFFERENCE IN AMERICAN SPORT AND THE PROPER PREPARATION FOR A BIG BALL GAME WAS EXPLAINED TO THE GIRLS USED TO DECOROUS BRITISH CRICKET CROWDS.

"ONE UNWRITTEN RULE," THE BROOKLET SAYS, "IS THAT THE SPECTATORS MAY PROBABLY GO QUITE WILD AND USE VIOLENT LANGUAGE. DON'T BE SHOCKED. IT IS ALL IN FUN."

JAN 1 1945

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AMERICAN TRADITION WHEN CHILDREN ALWAYS EXPECT TO DO BETTER THAN THEIR FATHERS DID AND THE ENGLISH IDEAL WHICH OFTEN IN THE PAST WAS TO TREAD IN THEIR FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS WAS BROUGHT OUT CLEARLY.

"MOST AMERICANS WANT MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE TO SETTLE DOWN AND HAVE A HOME WITH CHILDREN IN IT. BUT YOU MUST GET USED TO WHAT

THEY MEAN BY SETTLING DOWN. IT DOES NOT MEAN FINDING A SECURE JOB AND HOUSE AND STOPPING THERE FOREVER. IT MEANS FIRST OF ALL FINDING A LINE OF WORK WITH PROSPECTS OF HIGHER PAY AND FUTURE RATHER THAN SECURITY. LOVE OF HOME ALSO IS NOT NECESSARILY CONNECTED WITH THE HOUSE. AMERICANS MOVE OFTEN AND MAY ATTACH THEIR HOME FEELING ALMOST ENTIRELY TO THEIR FURNITURE OR CAR."

JAN 1 1945

"YOU WILL BE WELCOME IN AMERICA," THE DIGEST ENDS, AFTER EXPLAINING THE AMERICAN IDEAL IS THAT EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE WITH THE SPIRIT OF HOPE OF GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE. "FOR YOU TOO HAVE TAKEN YOUR CHANCE AND EMBARKED ON A GREAT ADVENTURE. AMERICANS ADMIRE COURAGE. THEY WILL WISH YOU GOOD LUCK AND HAPPINESS IN YOUR NEW LIFE IN A NEW WORLD."

M204PEW

LONDON, DEC. 31-(AP)- QUEEN WILHELMINA OF THE NETHERLANDS BROADCAST A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIES TODAY, DEC. 31) TODAY ASSURING THEM OF HER SYMPATHY IN THEIR "SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL DISTRESS." SHE TOLD THEM THEIR "STEADFASTNESS AND LOYALTY" WOULD BE REWARDED BY THE LIBERATION THAT WAS BOUND TO COME.

JAN 1 1945

AT THE END OF HER MESSAGE, THE ANETA NEWS AGENCY REPORTED, THE QUEEN ADDED A FEW WORDS IN THE MALAY LANGUAGE OF HER 70,000,000 INDONESIAN SUBJECTS SAYING, "MAY GOD ALMIGHTY GIVE HIS BLESSINGS TO U ALL IN THE NEW YEAR THAT IS APPROACHING."

QUEEN WILHELMINA ALSO BROADCAST A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO THE NETHERLANDS WEST INDIES EXPRESSING THE WISH THAT 1945 WOULD BRING THEM HAPPINESS.

JAN 1 1945

IN A BROADCAST FROM MELBOURNE, DR. HUBERTUS J. VAN MOOK, ACTING GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIES, TOLD THE PEOPLE OF JAPANESE-OCCUPIED INDONESIA, "WE WILL GRIT OUR TEETH AND CONTINUE THE FIGHT UNTIL THE LAST GERMAN AND THE LAST JAPANESE IS HUNTED DOWN."

GJP/ ANETA 12-31...1255PEW.

(ADVANCE --- FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. EASTERN WAR TIME,

JAN 1 1945

LONDON, DEC. 31-(AP)- CROWN PRINCE OLAV, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE NORWEGIAN ARMED FORCES, TONIGHT PROMISED HIS PEOPLE VICTORY IN 1945 BUT WARNED THAT THE "VERY GREATEST TRIALS, STRUGGLES AND SUFFERING" STILL LIE AHEAD.

IN A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE TO HIS HOMELAND OLAV SAID "1945 CERTAINLY WILL BE THE DECISIVE YEAR OF THE WAR."

DECLARING THAT "WE CAN ALREADY PERCEIVE VICTORY ON THE HORIZON,"

30.24 — 21685

THE NORWEGIAN LEADER SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS "ENDEAVORING WITH ALL THE MEANS AT OUR DISPOSAL TO COME TO YOUR ASSISTANCE SO YOU CAN START TO REBUILD YOUR HOMES AND RESTORE YOUR CONDITIONS OF LIFE."

THE CROWN PRINCE CONCLUDED BY SAYING, "I ALSO SEND MY GREETINGS TO ALL OUR COMPATRIOTS IN SWEDEN."

JAN 1 1945

(END ADVANCE -- FOR RELEASE AT 6:30 P.M. EASTERN WAR TIME, TODAY, DEC. 31)

GJP/PARRIS' 11450...105PEW.

BY ROMNEY WHEELER (500)

LONDON, DEC. 31-(AP)-EUROPE'S MILLIONS LOOKED TONIGHT FOR THE SIXTH TIME IN THIS WAR INTO THE PROMISE OF A NEW YEAR AND HOPED FOR PEACE DESPITE MILITARY DISAPPOINTMENTS AND POLITICAL DISILLUSIONS.

PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL CALLED THE NEW YEAR ONE "THAT SHOULD BRING US VICTORY IN EUROPE" IN A SPEECH TO THE CONSERVATIVE PRIMROSE LEAGUE OF WHICH HE IS GRAND MASTER.

ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF A NAZI GERMANY AT BAY, MOSCOW'S NEWSPAPER PRAVDA DECLARED "WE ARE ON THE EVE OF A DECISIVE OFFENSIVE FROM ALL DIRECTIONS AGAINST GERMANY."

IN THE WEST, FIELD MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT'S GAMBLE FOR A QUICK DECISION HAD FAILED.

LT.GEN.GEORGE S.PATTON'S THIRD ARMY, WHICH STOPPED THE DRIVE WITH A PUSH FROM THE SOUTH, WAS DISCLOSED TONIGHT TO HAVE GONE OVER TO THE OFFENSIVE.

JAN 1 1945

ALLIED AIR FLEETS SOWED DESTRUCTION BEHIND THE GERMAN LINES BY DAY AND NIGHT.

IN THE SOUTH, PATTON STILL HOLDS TWO BRIDGEHEADS ACROSS THE SAAR, A REMINDER TO THE GERMANS THAT HE WILL RETURN TO UNFINISHED BUSINESS AFTER ATTENDING TO VON RUNDSTEDT. TO THE NORTH THE ALLIES HOLD POSITIONS THREATENING THE RHINE AND RUHR INDUSTRIAL REGIONS.

ON THE EAST FRONT, THE LONG-DORMANT POLISH PLAIN MAY SOON SEE THE PROMISED RUSSIAN DRIVE ROLLING TOWARD BERLIN.

THE FINAL LIQUIDATION OF ENCIRCLED GERMAN FORCES WENT AHEAD IN LATVIA. THE LAST AXIS RESISTANCE WAS CRUMBLING IN BITTERLY-DEFENDED BUDAPEST, AND THE RED ARMIES SURGED ON TOWARD AUSTRIA.

IN ITALY, AMERICAN AND BRITISH FORCES WERE LABORIOUSLY DIGGING THE GERMANS FROM THEIR MOUNTAIN DEFENSES.

IN THE POLITICAL FIELD, THE ALLIES FACED THE NEW YEAR WITH MANY PROBLEMS, SOME SO COMPLEX THAT THEY WILL FILL THE AGENDA OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE "BIG THREE" -- CHURCHILL, PREMIER STALIN AND PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT -- POSSIBLY SOME TIME IN FEBRUARY.

NO. 1 ON THE LIST WAS THE FORMATION OF A WORLD SECURITY ORGANIZATION TO KEEP A PEACE PAID FOR WITH MILLIONS OF LIVES.

THE ASSENT OF GREECE'S KING GEORGE TO THE DAMASKINOS REGENCY HELD PROMISE OF SETTLEMENT OF THE THORNY GREEK QUESTION, BUT MEANTIME BRITAIN STILL HAD THE TASK OF KEEPING THE PEACE IN THAT BALKAN STATE.

A155

JAN 1 1945

RUSSIAN INFLUENCE SEEMED UNCHALLENGED IN MOST OF THE BALKANS--IN ROMANIA, BULGARIA AND NOW HUNGARY, WHERE A SOVIET-SPONSORED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IS MAKING PEACE.

MOSCOW APPEARED TO BE SETTLING THE POLISH QUESTION WITH EARLY RECOGNITION EXPECTED FOR THE NEWLY-FORMED PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT IN LUBLIN.

LIBERATED BELGIUM, STILL SUFFERING POLITICAL HEADACHES, SOUGHT TO RECONCILE CONFLICTING VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND CRITICAL RESISTANCE LEADERS.

HOLLAND'S PREMIER PIETER GERBRANDY, AWAITING THE FINAL EJECTION OF THE GERMANS, PROMISED PROMPT RESIGNATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE APPOINTMENT OF UNDERGROUND LEADERS. A SIMILAR PROMISE WENT TO THE NORWEGIANS.

LIBERATED FRANCE IS BACK IN HARNESS WITH THE ALLIES AND WORKING FOR A NEW ERA IN EUROPE.

ITALY, TORN BY INTERNAL DISSENT, PLODDED ALONG IN THE ALLIED CAMP UNDER THE BONOMI GOVERNMENT, BUT NONE TOO CERTAIN OF HER EVENTUAL POSITION.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA AWAITED LIBERATION, ITS EXILED GOVERNMENT ALREADY IN ACCORD WITH ALL MEMBERS OF THE "BIG THREE."

SPAIN'S FRANCO, ONCE LOUDLY PRO-AXIS, NOW SPOKE MORE SOFTLY AND WATCHED ANXIOUSLY THE POLITICAL OPPOSITION TRYING TO UNSEAT HIM.

RP956PEW

BY E.V.W. JONES

LONDON, MONDAY, JAN 1-(-BRITONS, WHO TRADITIONALLY OBSERVE THE NEW YEAR SEDATELY, WERE TREATED TO A ROISTEROUS AMERICAN-STYLE CELEBRATION LAST NIGHT AND TODAY BY THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WHO "TOOK OVER" MIDTOWN LONDON.

ARM IN ARM WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH BRITISH TOMMIES AND KILTED SCOTS, AND WITH BRITISH GIRLS WHO HAPPILY JOINED THE PARTY, THE AMERICANS PARADED PICCADILLY, DANCED IN THE STREETS, AND SANG AULD LANG SYNE IN LUNG-BURSTING, EAR-SPLITTING VOICES.

LONDON'S GOOD-NATURED BOBBIES, ENJOYING THE SPECTACLE, DECLARED IT WAS "THE ROWDIEST, CRAZIEST AND QUITE MOST LOVABLE" NEW YEAR'S EVE OF THE WAR.

JAN 1 1945

THE BOISTEROUS CROWDS THAT MILLED THE STREETS FELL SILENT AS THE MIDNIGHT HOUR ARRIVED--FIVE HOURS AHEAD OF TIMES SQUARE.

CHURCH BELLS, SILENT FIVE YEARS BECAUSE THEY HAD BEEN RESERVED TO ANNOUNCE THE GERMAN INVASION OF ENGLAND, RANG OUT CLEARLY IN THE CHILLY AIR. THE DEEP VOICE OF BIG BEN BOOMED THE HOUR AND ITS NOTES WERE BROADCAST THROUGHOUT THA WORLD.

THE BELLS OF ST.PAUL'S, WHICH STANDS MAJESTICALLY ALONE IN A BLITZED AREA, MARKED THE OPENING OF MIDNIGHT SERVICES ATTENDED BY AT LEAST 2,000 PERSONS, INCLUDING MANY AMERICANS. OTHER CHURCHES ALSO WELCOMED THE NEW YEAR WITH A RELIGIOUS NOTE.

BUT TO THE MERRYMAKERS ON THE STREETS THE BELLS WERE A SIGNAL TO WELCOME 1945 WITH AS GAY A FAREWELL AS THEY HAD GIVEN 1944.

RP1217AEW

LONDON, DEC 31-(AP)-LED BY CORPORAL HENRY PIPER OF CHICAGO, ILL., THE UNDEFEATED AIR SERVICE COMMAND WARRIORS SNAPPED THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE'S TWO YEARS' UNBEATEN STRING BY DEFEATING THE RAIDERS 13-0 TODAY IN THE TEA BOWL FOOTBALL GAME BEFORE 40,000 GI JOES AND JANES AT WHITE CITY STADIUM.

PIPER, FORMER DETROIT UNIVERSITY BACKFIELD STAR, PASSED FOR THE FIRST SCORE AND TALLIED THE SECOND ON A BUCK FROM THE TWO-YARD LINE. PVT. LEONARD ERCOTTE OF NEW HAVEN, CONN., CAUGHT THE TOUCHDOWN PASS FOR THE FIRST SCORE. IT WAS THE AIR SERVICE COMMANDS 11TH STRAIGHT VICTORY.

M420PEW

LONDON--~~THIRD ADD SECOND LEAD~~ HITLER X X X MY PEOPLE."

Insert = (Hasischte)

SPEAKING IN A SEROUS TONE, HITLER SAID, "OUR ENEMIES HAVE PROPHESIED OUR COLLAPSE EVERY YEAR.

JAN 1 1945

"NEVER DID OUR ENEMIES THINK THEIR VICTORY SO NEAR AS IN AUGUST LAST YEAR.

"AGAIN, AS OFTEN, WE CONTRIVED TO BEND FATE TO OUR WILL."

"OUR ENEMIES ARE SETTING UP EVER NEW COMMISSIONS FOR REGULATING LIFE IN EUROPE AFTER OUR DEFEAT," HE REMARKED.

THEN, CHALLENGINGLY:

"BUT OUR ENEMIES DO NOT KNOW THE GERMAN PEOPLE."

pictup at Hitler, still speaking. etc.

RP722PEW

LONDON, MONDAY, JAN 1-(AP)-LONDON NEWSPAPERS TODAY QUOTED SUPREME ALLIED HEADQUARTERS AS SAYING THAT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT TWO GERMAN TANKS POURED A HAIL OF MACHINEGUN BULLETS INTO 130 DEFENSELESS CAPTURED AMERICANS AFTER THEY HAD BEEN SEARCHED FOR VALUABLES AND LINED UP IN AN OPEN FIELD.

THE DISPATCHES SAID THAT THE MEN, MASSACRED IN COLD BLOOD ON DEC. 17, MOSTLY WERE FROM A FIELD ARTILLERY UNIT CAPTURED NEAR MALMEDY, BELGIUM. THEY HAD LEFT THEIR TRUCKS TO SEEK SHELTER WHEN THE GERMAN TANKS APPEARED.

JAN 1 1945

ROUNDED UP IN A FIELD, THE GERMANS SEARCHED THEM AND TOOK THEIR CIGARETTES AND VALUABLES. A GUARD SUDDENLY OPENED FIRE WHICH THE TANKS JOINED FROM 40 YARDS AWAY. THE SHOOTING CONTINUED UNTIL ALL FELL.

THE GERMANS THEN WALKED UP AND DOWN SHOOTING ALL THE FALLEN MEN SHOWING SIGNS OF LIFE, IT WAS STATED. ABOUT 25 AMERICANS, MOST OF THEM WOUNDED, FLED BUT ONLY 15 ESCAPED.

RP152AEW

LONDON, DEC. 31-(AP)-PILOTS OF THE U.S.364TH MUSTANG GROUP LED BY MAJ.SAMUEL J.WICKER OF SANFORD, N.C., AND MAJ.ROBERT E.LACY OF 3651 PLUMOSA DR., SAN DIEGO, CALIF., DESTROYED 26 ENEMY PLANES TODAY IN DOGFIGHTS OVER THE HAMBURG-HANOVER AREA. WICKER DOWNED FOUR FOR THE DAY'S HIGH INDIVIDUAL SCORE.

FOCKE-WULFS, MESSERSCHMITTS AND SOME JET PLANES MADE MORE THAN TEN PASSES AT OUR FORMATION, SAID SGT.SAM SOSKEE, LILLINGTON, N.C., WAIST GUNNER IN ONE OF THE BOMBERS THE FIGHTERS ESCORTED.

"THE JET PLANES DID NOT TURN ON THEIR JET UNTIL THEY HAD FIRED AT US. THEN THEY WENT AWAY SO FAR YOU COULD HARDLY SEE THEM.

SGT.ALFRED MARCELLO, 1248 FREMONT AVE., ST.PAUL, MINN., A BOMBER TOP TURRET GUNNER, SAID THE GERMANS SWOOPED IN FIVE OR SIX AT A TIME AND "I SHOT ONE DOWN IN FLAMES."

SGT.PAUL E.HALL, MONROE, MICH., REPORTED HE KNOCKED DOWN TWO FOCKE-WULFS FROM HIS BALL TURRET POSITION.

LT.WILLIAM HESS, 436 WEST 29TH ST., NATIONAL CITY, CALIF., FIGHTER PILOT, BAGGED FOUR GERMAN PLANES, BUT ONE WAS ON THE GROUND.

DOUBLE AIR KILLS WERE CREDITED TO:

MAJ.GORDON GRAHAM, TAFT, CALIF.

CAPT.FRANCIS NOLAN, STERLING, COLO.

JAN 1 1945

LT.JAMES FOWLER, 673 FORTY-SECOND AV., SAN FRANCISCO.

LT.TRANT WELLS, 441 WEST 68TH ST., LOS ANGELES.

LT.EARL MILLER, 235 S.WAVERLY DR., DEARBORN, MICH.

LT.WILLIAM RANDOLPH, PRINCETON, IND.

CAPT.GEORGE BAKER, 228 CAYUGA ST., FULTON, N.Y.

ONE AND ONE-HALF AIR KILLS:

CAPT.RAY WETMORE, KERNAN, CALIF.

LT.FRANK LUX, 6 ELMWOOD ST., ALBANY, N.Y.

LT.WILLIAM COLLINS, 110 SOUTH PEARL, JANESVILLE, WIS.

LT.ARTHUR MORRIS, JR., 205 S.SIXTH, CORDELE, GA.

SINGLE AIR KILLS:

CAPT.JULIUS MAXWELL, ROUTE 1, SELMA, ALA.

CAPT.BERT HOWARD, 515 HEARN ST., AUSTIN, TEXAS.

CAPT.ANTHONY HAWKINS, 1400 MEPTET AVE., DETROIT.

CAPT.ANDREW LEMMENS, 50 CHAPIN ST., CANANDAIGUA, N.Y.

CAPT.WILLIAM MYRAN, 332 ASH ST., FLINT, MICH.

CAPT.WILLIAM CROMBIE, 907 CINCINNATI ST., EL PASO, TEXAS.

LT.CHARLES HAUVER, POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.

LT.GEORGE PORTERFIELD, VICKER, VA.

LT.BERNICE ALLEN, BOGUE CHITTO, MISS.

LT.RAY HERMANN, 207 LOVEL DRIVE, CHARLESTON, S.C.

LT.ROY ORNDORFF, CASEY, ILL.

LT.HAROLD JAMES, 309 WESTERN AVE., URBANA, ILL.

LT.HAYDEN HEAD, 1207 SOUTH TRAVIS, SHERMAN, TEXAS.

LT.ROBERT MCKIBBON, WILLOW BROOK RD., BRIDGEVILLE, PA.

LT.LITTLETON LEFORGE, NORTH MANCHESTER, IND.

LT.GALE N.RAMSER, 446 WEST RIVER RD., ELYRIA, OHIO.

F/O LEO FRANCIS BUTISTA, OIL CITY, PA.

LT.LORNE ALLERS, 816 SEVENTH AVE., SOUTH ST.CLOUD, MINN.

LT.GEORGE SCHRODER, 49 LINCOLN ST., PONTIAC, MICH.

LT.DONALD FISHER, 109 HIGHLAND PARKWAY, ROCHESTER, N.Y.

THE FOLLOWING SHARED IN A SING E KILL:

MAJ.ROBERT LACY, SAN DIEGO, CALIF.; LT.ROBERT FAULKNER, 709 ELVIRA ST., REDONDO BEACH, CALIF.; AND LT.DONALD LEFTWICH, 934 N.W. CHARLES ST., BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS.

WE1228AEW

30.24 — 21687

LONDON, DEC 31-(AP)-THE GERMAN HIGH COMMANDDECLARED TODAY THAT HALF OF ALL THE FORCES ON THE WESTERN FRONT WERE INVOLVED IN THE WINTER BATTLE IN BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG. THE FOCAL POINTS OF FIGHTING ARE IN THE ROCHEFORT AND BASTOGNE AREAS, IT ADDED.

M943AEW

IN ITALY, THE GERMAN COMMUNIQUE ASSERTED, SMALL ALLIED FORCES ATTEMPTED A LANDING ON THE ITALIAN COAST BELOW MASSA, SOUTHEAST OF THE PORT OF LA SPEZIA, BUT WERE SMASHED BACK LEAVING "MANY DEAD AND PRISONERS BEHIND."

M948AEW

LONDON, MONDAY, JAN. 1-(AP)-ADOLF HITLER'S DISREGARD FOR THE TRUTH WAS DISPLAYED AGAIN TODAY IN HIS NEW YEAR'S ORDER OF THE DAY TO THE GERMAN ARMY IN WHICH HE QUOTED PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL AS EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT "YET ANOTHER SIX OR MORE MILLION GERMAN MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN" WILL BE KILLED BY AIR RAIDS.

CHURCHILL, IN A SPEECH ON POLAND DEC. 15 WHICH HITLER QUOTED, ACTUALLY SAID, "SIX OR SEVEN MILLION GERMANS HAVE BEEN KILLED ALREADY IN THIS DREADFUL WAR INTO WHICH THEY DID NOT HESITATE FOR A SECOND TIME IN A GENERATION TO PLUNGE ALL EUROPE AND THE WORLD. X X X WE MAY EXPECT THAT MANY MORE GERMANS WILL BE KILLED IN THE FIGHTING WHICH WILL OCCUPY THE SPRING AND SUMMER."

RP1248AEW

LONDON, MONDAY, JAN 1-(AP)-THE TEXT OF ADOLF HITLER'S NEW YEAR'S ORDER OF THE DAY TO THE GERMAN ARMY, AS BROADCAST BY DNB AGENCY:

THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS WAR IN WHICH WE ARE ENGAGED IS TODAY CLEAR TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE--A MERCILESS STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE, A FIGHT OF LIFE AND DEATH.

BOTH BOLSHEVISM IN THE EAST AND JEWISH CAPITALISM IN THE WEST ARE ONE AND THE SAME IN THEIR LUST TO ANNIHILATE. FREE PEOPLES ARE TO BE MADE SLAVES. HERR CHURCHILL DECLARES THAT THE WHOLE OF EASTERN GERMANY IS TO BE CEDED TO POLAND WHICH WOULD MEAN IN REALITY TO SIVIET RUSSIA, AND THIS EASTERN GERMANY COMPRISES NOT ONLY EAST PRUSSIA AND DANZIG BUT POMERANIA AND SILESIA.

HE BANISHES POPULATION PROBLEMS BY EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT HE MAY SUCCEED BY KILLING THROUGH BOMB TERROR YET ANOTHER SIX OR MORE MILLION GERMAN MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN. HIS PROTEGE, DE GAULLE, ON THE OTHER HAND DEMANDS THAT WESTERN GERMANY IS TO COME UNDER FRENCH SOVEREIGNTY AND THAT THE REST OF GERMANY IS TO BE DISSOLVED.

THIS CORRESPONDS EXACTLY TO THE PROGRAMMATICAL DECLARATIONS MADE BY STALIN'S JEWISH COMPANION (ILYA) EHRENBURG, WHO GOES A STEP FURTHER AND ANNOUNCES THAT THE GERMAN PEOPLE HAS TO BE SMASHED AND DESTROYED.

HERE WE HAVE THE AIM WHICH WE FIND AN AMERICAN MINISTER, THE JEW MORGENTHAU, HAS MADE HIS POSTWAR PLAN.

FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS WE NOW HAVE ENGAGED IN THIS BATTLE FOR OUR EXISTENCE. ITS DEMANDS MAY BECOME PERHAPS YET HARDER IN THE SIXTH YEAR OF WAR BUT DESPITE THIS IT HAS PASSED ITS CLIMAX.

"UP TO THIS DAY IN SPITE OF MANY CRISES AND REVERSES THE GERMAN PEOPLE AND ITS ARMY HAVE SUCCESSFULLY OPPOSED THE STRANGULATION ATTEMPTED BY OUR ENEMIES. IN THE COMING YEAR TOO WE WILL WARD OF THE ENEMY'S ATTACKS AND IN THE END WE SHALL BREAK HIM BY OUR COUNTER-STROKES.

IF WE HAVE NOT BEEN SPARED SEVERE REVERSES IN THIS STRUGGLE WHICH WILL DETERMINE THE FATE NOT ONLY OF GERMANY BUT OF ALL EUROPE THEN THE FAULT DOES NOT LIE WITH THE GERMAN PEOPLE AND ITS ARMY BUT WITH OUR ALLIES IN EUROPE.

BEGINNING WITH THE COLLAPSE OF THE ROMANIAN-ITALIAN-HUNGARIAN FRONT ON THE DON AND ITS SUBSEQUENT COMPLETE DISSOLUTION, THE SABOTAGE OF OUR COMMON WEAR EFFORT BY THE ROYAL HOUSE OF ITALY TO THE PUTSCH AGAINST THE FASCIST ITALY OF IL DUCE WHICH STOOD BY OUR SIDE, IT WAS ONE CLEAR ROAD OF TREACHERY.

IT CONTINUED WITH THE MISERABLE CAPITULATION OF THE LEADERS OF THE FINNISH STATE, THE BETRAYAL OF THE ROMANIAN KING AND HIS ENTOURAGE, THE SURRENDER OF BULGARIA AND THE SHAMEFUL ATTITUDE OF THE FORMER HUNGARIAN REGENT. ALL THIS HAD SEVERAL REPERCUSSIONS ON OUR POLITICAL AND MILITARY STRATEGY.

ON TOP OF ALL THAT THERE CAME LAST YEAR A STAB IN THE BACK BY CRIMINALS AT HOME, WHO, IT IS TRUE, WERE KNOCKED DOWN IN A COUPLE OF HOURS AND HAVE SINCE BEEN LIQUIDATED RUTHLESSLY.

YET THE 20TH OF JULY NEVERTHELESS BROUGHT ABOUT AT THE FRONTS SAD MILITARY CONSEQUENCES AND I AM AFRAID IT HAS HELPED TO SHAKE THE BELIEF IN GERMANY'S STRENGTH OF RESISTANCE BOTH IN THE CAMPS OF FRIEND AND FOE. NEVERTHELESS THE DAY HAS BECOME A TURNING POINT IN GERMANY'S DESTINY BECAUSE THE ATTEMPT TO ANNIHILATE THE GERMAN PEOPLE'S SOCIAL STATE BY A PLOT HATCHED AT A PERIOD OF THE MOST BITTER STRUGGLE HAS FAILED ONCE AND FOR ALL AND I AM IN A POSITION TO ASSURE YOU THAT THIS WAS THE LAST ATTEMPT OF ITS KIND. I REITERATE MY DECLARATION OF SEPT. 1, 1939, THAT IN THIS WAR THE GERMAN PEOPLE CANNOT E BROUGHT TO THEIR KNEES BY STRENGTH OF ARMS NOR THAT THERE WILL AGAIN BE A 9TH OF NOVEMBER.

AFTER JULY 20 MORE THAN EVER I HAVE LIVED ONLY FOR THE PRE ARATION, SOONER OR LATER, TO BE ABLE TO REVERSE OUR PURELY DEFENSIVE WARFARE AND GO OVER TO THE OFFENSIVE. BUT WE WERE UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT THE FORTRESS OF EUROPE IN ITS FORMER EXTENT CANNOT BE DEFENDED BY GERMAN FORCES ALONE. WE WERE THEREFORE FORCED, AS VICTIMS OF OUR ALLIES' BETRAYAL, TO ABANDON WHOLE FRONT LINE AND SHORTEN OTHERS, BUT HAVE NOT TAKEN A SINGLE STEP BACK WITHOUT RESISTING TO THE UTMOST.

LET OUR ENEMIES KNOW THAT EVERY MILE OF THEIR ADVANCE AGAINST GERMANY MEANS A MOUNTING TOLL OF LIFE AND THAT THEY CAN NEVER EXPECT A RELAXING, LET ALONE ABDNONMENT, OF OUR RESISTANCE.

MEN WHO HAVE WON SUCH VICTORIES AS YOU HAVE, WHO WERE NEVER BROKEN BY TERRIBLE REVERSES, A PEOPLE WHO SUFFER AND ENDURE SO HEROICALLY, WHO WORK SO INDUSTRIOUSLY AS OUR PEOPLE AT HOME DO, ARE NOT DESTINED TO PERISH, BUT WILL LIVE.

WORLD POWERS HAVE FOR YEARS MADE VAIN EFFORTS TO ENCOMPASS THE COLLAPSE OF THE GERMAN REICH. THE COUNTRIES ONCE ALLIED TO THEM BUT TODAY BETRAYED BY THEM BEGIN TO REALIZE THAT LIFE OR DEATH HANGS IN THE BALANCE AND THAT NO NATION THEREFORE CAN AVOID MAKING A CLEARCUT DECISION.

WHERE OUR ENEMIES ENTER A COUNTRY ORDER GOES TO PIECES AND CHAOS SETS IN. DEMOCRACY IS INCAPABLE OF SOLVING EVEN THE SMALLEST PROBLEM OF THE CONTINENT AND POLITICAL ANARCHISM IS SOON FOLLOWED BY ECONOMIC LOSS AND ITS COMPANION, MISERY.

THE "LIBERATED" AREAS OF EUROPE ARE AT BEST LOSING GERMAN ORDER BUT IN RETURN THEY ARE GAINING INTERNATIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT ACCOMPANIED BY HUNGER AND MISERY. THIS MOST DENSELY-PEOPLED CONTINENT CAN ONLY SURVIVE IF ALL ITS ENERGIES ARE USED IN A PLANNED SCHEME AND IF THE EGOISTIC INSTINCTS ARE UTTERLY SUPPRESSED. ONLY TWO LEADERS IN EUROPE HAVE HAVE HONESTLY TACKLED THIS PROBLEM--THE NAZIS IN GERMANY AND THE FASCISTS IN ITALY. TO WHAT EXTENT WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN A SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS IN GERMANY IS BEST PROVED BY THE ORDER WHICH WE ENJOY EVEN IN THE SIXTH YEAR OF WAR AND UNDER THE HEAVIEST BURDENS.

THE YEAR 1945 WILL EXACT FROM US THE UTMOST COURAGE AND INITIATIVE. BUT IT WILL ALSO BE A YEAR OF A HISTORIC TURN OF EVENTS. SOLDIERS FROM EUROPE, ALLIED TO US, WHO TODAY ARE MARCHING IN OUR RANKS, ARE CELLS OF RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CONTINENT WHICH IS THE HOMELAND OF ALL OF US. WHICH IS THE SOIL WHERE OUR FOREFATHERS LIVED AND STRUGGLED FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS AND WHICH IS DEFENDED TODAY UNTO DEATH.

(END)

JAN 1 1945

WE1026PEW

LONDON, MONDAY, JAN. 1-(AP)-A TRANSLATION OF THE TEXT OF ADOLF HITLER'S NEW YEAR SPEECH AS BROADCAST BY THE GERMAN RADIO AND HEARD BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN LONDON:

GERMAN PEOPLE, NATIONAL SOCIALIST MEN AND WOMEN!

ONLY THE TURNING OF THE YEAR PROMPTS ME TO SPEAK TO YOU TODAY.

THE TIMES HAVE DEMANDED MORE FROM ME THAN TO SPEAK TO YOU. EVENTS OF THE 12 MONTHS WHICH WE HAVE NOW LEFT BEHIND, ESPECIALLY THE INCIDENT OF JULY 20, HAVE COMPELLED ME TO DEDICATE MY WHILE ATTENTION TO THE SINGLE WORK FOR WHICH I HAVE BEEN LIVING--THE STRUGGLE FOR THE FATE OF MY PEOPLE.

IT IS TRUE THAT OUR ENEMIES HAVE PROMISED OUR COLLAPSE EVERY YEAR, BUT THEY SET PARTICULARLY STRONG HOPES ON THE YEAR 1944.

VICTORY NEVER SEEMED SO NEAR TO OUR ENEMIES AS IN THE AUGUST DAYS OF THE LAST YEAR, WHEN ONE CATASTROPHE FOLLOWED UPON ANOTHER.

IF WE CONTRIVED ONCE AGAIN TO TURN THE COURSE OF FATE, THIS WAS DUE ONLY TO SACRIFICES, TO THE STRUGGLE OF ALL MY VOLKSGENOSSEN (THE PEOPLE, MY COMPANIONS) AT HOME AND ON THE FRONT, AND ALSO TO MY OWN LABOR.

I HAVE ACTED ALONG THE LINES I PUT FORWARD IN THE MEMORABLE REICHSTAG SITTING OF SEPT. 1, 1939, WHEN I SAID THAT NEITHER FORCE OF ARMS NOR TIME WOULD KNOCK GERMANY FROM HER FEET IN THIS STRUGGLE.

I SAID THEN THAT NOVEMBER, 1918, WOULD NEVER RECUR AGAIN IN THE HISTORY OF THE GERMAN REICH. THE INTERNATIONAL JEWISH CONSPIRACY LIVED ON HOPES ONLY FROM THE VERY FIRST DAY OF THIS WAR. ALWAYS WHEN THEIR PEOPLES HAVE BEGUN TO MISTRUST THESE PROMISES OF OUR ENEMIES, THEY USED CERTAIN AGITATIONAL TRICKS, HOPES AND PROPHESIES TO CONVINCE THE BROAD MASSES. THEIR PROPAGANDA USED TWO KINDS OF METHODS.

HOWEVER, LIES ARE SHORT-LIVED (LITERALLY, LIES HAVE SHORT FEET). ON ONE SIDE, THE IMPATIENCE OF THE MASSES IN THE ALLIED COUNTRIES WAS SOOTHED BY GIVING THEM DATES WHEN THE GERMAN COLLAPSE WOULD CERTAINLY COME ABOUT. THE OTHER METHOD USED TO FOOL THE MASSES IN ALLIED COUNTRIES WAS TO SPEAK ONLY ABOUT THE PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD CROP UP AFTER GERMAN DEFEAT.

ALREADY AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF THIS WAR, THE BRITISH STATED THAT A COMMON FRANCO-BRITISH DECLARATION OF WAR WOULD EITHER BRING REVOLUTION OR AT LEAST COLLAPSE THE GERMAN PEOPLE WITHIN FROM SEVEN TO TEN DAYS. IN THE WINTER, SPRING, SUMMER AND AUTUMN OF THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND SOMETIMES IN BETWEEN, NEW ASSURANCES CAME FROM OUR ENEMIES THAT NOW AN UNCONDITIONAL GERMAN COLLAPSE WOULD COME ABOUT. ALREADY IN THE AUTUMN OF 1939 ONE SUCH ASSURANCE FOLLOWED UPON THE OTHER.

ONE GENERAL AFTER ANOTHER WAS SUPPOSED TO BRING DEFEAT FOR GERMANY. SUCH ALLIED DECLARATIONS HAVE BEEN PRODUCED IN LARGE QUANTITIES, ESPECIALLY IN THE YEAR 1940. THEN THEY SAID THAT IF THE ALLIED NATIONS ONLY WOULD HOLD OUT TWO OR THREE MONTHS, GERMAN COLLAPSE INEVITABLY WOULD BE BROUGHT ABOUT IN THE SPRING OF 1941. THEN SUMMER AND FINALLY THE WINTER OF 1941. WITH THE CERTAINTY OF A SOMNAMBULIST, ALLIED PROPAGANDA SET THE DATE FOR UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER IN AUGUST, 1944.

NAY. A MEETING OF ALLIED STATESMEN IN BERLIN WAS DECIDED UPON BEFORE CHRISTMAS. THEN JANUARY, THEN MARCH WERE SET AS DATES. NOW THAT WE HAVE APPROACHED THESE MONTHS, OUR ALLIED STATESMEN HAVE BECOME MORE PRUDENT. IT WOULD BE IN AUGUST. IN JULY THEY CERTAINLY WILL SPEAK OF THE WINTER OF 1946, UNLESS THE WAR SHOULD TAKE AN END IN REALITY BEFORE THAT DATE. THIS END, HOWEVER, WILL NOT MEAN A GERMAN CAPITULATION. THIS OUR ENEMIES WILL NEVER GET. THE WAR WILL BE TERMINATED ONLY BY GERMAN VICTORY.

PARALLEL WITH THIS, TO STRENGTHEN THE PROBABILITY OF THESE PROMISES, EVER NEW FICTITIOUS COMMISSIONS ARE BEING SET UP WHICH SHOULD INVESTIGATE EUROPEAN QUESTIONS AFTER THIS WAR, NEW SOCIETIES ARE FOUNDED TO REGULATE FOOD SUPPLIES AFTER THE GERMAN COLLAPSE. COMMERCIAL TREATIES ARE BEING SIGNED, AIRLINES BEING PLANNED, AND LAWS FOR THE GERMAN PEOPLE ARE BEING DRAWN UP. THESE LAWS ARE REALLY IDIOTIC.

ALWAYS THEY WERE BUILT UP ON THE HYPOTHESIS THAT THE WAR ALREADY WAS WON FOR THE ALLIES, AS IF THEY COULD ALREADY NOW RACK THEIR BRAINS ABOUT MEASURES WITH WHICH EUROPE WILL BE RULED, BY STATES WHICH, I ADMIT, OFFER A SORRY SIGHT OF HOW PEOPLES SHOULD NOT BE RULED.

IF, HOWEVER, THERE EXISTED ONE ISOLATED STATESMAN IN THE WESTERN DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES WHO WOULD REALLY BELIEVE HIMSELF WHAT HE WAS TELLING HIS PEOPLE, THEN THERE WOULD BE ONLY THREE REASONS WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN THIS:

(1) THAT ALLIED STATESMEN DO NOT AT ALL KNOW OUR PEOPLE, THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT THE LAST 300 YEARS OF GERMAN HISTORY DO NOT REFLECT THE TRUE NATURE OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE, BUT WERE ONLY CONSEQUENCES OF INNER POLITICAL SPLITS. THAT THEY DO NOT KNOW THAT THIS GERMAN PEOPLE HAS BEEN NOT ONLY ONE OF THE MOST DECISIVE, BUT THE MOST DECISIVE FACTOR IN EUROPEAN HISTORY, AND THEREWITH OF WORLD HISTORY AS A WHOLE, THAT THE GERMAN PEOPLE STILL REMAINS THE MOST DECISIVE FACTOR TODAY, AND WILL RETAIN THIS POSITION IN THE FUTURE.

(2) THAT THEY HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE WHATSOEVER ABOUT THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST STATE, THAT THEY HAVE NO INKLING OF THE TRUE NATURE OF THIS PEOPLE, THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLES AROUND US REMAINED IGNORANT OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS CONTRIVED BY THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST REGIME UNDER THE MOST DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.

HOWEVER, THESE ACHIEVEMENTS HAD REMAINED A SECRET TO THEM, AS THE INSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC OPINION IN THESE COUNTRIES IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF JEWS ONLY. THIS INSTRUCTION THEREFORE IS DISTORTED AND MENDACIOUS. APPARENTLY, THEY DO NOT KNOW EVEN NOW THAT THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST STATE WILL BE SUCCEEDED NEITHER BY BOLSHEVISM, OR BY JEWISH PLUTOCRATIC IDEOLOGY, INSOFAR AS SUCH AN IDEOLOGY CAN BE SAID TO EXIST.

BOTH THESE IDEOLOGIES HAVE PROVED IMPOTENT IN GERMANY ITSELF. THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF BOLSHEVISM AND PLUTOCRATIC JEWISH IDEOLOGY CAN BE SEEN ONLY TOO CLEARLY IN THE ALLIED OCCUPIED COUNTRIES.

(3) IN THE ALLIED COUNTRIES, THE PEOPLES KNOW SOMETHING WHICH THE GERMAN PEOPLE DOES NOT KNOW: A SMALL BUNCH OF ARMCHAIR POLITICIANS AND ARMCHAIR GENERALS, WHO, IGNORANT OF THEIR OWN LACK OF IMPORTANCE, IN SPIRITUAL, POLITICAL, MILITARY, AND INDEED ANY FIELDS, TRYING TO CONVINCE THE WORLD THEY WILL ONE DAY COME TO POWER THROUGH A COUP D'ETAT. THEY WILL THEN OFFER CAPOTULATION TO THE ALLIES IN THE SAME MANNER AS IN ITALY, FINLAND, HUNGARY, ROMANIA AND BULGARIA.

THE LESS OUR ENEMIES KNEW OF THE TRUE NATURE OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST STATE, THE MORE THEY BUILT HOPES ON ASSURANCES. THESE SPINELESS INDIVIDUALS BELIEVED THEIR FANTASTIC THOUGHTS, AND PAID THEM NOT ONLY WITH CONFIDENCE, BUT ALSO WITH CASH.

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE NEW YEAR, I WANT TO REFUTE THESE ASSERTIONS OF OUR ENEMIES AND BRING PROOF THIS PEOPLE AND THIS STATE,

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AND ABOVE ALL, ITS LEADING STATESMEN, ARE UNSHAKEABLE IN THEIR WILL AND THEIR FANATIC RESOLUTION TO FIGHT THE WAR TO VICTORY UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, AND THAT THEY WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL FREAKS OF FATE AND ALL DEFEATS WE MAY SUFFER. THEREFORE, I WANT TO STATE ONCE AGAIN WHAT THE PAST AND THE PRESENT HAVE BROUGHT TO US AND WHAT ALL SHOULD KNOW FOR THE FUTURE:

(1) WE KNOW THE AIMS OF OUR ENEMIES FROM PAST AND PRESENT. WHAT FUTURE BRITISH AND AMERICAN STATESMEN HAVE IN STORE FOR THE GERMAN REICH, WHAT MEASURES THE BOLSHEVIK RULERS AND INTERNATIONAL JEWS WHO ARE ALWAYS FOUND BEHIND BOTH, ARE KNOWN TO US. THEIR SUCCESSFUL EXECUTION OF THESE AIMS WOULD MEAN COMPLETE PARTITION OF THE GERMAN REICH, DEPORTATION OF 20 MILLION GERMANS, ENSLAVEMENT OF THE REMNANT OF OUR PEOPLE, THE CORRUPTION OF GERMAN YOUTH, AND STARVATIONS OF OUR MILLIONS OF MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

ONLY TWO ALTERNATIVES ARE LEFT TO US: TO LIVE IN FREEDOM OR DIE IN SLAVERY.

THESE TRUTHS ARE ONCE ASSAILED AS NATIONAL SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA THESES.

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BUT TODAY, BY DECLARATIONS OF LEADING STATESMEN AND THE PRESS, THE JEWS OF ALLIED COUNTRIES ARE ADMITTING THESE AIMS QUITE OPENLY, THE VERY PROCLAMATIONS OF ENEMY GOVERNMENTS ARE CONFIRMATION OF THESE TRUTHS.

WE951PEW

THE WORLD MUST KNOW THAT THE GERMAN STATE NEVER WILL CAPITULATE. AS MANY OTHER PEOPLES BEFORE THEM, THE GERMAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO DEFEATS ON THEIR WAY.

GERMAN LEADERSHIP PARTICIPATES IN THE SORROWS AND SUFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE BUT NEVER WILL CAPITULATE BECAUSE OF THESE SORROWS AND SUFFERINGS. GERMAN LEADERSHIP WILL MEET EVERY CRISIS. WITH STILL GREATER EFFORTS, IT WILL REGAIN BY ITS ZEAL WHAT IT LOST BY NEGLIGENCE. GERMAN LEADERSHIP IS GIVING ASSURANCE TO EVERY GERMAN CITIZEN WHO IS CARRYING OUT HIS DUTY THAT HIS CONTRIBUTION WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN. GERMAN LEADERSHIP IS PLEDGED TO DESTROY EVERY GERMAN CITIZEN WHO WILL ATTEMPT TO SHIRK THIS CONTRIBUTION.

IT WILL DESTROY THOSE GERMANS WHO ATTEMPT TO PLAY THE HUMILIATING ROLE OF AN INSTRUMENT TO OUR ENEMIES. BECAUSE WE KNOW THE AIMS OF OUR ENEMIES, BECAUSE THEIR PROPAGANDIST CHATTER AND STATEMENTS OF THEIR STATESMEN AND JOURNALISTS OFFER US THE NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE. THE ENTIRE GERMAN PEOPLE KNOWS THE FATE WHICH WOULD BE IN STORE FOR IT IF IT EVER LOST THIS WAR. THEREFORE, THE GERMAN PEOPLE WILL NOT LOSE THE WAR BUT MUST AND WILL WIN IT.

EXCEPT FOR THE JEWS, NOBODY IN THE ALLIED CAMP KNOWS FOR WHAT HE IS FIGHTING. BUT THE AIMS FOR WHICH WE ARE FIGHTING ARE CLEAR TO ALL OF US. IT IS THE SURVIVAL OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE, IT IS OUR FATHERLAND, IT IS OUR 2,000 YEAR OLD CULTURE, IT IS THE CHILDREN AND THE GRANDCHILDREN OF OUR PEOPLE. IT IS ALL THE VALUES WHICH LIFE HAS TO OFFER.

THE REASON FOR THE MANY HARDSHIPS WHICH OUR PEOPLE HAVE HAD TO ENDURE LIES IN THE AIMS OF OUR ENEMIES. THEY ALREADY ARE TRYING THEIR METHOD OF TREATING THE GERMAN PEOPLE IN THE MIDST OF WAR BY USING MEANS OF WAGING WAR WHICH CIVILIZED HUMANITY NEVER DREAMED OF. BY DESTROYING OUR CITIES, THEY HOPE NOT ONLY TO KILL OUR WOMEN AND CHILDREN BUT ALSO TO EFFACE ANY TRACE OF DOCUMENTS OF OUR CULTURE WHICH IS THOUSANDS OF YEARS OLD--BECAUSE THEY HAVE NO EQUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO SET AGAINST THIS CULTURE.

THIS WAS ALSO THE REASON OF THE DESTRUCTIVE WAR ON THE CULTURAL CITIES OF ITALY. THIS IS ALSO THE DEEPER INTENTION WHICH UNDERLIES THEIR PRESENT STRUGGLE IN FRANCE, BELGIUM AND THE NETHERLANDS. LIKE A PHOENIX FROM THE ASHES. THE GERMAN SPIRIT HAS RISEN OUT OF THESE RUINS AND HAS BEEN RESURRECTED.

B76 (E) Q

WHEN THIS SORROWFUL TIME WILL BE OVER, EVERY GERMAN WILL BE PROUD TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A MEMBER OF SUCH A PEOPLE. THE TIME WILL COME WHEN THE PROFANATION OF CULTURE WHICH OUR ENEMIES ARE CARRYING OUT WILL BURN IN OUR MEMORY BUT WILL BEAR DOWN ON THEM AS THEIR SHAME.

THERE IS SCARCELY ONE HUMAN BEING IN ANY LARGE COUNTRY WHO KNOWS HIS PEOPLE AND THEIR FATHERLAND AS WELL AS I KNOW GERMANY. I HAVE BEEN NEAR ALL THOSE GERMAN CITIES AND VILLAGES--

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BEEN NEAR ALL THOSE GERMAN CITIES AND VILLAGES--NOT ONLY THROUGH HISTORICAL STUDIES BUT PERSONALLY.

I WAS BOUND TO THEM FOR YEARS, NOT ONLY THROUGH HISTORICAL, CULTURAL AND HUMAN LOVE, BUT WAS THE CLOSEST PARTICIPANT IN THEIR FATE, IN THEIR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. IT IS JUST THIS INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE WHICH LIGHTENS THE BURDEN OF THESE SORROWS ON MY SHOULDERS AS I KNOW MORE THAN ANY OTHER MAN, THAT ON THE RUINS OF THESE GERMAN CITIES, NEW ONES WILL ARISE AGAIN AND GROW TO NEW TREASURES OF GERMAN ARCHITECTURAL GENIUS.

OUR TOWNS WILL BE MORE IMPOSING AND MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN THEY EVER WERE BEFORE. SHATTERED HOMES WILL BE REPLACED BY SANATORIUMS. OUR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEMANDS WILL BE GIVEN MORE ATTENTION THAN WAS POSSIBLE TO GIVE THEM UP TO NOW. IN SPITE OF THIS, WE HAVE LOST MANY IMMORTAL, CULTURAL AND ARTISTIC DOCUMENTS, WE WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO RESTORE THEM. BUT, ABOVE ALL, WE SHALL NEVER BE ABLE TO RESTORE THE SACRIFICES OF INNUMERABLE MEN AND WOMEN DEAR TO US. WE SHALL NEVER BE ABLE TO RECOVER THE INTIMATE RECOLLECTIONS THEY HAVE GIVEN DURING THEIR LIFETIMES.

THE YEAR 1944 WAS THE YEAR OF HEAVIEST BURDENS IN THIS GIGANTIC STRUGGLE. IT WAS THE YEAR IN WHICH CAME FINAL PROOF OF THE INCAPACITY OF BOURGEOIS SOCIETY TO WEATHER STORMS OF PRESENT OR FUTURE TIMES.

ONE STATE ANOTHER UNABLE TO FIND THE WAY TO TRUE SOCIAL RECOVERY WILL TAKE THE PATH TO CHAOS. THE LIBERAL AGE BELONGS TO THE PAST. THE DEMOCRATIC HALF-SOLUTIONS ARE AS CHILDISH AS METTERNICH'S METHODS WERE WHEN COMPARED WITH THE STRIVINGS OF UNITY WHICH CONQUERED AFTER ALL IN THE 19TH CENTURY. THE CONSEQUENCE OF THE ABSENCE OF TRULY SOCIAL AIMS AND PERSPECTIVES IS THE ABSENCE NOT ONLY OF THE WILL TO RESIST NOT ONLY IN THE ALLIED PEOPLES BUT ALSO THE ABSENCE OF THE MORAL POWER OF RESISTANCE IN THEIR LEADERS.

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IN ALL COUNTRIES WE ARE SEEING PROOF THAT THE ATTEMPT OF THE RENAISSANCE OF DEMOCRACY HAS PROVED COMPLETELY BARREN. THE ALTERNATIVE FOR THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT, THE MOST DENSELY POPULATED OF THE WORLD, IS EITHER TO LIVE IN AN ORDER WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE INDIVIDUAL CAPACITIES OF ITS PEOPLE AND GUARANTEES THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENTS OR TO LIVE IN STATES WHICH ARE INCAPABLE OF LIFE AND DOOMED TO PERISH.

IN THIS YEAR, FINLAND, ROMANIA, BULGARIA AND HUNGARY FOLLOWED THE EXAMPLE OF ROYAL ITALY AND COLLAPSED. THIS COLLAPSE PRIMARILY WAS DUE TO THE COWARDICE AND LACK OF RESOLUTION OF LEADERS. THE VERY ACTIONS OF THESE LEADERS CAN BE UNDERSTOOD ONLY WHEN ONE UNDERSTANDS THE SOCIALLY CORRUPT AND AMORAL ATMOSPHERE OF THE BOURGEOIS WORLD. THE HATE WHICH MANY STATESMEN OF ALLIED COUNTRIES NOURISH AGAINST THE GERMAN PEOPLE IS NOTHING ELSE THAN AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR BAD CONSCIENCE. IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR INFERIORITY COMPLEX. THEY

FEEL THAT WHEN THEY CONFRONT A HUMAN COMMUNITY WHICH THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND BECAUSE IT SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVES ITS AIMS. THESE AIMS, HOWEVER, ALLIED STATESMEN CANNOT ACHIEVE BECAUSE OF THEIR ECONOMIC EGOISM AND CONSEQUENT POLITICAL SHORTSIGHTEDNESS.

B80 JAN 1 1945

FOR US, HOWEVER, THIS IMPLIES ONLY AN OBLIGATION TO RECOGNIZE THAT OUR LIFE OR DEATH IS AN ISSUE WHICH DEPENDS ON THE CONSISTENT CONSTRUCTION OF OUR PEOPLES' STATE. ALL THE UNLIMITED SACRIFICES OF OUR PEOPLE ARE ONLY COMPREHENSIBLE WHEN SEEN ON THE BASIS OF A SOCIAL ORDER WHICH ELIMINATED ALL PRIVILEGES, IN WHICH EVERY CITIZEN HAS NOT ONLY THE SAME DUTIES BUT THE SAME RIGHTS.

RECOGNITION OF THE MORAL VALUE OF THIS CONVICTION AND THE PERSPECTIVE WHICH FLOWS FROM IT GIVE US ALL AND PARTICULARLY TO ME PERSONALLY THE STRENGTH TO CONTINUE THIS STRUGGLE IN THE MOST DIFFICULT HOURS WITH MOST UNSHAKEABLE FAITH AND CONFIDENCE.

THIS FAITH HAS SECURED A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE APPEAL WHICH I HAD TO ADDRESS TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE WITH PARTICULAR INSISTENCE THIS YEAR. GERMANS OF ALL PROFESSIONS AND WAYS OF LIFE, MEN, WOMEN, BOYS, AND GIRLS, AND EVEN CHILDREN, HAVE TACKLED THE SPADE AND SHOVEL AND ARE NOW WORKING.

THOUSANDS OF VOLKSSTURM BATTALIONS WERE CREATED AND ARE BEING CREATED. ONE DIVISION AFTER ANOTHER WAS RESTORED. PEOPLE'S ARTILLERY FORMATIONS, INFANTRY FORMATIONS AND TANK FORMATIONS WERE PRODUCED MAGICALLY, AS IF THEY HAD FALLEN FROM HEAVEN. FIGHTER FORMATIONS WERE REGROUPED AND PROVIDED WITH NEW MACHINES AND, ABOVE ALL, GERMAN WORKERS HAVE ACHIEVED A UNIQUE PERFORMANCE IN THE FACTORIES.

WHATEVER OUR ENEMIES DESTROYED WAS RECONSTRUCTED WITH SUPERHUMAN ZEAL AND HEROIC COURAGE. AND THIS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE DAY WHEN AN END WILL BE PUT TO THE ACTIVITIES OF OUR ENEMIES. GERMAN SPIRIT AND GERMAN WILL WILL BRING THIS ABOUT. THIS ACHIEVEMENT WILL BE REMEMBERED AS THE MIRACLE OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

A PEOPLE WHICH IS ACHIEVING THE UNACHIEVABLE AT HOME AND ON THE FRONT, APEOPLE WHICH BEARS SUCH TERRIBLE BURDENS, WILL ARISE AGAIN OUT OF THIS FURNACE OF TRIALS, STRONGER THAN EVER BEFORE IN ITS HISTORY.

HOWEVER THE POWER WHICH HAS BROUGHT US ALL THESE MISFORTUNES, THE INTERNATIONAL JEWISH WORLD ENEMY, WILL NOT ONLY FAIL IN ITS ATTEMPT TO DESTROY EUROPE AND UPROOT ITS PEOPLES, BUT WILL PAY FOR IT WITH ITS EXTERMINATION. ON THIS NEW YEAR'S EVE, I WANT TO THANK THE INNUMERABLE MILLIONS OF GERMAN PEOPLE FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

AS SPOKESMAN OF OUR NATION AND LEADER OF OUR FATE, I WANT TO THANK THEM FOR ALL THE SUFFERINGS THEY TOOK UPON THEMSELVES, OUR MEN AND WOMEN, AND EVEN OUR CHILDREN IN THE HITLER YOUTH, IN TOWNS AND MARKET PLACES, IN VILLAGES AND IN THE COUNTRY.

I WANT TO ASK THEM NOT TO FLINCH IN THE FUTURE BUT TO TRUST THE LEADERS OF OUR MOVEMENT AND FIGHT OUR THIS HEAVY STRUGGLE FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR PEOPLE WITH FANATICISM.

I AM NOW SPEAKING LESS NOT BECAUSE I DO NOT WANT TO SPEAK OR BECAUSE I AM NOT ABLE TO SPEAK, BUT BECAUSE MY WORK WILL NOT PERMIT ME TO SPEAK MUCH AND BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT I AM PLEDGED TO SET ALL MY STRIVINGS IN THE PRESENT HOUR BEHIND THE TASK OF INCREASING THE POWER OF RESISTANCE TO OUR ARMIES, INTRODUCE BETTER WEAPONS, SET UP NEW FORMATIONS AND MOBILIZE ALL THE POSSIBLE FORCES OF MY NATION.

PERHAPS MY ENEMIES ALREADY HAVE COME TO UNDERSTAND BY NOW THAT I HAVE NOT SLEPT THROUGHOUT ALL THIS TIME. MOREOVER, I WANT TO REASSURE YOU, MY VOLKSGENOSSEN, JUST AS I DID IN THE YEARS OF STRUGGLE FOR POWER THAT MY FAITH IN THE FUTURE OF OUR PEOPLE IS UNSHAKEABLE.

MY ONLY CARE, THEREFORE, IS TO STRIVE WITH ALL MY POWER IN ORDER TO CARRY THE GERMAN PEOPLE THROUGH THIS EPOCH OF MISFORTUNES, AND TO OPEN THE GATES TO A BETTER FUTURE, IN WHICH WE ALL BELIEVE, FOR WHICH WE ARE ALL STRUGGLING AND WORKING. I CANNOT CLOSE THIS APPEAL WITHOUT THANKING PROVIDENCE, WHICH ALWAYS BROUGHT TOGETHER THE PEOPLE WITH THEIR LEADERS.

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I WANT TO THANK IT FOR THE FORCE WHICH IT HAS GRANTED US AND FOR THE POWER TO BE STRONGER THAN MISFORTUNE AND DANGER.

IF I THANK THE LORD ALSO FOR MY OWN LIFE, IT IS ONLY BECAUSE I AM HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO PLACE IT AT THE DISPOSAL OF MY PEOPLE.

IN THIS HOUR, I WANT, THEREFORE, AS SPOKESMAN OF GREATER GERMANY, TO PLEDGE MYSELF BEFORE THE ALMIGHTY THAT WE SHALL FULFILL LOYALLY AND UNSHAKABLY OUR DUTY ALSO IN THE NEW YEAR, IN THE BELIEF, AS FIRM AS A ROCK, THAT THE HOUR WILL COME IN WHICH HE WILL GRANT VICTORY TO THE POWER WHICH HAS PROVEN THE WORTHIEST OF HIM: TO THE GREATER GERMAN REICH.

Insert With U.S. 7th Armored Div. (Yarbrough) xx as a long way.

ONE OF HIS COMBAT COMMAND STAFF OFFICERS, CAPT. GEORGE L.TREECE OF LAFAYETTE, IND., SAID "IN THAT ONE WEEK WE AGED 10 YEARS."

Insert With U.S. 7th Armored Division (Yarbrough) xx counterattack.

ANOTHER MAN, A MAJOR PARKER--IT WOULD TAKE WEEKS TO RUN DOWN THE FULL NAMES AS THE PEOPLE HAVE SCATTERED--FOUND A CROSSROADS UNDEFENDED. HE STOOD IN THE CENTER OF THE ROAD AND SHANGHAIED EVERY STRAGGLER WHO CAME ALONG UNTIL HE HAD ENOUGH MEN TO HOLD THE CROSSROADS, AND HE DID.

SUCH IMPROVISING WAS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE BATTLE.

Insert With U.S. 7th Armored Div. (Yarbrough) xx and the withward.

THAT LAST DEFENSE LINE WAS ORGANIZED BY LT.COL.ROBERT C.ERLENBUSH, 871 STUDER AVE., COLUMBUS, OHIO. JAN 1 1945

THE FINAL WITHDRAWAL WAS EXPERTLY COVERED BY ARTILLERY FIRE, SWITCHED FROM ONE POSITION TO ANOTHER SO THAT EACH ELEMENT TAKING ITS PLACE IN THE RETREATING COLUMNS HAD ITS QUOTA OF SHELLS TO HOLD THE GERMANS OFF.

Insert With U.S. 7th Armored Div. (Yarbrough) xx another division.

ON TUESDAY, DEC. 19, THE SEVENTH'S ARTILLERY COMMANDED BY COL.ORVILLE W.MARTI OF OSHKOSH, WIS., GOT INTO ACTION AND CLARKE SAID "WE WERE IN A PRETTY GOOD POSITION THEN."

30.24——2/691

THE GERMANS HURLED ATTACK AFTER ATTACK, AND NEVER CEASED PROBING WHEN THESE ATTACKS WERE REPULSED.

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THE SOUTHERN ARM OF THE HORSESHOE WAS HELD MORE LIGHTLY. THERE THE SEVENTH HAD "TASK FORCE JONES" AND "TASK FORCE LINDSAY" HOLDING SEVEN ISLANDS OR KNOTS OF RESISTANCE.

AGAINST THOSE KNOTS THE GERMANS USED THE "BOUNCING BALL" TACTIC. REPULSED AT ONE CENTER OF RESISTANCE THEY BOUNCED WESTWARD TO THE NEXT.

WHEN THEY CAME TO THE SEVENTH AND LAST THEY DID NOT BOUNCE AGAIN. IF THEY HAD THEY MIGHT HAVE GOT THROUGH AND CLOSED THE HORSESHOE'S NECK.

PARIS, DEC. 31-(AP)-SOME 30,000 FANS, INCLUDING MANY FRENCHMEN AND WOMEN, ARE EXPECTED TO PACK THE MARSEILLE MUNICIPAL STADIUM TOMORROW WHEN TWO ARMY TEAMS, THE ALL-STARS AND RAILROADERS, WILL CLASH IN THE RIVIERA BOWL, NEW YEAR'S FOOTBALL GAME.

A SECTION WILL BE RESERVED FOR WOUNDED SOLDIERS RESTING ON THE RIVIERA. MILITARY BANDS WILL PLAY BETWEEN HALVES AND THERE WILL BE DONKEY RACES WITH FRENCH GIRLS AS JOCKEYS.

LAST NEW YEAR'S GAME, HELD IN NORTH AFRICA, WAS DUBBED THE ARAB BOWL BY THE SOLDIERS.

THE EVENT WAS ORGANIZED BY ARMY SPECIAL SERVICES WITH LIEUT. COL.CHARLES "CASEY" FINNEGAN, FORMER NORTH DAKOTA STATE FOOTBALL COACH.

WE613PEW

WITH THE U.S.SEVENTH ARMY, DEC. 31-(AP)-A COUPLE OF THUNDERBOLT PILOTS SCORED DOUBLE KILLS AGAINST THE GERMAN AIR FORCE TODAY IN DOGFIGHTS THAT FOLLOWED RAIDS ON THE SIEGFRIED FRONT.

THEY WERE CAPT.HAROLD J.HERRICK, PUEBLO, COLO., AND LT. CHARLES R.MARKS, BELLEVILLE, N.J. SINGLE VICTORIES WERE CREDITED TO LT.JAMES R.CARTER, WINTERVILLE, GA., AND LT.BOYD JOHNSON, OAKDALE, NEB.

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THE FLIGHT OF 11 THUNDERBOLTS, LED BY HERRICK, LOST ONE PLANE IN SHOOTING DOWN SIX OF 25 ME109S THAT ATTACKED THEM.

WE544PEW

PARIS, DE 31-(AP)-GEN.CHARLES DE GAULLE TOLD THE FRENCH PEOPLE IN A NEW YEAR'S EVE BROADCAST TONIGHT, "I HAVE REASONS FOR DECLARING THAT THE YEAR 1945 WILL BRING US SLOW BUT CONSTANT PROGRESS."

DE GAULLE REVIEWED ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PAST YEAR AND TOLD, IN DETAIL, OF THE DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME AND THOSE AHEAD. HE POINTED TO THE REORGANIZATION OF THE FRENCH ARMY AND ADDED:

"IT IS TO BE HOPED NOTABLY THAT BY NEXT SPRING THERE WILL BE A LARGE NUMBER OF SHIPS IN OUR HARBORS THAT WILL NOT HAVE HAD TO CARRY TROOPS, WEAPONS AND MILITARY SUPPLIES EXCLUSIVELY X X X TODAY WE HAVE TO DO THE BEST WE CAN."

IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE ADDRESSED TO THE ARMY, DE GAULLE WARNED THAT THE ENEMY STILL WAS DANGEROUS AND DECLARED HE HAD BEEN ASSURED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW UNITS WOULD BE ARMED AND EQUIPPED IN A SHORT TIME.

EV1140PEW

JAN 1 1945

ROME,DEC.31-(AP)-PREMIER IVANOE BONOMI, IN A RADIO MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION TO THE UNITED STATES, TODAY DECLARED THAT AMERICAN RELIEF ALREADY HAD GIVEN ITALY "A TANGIBLE FEELING THAT HUMAN BROTHERHOOD AND SOLIDARITY AMONG PEOPLE ARE NOT MERE LITERARY EXPRESSIONS."

"THE ITALIAN LABORER TODAY IS WITHOUT HOME AND WORKSHOP, AND HE ACCEPTS WITH GRATITUDE THE CLOTHES OFFERED HIM TO COVER HIS DEAR ONES," THE ITALIAN LEADER SAID IN A BROADCAST RELAYED BY THE CBS NETWORK.

"HE ACCEPTS FOOD WITH EQUAL GRATITUDE," BONOMI SAID. "BUT HE IS ANXIOUS TO RECEIVE, EVEN BEFORE HIS HOME IS REBUILT, THE TOOLS OF HIS TRADE THAT HE MAY GIVE HIS FAMILY WHAT THEY NEED."

SPEAKING ON THE SAME PROGRAM, MYRON TAYLOR, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S PERSONAL ENVOY TO THE VATICAN, SAID OVER 5,000,000 POUNDS OF DONATED MATERIALS FROM THE UNITED STATES ALREADY HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN ITALY DESPITE DELAYS DUE TO WAR SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS.

EV1137PEW

JAN 1 1945

BY RUTH COWAN

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL STATION IN FIFTH ARMY FRONT LINES, ITALY, DEC 31-(AP)-TWO DENTISTS, CAPT.BYRON W.CORDES OF ST.LOUIS, MO., AND CAPT. JOSEPH R.OTOUPALIK OF GREELEY, COLO., HAVE RIGGED UP AN EFFICIENT IF NOVEL DENTAL OFFICE FROM A CAPTURED GERMAN OFFICER'S HORSEDRAWN TRAILER.

THEIR LABORATORY ASSISTANTS ARE SGT. ROBERT VOYLES OF CHARLES CITY, IOWA., AND PFC RUFUS J.COLE OF LAKIN, KANS.

THE TRAILER WAS DISCOVERED LAST SEPTEMBER. THE DENTISTS SEARCHED

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AROUND FOR SOME WHITE PAINT WHICH GIVES THE INTERIOR THAT PROFESSIONAL LOOK.

THEY HAVE ELECTRIFIED A REGULAR ARMY DENTAL ISSUE FOOT GRINDER.

ELECTRICITY COMES FROM A SMALL GENERATOR. A SPOTLIGHT SO THE DENTIST CAN FIND THAT CAVITY HAS A REFLECTOR MADE OUT OF LAMPS FROM A MANSION.

WATER IS OBTAINED FROM AN ARMY CAN PAINTED WHITE AND SET IN A NICHE IN THE WALL.

THEY HAVE A SMALL DESK IN ONE CORNER WHERE RECORDS ARE KEPT--BUT THEY DON'T SEND OUT BILLS.

M417PEW

JAN 1 1945

(SPORTS ADVANCE FOR AMS OF MONDAY, JAN. 1)

BY SID FEDER

(ADVANCE) SPAGHETTI BOWL HEADQUARTERS, ITALY, DEC. 31-(AP)-FOR A FEW HOURS TOMORROW THIS IS GOING TO BE LIKE PASADENA, NEW ORLEANS, MIAMI, SAN FRANCISCO OR DALLAS TO SOME 35,000 OF UNCLE SAM'S FINEST WHO ARE EXPECTED TO WATCH THE FIFTH ARMY AND THE 12TH AIRFORCE TANGLE IN A SPAGHETTI BOWL FOOTBALL GAME.

UNTIL THE FINAL WHISTLE BLOWS NO ONE IS TELLING WHERE THE GAME IS BEING PLAYED BECAUSE JERRY MAY PUT IN AN UNINVITED PRESENCE.

AFTER A PREGAME PARADE OF A COUPLE 56-PIECE BANDS AND THW WAC CHEERLEADERS GIVE THEMSELVES A REST, THE BOYS WHO MAKE UP THE AIRFORCE BRIDGEBUSTERS AND THE ARMY KRAUT CLOUTERS WILL TRY TO PICK UP THE GRID GAME WHERE THEY LEFT OFF IN COLLEGE AND PROFESSIONAL CIRCLES.

IT'LL BE A BATTLE OF TWO UNDEFEATED CLUBS FOR THE SIMPLE REASON NEITHER HAS YET PLAYED. IT ALL STARTED WITH A CHALLENGE THE 12TH AIRFORCE TOSSED AT THE FIFTH ARMY SINCE THE FIFTH IS AN OLD HAND AT TOSSING, WHAT WITH CHASING FIELD MARSHAL KESSELRING ALL THE WAY UP THE ITALIAN COAST, THE CHALLENGE WAS HEAVED RIGHT BACK.

THE PROBABLE LINEUPS, WITH HOME TOWNS AND COLLEGES:

FIFTH ARMY

POS	PLAYER, HOME TOWN, COLLEGE
L E	CORP. JOE CZAJKA, NEMACOLIN, PA. (WEST VIRGINIA)
L T	SGT. CECIL STRUGEON, DES MOINES, IA. (N. DAKOTA STATE AND PHILADELPHIA EAGLES)
L G	CORP. JOHN POWERS, CHICAGO (DEPAUL)
C	SGT. HARRY KARALES, CHICAGO (DRAKE)
R G	LT. CHARLES HENKE, KERRVILLE, TEXAS (TEXAS AGGIES)
R T	CORP. FRANK CHISMAR, W. FRANKLIN, ILL. (S. ILL. SEMIPRO REDBIRDS)
R E	LT. ART LEMKE, IRVINGTON, N.J. (GEORGETOWN U.)
Q B	CORP. EDWARD BRENNAN, ROCHESTER, N.Y. (SYRACUSE)
L H	CORP. GENE STAUVER, INDIANAPOLIS (TOLEDO U.)
R H	CORP. LADDIE LISKA, RUNGE, TEXAS (TEXAS AGGIES)
F B	CORP. JOHN MOODY, FREEPORT, PA. (MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE)

TWELFTH AIR FORCE

L E	T/5 ANTONIO SOLORZANO, LOS ANGELES (WEBSTER SEMI-PRO BEARS)
L T	SGT. JOHN RAMSEY, CENTER, TEX. (SAM HOUSTON TCHRS)
L G	LT. RAYMOND SONGAYLO, LOS ANGELES (LOYOLA, CALIF.)
C	SGT. ALDO PALETTI, CLARKSBURG, W.VA. (MARSHALL)
R G	T/5 ROBERT LEONETTI, MT. CARMEL, PA. (GEORGE WASHINGTON)
R T	SGT. JOSEPH MCSHANE, BELLEROSE, L.I. (DAYTON U.)
R E	SGT. ROBERT GEIER, CINCINNATI, O. (U. OF CINCINNATI)
Q B	SGT. MARTIN DAUGHERTY, E. PITTSBURGH, PA. (ST.VINCENT AND APPALACHIAN)
L H	CORP. ARTHUR FAIRCLOTH, WASHINGTON, D.C. (N. CAROLINA STATE)
R H	CAPT. BILLY MADDEN, BUCKLEY, WASH. (PUGET SOUND)
F B	LT. EDWARD SHANKS, INGLEWOOD, CALIF. (TEXAS TECH)

KICKOFF: 7:30 A.M. (EWT)

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Insert A Adm Halsey's 3rd Fleet Flagship (James) xx for us."

THE SILVER-HAIRED NATIVE OF FREDERICKSBURG, TEX., WHOSE STRATEGY IN 1944 COST JAPAN A PACIFIC OCEAN EMPIRE AS LARGE AS THE UNITED STATES, RECEIVED CORRESPONDENTS ABOARD ADM. WILLIAM F.HALSEY'S FLAGSHIP.

SEATED WITH HIM AS HE SPOKE WERE HALSEY AND NIMITZ' CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, REAR ADM. FORREST SHERMAN.

Add Also Adm Halsey's 3rd Fleet Flagship xx the Humle."

NIMITZ SAID THAT THE WAR WHICH DURING THE LAST 12 MONTHS HAS TRAVELED WESTWARD FROM THE MARSHALLS ISLANDS TO THE PHILIPPINES AND NORTHWARD FROM THE SOLOMONS AND NEW BRITAIN ALMOST TO THE BONINS--HAS GIVEN THE AMERICANS CONTROL OF AN OCEAN AREA AS LARGE AS THE 48 STATES--IS GRADUALLY CHANGING IN CHARACTE

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"EACH ACTION WITH THE JAPANESE FLEET HAS RESULTED IN A CONSIDERABLE LOSS TO THEM. THE JAPANESE SURFACE FORCES ARE NO LONGER THE TREMENDOUS THREAT THEY WERE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR," SAID NIMITZ.

"OF COURSE WE STILL HAVE TO MAKE ADEQUATE DISPOSIT OF OUR FORCES TO MEET THEM," HE SAID, "BUT EXPECT OUR MARGI THE JAPANESE FLEET TO INCREASE."

QD159PPW

THEY CANNOT USE:

Add Adv. #2 on Leyte (McDaniel) Xxx Bougainville.

THREE DAYS AGO, A 24TH DIVISION UNIT UNDER LT.THOMAS MCCORLEW OF CLEVELAND, TEX., LED A BAND OF AMERICANS AND FILIPINO GUERRILLAS AGAINST AN ENEMY FORCE REPORTED HIDING IN THE BASEMENT OF A HOUSE ON A HILLTOP. THEY BLASTED IT WITH MORTAR FIRE, THEN CHARGED UP THE HILL AS DAWN BROKE. MORE THAN 100 JAPANESE HAD BEEN KILLED BEFORE BREAKFAST TIME.

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